

Colby



Colby Magazine

Volume 98
Issue 3 *Fall 2009*

Article 3

October 2009

From the Editor

Gerry Boyle
Colby College

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.colby.edu/colbymagazine>

Recommended Citation

Boyle, Gerry (2009) "From the Editor," *Colby Magazine*: Vol. 98 : Iss. 3 , Article 3.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.colby.edu/colbymagazine/vol98/iss3/3>

This Contents is brought to you for free and open access by the Colby College Archives at Digital Commons @ Colby. It has been accepted for inclusion in Colby Magazine by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ Colby.

Colby

volume 98 • number 3

Staff

Gerry Boyle '78
managing editor

David Eaton
executive editor

Brian Speer
art direction and design

Robert P. Hernandez
design and illustration

Stephen Collins '74
college editor

Ruth Jacobs
news editor

Laura Meader
production coordinator, alumni at large editor

Robert Clockedile, Ben Greeley, Mark Nakamura
online coordinators

Nick Cardillicchio, Stephen Collins '74,
Fred Field, Taras Garcia, Elizabeth Hathaway '11,
Robert P. Hernandez, Peter Jacobson,
Eric Laurits '02, Erin Maurer '11, Jason McKibben,
Kristin Nissen '11, Heather Perry '93, Ameet Salvi,
Jason Smith, Brian Speer, Charlotte Wilder '11
contributing photographers

Brian Speer
cover photo

Robert P. Hernandez, Ryan Snook
contributing illustrators

Melanie Brown '13, Jenny Chen '12,
Alexandra Desaulniers '11, Alexis Grant '03,
Zoe Herrmann '13, Dana Hernandez, Adam Howard,
Laura Meader, David Treadwell
contributing writers

Administration

William D. Adams, *president*; Sally Baker, *vice president*; Richard Ammons, *vice president for college relations*; Meg Bernier Boyd '81, *director of alumni relations*

Alumni Council Executive Committee

Jessica D'Ercole Stanton '92, *chair and president*;
David C. Fernandez '89, *vice-chair*;
Meg Bernier Boyd '81, *executive secretary/treasurer*;
Steve Chase '61, Kari Christensen Anderson '98,
Alexander Chin '96, Michael J. Cuzzi '98,
David Epstein '86, Ha Le '10, Lane Mahoney '09,
Steve Pfaff '81, Hilary Smyth Wirtz '00,
Jacquelyn Lindsey Wynn '75

To contact Colby:
Managing Editor, Colby
4354 Mayflower Hill
Waterville, ME 04901-8841
e-mail to: mag@colby.edu
207-859-4354

Colby is published four times yearly.
Visit us online: www.colby.edu/mag

To contact the Alumni Office:
207-859-4310

Often we see the common threads that connect stories in *Colby*. Sometimes it takes readers to make the connections for us.

That was the case for the summer issue of the magazine, which included the cover story on Jeronimo Maradiaga '09J, who succeeded at Colby by overcoming hardships at home in the Bronx. The issue also included an essay by Richard Whitecar '75 detailing his post-Colby experience with bipolar disorder. Maradiaga, a Watson Fellow currently traveling the world studying different definitions of success, was faced with poverty and homelessness early in life; Whitecar was on track for success when, just after Colby, his illness derailed him.

I admit I was puzzled when I read the first letter from a reader linking the two stories. But then the commonalities became obvious. Both are stories about Colbians who overcame adversity: Maradiaga, by pursuing his goals despite overwhelming family pressures; Whitecar by coming to terms with—even finding contentment in—his life with mental illness. But the pair has more in common than that.

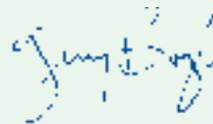
What Maradiaga and Whitecar possess is the courage to reveal themselves and their problems to a community marked by accomplishment, especially as represented in this magazine. The pages of *Colby* are peopled with scientists and novelists, academics and activists, investment bankers and accomplished athletes. References to poverty in this magazine usually are in the context of efforts to assuage it; references to mental illness are more likely to be about trying to treat this malady, not live with it.

Of course, Maradiaga and Whitecar aren't the only alumni who have coped with disadvantages. They are just two of the relatively few who have been willing to admit to their college community that, at times, their lives have been marked with struggle and stress.

So if you haven't read their stories, go online (colby.edu/mag) and do so. And also read the letters in this issue of *Colby*. Both contain lessons for all of us. As letter writer Tony Burkart '71 points out, success is about more than the bare fact of accomplishment. Burkart quotes the old saying, "It's not so much about being dealt a good hand, it's about playing a poor hand well."



Gerry Boyle '78, P'06
Managing Editor



CONTRIBUTORS

Alexis Grant '03 ("Silver Lining," P. 20) is a journalist who is writing her first book, a travel



memoir about backpacking solo through Africa. Until May 2008 she worked as a reporter for the *Houston Chronicle*.

Adam Howard ("From Privilege, a Call for Social Justice," P. 12) is associate professor



of education and director of the Education Program. His research and writings focus on social class issues in education, especially on privileged youth and schooling.

Melanie Brown '13 ("Magnetic North," P. 56) is the winner of the *Colby* magazine Class of



2013 essay contest. Hailing from Denver, Colo., she is an avid fiction writer and poet and a member of the Cellar Door creative writing club, the chorale, and the Colbyettes.

insideColby.com

A new year has brought new voices and energy to the insideColby team of student writers, photographers, videographers, podcasters, and bloggers. See a sampling of what they've been up to below, with much more at insideColby.com.

Inside the Colby Fishbowl

Student bloggers on...

A troubled love affair with Foss dining hall ("Our relationship isn't what it used to be. Just the other night, I came over for a nice meal. And your main entree was wheat loaf. Wheat loaf? WHEAT LOAF! That's called bread, Foss.")

Getting writing help from the Farnham Writers' Center ("I just got back from the Writers' Center. How I wish I could say I was one of the tutors. But alas, I too need advice on my own papers.")

InsideColby bloggers making page one of the *Times* ("Guess what. We iC bloggers are famous. Well, kind of. ... [T]he *New York Times* – the *New York Times*!—had a front-page article about student bloggers, and insideColby got a mini-shout-out.")

These are among the many topics discussed in recent blog posts on insideColby.com. Unedited student voices.

insideColby.com/blogs

Watch, Listen, Learn

This summer Tarini Manchanda '09 set out to learn what makes Colby Colby. She interviewed students and professors and, using skills learned in the American Dreams documentary filmmaking course and a gift for storytelling, she produced a 10-minute film called *The Colby Experience*.

Also this summer, Tamer Hassan '11 made videos about everything from the Colby-Hume Center, where students hang out on the dock and in the lake, to recent grads who chose to stay in Maine to work—at the Natural Resources Council of Maine, *MaineBiz*, and, of course, L.L.Bean.

insideColby.com/video



COOT. Still Fun. Photo by Hannah Shapiro '12



African drumming anyone? Photo by Brian DiMento '10



GO MULES! Photo by Kendyl Sullivan '11



Around noon on weekdays students begin streaming into Colby's three dining halls. They breeze through the lines to get their cards swiped and grab anything from a salad (sometimes with vegetables from the student-run garden) or a made-to-order sub to an Asian bento box or a make-your-own noodle bowl. They gather with friends, fuel up, and take off for the next thing. What's happening behind the scenes is not at the top of most students' minds, but they appreciate the result. "They do a really good job in making sure there is a variety of different foods," said Sharonda Bradley '10. ...



College campuses can feel crowded at times, but Colby students manage to find their own, sometimes out-of-the-way, places to get their work done. As seniors were wrapping up their final college classes last spring, insideColby asked them to reveal their secret study spots. Here's what they bequeathed to underclassmen. ...