

CONCORDIA

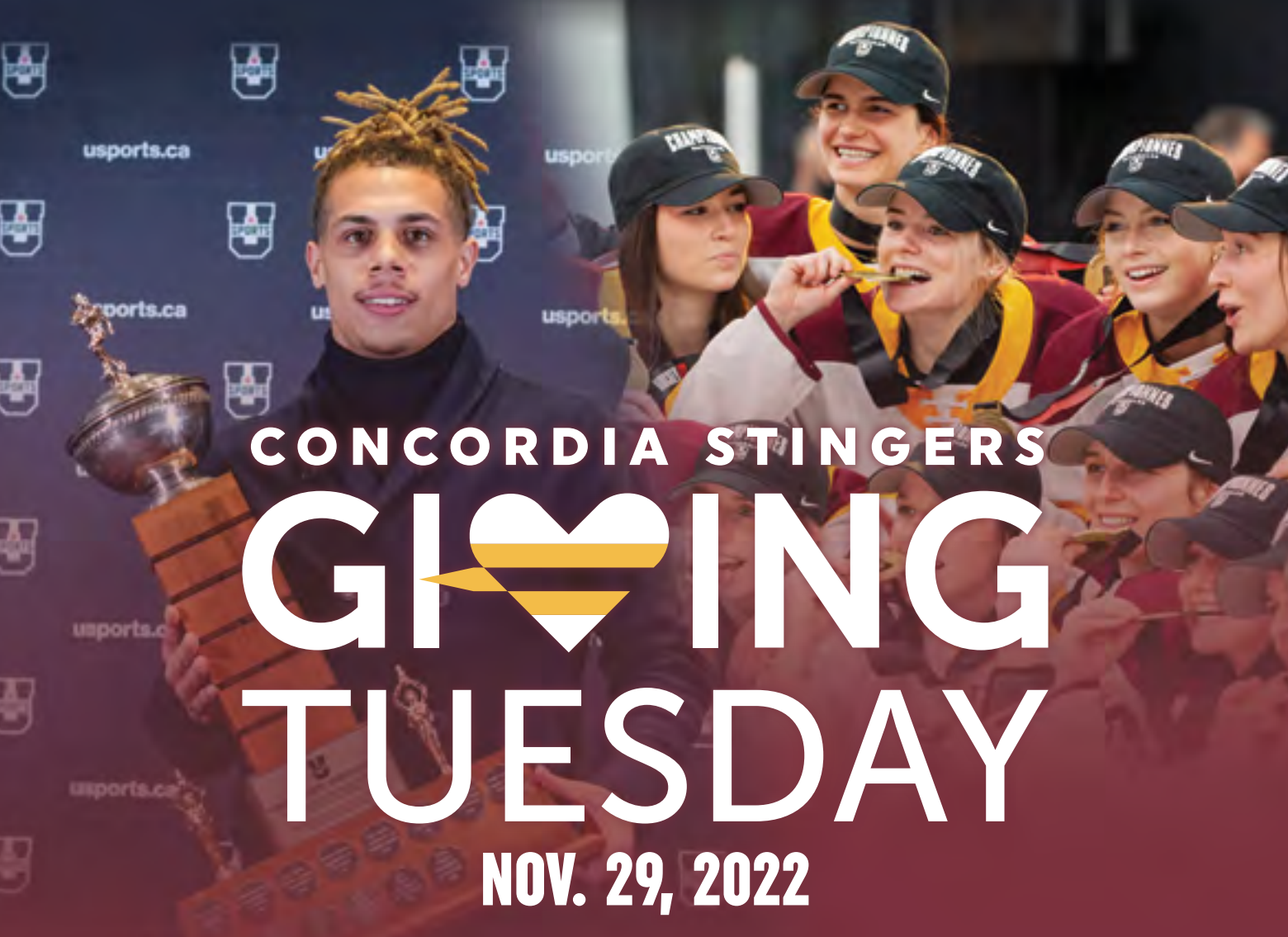
U N I V E R S I T Y M A G A Z I N E

RENEWABLE REVOLUTION

WITH HELP FROM CONCORDIA RESEARCHERS AND ALUMNI,
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FALL 2022 / 50 UNDER 50 / EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING / CREATIVE ARTS THERAPIES



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50 UNDER 50
Celebrating #CUalumni
at the top of their fields

22



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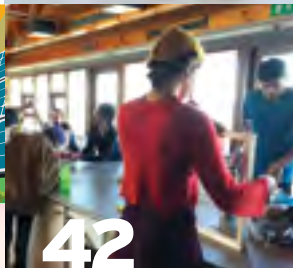


**CREATING
TO HEAL**

Harnessing the
power of the arts to
help cope with loss

**RENEWABLE
REVOLUTION**

The future looks
decarbonized



**EXPERIENTIAL
LEARNING**

Preparing students
for tomorrow

**BOLD
INNOVATION**

A spotlight
on Concordia's
next-gen research




fall 2022 volume 46 number 2

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A portrait of Tracey Stevens, a woman with long dark hair and bangs, wearing a black turtleneck and a tan trench coat. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with greenery and a white fence.

“Education is the key
to improving societies,
communities and our
individual selves.”

– Tracey Stevens, BEng 97

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Collaboration for social good

Every day, news headlines alert us to the ongoing challenges facing humanity, from climate change and systemic racism to crumbling health-care systems and gender inequalities. Meeting these challenges calls for an overhaul in the way we think, plan and take action. It's also a reminder that for progress to happen, we need to work together.

"It's at these moments that all the obstacles seem to magically fall away," says Natalie Cousineau, BSc 96. The alumna is the first woman to serve as chief of emergency medicine at the Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre and has been on the front lines of emergency care throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. "Major crises really highlight the team aspect of emergency medicine. Everyone pulls together and focuses on what they do best."

Cousineau is among the latest cohort named to Concordia's Top 50 Under 50 Shaping Tomorrow (p. 22). She and other inspiring graduates are helping to lead advances in health, the arts, business, technology and more. Each in their own way, our honourees demonstrate how success can be achieved when we collaborate as students and researchers, community partners and government, and grassroots organizations and corporations, big and small. You can read the full profiles online at concordia.ca/alumni/50Under50.

Last month, President Graham Carr announced Concordia's plans to provide every student with at least one experiential learning opportunity starting this fall (more on p. 42). This ambitious goal — to ensure that tomorrow's leaders can thrive in an increasingly multidisciplinary working environment — comes at a time when decisive action is most needed.

Through field schools, internships, case competitions and more, Concordia is working with internal and external partners to deliver a next-gen education. Together, they'll help prepare students for a world that demands clever and innovative solutions to a range of issues, some of which we may not yet know exist.

As you read through the pages of this magazine, you'll see how Concordians around the world, too, are rallying together — across disciplines at the institution and across sectors beyond the university's walls — to share expertise and advance reforms for a better future.

Our cover feature examines how researchers and alumni are finding more sustainable ways to support energy use (p. 32); our researchers in the Department of Creative Arts Therapies



demonstrate how the arts can help us cope with grief (p. 28); our Women and Leadership series features four inspiring Indigenous grads who are leading change in their communities and across the country (p. 38); and our research spotlight highlights faculty members who are driving innovation through a multidisciplinary

approach (p. 46). These stories and more show how we can address urgent challenges through thoughtful collaborations — collaborations fostered by higher education.

Finally, while it may seem far away, Concordia's 50th-anniversary celebrations are quickly approaching, kicking off in 2024. If you're an alum of the university's first years from 1974 and 1975, or were among the last graduating class of our founding institutions, we'd love for you to share your inspiring, funny or life-changing stories from your student days.

As we near the end of 2022, I wish you all the best in the months — and year — ahead.

Marta Samuel, GrDip 10
Editor, *Concordia University Magazine*
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\$6M FOR GENOMICS RESEARCH

Adrian Tsang, Department of Biology professor, has been **awarded \$6 million over three years** to strengthen research to help engineer an alternative to antibiotics in livestock feed. The support comes from Genome Canada and Génome Québec and is in partnership with Elanco Animal Health. Tsang is director of the Centre for Structural and Functional Genomics, one of 25 university-recognized research units.



GRADUATE STUDENTS **EMILY AH-YEN** AND **COLE DOUGHERTY** ARE THE FIRST RECIPIENTS OF THE **NADIA CHAUDHRI WINGSPAN AWARD**. DESIGNED TO ENCOURAGE NEUROSCIENTISTS FROM UNDERREPRESENTED BACKGROUNDS, THE AWARD, WHICH COMES WITH \$13,000, WAS **ESTABLISHED BY THE LATE NADIA CHAUDHRI**. THE PROFESSOR AND RESEARCHER CHRONICLED HER TERMINAL OVARIAN CANCER ON TWITTER IN 2020 AND 2021 AND USED THE PLATFORM TO SEEK SUPPORT FOR MINORITY STUDENTS. A GOFUNDME FUNDRAISER AND A CAMPAIGN RUN BY CONCORDIA HAVE SO FAR **AMASSED MORE THAN \$850,000**.

JOURNALISM STUDENTS PARTNER WITH CBC

Students enrolled in The Digital Magazine (JOUR 528) class recently collaborated with CBC Montreal to produce multimedia reports with a “solutions journalism” angle, based on topics suggested by Department of Journalism assistant professor **Amélie Daoust-Boisvert**. “It didn’t feel like a class, in the traditional sense, but more like a dedicated and practical career-building workshop,” says **Mélina Lévesque**, GrDip 22. “The opportunity to work with the CBC was an absolute dream.”

JURIST-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM CELEBRATES MILESTONE

Concordia’s **Jurist-in-Residence program**, which connects the university community and public at large to top Canadian legal experts through guest lectures and mentorships, has announced a special lineup in time for the program’s **fifth anniversary**. “Our guests will include the Honourable Suzanne Côté, justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, **Isabelle Hudon**, LL.D. 17, president and CEO of the Business Development Bank of Canada, and Tom Mulcair, journalist, radio and TV commentator and former leader of the federal NDP,” says **Jurist-in-Residence Morton Minc**, BA 67. “I’m confident that fascinating conversations will follow.”

ENGCOMM TURNS 10

Concordia’s **10th annual Engineering and Commerce Case Competition (EngComm)**, a week-long case-study marathon for participants around the world, will take place in February. Launched in 2014 by undergraduate students at the university who saw a need to bridge the two disciplines, the annual event has become a popular draw for many schools from North America, Asia and Europe. Alumni are encouraged to visit engcomm.ca to get involved as judges, award sponsors, volunteers or spectators.



MEMBERS OF THE STINGERS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP WOMEN'S HOCKEY SQUAD – WHICH SCORED A DOMINANT VICTORY OVER THE NIPISSING UNIVERSITY LAKERS TO SECURE THE COVETED U SPORTS GOLDEN PATH TROPHY ON MARCH 27 – WERE CELEBRATED AT THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUEBEC IN MAY.

PHD STUDENT LAUNCHES YOUTH FILM FESTIVAL

Emma June Huebner, a PhD candidate in the Department of Art Education, **co-founded the Canadian Youth Film Festival**. Launched in June, the festival – which showcases youth film and provides resources and pedagogical kits to support educators – drew 85 submissions from across the country, 26 of which were showcased on the festival's website.



GREEN LIGHT FOR PROF'S CLEANTECH SOLUTION

A wastewater-treatment innovation developed at Concordia was recently approved by the Bureau de normalisation du Québec for broad commercialization. Based on a process pioneered by **Maria Elektorowicz**, a professor in the Gina Cody School's Environmental Engineering program, **the technology reduces inefficiencies** related to wastewater treatment while eliminating harmful environmental side effects.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

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Join the conversation using **#CUmagazine** and by following **@ConcordiaAlumni** on social media.

AMBER THE MAKER, A CHILDREN'S BOOK PROJECT LED BY ANN-LOUISE DAVIDSON – DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROFESSOR, RESEARCH CHAIR OF MAKER CULTURE (TIER 2), ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF THE MILIEUX INSTITUTE FOR ARTS, CULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND DIRECTOR OF CONCORDIA'S INNOVATION LAB – HAS **SECURED SUPPORT FROM UNESCO** FOR ITS LINKS TO SEVERAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS.



THE CAPACITY OF THE MEL HOPPENHEIM SCHOOL OF CINEMA'S FILM PRODUCTION PROGRAMS WILL TRIPLE BY 2024 TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF A KEY SECTOR OF THE QUEBEC ECONOMY. "THIS MAJOR EXPANSION WILL ALLOW NEW GRADUATES TO THRIVE AND MAKE EVEN MORE OF AN IMPACT IN QUEBEC'S DYNAMIC FILM INDUSTRY," SAYS CONCORDIA PRESIDENT GRAHAM CARR.

IMPACT OF HIGHER EDUCATION ON MONTREAL CONFIRMED

A recent study by the Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan Montreal found that institutions like Concordia boosted the city's GDP by about **\$26.2 billion** in 2019-2020. "[This] validates what we've known for a long time: that **Montreal's universities are major contributors to the economic well-being of our city**, but also that through our world-class research, innovation and experiences we offer to students, we contribute massively to the positive identity of Montreal around the world," says **President Graham Carr**.

HANEEN YOUSEF (LEFT) EMBARKED ON HER EXCEPTIONAL UNDERGRADUATE JOURNEY AS AN ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDENT IN SEPTEMBER. THE 13-YEAR-OLD SKIPPED TWO GRADES OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND COMPLETED HER SECONDARY SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS IN UNDER A YEAR. HANEEN WILL BE IN GOOD COMPANY ON CAMPUS: SISTER **ZAINAH** (MIDDLE), 20, IS A THIRD-YEAR STUDENT AT THE JOHN MOLSON SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND BROTHER **SAMI**, 17, IS A SECOND-YEAR STUDENT AT THE GINA CODY SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE.



FINE ARTS MARKS CANADIAN FIRST

The **Art Volt Collection**, a not-for-profit artwork rental and sales service established by the Faculty of Fine Arts, was celebrated at a launch in May. The Canadian first, **supported by a \$5.6-million gift to Concordia in 2019 from the Peter N. Thomson Family Trust**, will connect new artists and collectors to the art market. "**No other university offers a launch pad like this** to its fine-arts graduates," says Dean **Annie Gérin**. "It is a natural extension of the education we offer, and an important step forward in professionalizing emerging artists."

NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR RESEARCH ON DISADVANTAGED YOUTH

Varda Mann-Feder, a long-time faculty member of the Department of Applied Human Sciences, was named a **2022 finalist for the Lynn Factor Stand Up for Kids National Award**, an annual honour bestowed by Children's Aid Foundation of Canada. The professor and researcher was selected based on her extraordinary support and advocacy for youth in and alumni of the child-welfare system.



LISA GRAVES

PEOPLE OF ALL NATIONS WERE INVITED TO THE INAUGURAL **OTSENHÁKTA STUDENT CENTRE POW WOW** ON SEPTEMBER 16, HELD IN CELEBRATION OF FIRST NATIONS, INUIT AND MÉTIS STUDENTS AT CONCORDIA, AS WELL AS THE **30TH ANNIVERSARY** OF THE CENTRE, WHOSE MISSION IS TO OFFER A WARM PLACE WHERE INDIGENOUS STUDENTS CAN FIND COMMUNITY, SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE ON CAMPUS. PICTURED ABOVE IS **BARBARA KANERATONNI DIABO**, BFA 91, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AND CHOREOGRAPHER OF A'NÓ:WARA DANCE THEATRE.

PROGRESS ON CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY

The Philadelphia-based Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) gave Concordia prominence in its recent **2022 Sustainable Campus Index**. The index recognizes post-secondary institutions in 17 impact areas, based on submissions to the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System (STARS). “Concordia is taking very real and measurable steps to become more sustainable,” says **Michael Di Grappa**, BA 84, vice-president, Services and Sustainability. “This latest honour from the AASHE recognizes some of [these] steps, such as our encouragement of sustainable transportation and our foundation’s environmental, social and governance considerations in its investment strategies.”

RECENT ALUM NAMED McCALL MacBAIN SCHOLAR

After a rigorous seven-month process, political science graduate **Sage Duquette**, BA 22, became the **first Concordian to earn a McCall MacBain Scholarship** earlier this year. The scholarship program for master’s and professional degrees was established in 2019 through a landmark gift of \$200 million to McGill University — then the largest in Canadian history — from John and Marcy McCall MacBain. Duquette will study law at McGill and joins a class of 20 McCall MacBain Scholars chosen from approximately 700 applicants.



DOMINIQUE BÉRUBÉ BEGAN HER FIVE-YEAR TERM AS **CONCORDIA'S NEW VICE-PRESIDENT, RESEARCH AND GRADUATE STUDIES**, ON SEPTEMBER 1. SHE PREVIOUSLY HELD THE ROLE OF VICE-PRESIDENT OF RESEARCH AT THE SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES RESEARCH COUNCIL (SSHRC), WHERE SHE DESIGNED AND DELIVERED SUCH CORE INITIATIVES AS THE CANADA EXCELLENCE RESEARCH CHAIRS PROGRAM AND THE CANADA FIRST RESEARCH EXCELLENCE FUND.

Ed Rosenthal's remarkable voyage to help NASA grow vegetables in space

'I owe it all to Sir George and the sacrifices my parents made'

IAN HARRISON, BCOMM 01

In the Venn diagram of Concordians who have booked a soul legend for a campus benefit and patented a technology used by NASA, the overlap is Ed Rosenthal, BA 74.

Born in New York in 1950, he moved to rural Quebec as a boy so his father — a farmer from Romania who witnessed his own father's death at the hands of Nazi soldiers — could tend a plot of land.

"I watched my dad struggle and felt completely helpless," recalls Rosenthal. "[Books] became my refuge."

After the family relocated to Montreal, Rosenthal earned a scholarship to study English literature at Sir George Williams University before it merged with Loyola College to become Concordia.

"With that money, I was able to help my parents. The university went to tremendous lengths to accommodate me."

Rosenthal soon distinguished himself on campus and became involved in student government.

Enter that campus benefit.

"I was in a bind as the organizer of a blood drive, because few students wanted to donate," says Rosenthal. "Then [I was told] to go see Norm Silver, who ran the Esquire Show Bar. Before I knew it, he had arranged for Ben E. King and his band to play for us. When I introduced them on stage, the students went nuts!"

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

After graduation, Rosenthal parlayed an interest in polymer chemistry into a job with a maker of plastic containers for the greenhouse industry, which gave him an opportunity to assist people like his father.

Less than a decade later, he accepted an offer to expand the business to the United States and moved to Florida with his wife, Betty, and sons, Jonathan and Eric.

While Rosenthal was able to move his mother down south, his father never made the trip.

"Stomach cancer took him," says Rosenthal. "When he was on his deathbed, he told me to look under his bed at home. It turned out he had saved \$35,000 for us to start a new life with our boys."

The gift gave the family the seed capital to start Florikan ESA (Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture), which encouraged nursery owners to boost yields with less expensive polymer-based pots. They soon became the industry standard.

A MOONSHOT MOMENT

When a grower expressed frustration with inefficient water-soluble

fertilizers, Rosenthal had a eureka moment: He could use lessons imparted by his father and his knowledge of chemistry to devise a better method.

What Rosenthal went on to patent — a controlled-release fertilizer — drew the attention of NASA. The agency now depends on the graduate's know-how to grow vegetables on the International Space Station.

When Rosenthal and Florikan were inducted into the Space Technology Hall of Fame in 2017, Ray Wheeler, a plant physiologist, told him that he had saved NASA years of research.

With a long list of other accolades, the company became a desirable target for acquisition and, after many overtures, Florikan was sold in 2021.

"We wanted our boys to have their inheritance while we were still alive," says Rosenthal. "To see them enjoy it and to know that the company is in good hands makes our efforts worthwhile." ■



ED ROSENTHAL, BA 74 — PICTURED HERE WITH GIOIA MASSA, PROJECT SCIENTIST AT NASA KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, AND WIFE BETTY ROSENTHAL — "SAVED NASA YEARS OF RESEARCH."

Three-time graduate Lillian Jackson among Concordia's first Black commerce alumnae

Long-time Science College administrator was one of just two women in her program in the early 1970s

LOUISE MORGAN, GRDIP 99

"Of 36 students in my class, I was the only woman — and I sat in the front row," recalls Lillian Jackson, BComm 77, BA 82, MA 88, who arrived at Loyola College, one of Concordia's founding institutions, in 1972. "The professor came up to me and asked, 'What are you doing here?' I smiled and said, 'I'm representing my gender and doing a damn good job.'"

At the time, few women took math and business classes, yet Jackson was determined. She had talent and was eager to learn.

Working full-time at CP Rail during the day, Jackson attended classes in the evening. Among her most precious memories is her enormous feeling of pride at graduation, receiving the degree she had always wanted, with her mother looking on.

THE 'HEART OF SCIENCE COLLEGE'

A true pioneer, Jackson became one of Concordia's first Black graduates in her program, after the 1974 merger of Loyola College and Sir George Williams University. She went on to earn two more Concordia degrees: a BA in economics in 1982, and a Master of Public Policy and Public Administration in 1988.

Jackson later co-authored a book with Guy Lachapelle, professor in Concordia's Department of Political Science, published in 1994. She was also invited to join the Golden Key International Honour Society.

Her love of Concordia kept her tied to the university, and she joined the staff in 1994. As assistant to the principal of the Science College for the next 25 years, Jackson had a lasting influence on students from the moment they applied.



BELOVED ADVISOR TO SCIENCE COLLEGE STUDENTS FOR A QUARTER CENTURY, LILLIAN JACKSON RETIRED IN 2019.

"Miss Lil," as she was nicknamed, helped students register for courses, navigate the university system and understand requirements.

"Lillian really was the heart of the college," says Emma Despland, acting principal of the Science College and professor in the Department of Biology since 2002. "She established a feeling of collegiality that lives on today."

"Lillian had just the right balance in being warm and supportive, but also encouraging students to transcend their limits and go beyond," adds Despland. "She was almost fierce in defending students and standing up for them."

One of those students was Magali Merckx-Jacques, BSc 02, now a planning and policy analyst at the National Research Council of Canada.

"Lillian was a champion for Science College students, especially people of colour, minorities and women. She would take you to task if you were wrong, but you knew she always had your back," says Merckx-Jacques. "It was great to have this example of a strong, professional leader, who was also personable. Having someone of colour in a leadership position at the Science College was huge for me."

Jackson helped students secure internships outside Concordia and

found funding for them to travel internationally. She also organized the Science College's high-profile annual public lecture series.

Her extraordinary efforts were recognized with the Award for Exceptional Service to the Faculty of Arts and Science in 2006. At the Science College's 40th-anniversary celebration in 2019, she received a special honour with the creation of the Lillian Jackson Bursary fund, which supports Science College students demonstrating financial need.

After 25 years of service, Jackson retired in 2019. She remains active in her church and community. Over the years, she has kept in touch with many Science College graduates, receiving news of their accomplishments and career milestones, and even wedding invitations.

"I love my university," says Jackson, adding that she is most proud of her students. "For me, it's a great achievement to see them succeed." ■

Give today to help permanently establish the Lillian Jackson Bursary for generations to come. Visit concordia.ca/donate/lillianjackson.

A *Star Trek* star's Canadian dream

Actor Patrick Kwok-Choon is on an upward trajectory

RICHARD BURNETT, BA 88

Patrick Kwok-Choon, BA 06, has a list of acting credits that reads like a human fireball log. After landing his first role in the Canadian Stage production of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, he was cast in the company's version of Tom Stoppard's *Rock 'n' Roll*. That debut one-two punch was followed by a steady list of stage, television and streaming credits leading to his current role as Lieutenant Commander Gen Rhys on *Star Trek: Discovery*.

Yet Kwok-Choon has never lost sight of his own backstory, and how it keeps him grounded.

When he was growing up in Montreal, his father owned a *dépanneur* (convenience store) in the city's Viau metro station. "Toronto is very much my home now, but Montreal has a special place in my heart," says Kwok-Choon.

His parents emigrated to Canada from Mauritius in the 1970s and strove to give their son a better life, including through higher education, first at Concordia, then at George Brown Theatre School — where he now holds a position on the advisory board — before he earned a scholarship to the prestigious Canadian Film Centre's CBC Actors Conservatory in Toronto.

"My parents were always supportive of my career choices," says Kwok-Choon. "They just wanted me to be happy, because growing up, they had worked and worked and worked."

'A ROLLER COASTER RIDE'

In 2022, Kwok-Choon became the voice of Yong Bao in the children's animated television series *Thomas & Friends: All Engines Go!* But he is best known for his star-making role on the top-rated *Star Trek: Discovery*.

"Being a cast member of *Star Trek* has been a roller coaster ride, to be honest," says Kwok-Choon. "I was such



PATRICK KWOK-CHOON IS BEST KNOWN FOR HIS STAR-MAKING ROLE AS LIEUTENANT COMMANDER GEN RHYSS ON THE *STAR TREK: DISCOVERY* SERIES.

a huge fan growing up, so to be part of it now has been simply amazing, especially getting to interact with fans at conventions. It's been really fulfilling because you get to see the impact you have on their lives."

In addition to productions in Canada and the U.S., Kwok-Choon was a lead actor and puppeteer in the award-winning *War Horse* at the Royal National Theatre in London, England. The blockbuster production featured life-size horse puppets.

"We ran for over 400 performances, eight shows a week," Kwok-Choon recalls. "I had a dream part honouring the sacrifice of young, brave soldiers during the First World War. And the puppeteering was one of my favourite things in the show. I always tell people that puppeteering in *War Horse* is like becoming a skilled master of a musical instrument."

'IT MAKES ME SO GRATEFUL'

Kwok-Choon credits his success to hard work, remaining true to himself and remembering and respecting family.

"My grandparents came by boat from China to Mauritius, then my parents immigrated to Montreal," says Kwok-Choon, who speaks Mauritian Creole. "It's humbling to hear how

much they struggled, coming to a new country and starting from scratch. It makes me so grateful. I really wouldn't have the career or the life that I have without them."

Kwok-Choon also credits Concordia for his love of acting.

"I specialized in television production in my second year and found a passion in directing and cinematography. Fortunately, one of my electives was an intro to acting and, after I did a monologue performance in front of the entire theatre school, my professor Bryan Doubt [BA 70, BFA 07] told me, 'You should really consider doing this as a profession.'

"With Bryan's guidance, I prepared for the Theatre Performance program. I was accepted and learned so much that year. [Then] I successfully auditioned for George Brown Theatre School in Toronto."

Kwok-Choon pauses. "As I said, I wouldn't be here without the help of my parents. But I definitely wouldn't be here without all the experiences and the knowledge that I learned at Concordia." ■

Learn about our impressive network of 240,000 graduates at concordia.ca/alumninews.

PhD, Inc.

V1 Studio's Scientific Venture Program empowers researchers to go from lab to market

FILES FROM ASHLEY FORTIER AND ANDREA WONG

Most researchers who want to bridge the gap between academia and the marketplace face manifold obstacles — only one per cent of would-be postdoc entrepreneurs based in Montreal successfully commercialize their ideas.

The typical PhD career path often looks like this: tenure-track professorship or job in corporate management. Many settle for jobs not directly related to their field of expertise. As a consequence, a lot of research innovation gets lost.

Enter the Scientific Venture Program (SVP), launched in 2021 by V1 Studio, a non-profit founded by Concordia in partnership with the university's District 3 Innovation Hub.

Open to PhD graduates of Concordia and other institutions, the two-year postdoctoral program — a first in Canada — helps research-based breakthroughs in science, health, agri-food, cybersecurity, cleantech and more find a home in the marketplace.

“More ideas and technologies coming from academic research could make it beyond the lab, but often scientists lack the resources and skills to commercialize,” says Paula Wood-Adams, special advisor to the vice-president of Research and Graduate Studies at Concordia.

“We need to enable early-career researchers to develop those skills and commercialize their research outcomes, so entrepreneurship is a viable career path.”

The goal of the SVP, which is supported by Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions, Montreal International and Mitacs, is to position PhDs as drivers of innovation and economic growth, and to deepen Quebec's pool of deep-tech entrepreneurship.

Participants receive the necessary tools and resources to help them transition ideas to implementation, including \$71,000 in stipends, support and services per year.

SCALING UP WITH THE RIGHT SUPPORT

After joining SVP's first cohort, Concordia grads Mohammad Mortezaazadeh, PhD 19, and Ali Katal, PhD 21, founded Planète GreenLeaves. Their web-based platform develops models of indoor and outdoor environments in order to make them more energy efficient and help mitigate the impact of climate change.

“We had ideas but didn't have any business experience. The program helped us discover our market and build our business model,” says Katal.

The technology expands off the pair's PhD thesis work with Liangzhu (Leon) Wang, professor of building, civil, and environmental engineering, and associate director of Concordia's Centre for Zero Energy Building Studies.

So far it has been used by researchers in North America, Asia and the Middle East, and continues to gain momentum through climate-resilience studies and projects in urban planning and renewable energy.

Wang, who is also Concordia University Research Chair in Building Airflow and Thermal Management, adds that the SVP goes beyond connecting scientific research to entrepreneurship.

“It mobilizes the intelligence of our students to tackle mounting real-world challenges, such as the impacts of climate change and extreme weather on our cities and communities.”

Adds V1's executive director, Diana Horqqe Ratto, BFA 14, MBA 21: “For researchers who do want to make the jump as entrepreneurs, we want to help them every step of the way so they can successfully transition from the lab and develop critical business skills.” ■

Learn more at v1.studio/scientific-venture-program.



PARTICIPANTS IN THE SCIENTIFIC VENTURE PROGRAM GAIN ACCESS TO MENTORSHIP, WORKSHOPS, AND FINANCIAL AND IN-KIND RESOURCES OVER TWO YEARS.

All campaign news stories written by Ian Harrison, BComm 01.

Inaugural Weider Awards presented to standout Stingers

The Joe and Ben Weider Athletic Leadership Awards, a new initiative to celebrate varsity athletes at Concordia, were presented on campus on March 16.

Established with a \$320,000 pledge from long-time donor George Lengvari, BA 63, as well as additional support from the Weider Foundation and Terry Tretiak, president of Lengvari Capital, the awards will honour students at Concordia who demonstrate excellence in academics, varsity athletics and community engagement.



FROM LEFT: MALICK SYLVAIN, STINGERS FOOTBALL PLAYER; INEZ LENGVARI, BRIGITTE LAGANIÈRE, BA 20, STINGERS HOCKEY PLAYER; AND GEORGE LENGVARI, BA 63.

Named for Lengvari’s mentors, Montreal fitness icons Joe Weider and Ben Weider, the Weider Awards’ first two recipients are Brigitte Laganière, BA 20, who helped power the Stingers women’s hockey team to a national championship earlier this year, and Malick Sylvain, a standout defensive end for Stingers football.

The honours came with an engraved medal and financial support of up to \$5,250 for tuition expenses.

This latest gesture by Lengvari, a Concordia Sports Hall of Famer, adds to a remarkable legacy of generosity at the university, said President and

Vice-Chancellor Graham Carr. “George Lengvari is truly an inspiration to the Concordia community. Thank you for your generous and selfless service.”

With his wife Inez by his side, Lengvari, who served executive roles at Weider Health and Fitness from 1994 to 2009, remarked that “the Weiders were great friends, mentors and benefactors.

“These awards in their honour are about creating a legacy. This is my thanks to Concordia. I’m not paying it forward — I’m paying it back.”

Laganière, a therapeutic recreation graduate and current business administration graduate diploma candidate, thanked her coach and teammates.

“I take pride in saying that I play varsity sports. I’m inspired to give back to the younger generation, especially in the promotion of girls and women’s hockey.”

Said Sylvain, a Department of Religions and Cultures undergraduate: “I want to thank George Lengvari. It’s amazing what you’ve done for Concordia. I hope to make a similar contribution one day.”

Event emcee Paul Chesser, BA 94, GrDip 97, vice-president of University Advancement, remarked that “thanks to George Lengvari’s example of service and philanthropy, our student athletes will be inspired to give back as well.” ■



THE WEIDER HONOURS CAME WITH AN ENGRAVED MEDAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF UP TO \$5,250 FOR TUITION EXPENSES.

Donors expand creative arts therapies programs through \$1.5M in support

Adults with neurodiversity and developmental challenges, such as autism spectrum disorder, as well as youth in foster care and other groups in need of accessible service, will get added support thanks to gifts from the Fondation Sandra et Alain Bouchard and the Fondation Famille Mongeau.

Founded by Sandra Chartrand, BA 85, and Alain Bouchard, co-founder and chairman of Alimentation Couche-Tard, the Fondation Sandra et Alain Bouchard has given \$1 million to advance the Concordia Arts in Health Centre (CAiHC) and the Centre for the Arts in Human Development (CAHD).

The CAiHC will also be strengthened by a \$500,000 donation from the Fondation Famille Mongeau. Led by Guylaine Leduc and Claude Mongeau, former chief executive officer of Canadian National (CN) Railway, the gift was made possible thanks to support from the Helping Hand Program, an initiative launched by the couple at CN in 2012.

The gifts from both foundations will support programs that coexist within the Department of Creative Arts Therapies in Concordia's Faculty of Fine Arts.

"Outreach programs in service of our community have always been part of Concordia's culture," says President and Vice-Chancellor Graham Carr. "We're beyond grateful that two new donors are providing such generous support to help the university to expand our groundbreaking creative arts therapies programs to the benefit of our students and members of the community in and around Montreal."



THE CONCORDIA COMMUNITY CELEBRATED THE GIFTS AT A SPECIAL EVENT IN MAY. FROM LEFT: ANNIE GÉRIN, DEAN, FACULTY OF FINE ARTS; ANDREW MOLSON, CO-CHAIR, CAMPAIGN FOR CONCORDIA; SANDRA CHARTRAND, BA 85; AND PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR GRAHAM CARR.

Sandra Chartrand says her alma mater's objectives line up with her family foundation's mission.

"Concordia has a tradition of offering teaching and learning rooted in practice. We were encouraged by how this approach is being used by the Department of Creative Arts Therapies at its state-of-the-art facilities on Sir George Williams Campus, and through its partner centres at the university.

"Providing support for adults with special needs is a major objective of our foundation — we are excited to see how this comes together through art, drama and music therapy programs pioneered at Concordia."

The Fondation Famille Mongeau supports a number of Montreal organizations, such as Centraide of Greater Montreal and Sun Youth.

"The principal driver of our philanthropy is the needs of the Montreal community," says Claude Mongeau. "When we learned more about Concordia's leadership in creative arts therapies education, particularly at the graduate level, and its related work helping young people, we knew we wanted to contribute."

Adds Annie G erin, dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts: "Creative arts therapies have tremendous potential to benefit diverse cohorts of society. The gifts from the Bouchard and Mongeau families will enable us to build on our strengths as a leader in this burgeoning field and foster experiential learning for our students." ■

Concordia University Alumni Association gives \$30,000 to help students in need

The Concordia University Alumni Association (CUAA) has made a gift of \$30,000 to the Campaign for Concordia: Next-Gen Now in honour of the class of 2022.

The gift will support the Student Emergency and Food Fund (SEFF), which provides emergency support to students through grocery-store gift cards. Run by the Dean of Students Office, the program is open to any registered Concordia student.

“The CUAA fosters alumni affinity through various events, which of course were impacted by COVID-19,” says CUAA president Linda Donnini, BSc 91. “As a result, the budget we typically allocate to provide direct support to students was at a surplus, and so it made sense to honour the class of 2022 as we did the class of 2021.”

An article published in 2021 by *Maclean’s* cited research that indicated “that approximately 40 per cent of post-secondary students in Canada are food insecure.”

Adds Donnini: “As an alumni association, we always want to support the most critical needs of students. Food insecurity is still a reality for many, unfortunately. And as we know, effective learning can’t take place under those conditions.”

The CUAA has been particularly generous throughout the pandemic and beyond. In addition to the \$30,000 gifts in 2022 and 2021, the association gave \$50,000 in 2020 after the university established the COVID-19 Emergency Student Relief Fund to assist students under financial duress.

The impact of Concordia’s dedicated alumni network — now at 240,000 strong — is a point of pride for the entire university community, says Leisha LeCouvie, senior director of Alumni Relations.

LeCouvie recently oversaw a

comprehensive alumni survey whose results suggested that affinity towards Concordia was way up. In fact, more than 90 per cent of respondents felt that a lifelong relationship with their alma mater was worth maintaining.

“That kind of feedback doesn’t happen without the steadfast efforts of a strong alumni association committed to organizing events and giving back to our institution,” says LeCouvie.

“We’re grateful for this latest gift of \$30,000 from the CUAA and what it will represent to so many of our students.” ■



Neighbourly kindness inspires \$150,000 bequest to Concordia

A fence and a garden. Late 1980s, a quiet residential street, not far from Concordia's Loyola Campus.

These are the origins of a special friendship that recently culminated in a \$150,000 planned gift to the university.

The extraordinary bequest from the estate of Laura Krasnodubsky, who passed away in 2021 at the age of 103, might never have transpired had her neighbour not taken an interest in her backyard.

"Laura and I slowly got to know each other over the fence," says Stephen Cabilio, MCompSc 86, a systems analyst with the Department of Psychology. "We shared a common interest — it all began with her garden."

The garden was Krasnodubsky's sanctuary in retirement from Canadian National Railway, where she worked as a salary analyst, and especially after the death of her husband in 1993.

With native plants and no pesticides, it was an unusual garden even by contemporary standards, says Cabilio.

"Laura loved Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* and was very influenced by that book's emphasis on environmental conservation."

In time, Cabilio began to see his neighbour less as a retired widow many decades his senior, and more as an autodidact, radical and closet intellectual.

"She could surprise you. Her shelves were full of books of all kinds. Her parents had emigrated to Canada from Russia, and though born here she spoke the language."

Krasnodubsky was also proudly DIY. She made her own yogurt, baked bread from scratch and ran errands on foot well into her nineties.

"Many times I happened to drive by as she pulled her cart," says Cabilio. "I would ask if she wanted a lift to or from the store. She always said, 'Thanks, but no.'"

'QUITE A LEGACY'

When age did rob her of some independence, Krasnodubsky turned to Cabilio for help. With no children to assist with her affairs, he assumed the role of estate liquidator.

"Laura wanted to bequeath most of what she had to charity," says Cabilio. "When we started to discuss who to give to, she first thought of several foundations close to her heart. Then, aware of my long association with Concordia, she suggested the university as well."

When Cabilio learned just how generous Krasnodubsky's gift was, he was overwhelmed.

"I didn't realize how much her donation was going to be. She has left quite a legacy."

A year after his friend's death, Cabilio now wonders what will become of her beloved garden.

"I will certainly stick up for Laura's way, if [the new owners are] willing to listen. I miss her. It was a true friendship and I was glad to have known her." ■

To learn more about planned giving at Concordia, visit concordia.ca/plannedgiving.



CAMPAIGN FOR CONCORDIA
DONOR LAURA KRASNODUBSKY
PASSED AWAY IN OCTOBER 2021
AT THE AGE OF 103.

Reader's Digest Foundation of Canada strengthens support for journalism

A new gift of \$125,000 to the Campaign for Concordia from long-time donor the Reader's Digest Foundation of Canada will advance a Minor in Science Journalism program as well as expand digital internships for students.

"The Reader's Digest Foundation of Canada is proud to further its support for journalism education in Canada through its long-standing relationship with Concordia University," says foundation chair Robert Goyette, the former vice-president and editor-in-chief of *Reader's Digest* magazines.

A first in Canada when it was introduced more than a year ago, the 24-credit Minor in Science Journalism is open to Bachelor of Science undergraduates at Concordia.

"We are the only place in Canada with a clear focus on the future of science journalism," says David Secko, a Department of Journalism professor who served as chair from 2016 to 2022.

A former science journalist, Secko has advanced award-winning research on the field that will serve as the backbone of Projected Futures 5: Experimental Science Journalism Studies, an experiential summer school.

"We want to help students innovate to address the issues of scientific misinformation," says the founder of the Concordia Science Journalism Project.



GIFT OF \$125,000 TO THE CAMPAIGN FOR CONCORDIA WILL ADVANCE SCIENCE REPORTING AND BOLSTER DIGITAL INTERNSHIPS.

The gift to establish the Reader's Digest Foundation of Canada Health and Science Journalism Awards will provide cohorts of students with an opportunity to do just that — and open doors to new careers as a result.

RENEWED SUPPORT FOR DIGITAL INTERNSHIPS

Another program created in 2017 — the Reader's Digest Digital Internships, offered for 12 weeks every summer — has helped Concordia student journalists benefit from practical experiences outside of the classroom that deepen knowledge and prepare them for life after graduation.

Goyette, a former Magazines Canada Volunteer of the Year, is proud of his long association with the university, which includes the prestigious Reader's Digest Scholarship in Journalism. With its latest gift, the media company has now provided more than \$447,000 in support to Concordia — and close to \$4 million to embolden journalism across Canada.

"The pandemic underscored the importance of knowledgeable, reliable information in health sciences and the ability for journalists to tell the facts from misinformation," says Goyette. "We are happy that we can help address this with Concordia."

The dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science says that the partnership the Department of Journalism enjoys with the Reader's Digest Foundation of Canada has benefited not only students, but society as a whole.

"It has become more essential than ever to invest in quality journalism committed to accuracy, facts and truth," says Pascale Sicotte. "We are grateful that with this generous gift, the Reader's Digest Foundation of Canada has once more empowered our ability to foster the dedicated journalists of tomorrow." ■

Warner Bros. Discovery bolsters digital media skills among Indigenous youth

A gift from Warner Bros. Discovery to the Campaign for Concordia will support the Skins Workshops — a program established in 2008 to help Indigenous youth develop creative digital media skills.

The program is part of Aboriginal Territories in Cyberspace (AbTeC), a research network co-founded and co-directed by Jason Edward Lewis, Tier 1 Research Chair in Computational

Media and the Indigenous Future Imaginary, and Skawennati, BFA 92, GrDip 96, a world-renowned Mohawk multimedia artist.

The workshops enable participants to use tools like game development software to create narratives that draw on their backgrounds and perspectives.

“It’s a powerful initiative,” says Melanie Nepinak Hadley, an executive director at Warner Bros. Discovery who

helps cultivate relationships with underrepresented creators. “As a company that brings people, technology and storytellers together to drive culture and meaningful connections, we’re thrilled to have the opportunity to support Concordia in this way.”

The generosity from Warner Bros. Discovery is significant, notes Lewis, a professor in the Department of Design and Computation Arts, because “Skins was originally supported through research funds, and the challenge for us has been to find new support for it to endure.

“Thanks to this gift, we can make that transition, retain instructors and focus on the delivery of workshops that integrate Indigenous knowledge with digital media.”

Paul Chesser, BA 94, GrDip 97, vice-president of Advancement, adds: “We thank Warner Bros. Discovery for advancing teaching and learning at Concordia as well as the objectives of our recently updated Indigenous Directions Action Plan.” ■



SKAWENNATI, BFA 92, GRDIP 96, MOHAWK MULTIMEDIA ARTIST, AND JASON EDWARD LEWIS, TIER 1 RESEARCH CHAIR IN COMPUTATIONAL MEDIA AND THE INDIGENOUS FUTURE IMAGINARY.

Concordia grad helps uplift students in foster care with \$25,000 gift

An anonymous gift of \$25,000 to the Campaign for Concordia will establish the Youth in Care Bursary to support disadvantaged students who grew up in foster care or the child welfare system.

“I want whoever is awarded the bursary to know that somebody out there *does* care about you,” says the donor, who worked for 40 years as a community nurse. “I want this financial support to inspire these students to do great things.”

The donor has been particularly affected by their work with teenagers,

both as a health-care provider and a volunteer. It’s a critical age group, they note, with many in the child welfare system still falling through the cracks.

“Watching them pursue their dreams, talking to them about their hopes for the future and giving them a nudge in the right direction — that’s what I find so rewarding about working with teenagers. And then you see them accomplish amazing things and you realize what kind of impact you can have.”

Ultimately, the creator of the Youth in Care Bursary says, the goal is to help recipients find their place and succeed.

“I would like to see them graduate and earn their degrees. And I would like to see them making a mark and contributing to society in a meaningful, fulfilling way. That’s my hope.” ■

View videos and read about recent gifts to the Campaign for Concordia at concordia.ca/campaign.

BELL EPOQUE

CANADA'S TELECOM
GIANT HAS A STRONG
CONCORDIA CONNECTION

JULIE BARLOW, MA '94

When their careers at Bell Canada began, Concordia graduates Erasmo Tiseo and Ivano Pirro never dreamed they would still be working for the telecommunications company two decades later.

Yet as the two worked their way up the ranks, one thing became clear: Bell offered them all the tools they needed to develop both personally and professionally.

Bell's size alone gives the likes of Tiseo, Pirro, Fauzia Gandhi and Tammy Scott — and more than 500 other Concordia alumni at the company — plenty of resources and opportunity to thrive.

With over 50,000 employees, BCE Inc. — the publicly traded company that includes service divisions devoted to mobile telephony and internet as well as digital television, radio and print assets — ranks as one of the largest employers in Canada.

Canada's Top 100 Employers, a list published annually by Mediacorp

Canada Inc., recently ranked Bell as one of the best employers in the country. The company's wide range of career-development services was given top marks, in particular.

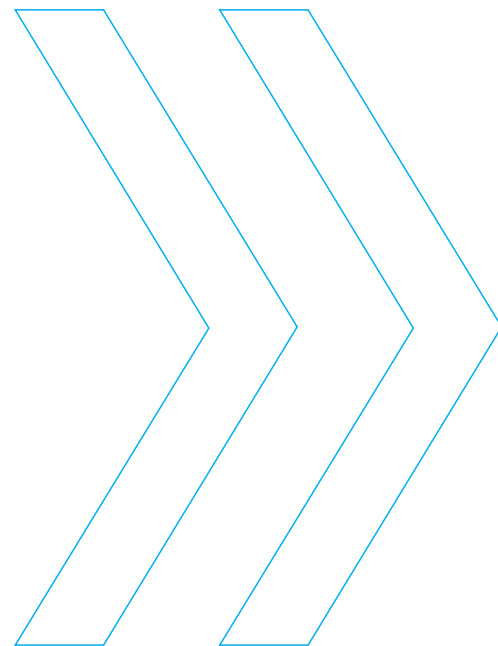
"There's mobility and opportunity to learn at Bell — or even change your role if you want," affirms Gandhi.

Bell's culture also attracts a lot of fresh talent new to the workforce.

Mediacorp placed the company on its *Canada's Top Employers for Young People* and *Canada's Best Diversity Employers* lists for 2022, thanks to efforts to foster a more equitable and accessible workplace as well as projects like the Bell Let's Talk Diversity Fund, which supports the mental health of historically marginalized groups across Canada.

"Bell is really levelling up to make sure that everyone has an opportunity to shine," says Pirro. "It's really impressive. After 24 years, I think I'll be working here until I retire."

Read on to learn more about how four Concordians have made a strong connection at Bell.



TAMMY SCOTT, BA 94

SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT, COMMUNICATIONS

As the senior executive at Bell charged with communications, Tammy Scott has a big mandate.

“Our communications campaign targets the media, existing and prospective customers, the general public, government stakeholders and other partners, prospective employees and also Bell’s employees across the country,” she says.

“My team also leads community relations, communications and program administration for the Bell Let’s Talk programs, which is a massive operation!”

Juggling tasks is all part of the job, says Scott.

“Having such a broad list of audiences means I have to stop, drop and roll a lot! My team and I have to respond to urgent needs caused by external factors. And then we have to plan ahead and think about new and different ways to connect with an audience that we haven’t tried before.”

Scott, who earned a Bachelor of Arts in communication studies, previously headed communications at Export Development Canada and the Canada Council for the Arts. Bell’s corporate mission convinced her to make a career change in 2021.

“The pandemic showed us just how reliant we are on technology,” she remarks. “It connected us to the people, places and things that we need and rely on. Canadians should be proud that we have such a strong telecommunications infrastructure.”

To do her job well, the alumna says she still employs storytelling techniques learned at Concordia.

“Everyone can listen to facts and figures, but I feel the most pride and accomplishment when I’m able to help tell a Bell story in a compelling way that captures hearts and minds.”



ERASMO TISEO, BCOMM 95, GRDIP 97 VICE-PRESIDENT, FINANCE



Erasmo Tiseo worked many roles over almost two decades at Bell before he landed his current executive position in finance in 2016. His determination to move up, he says, was partly inspired by the examples of past Bell executives like former chief financial officer William Anderson and former chief strategy officer Peter Nicolson.

“They were extremely senior but open to different perspectives from junior employees,” says Tiseo. “They were able to manage massive portfolios and still remain composed, focused and respectful to all, regardless of hierarchy.”

As the head of financial planning and capital management, Tiseo supports a team of 100 that seeks to land new corporate clients.

“Our responsibilities include putting together contract bids,” he says. “These are very large multi-year deals with some of the biggest corporations in Canada.”

“My team is effectively coordinating, gathering and capturing all the cost elements that go into delivering a solution, and working closely with the sales and marketing teams to put forward our best bid possible.”

Like many Concordia graduates, Tiseo appreciated the experiential approach taken by many of his professors.

“They went beyond the textbooks and spoke about the challenges they faced in the business world with actual examples and case-study problems,” he says. “All of that prepared me for life at Bell.”

Tiseo attributes his success — and his decision to stay at Bell as long as he has — to the company’s collaborative culture and the opportunities Bell provided him to grow, develop and take on different roles and responsibilities.

“When I joined, I wouldn’t have imagined working here for 24 years! But the opportunity to move around and take on new challenges has motivated and energized me over my career.”

IVANO PIRRO, BA 98 VICE-PRESIDENT, RETAIL SALES

For Ivano Pirro, a Department of Sociology graduate, Bell is a family affair.

“My parents, immigrants from Italy, both worked at Bell,” he says. “I started with a part-time job in call centres and worked my way up, from regional manager to my role today.”

Pirro’s long relationship with the company is key to his work now as the executive in charge of retail sales for Bell, Virgin Plus and The Source, a consumer-electronics and mobile-phone chain.

“I can easily relate to our retail employees because it wasn’t that long ago that I was a regional manager,” he says. “I understand the issues they face.”

The retail sector has been hit hard of

late, Pirro adds. “Managers are dealing with labour challenges, people are stressed and anxious and there’s a little bit of a backlash to the service industry in general, whether it’s retail or restaurants.”

Pirro draws on the wisdom of Richard Branson, founder of the Virgin Group, in tough times.

“It’s super important for employees to know leaders have their backs,” he says. “Branson’s motto is ‘Employees first.’ Employees take care of customers and customers take care of shareholders and shareholders make the business thrive.”

Having thrived in an organization that encouraged his leadership development, Pirro considers it a privilege to help members of his team progress in their career.



“I try to inspire people,” he says. “Motivation is temporary, but inspiration has more longevity.”

“Within this organization, you have 5,600 people in our retail divisions, many of whom want to get into leadership roles. I’m never going to talk to them all, but if I can inspire maybe 300 people a year, and they can inspire another 500 people, then that becomes a driving force behind the culture at Bell.”

FAUZIA GANDHI, MENG 20

CYBERSECURITY ANALYST

Fauzia Gandhi works around the clock to thwart computer hackers. A cybersecurity analyst at Bell since she graduated from Concordia's Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science in 2020, she is part of a team that responds to roughly 200 daily cybersecurity alerts.

"Our job is to monitor security alerts, do triage analysis, determine if it's a real attack and then escalate it to other squads who investigate deeper, remove the risk and find ways to prevent future attacks," she says.

As one of Bell's "first responders," Gandhi has developed some important people skills, too.

"Understandably, customers are in a panic when they've been hacked. We try to find out what has happened as quickly as possible, but also help calm them down."

When she was growing up in India, Gandhi actually dreamed about fighting hackers.

"Everyone was always warning us not to click on a web link!" she recalls. "I wanted to know why and what the hackers were doing."

The future analyst first got acquainted with the world of network security while completing an undergraduate degree in computer science at a top-ranked private university in the state of Punjab. At Concordia, Gandhi's graduate courses in information security systems introduced her to concepts that have helped her navigate many on-the-job challenges at Bell.

"The professors gave us projects where we had to learn about new security tools we'd never heard anything about," she says. "They told us we would have to convince organizations to think about security. But hacking increased so much during the pandemic that we don't need to pitch companies anymore — cybersecurity is booming."

Even now as a professional, Gandhi adds, the learning never stops.

"We have so many platforms, web applications, mobile phones, laptops, the cloud. We have to figure out how we can prevent hacks on them and create a defensive wall, but also learn the new technologies that are coming into the market." ■



In Good Company is a series on inspiring grads who work for corporations, non-profits or industries that employ a large number of Concordia alumni.



CONCORDIA'S
**TOP
FIFTY**
UNDER
FIFTY
SHAPING
TOMORROW

**Celebrating #CUalumni
at the top of their fields**

Walk into any boardroom, startup or studio and you can find a Concordian at the helm. Our graduates are the trailblazers, risk-takers, creators and makers who continue to raise the bar.

Meet this year's 50 under 50 honourees and learn how Concordia encouraged their success at concordia.ca/alumni/50under50 or concordia.ca/palmares50.

MEDIA AND CULTURE

Artists, designers, thinkers and storytellers



Andrew Tay, BFA 10

Dancer and choreographer



Anita Nowak, GrDip 99

Author; lecturer, Desautels Faculty of Management, McGill University

PHOTO: ALLEN MCINNIS



Adam Leith Gollner, BA 04

Writer



Stacey Masson, BA 00

Vice-president, Marketing and Communications, YMCAs of Quebec



Debra Goldblatt-Sadowski, BA 96

Founder and CEO, rock-it promotions



Nadia Myre, MFA 02

Artist; associate professor, Department of Studio Arts, Concordia



Martin Henri, BFA 01

Co-founder, president and executive producer, RF2 Productions



Maria Varvarikos, BComm 98

Founder and president, ZOÏ Agency



Amanda Rehbein, BFA 03

Associate creative director, Relevant; design director, Olivier Cheng Catering and Events



Rita Kotzia, BA 96, MA 04

Senior producer, Youth Content, Groupe Média TFO

PHOTO: HELEN TANSEY



Todd van der Heyden, GrDip 04

Anchor, CTV News Channel



Sara Mishara, BFA 99

Film director



Kaveh Nabatian, BFA 01

Film director; musician, Bell Orchestre

“Having faith in what you do is really important. Be tenacious, but also flexible and open to new opportunities. And build and cultivate your own personal networks – they will become really important down the road.”

– Nadia Myre, MFA 02

DEVELOPMENT AND REAL ESTATE

Construction, transportation, energy, building and housing experts



Ben Vendittelli, BComm 00, MBA 04

Managing partner, Mach Capital; executive vice-president and chief investment officer, Groupe Mach



Michael Owen, BComm 02

Co-president, Mondeev



Caterina Sastri, BA 02

Luxury real-estate advisor, Compass



George Chen, MEng 08

Vice-president, Cost Consulting, WT Partnership



David A. Janssen, BEng 98

Project director, Pattern Energy Group



Eric Peissel, BA 97

Global director, Transport and Infrastructure, WSP Global



Merav Marciano, BEng 00

Co-founder, North East Real Estate & Mortgage Agency

“One thing I liked about Concordia was how it facilitated connections to the real world. The Co-op program provided me with work terms where I was able to put theory into practice. I graduated with experience at leading companies like L’Oréal and Silanis Technology, one of the pioneers of digital signatures.”

– Michael Owen, BComm 02

NON-PROFIT, PUBLIC SECTOR AND LEGAL

Civic leaders, advocates, fundraisers, lawyers and physicians



Angela Plohman, MA 00

Executive vice-president, Strategy, Finance and Operations, Mozilla Foundation

PHOTO: ARDEN WRAY



Julie Quenneville, BA 00

President and CEO, McGill University Health Centre Foundation



Michael Levy, BSc 94, MSc 97

Senior vice-president, Digital and Innovation, US Pharmacopeia



Kim Fuller, BFA 96

Founder and CEO, Phil



Linda Tom, BA 98

Spokesperson, United Nations Mission in South Sudan



Mandy Gull Masty, BA 06, BA 08

Grand Chief, Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee



Shaun E. Finn, BA 97, GrDip 98

Co-leader, Class Action Defence Group, and partner, BCF Business Law



Natalie Cousineau, BSc 96

Chief of emergency medicine, Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre; adjunct lecturer, Temerty Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto

“Concordia had a major influence on my career. It was an environment where I felt people were socially conscious and environmentally aware, and really pushed initiatives that fell within those realms.”

– Mandy Gull Masty, BA 06, BA 08

INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Disruptors, makers, founders and tech gurus



Hari Kamineni, MAsc 99

Co-founder, Innovapptive



Lesely Antoun, BEng 95

Founder, Lesley Antoun Consulting



Jennifer McLeod Macey, MA 02

Senior vice-president and regional lead, Canada, Edelman DXI



Ronny Shibley, BEng 05

Founder, Gorillas; founder, Codefish Ventures



Ian Selvarajah, BComm 07

Executive director, Management Consulting, and Technology Strategy and Digital Transformation, KPMG Canada



Thierry Sin, BEng 96

President and CEO, Radian Thermal Products Inc.



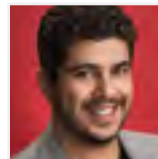
Jean-Philippe Côté, BEng 06

CEO, BL Solutions Inc.



Inder Bedi, BComm 96

Founder, MATT & NAT, Bedi Studios



Lennon Arcaro, BComm 05

Senior vice-president, Business Development, Tilting Point

“My philanthropy focuses on education because I feel it’s the solution to so many of the challenges we face today, including poverty, inequality and racism. I am constantly inspired by the next generation of people who want to make a difference.”

– Ian Selvarajah, BComm 07

FINANCE AND CORPORATE LEADERSHIP

Executives, investors and advisors



Tanya Greenidge, BComm 03, GrDip 08
Partner, Richter



Annie Hébert-Lalonde, BComm 97
Canada SAP lead, Accenture



David Aiken, BComm 03
Managing partner, Brookfield



Christine Panet-Raymond, BSc 95
Executive vice-president,
Willis Towers Watson



Nneka Chiazor, BCompSc 96
Vice-president, Government and Public
Affairs, Cox Communications



Kevin Headland, BComm 99
Co-chief investment strategist, Manulife



Julie Richard, BA 96
Global head, Wealth Management
Compliance, Bank of New York Mellon



Roland Muwanga, PhD 07
Vice-president, Energy Transition -
Technical Operations Strategy, TC Energy

“Leading my team through the pandemic was a career milestone. I’m so proud of what we accomplished by putting mental health at the forefront, engaging the community and running food drives. Everyone is talking about people quitting their jobs, but my team is still here – we survived and thrived.”

– Nneka Chiazor, BCompSc 96



Lucas Pontillo, BComm 97
Executive vice-president and chief
financial officer, Fiera Capital



Sarah Young, MA 98
Partner and senior counsel,
NATIONAL Public Relations



Matthew Bacchiochi, BComm 96
Co-founder and president,
GAVIN Hockey Wealth Specialists



Peggy Gouskos, BComm 96, GrDip 97
Partner, KPMG



Michael Gentile, BComm 03
Co-founder, Bastion Asset Management



CREATING TO

HEAL

**CONCORDIANS ARE
HARNESSING THE
POWER OF THE ARTS
TO HELP PEOPLE
COPE WITH LOSS**

When 176 people were killed after a passenger airliner was shot down near Tehran in January 2020, the Concordia community was devastated.

Two of the passengers — Siavash Ghafouri-Azar, MAsc 19, and Sara Mamani, MAsc 18 — were recent graduates who had just wed in Iran.

Galvanized by a \$50,000 donation from Campaign for Concordia: Next-Gen Now co-chair Gina (Parvaneh Baktash) Cody, MEng 81, PhD 89, the university swiftly mobilized to establish a memorial fund for Iranian students, who comprise more than nine per cent of Concordia's international-student population.

What the university did next for its bereaved may have been just as impactful.

It started with a graduate student in the Department of Creative Arts Therapies who created the Persian Art Hive on Sir George Williams Campus. Financed with support from the J.A. De Sève Foundation, the art hive became a safe space for the grief-stricken to quietly gather, make art and process their trauma without fear of judgment.

THE POWER OF CREATIVE EXPRESSION

The notion that creative expression can be a vehicle for therapy has long had a home at Concordia, even before the institution became the only university in Canada to offer graduate training programs in art therapy, drama therapy, music therapy and play therapy within a creative arts therapies department.

In this sense, Concordia has been ahead of the curve. And yet, thanks in part to advances made by its researchers, students and alumni, a more mainstream consensus has started to emerge about the potential for the arts and creative arts therapies to serve as resources for individuals who are experiencing life challenges.

Grief is undoubtedly among them.

"It's a natural process that we all go through at some point in our lives," says Guylaine Vaillancourt, a pioneering music therapist who chairs the Department of Creative Arts Therapies. "And the arts can be transformative in working through the pain."

Laurel Young, another music therapy professor at Concordia, has witnessed this first-hand in her more than 27 years of clinical and research experience.

"I have worked with mothers whose grief over the loss of a child was unresolved and impacting their lives years later," she says. "For some, participating in an individualized songwriting process gave them an opportunity to 'speak' to their child and express things previously left unsaid. The song became tangible evidence that acknowledged and honoured their child's existence in the world, and served as a vehicle for self-forgiveness."

"Through creative arts therapies, people can find their own ways of working through and living with grief that is constructive and personally meaningful for them. In music therapy, we work with bereaved individuals to find the sounds and music experiences to express what words alone cannot say."



A NATURAL PART OF LIFE

The event in Iran that compelled Hanieh Tohidi, MA 20, to launch a creative safe-space was not the first tragedy to prompt a supportive, arts-oriented response at Concordia.

After a student in the Department of Art Education passed away on campus in 2019, Rebecca Duclos, the dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts at the time, led efforts to provide resources for students, faculty and staff, as well as the student's family.

Those resources included art hives. Two four-hour sessions were hosted at Sir George for weeks, and gave a wide range of Concordia community members the opportunity to take comfort and commune with others in grief.

As Duclos told the *Montreal Gazette*, the tragedy "fast-tracked a lot of training that the whole university was ready to engage in."

Added Yehudit Silverman, a professor emeritus in the Department of Creative Arts Therapies: "Meaning-making is the only thing that allows for healing. And that meaning-making doesn't [necessarily] mean we figure out why [death happens]."

"The arts can be transformative in working through the pain."

- Guylaine Vaillancourt

At a March workshop at Concordia entitled “Grieving, Mourning, Memory: A Conversation,” Duclos, whose scholarly work on death is paired with her work as a death doula for palliative-care patients, said: “Dying is the one thing that we will all do. [It is important that] we demystify it and see it as a natural part of life.”

The expressive arts can be a powerful salve or resource in this regard.

Maria Riccardi, BFA 05, a lecturer at Concordia with graduate degrees in art therapy and educational technology, has implemented a range of art-based programs, most notably for adolescents and adults alienated because of mental or physical illness, immigration status or poverty.

In a paper published online by the Canadian Art Therapy Association in 2020, Riccardi and two other researchers demonstrated how the expressive arts can be effective in end-of-life care for patients and loved ones faced with loss.

“The creative process allows the participants to reflect on past events, to be aware of the present mood, and then discuss their concerns about life and death issues,” Riccardi and her co-authors wrote. “Through the series of [expressive arts] activities, participants develop a deeper understanding of their body, mind and spirit in the face of death, and strengthen their connection with their families and other beings.”

Although there is a growing body of research on the use of the arts in grief work, the paper noted that more work is needed.

‘SOMETIMES WE CANNOT FIND THE WORDS’

That may soon change, thanks in no small part to a surfeit of evidence — both anecdotal and empirical — uncovered throughout the COVID-19 crisis.

As the pandemic worsened in the United States in 2020, the American Art Therapy Association conducted a comprehensive online survey. Respondents cited a need for more art therapy resources and saw them as particularly effective as a way to cope with isolation, rapid changes in circumstance, trauma and grief.

More and more evidence suggests that children in grief — perhaps unable to communicate verbally — may stand to benefit most from forms of creative arts therapies.

“Kids naturally gravitate to art,” noted Sarah Tevyaw, BFA 09, MA 11, a Concordia-educated art therapist who has worked at a palliative care residence for the last decade, in a recent interview about her work with Palliative Care McGill. “It is such a natural way to express what is going on. I always remind [parents] that the child is not going to be forced to do the art, and they are not going to be forced to talk.

“But often how they feel comes out through the process of making the art. Things come up and we have the opportunity to work through it.”

These therapies are “an important way for people to make meaning of their experience,” Tevyaw added.

“For both people living with a terminal illness and for those who are bereaved, sometimes we are not ready to

talk about it, and sometimes we cannot find the words to express what is going on. Art is a visual language. It doesn’t need to be interpreted. Art gives people the opportunity to express anything that is going on through an image.”

Katherine Valkanas, MA 18, a bereavement coordinator and art therapist at the community-based Doane House Hospice in Newmarket, Ontario, works with individuals who are processing grief and bereavement, and supports individuals with terminal illness as well as their caregivers.

“One of the wonderful aspects of art therapy is that it can be person-centred to meet the needs of clients,” she says. “Together we’re creating something to commemorate a relationship in response to memories they’ve made with a loved one, and to explore various feelings that are present in their grief experience.

“The beautiful part about art-making and art therapy is that it allows for different layers of experience to naturally unfold and be expressed.”

THE IMPORTANCE OF DONOR SUPPORT

Concordia’s Heather McLaughlin, MA 04, knows this all too well.

The art therapy option coordinator and director of the university’s art therapy graduate program oversees the new Concordia Arts in Health Centre (CAiHC), whose mission is to provide accessible creative arts therapies services to underserved communities. Interns in drama, art, music and art therapy are supervised by professionals



“In music therapy, we work with bereaved individuals to find the sounds and music experiences to express what words alone cannot say.”

- Laurel Young

“We’re proud of the work we and our graduates are doing not just here, but across North America and abroad.”

- Heather McLaughlin, MA 04

KARINE KALFON



who are experts in their field, and bring innovative and best-practice approaches to meet the varied needs of diverse people in the greater Montreal area and beyond.

“Bolstered by donor support, we’ve spent a year piloting projects in the community,” McLaughlin says. “And we have now just started offering services at our on-site clinic, as well as on location in several organizations.”

The CAiHC’s list of partners in the delivery of these services includes Montreal’s Refugee Centre, a non-profit that helps recent immigrants and refugees begin anew in the city. Many have fled horrific circumstances that are difficult to articulate in any language.

“Refugees face multifaceted obstacles and barriers throughout their forced migration journey,” says Jude Ibrahim, BFA 20, MA 22, who led the pilot project at the Refugee Centre as part of her graduate-degree practicum. “The accumulation of these difficult experiences poses a tremendous strain on their mental health and well-being.”

The efforts of McLaughlin, Young, Vaillancourt and others at the Department of Creative Arts Therapies to build on Concordia’s strengths in the discipline have drawn the attention of donors and some major philanthropists. The Raschkowan Family Foundation, for example, has provided support for Ibrahim’s work at the Refugee Centre, as well as a number of other pilot projects.

Sarah Ivory, MFA 95, a Montreal-based community fundraiser, developed an interest in creative arts therapies through her work at the Douglas Mental Health Institute, both as a program facilitator and as a past member of the foundation’s board. Witnessing firsthand how creative arts therapies could help mitigate suffering, Ivory — who also formerly served on the advisory board of Concordia’s Faculty of Fine Arts — was inspired to make a gift to the university.

“There is a growing body of scientific research on creative arts therapies, and Concordia is doing great work that I believe we must support,” she says.

Last May, the university celebrated a \$1-million gift from the family foundation led by Concordia alumna Sandra Chartrand, BA 85, and her husband, Alain Bouchard, co-founder and chairman of Alimentation Couche-Tard, to the CAiHC and the Centre for the Arts in Human Development, a clinical and research development hub established in 1996 for graduate students in the department.

That gift helped secure \$500,000 of additional support from Fondation Famille Mongeau, a charity co-managed by Claude Mongeau, the former CEO of Canadian National Railway (more on p. 13).

The two Montreal foundations were moved by Concordia’s progressive approach to creative arts-based therapy research and education and the steps the university has taken to provide services to the broader community from the Centre for the Arts in Human Development on Loyola Campus and a new state-of-the-art facility on Sir George Williams Campus.

“We’re proud of the work we and our graduates are doing not just here, but across North America and abroad,” says McLaughlin.

The power of artistic expression is not to be underestimated, adds Vaillancourt.

“Everyone’s healing journey is unique. But we know that the arts have been used by humans as a therapeutic form of expression for thousands of years. When words fail us, the arts really can see us through difficult times.” ■

“One of the wonderful aspects of art therapy is that it can be person-centred to meet the needs of clients.”

- Katherine Valkanas, MA 18

VAN WICKHAM



RENEWABLE REVOLUTION





WITH HELP FROM CONCORDIA RESEARCHERS AND ALUMNI, THE FUTURE LOOKS DECARBONIZED

ALEXANDER HULS

When world leaders convene in Egypt for the COP27 United Nations Climate Conference in November, the focus will again be on ensuring that targets to reduce the planet's temperatures can be met. Those efforts will include ambitious strategies to decarbonize the world's energy.

In its own response to the global call for action, Concordia has committed to a Climate Action Plan to achieve climate neutrality by 2040. The road map leverages the university's resources and research expertise through transdisciplinary approaches to tackle the climate crisis, particularly from a renewable-energy standpoint.

The university's contingent of researchers in the space includes Karim Zaghbi, professor in the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering, Marek Majewski, head of Concordia's Solar Energy Conversion Group, Andreas Athienitis, director of the Concordia Centre for Zero Energy Building Studies (CZEBS), Luiz A. C. Lopes, professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and a number of colleagues across faculties focused on the same mission: hastening a future where net-zero greenhouse gas emissions is achievable.

These researchers are joined in the fight by talented Concordia alumni looking at the problem from a number of angles.

Sue Molloy, BEng 98, is one of them. More than a decade ago, the founder and president of Glas Ocean Electric, which converts gas-powered boats to electric, agreed to teach a class on sustainability at Dalhousie University.

Her lectures addressed the perils of climate change head-on, but after a while, Molloy, who has a doctorate in ocean engineering, noticed that many of her students seemed pessimistic about the future. It wasn't the impression she wanted to leave.

"If we don't think that we can solve the climate crisis, then nihilism takes over," says Molloy.

With that in mind, she adopted a new approach, beginning every lecture with inspiring examples of innovators in renewable energy — a critical sector in the fight against climate change.

The strategy had a noticeable effect on her students.

"All they needed was a tangible sense that things can improve."

THE ROAD TO NET-ZERO

There's plenty of hope to go around in 2022.

Changes in attitudes, policy goals and technology have led to a rise in renewables that many observers cautiously predict will help mitigate humankind's carbon footprint.

In 2020, the European Union (United Kingdom included) had the capacity to meet almost half of its energy needs from renewables. Almost 20 per cent of electricity in Canada and the United States was sourced from renewables in 2021. And the International Energy Agency (IEA) reported that global sales of electric vehicles had surged to 6.6 million units in 2021.

What's more, the United Nations recently reported that more than 70 countries — including the biggest polluters, China, the U.S. and the E.U. — as well as more than 600 cities have made net-zero emissions pledges.

Then there was the recent Inflation Reduction Act passed by the U.S. Congress. The landmark bill, signed into law by President Biden in August, will allot \$369 billion to combat climate change — a major boost to the \$755 billion that was invested globally in green technology in 2021.

The sense of optimism around the potential of renewables is also being fuelled by Concordia researchers and alumni who, like Molloy, are rethinking how we power our planet.

In the past, renewable-energy choices could seem monolithic. The way to reduce the world's carbon emissions was often presented as a choice between wind, hydro or solar.

It's become apparent, however, that in order to have an enduring impact on climate change, we'll need to deploy every tool at our disposal at the same time.

Says Dave Lapointe, BEng 16, vice-president of Engineering at CH Four Biogas, a company that designs and engineers mixed-waste biogas facilities for owner-operators: "Energy-wise, we've been putting all of our eggs in one basket since the Industrial Revolution. Now we're realizing the consequences of that mindset. We have to diversify our energy portfolio."



“In five or 10 years, solar will represent a majority of the energy generated.”

– SASS PERESS, BCOMM 82, MBA 84

THE FUTURE OF SOLAR IS BRIGHT

Domestic and commercial use of solar panels gained traction in the early 2000s, and has taken off ever since.

“What I’ve seen is just so fast-paced,” says Barbara Bottini-Havrillay, MSc 16, director of GIS & Data Science at Pine Gate Renewables.

Headquartered in Asheville, North Carolina, the fast-growing utility-scale solar developer has powered hundreds of thousands of homes — a testament to solar’s increasing accessibility and affordability.

Indeed, the solar industry has successfully driven down costs — try 90 per cent between 2010 and 2020 — and, as a result, incentivized consumers.

Majewski, assistant professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, notes that 15 years ago, it was believed that solar needed to drop below \$2 per kilowatt hour to be considered a viable energy source. By 2017, it had dropped to six cents for utility scale (a utility-scale solar facility generates solar power and feeds it into the grid, supplying a utility with energy).

The next hurdle is to make the technology more efficient in how it captures and converts the sun’s energy. Advancements are being made. Conventional solar panels typically operate below 20 per cent efficiency, but new types of solar cells, derived from a calcium titanium oxide mineral called perovskite, are exceeding that.

They can additionally be processed into a thin film that can absorb solar energy on different surfaces, such as windows.

“It really diversifies the way that we can disseminate this technology,” says Majewski.

As the technology improves, solar energy’s potential — from planes to boats and even roadways — is being explored around the world.

Take the work of Sass Peress, BComm 82, MBA 84, who, as the founder and CEO of Vermont-based iSun Energy, a position he relinquished in 2021, oversaw the manufacture of solar carports that can charge electric vehicles (EVs) with or without any other connection to an electric grid.

Peress says that iSun’s recent success — 115 per cent growth over 2020 and a \$29-million order for 1,780 off-grid solar canopies to be installed at EV charging stations — underscores a broader trend.

“In five or 10 years, solar will represent a majority of the energy generated,” he adds.

“We need to develop newer, smarter policies that look at the bigger picture, not just one component.”

– ANDREAS ATHIENITIS



THE UPSIDE OF GREEN HYDROGEN

Electricity generated by water has existed for nearly 150 years, and in places like Canada represents nearly 60 per cent of the country's energy.

But the pursuit of renewable energies is seeing water's link to power expanded. Take green hydrogen. With hydropower, water pressure applied to turbines creates energy in a generator. With green hydrogen, however, the process is almost reversed: Electricity from renewable sources like solar and wind is applied to water to break it down into hydrogen and oxygen.

The reason many experts are hopeful that green hydrogen will play a major role in our decarbonized future is that it can be applied to some of the most environmentally harmful sectors, such as transportation, mining, steel and chemical. In other words, fossil-fuel-heavy industries.

Green hydrogen has remained underused so far, in part because of cost, but people like Vaitea Cowan, BComm 15, co-founder of Enapter, are changing that.

The Berlin-based entrepreneur, who made the *Forbes* 30 Under 30 Energy list in 2020 with her Enapter co-founder, Jan-Justus Schmidt, oversees the production of an affordable device that can create green hydrogen through electrolysis. The technology is already in use in small aircraft, experimental vehicles and some homes.

As with solar, the affordability factor is crucial.

"There needs to be an economic case to convince people to adopt the technology," says Cowan, who, along with Schmidt, demonstrated Enapter's innovation to Bill Gates at the COP26 climate conference in Glasgow and was awarded Prince William's Earthshot Prize in 2021. "You need green hydrogen to be cheaper than fossil fuels."



"We have everything we need to solve this crisis."

– VAITEA COWAN, BCOMM 15

A NEW FRONTIER FOR HYDROPOWER AND BIOGAS

By necessity, a greener energy mix will require some novel and unorthodox approaches. One example of this comes from RheEnergise, a company with offices in Montreal and London, U.K., that employs Marc-Antoine Proulx, BEng 21, on its research and development team.

The company's key innovation is a cost-effective energy storage solution that it calls High-Density Hydro. Typically, hydro storage involves the configuration of two water reservoirs at different elevations. When water is released from above, it goes through turbine generators.

RheEnergise's twist? "Instead of using water, we're using our patented fluid which has two-and-a-half times the density of water," says Proulx. "So you have two-and-a-half times the energy density."

Conventional hydropower storage also requires a high-altitude reservoir, something RheEnergise's solution gets around.

"It opens up the door for different locations you could build your projects on, and lowers the cost of installation and manufacturing," explains Proulx.

Based in Ottawa, CH Four Biogas has also experimented boldly in the renewables space with an eye towards eventual mainstream adoption.

"Everybody's heard of solar, everybody's heard of wind, but not very many people have heard of biogas," says Dave Lapointe.

Biogas is emitted when bacteria consume organic waste or manure in an oxygen-free environment. CH Four Biogas designs plants that provide hospitable conditions for this process, called anaerobic digestion. This not only helps eliminate emissions from landfills, but also offers what Lapointe calls a happy bonus: renewable energy.

Biogas contains up to 60 per cent methane; when the gas is extracted, you get renewable natural gas that can be used to generate electricity or heat. Currently, bioenergy represents a fraction of the world's renewable energy, but the IEA predicts that it could represent 30 per cent of renewable-energy production by 2023.

When you consider that CH Four Biogas has worked with U.S. dairy farms that house tens of thousands of cows — cows that produce thousands of tonnes of manure — the bullish outlook many observers have for biogas starts to make sense. It's also the only solution that impacts food waste head-on, offering an opportunity to convert millions of tonnes of organic waste each year into energy.



“It’s exciting that we can promote the emphasis Concordia is putting on the green circular economy, sustainability and research to a global audience.”

– KARIM ZAGHIB

THE KEY TO THE FUTURE OF STORAGE

A world replete with renewables will depend not just on how we source and produce energy, but where we put it.

“If you’re looking at decarbonizing the future, it all hinges on long-duration energy storage,” says Jean-Philippe Castonguay, BEng 10, partner and director of Off-Grid Power and Storage Systems at BBA Consulting, a company with offices across Canada that develops engineering strategies with a sustainability focus.

Imagine a wind turbine with the ability to power an entire grain farm. On very windy days, the turbines may produce far more energy than the farm needs. With no storage solution, the excess is wasted.

If, however, the energy is stored, it can be used on less blustery days. This is why advances in energy storage are “a major technological development,” says Andreas Athienitis, who, as director of CZEBS, helps to reduce the environmental impact of buildings.

While many technologies, such as supercapacitors, have been developed with storage in mind, battery systems are the storage front-runners. In 2020 alone, \$5.5 billion USD was invested in them to ensure captured renewable energy can have a longer shelf life.

Improved battery storage will also help decentralize the grid. That’s because the need for one coal plant to service a given region will be less severe once multiple wind turbines, solar panels and other renewables are turned on and connected to the system.

“If you have a smart way to design your energy production and energy storage, you are able to resolve the issue,” notes Karim Zaghib, the 2022 winner of the Kalev Pugi Award from the Society of Chemical Industry (SCI) Canada.

Zaghib was recently named president of the International Meeting on Lithium Batteries, which will be held in Montreal in 2026.

“The conference will help broaden the reach of the Quebec and Canadian lithium battery ecosystem,” he says. “It’s exciting that we can promote the emphasis Concordia is putting on the green circular economy, sustainability and research to a global audience.”

That green economy will truly be optimized if we think modular, adds Enapter’s Cowan.

“Building systems that are like Lego blocks will be a key part of transitioning us into renewable energies,” she says.

Concordia professor Luiz A. C. Lopes, whose research seeks to answer how we can incorporate a larger proportion of reliable renewable energy into our conventional power system, adds that electric vehicles could be used for stationary energy storage.

“When a vehicle is parked and charging, its lithium battery could be repurposed to assist a home — or a set of interconnected homes — with its energy requirements.”

Improved batteries will be a critical component to ensuring that stored energy can also be fed back into the grid to efficiently supply power when and where it’s needed — like a suburban neighbourhood’s generated solar energy responding to a sudden surge in a nearby city borough.

“Energy storage is all about stabilizing the grid because of the intermittency of renewable energies like solar and wind,” says Proulx.



“If you’re looking at decarbonizing the future, it all hinges on long-duration energy storage.”

– JEAN-PHILIPPE CASTONGUAY,

BENG 10

'THERE IS NO MAGIC BULLET'

Realizing the potential of renewable innovations — much like the ones Concordians are advancing — will require hard work and a clear-eyed understanding of what's actually possible.

"We're somewhat limited in what we can control," says Peress. "But what we can do is help the planet be more habitable for humankind, animals and plants, and for a longer period of time.

"There is no magic bullet, there is no Hail Mary."

Cowan believes that the search for a one-size-fits-all solution — especially in the form of a unicorn technology — is a distraction.

"We have everything we need to solve this crisis," she says.

Her fellow Concordians who work in the renewables space share that sentiment. To a large extent, they agree that what's needed is the scaling up of existing technologies in order for them to realize their full zero-emissions potential.

It's why, for example, it was important for Molloy not to reinvent the wheel when she developed Glas Ocean's electric boats.

"It wasn't about designing everything from scratch, from the first bolt to the paint that you put on the system at the end of it," she says. "It's looking at ways to use existing technology to figure out where we could contribute improvements."

The shift to a greener future will also require a shift in public awareness, which activists like Greta Thunberg and Xiye Bastida have helped inspire. Our politics will have to change, too.

"Instead of a subsidy of \$13,000 to purchase a Tesla, the government could provide you with \$10,000 to install solar panels," Lopes offers as an example. "Or the government could put laws into place that penalize those who continue to contribute to climate change."

Policymakers also need to apply more blue-sky thinking, says Athienitis. "We need to develop newer, smarter policies that look at the bigger picture [of the climate crisis], not just one component."

Adds Lapointe: "We have to get the politicians and, more importantly, industry on board, because corporations have a lot of influence. That's when you'll see big changes."

Those changes are under way. The lower cost of renewables has incentivized many large firms across sectors — from textiles to the automotive industry — to join the green revolution. This feeds a cycle: As the tech gets cheaper, the more it gets used — and the more it gets used, the cheaper it gets.

This, in turn, draws more investment, which incentivizes wider adoption and policy support. Green-energy subsidies, carbon taxation, EV mandates and climate-crisis bills have all gained traction as politicians (literally) feel the heat.

All of this is why Concordians leading the green revolution don't subscribe to doom-and-gloom narratives. Much like Sue Molloy's students, they've become optimistic about the future.

"You have to approach all of your work in the climate space with hope," says Molloy. ■



"If we don't have hope that we can solve the climate crisis, then nihilism takes over."

— SUE MOLLOY, BENG 98



'You have to keep sounding the alarm'

MEET 4 CONCORDIANS AT THE FOREFRONT OF INDIGENOUS ADVOCACY

MAEVE HALDANE, BFA 91

Through social-justice activism, storytelling, arts and culture curation and efforts on behalf of Inuit self-determination, Indigenous alumnae of Concordia are drawing on their heritage to lead — and inspire — by example. Meet four women making a difference in their own communities and society at large.

NAKUSET
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR, NATIVE
WOMEN'S SHELTER
OF MONTREAL;
CO-DIRECTOR,
RESILIENCE
MONTREAL

MARIE-CLAUDE FOURNIER



Nakuset, BA 00, fights hard so Montreal's Indigenous population can access critical services.

The Concordia graduate was adopted during the Sixties Scoop — when Canadian child-welfare authorities were empowered to arbitrarily remove Indigenous children from their families and place them in foster homes for subsequent adoption by white people.

Nakuset, who is Cree from Lac La Ronge, Treaty 6 territory, Saskatchewan, was placed with a Jewish family in Montreal. As was typical at the time, her Indigenous roots were downplayed and denigrated.

"Most of the adoptions failed," she says of that era, but she credits a caring adoptive grandmother for giving her strength and love. (One of Nakuset's early professional projects was to create a cultural manual for white families who adopt Indigenous children, as well as an Indigenous program modelled after Big Brothers Big Sisters.)

While doing support work at the Native Friendship Centre of Montreal three decades ago, Nakuset was appalled by the lack of available resources.

"There were people falling through the cracks — homeless people who were suffering from the effects of residential schools or the Sixties Scoop," she says. "No one seemed to care."

Nakuset soon enrolled in Concordia's Applied Human Sciences program to figure out how to create solutions. While a student, she joined the Native Women's Shelter as a front-line worker and rose to become executive director. She has since developed many projects and programs, from health- and family-care services to advocacy and support-system guidance. Notably, next February Nakuset will open Miyoskamin, a second-stage housing program and social pediatric clinic for women and their children.

But progress is never linear amid the persistent obstacles of systemic racism. In 2018, when homeless shelter Open Door left the Cabot Square area of downtown Montreal, eight Indigenous people died in the subsequent three months.

"They couldn't get access to services, they were turned away from hospitals, they had nowhere to sleep," says Nakuset. "I was so outraged — how many Indigenous people have to die before someone does something?"

When the city decided to revitalize the neighbourhood, Nakuset urged officials not to remove people from the park and to provide them with services. Media publicity led to a financial commitment, and she stepped forward to help create the wellness centre Resilience Montreal.

Currently in a temporary location — with a permanent one to be announced soon — the centre has already brought relief and hope to the Indigenous community. Nakuset anticipates handing the reins over to co-founder David Chapman within a few years.

"You have to keep sounding the alarm as injustices happen, and hope that it will inspire others to do better," Nakuset says of her approach to fighting for positive change. "Present yourself as fearless, even when you're scared. But always surround yourself with good people who believe in you and support you."



REGAN JACOBS
MANAGER AND
EXECUTIVE
PRODUCER,
AKWESASNE TV

Regan Jacobs, BA 00, spends much of her time travelling throughout the Mohawk Nation territory that straddles the St. Lawrence River in Quebec, Ontario and the state of New York in an attempt to tell people's stories.

When she worked for a traditional media outlet fresh out of Concordia's Department of Journalism, Jacobs was often asked to cover First Nations communities because she was Mohawk. Wanting to tell their stories in her own way, she started her own company, Loud Spirit Productions, in Kahnawake, a Mohawk territory south of Montreal.

In 2013, Jacobs was hired to develop an Akwesasne television station as a consultant, then asked to remain as general manager. It was a major transition from independent journalism to running budgets, programming, financing and human resources, all under the purview of a board of directors.

"If you're going into leadership roles, you're going to have to know a lot about business and politics," she says.

At Concordia, Jacobs received "a great foundation for the ethics and principles of journalism, creating content, its legalities and structure."

Her undergraduate studies were during the analog era — think editing Super 8 reels. Within two years of graduation, Jacobs had to completely retrain in digital technology. Now, she always makes sure that she and her team stay up to date with the latest tools of the trade.

Versatility is key to success, she believes.

"It's really important that you know even the basics of shifting from traditional storytelling into a virtual or online world," she says. "If you want to be able to make it in this industry, you have to work extremely hard. It's very detailed — you have to be focused, triple-checking everything." Though with time, Jacobs learned to work smarter, rather than harder. "The earlier you learn that, the better off you will be."

Jacobs takes her role — sharing Indigenous language, culture and traditions — very seriously.

"It's an honour and privilege to produce at this level," she says. "We're not just telling a story today — we're telling a story that will be here 100 years from now."

"The stories we tell are sacred. They're generational, they're ancestral, they harness a lot of culture and Indigenous knowledge and identity, which is a huge responsibility. We approach things from an emotional and logical place."

Reflecting on her own professional trajectory, Jacobs observes that, "the more you can centre yourself in your career and your perspective and trust yourself, the better you will be at what you do."

CAMILLE USHER
ASSISTANT
PROFESSOR,
ONTARIO COLLEGE
OF ART & DESIGN
(OCAD) UNIVERSITY



Camille Usher, BFA 15, MA 17, is an artist, a long-distance runner, a board member of the Toronto Biennial of Art and the Galiano Literary Festival, as well as a freshly hired assistant professor at OCAD University in Toronto.

Usher, who is Coast Salish, Sahtu Dene and Scottish, previously served as executive director of the Indigenous Curatorial Collective (ICCA), whose purpose is to support and connect Indigenous curators and artists throughout Canada and the world.

After she was hired by the ICC in 2019, Usher set out to determine exactly what the “gangly teen of an organization” had been up to and was capable of.

She soon noted that even she, a well-connected and relatively savvy professional, felt a bit lost in navigating through some of the processes required to stage an exhibition. She imagined artistically inclined Indigenous youth in rural areas with spotty internet trying to do the same. How would they fare?

“The ICC’s job is to make sure Indigenous curators have the tools and resources to create their exhibitions, and feel supported and connected to a larger community,” Usher says. “The organization tries to show the possibilities of many different kinds of curating and how important it is.”

While at Concordia, Usher was inspired by art history professor and Inuk scholar Heather Igloliorte. She worked on a project of Igloliorte’s that saw the first nationally touring exhibition of Labrador Inuit art.

“She is a force to be reckoned with,” remarks Usher, a PhD candidate at Queen’s University. She was particularly inspired by Igloliorte’s ability to attract Indigenous art historians and curators to the university.

In her work at the ICCA, Usher fostered a community and made space for her employees to think and create autonomously. “I’m not a micromanager,” she says.

Because the ICCA’s team was already accustomed to working remotely, the pandemic wasn’t too disruptive. But when Usher noticed stress levels rising, she implemented a four-day workweek.

“Our work improved 10 times over after that,” she says.

The best advice Usher has received about leadership is to not take conflicts personally, and to look at each situation logically. In the non-profit sector, she adds, you must also be prepared to step into any role and intuit when to delegate.

“I hate doing payroll,” she says, laughing. “I’m really bad at it.”

The ICCA saved money when she gave those duties to someone else, leaving her time to fundraise. “The biggest learning curve was figuring out how to find capable people to fill specific roles,” she says.

Proud to have made her mark at the ICC — the organization described her tenure as “successful and inspiring” — Usher’s current focus is on her students at OCAD, where she lectures on art history and curatorial practices.

“The stories we tell are sacred. They’re generational, ancestral, they harness a lot of culture and Indigenous knowledge.”

– REGAN JACOBS, BA 00



**LISA QILUQQI
KOPERQUALUK
PRESIDENT, INUIT
CIRCUMPOLAR
COUNCIL CANADA**

INUIT CIRCUMPOLAR
COUNCIL CANADA

Lisa Qiluqqi Koperqualuk, BA 08, was recently elected president of the Canadian chapter of the Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC), which represents more than 180,000 people living in Alaska, Northern Canada, Greenland and Chukotka, Russia. The non-governmental organization’s mission is to advocate for Indigenous peoples of the Arctic and subarctic on the international stage.

“We’ve got our work cut out for us,” admits Koperqualuk, who was born and raised in Nunavik in northern Quebec.

When Koperqualuk served as ICC Canada’s vice-president, she worked for the organization in its aim to become a permanent member of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), a specialized agency of the United Nations responsible for regulating shipping. Melting ice in the Arctic Ocean has yielded new trade routes in international waters. A 2020 report by the Arctic Council, of which Canada is a member, noted that the number of ships entering the Arctic grew by 25 per cent between 2013 and 2019.

Involvement in the IMO “gives us a voice to protect the environment we are so connected to: coastal areas, the marine environment, marine biodiversity, the oceans, the marine mammals — all things we depend on for our culture,” Koperqualuk says.

With the repercussions of climate change on Arctic regions, it is crucial, she adds, that we work to preserve “the expression of our language, the way we feed our families, the way we connect with animals and their migration patterns.”

Koperqualuk believes that to overcome society’s most urgent challenges, Indigenous knowledge must be considered alongside science-driven research. What’s more, scientific research that takes place within Inuit communities needs to be collaborative and of benefit to those communities.

As a political-science major at Concordia, Koperqualuk’s favourite class was on globalization. The course material hit close to home — the father of her children was a pilot for a mining company, and Koperqualuk lived in West Africa for a time as a result.

During her undergraduate studies she read the draft of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and followed its lengthy approval process.

“It’s now a document we completely rely on as one of the principal sources of our work at the ICC,” she says. “Everything that’s related to our inherent right to self-determination is all stated in there.”

Towards the end of her Concordia degree, Koperqualuk was offered work as a communications officer for Makivik, an organization centred on the rights and interests of Inuit in Quebec. She also went on to earn a master’s degree in anthropology from Université Laval, and spent two months interviewing 40 elders on the rules that govern Inuit life to produce “Traditions Relating to Inuit Customary Law in Nunavik,” an essay published by the Avataq Cultural Institute in English, French and Inuktitut.

A self-described introvert, Koperqualuk has had to build up her confidence and learn how to network in order to excel at her job.

“Being a woman and a leader requires commitment and fortitude,” she says. “And you don’t gain that fortitude alone. You need to surround yourself with good people.”

The Concordia Alumni Women and Leadership program empowers women graduates to connect, share professional experiences and expertise, and learn from each other. This series introduces leaders from Concordia’s network of 115,000 alumnae in business, media, engineering, science, the arts, humanities and other sectors.

Learn more at concordia.ca/alumni/women. ■

Experiential learning helps prepare students for the future



CONCORDIA'S FACULTY OF FINE ARTS COORDINATED A SUMMER PROGRAM LAST JUNE AT THE ICELANDIC TEXTILE CENTRE, ONE OF SEVERAL IMMERSIVE FIELD SCHOOLS OFFERED TO STUDENTS.



Concordia has run successful internship programs for more than 40 years – and is now scaling up

GRAHAM CARR

A version of this op-ed by Concordia President and Vice-Chancellor Graham Carr appeared in the Montreal Gazette and La Presse newspapers in August.

As students, families and universities gear up for a new academic year, the mission to equip next-gen talent to meet the immediate and future needs of society has become doubly urgent.

The world is confronting seismic changes and unprecedented challenges. Economies everywhere are struggling with inflation, labour shortages and supply-chain disruptions. New technologies are proliferating at breakneck speed. The organization of work is undergoing a decisive transformation. And, globally, parts of the social fabric are rapidly tearing apart.

More than ever we need an adaptable, engaged workforce and citizenry to help us through these transitions and beyond. This is why, as of the 2022 fall term, Concordia is offering every incoming undergraduate student at least one course-based experiential learning opportunity.

Concordia also aims to make two experiential learning opportunities available to new students beginning in 2025 through work-integrated learning, study-abroad experience, research, and community-based or co-curricular experience over the course of their degree.

It's an ambitious undertaking. But given the partnerships we've established and are developing, Concordia intends to be the first university in Quebec, and one of the first in Canada, to deliver on such a goal.

Experiential learning opportunities enhance students' education by providing curated access to people, knowledge and networks that complement but go beyond the boundaries of standard degree learning. Through exposure to different cultures, workplaces and performance expectations, students can make a faster, smoother transition to life after a bachelor's degree.

Undergraduates who do work placements through our Institute for Co-operative Education (Co-op) or other internships, participate actively in research projects or field schools, or go on academic-exchange programs generally perform better academically. And with hands-on experience and a foot in the door, they're also more likely to be recruited by organizations and employers.

"As of the 2022 fall term, Concordia is offering every incoming undergraduate student at least one course-based experiential learning opportunity."

“Experiential learning provides curated access to people, knowledge and networks that go beyond the boundaries of standard degree learning.”



Yet the challenge for universities, especially big ones like Concordia with more than 30,000 undergraduates, is to deliver experiential learning at scale. We've run successful Co-op and internship programs for more than 40 years.

Beyond privileged access to a talent pipeline, the overwhelming majority of employers believe that student interns build capacity in their organizations, bringing new ideas, fresh energy, technology skills, digital expertise and, in the case of Concordia, cultural and linguistic diversity.

To be successful and sustainable at scale, experiential learning cannot be transactional. It has to be a mutual investment and meaningful partnership that puts benefits to employers, host and home universities on an equal footing with the student experience.

Engaging alumni and advocacy groups such as the Business + Higher Education Roundtable to mobilize their networks and broaden potential employment pools is critical. So is the support of generous donors, such as the Doggone Foundation, who provide paid internships to Concordia students in fine arts, or RBC, who support students from marginalized backgrounds through our Beat the Odds program.

Governments also play a key role. In terms of policy impact, the value proposition of experiential learning more than repays the public investment to incentivize employer participation or offset the cost for universities to arrange placements and provide professional mentoring.

Investing in placements is an effective tool, not just to support businesses and organizations in large urban centres, but also in regions where workforce recruitment is sometimes challenging. And by expanding work-integrated learning eligibility, more talented international students will choose to stay in Quebec or elsewhere in Canada after graduation.

We're living through a period of extraordinary social and economic upheaval. But working together, across sectors, we can deepen the value of university education and advance the prosperity of Quebec and Canadian society by better aligning the undergraduate experience with global diversity, the changing world of work today and the economies of tomorrow. Investing in experiential learning is a cost-effective way to enrich all our futures. ■

To learn more, visit concordia.ca/el.

BY THE NUMBERS AT CONCORDIA

4,500+

students enrolled in Co-op

In the 2021-22 academic year, Co-op engaged with 8,600+ partners and contacts which resulted in 2,300 internships offered by 550+ organizations – an increase of 21 per cent in employers who hired in 2021 versus 2018.

1,200+

courses with an EL component

16

field schools

2,000+

EL partners

1,100+

annual internships offered

130+

annual international learning opportunities

80

student-led organizations

WHAT DOES EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING (EL) AT CONCORDIA LOOK LIKE, EXACTLY?

Course-integrated: labs, simulations, final-year projects, studio work, performances and exhibits

Work-integrated: internships, clinical placements, Co-op work terms

Research-based: assistantships and collaborations on major research projects

Community-based: research for social change, volunteer work on or off campus, non-profit internships

International: exchanges, field schools, research projects abroad, work terms outside of Canada

Student-life extracurriculars: competitions, workshops, challenges, entrepreneurial projects and special campus events

"Implementing [our EL] commitment will ensure that every undergraduate student, no matter their field of study, can access key experiences as part of their degree," says **Nadia Bhuiyan**, BEng 95, vice-provost of Partnerships and Experiential Learning. "We know from speaking with past graduates **that this mode of learning can make all the difference** in their professional or postgraduate trajectory."

Are you a hiring manager? Learn how you can engage with the next generation of skilled professionals at concordia.ca/employers.

BOLD INNOVATION FOR A BETTER FUTURE

A spotlight on Concordia's
next-generation research

DAMON VAN DER LINDE, BA 08

Concordia researchers are taking on unprecedented societal challenges and creating new opportunities for tomorrow. These next-generation initiatives are fostered by the university's focus on emerging areas, a drive to make social impact and an openness to collaborate across disciplines.

Learn about some of the key areas where researchers and their teams are driving innovation.

THE FUTURE IS ELECTRIC: BUILDING DECARBONIZED AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Concordia is helping to curb climate change and pollution through expertise across the university that addresses not only the technical challenges of sustainability, but the political, social and financial aspects, too.

In 2009, the Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science enlisted Pragasen Pillay as the NSERC/Hydro-Québec Senior Industrial Research Chair to help improve the efficiency of electrical machines, vehicles and renewable-energy applications. As a professor and associate chair in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Pillay advances his multidisciplinary research through the Power Electronics and Energy Research Group, and as director of the Centre for Urban and Renewable Electrical Energy.

Professor Thomas Walker approaches sustainability from a financial and organizational perspective at the John Molson School of Business. Prior to his academic career, he worked in the consulting and industrial sectors at such firms as Mercedes-Benz and KPMG. He is also the academic lead and founder of the Emerging Risks Information Center (ERIC), which publishes research on sustainability topics spanning transportation, real estate, investing and corporate governance. More recently, Walker also became director of the L. Jacques Ménard BMO Centre for Capital Markets at Concordia, where he explores, among other things, how fintech can help financial institutions and their clients become more sustainable.



What is your current research focus?

Pragasen Pillay: When my chair was ending in 2020, Hydro-Québec asked if we'd like to move some of the test equipment to Concordia. We now have an industrial-scale testing facility and a significant contract with Hydro-Québec, as well as with local industry.

I've also been working with professor Hua Ge [Department of Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering] on a solar house, and how we can use electric vehicles to power buildings during emergency situations.

Thomas Walker: One of my big focus areas is greenwashing. Companies can't just go out there and say they are sustainable. They have to show it.

I research how to entice companies to become more sustainable, how to encourage investors to finance more sustainable companies, how regulations can move in the right direction and how to steer money towards sustainable users.

I also focus on pension funds and other long-term institutional investors that have some responsibility towards their own shareholders and are not just after the money — they can pressure companies to make changes.

What are some interdisciplinary aspects of your work?

PP: In terms of our renewable-energy work, and even on electrified transportation, we collaborate widely with people outside of our immediate group through Concordia's Next-Generation Cities Institute.

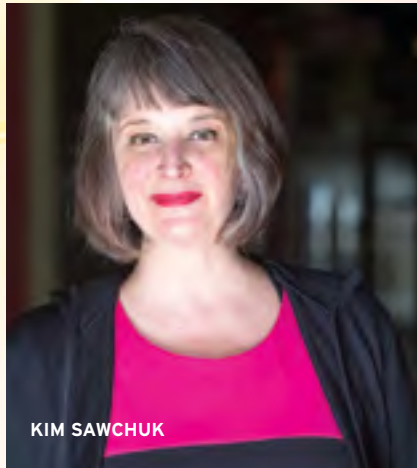
TW: My research group received a sizeable grant jointly offered by Quebec and Luxembourg funding agencies to look at water pollution across borders. Sometimes a parent company in one country will have plants in another where restrictions are laxer in what is essentially 'emission shifting.'



How do you see the future of renewable energy?

PP: I'm very optimistic about the technical solutions, but the adoption of the technologies is also a question of policy, an area where additional effort is required for widespread adoption.

I believe that the younger generation is deeply attracted to questions of the environment, and I think they really want to make a difference. I teach a course on renewable energy once a year, which attracts over 100 students each time, with long waiting lists.



EMPOWERED AGING: THRIVING AT ALL STAGES OF LIFE

In 2021, the number of people in Canada over 65 reached more than 7 million, a figure that will continue to increase in the coming years. Meanwhile, the COVID-19 lockdowns exacerbated existing social inequities and isolation, highlighting the urgent need to find better ways for older adults to age well on their own terms.

Experts in aging across Concordia's faculties have united under the engAGE Centre for Research on Aging to focus on the social, health-related and technological dimensions of aging. Meghan Joy is the interim director of engAGE and an associate professor in the Department of Political Science. Her research explores the policy and politics of population aging and changing relations between governments and non-profit organizations.

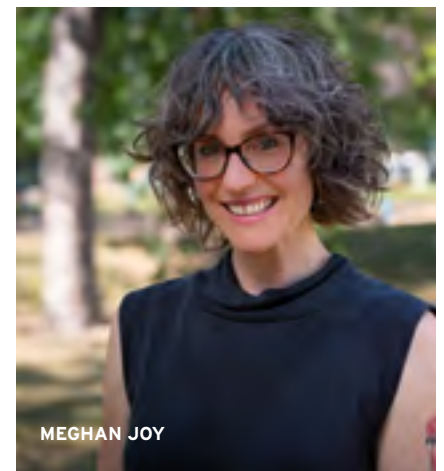
Kim Sawchuk is a professor in the Department of Communication Studies who, since the 1990s, has studied the intersection between aging and communication technologies. She also collaborates with engAGE and is the director of Ageing + Communication + Technologies (ACT), which brings together researchers and community partners to examine new forms of communications in networked societies.

What does empowered aging mean to you?

Kim Sawchuk: There have been lots of injunctions for older adults to be active, and a lot of work on healthy and positive aging, which is, of course, important.

Empowered aging is about people sharing their experiences — good and bad — not only as bodies that need biomedical attention, but as contributing members of society at all stages of life.

Meghan Joy: Empowered aging means that individuals have agency over their experience. In particular, that older adults with diverse lived experiences have control over what well-being means to them as they age, and also in terms of the programs and the support that is available.



Has the public perception of aging changed?

KS: I think the pandemic was a shock for people in terms of the types of conditions we created and how we've abandoned older adults. In some senses, that's the biggest shift I've seen because suddenly, there was an acknowledgment that we've really done a poor job of thinking about long-term care.

Before the pandemic I had to fight to explain to people why I focus on aging and technology that's not about assistive devices for health purposes, but about everyday digital practices.

Why are community organizations so important for empowered aging?

MJ: Community non-profit organizations offer vital, human-centred personal supportive work that is deeply informed by the needs and voices of diverse older adults. These agencies check in on people, offer opportunities for social connection, and are increasingly filling gaps in government programs such as by transporting folks to appointments.

That's why engAGE not only brings together researchers from across the university, but is also really rooted in the community.

SUSTAINABLE, SMART AND RESILIENT AEROSPACE: THE FUTURE OF FLYING

Aerospace is a significant contributor to climate change, creating more than two per cent of global carbon-dioxide emissions. This is forcing the industry to build more efficient aircraft while also advancing electric- and hybrid-powered flight. Concordia's aerospace facilities provide state-of-the-art technology where researchers can develop their next-generation projects.

As the Canada Research Chair in Thermal Spray and Surface Engineering, Christian Moreau is developing the latest materials to protect vital aircraft components and optimize efficiency. He is also a professor in the Department of Mechanical, Aerospace and Industrial Engineering.

Susan Liscouët-Hanke is an associate professor in the department working on developing tools and methods for the conceptual design of future aircraft, particularly on making them more environmentally friendly by consuming less fuel or by implementing technologies that reduce the carbon footprint.



CHRISTIAN MOREAU



SUSAN LISCOUËT-HANKE

How does your research contribute to more sustainable aerospace?

Christian Moreau: Using new materials can make engines lighter, but it's also important that they are able to operate at higher temperatures. That way, you can get much more efficiency, which saves fuel and reduces emissions.

Applying coatings on the surface is a way to get the best of both worlds.

Canada is a global leader in thermal spray, and it's because we have a very strong aerospace industry, in addition to mining and renewable energy — all sectors that can benefit from the advantages of spray coatings.

Susan Liscouët-Hanke: I focus more on the things you don't see — all of the systems inside the aircraft that make it work. These include flight controls, as well as environmental systems that help protect against ice or keep passengers comfortable.

We are starting a project on hybrid-electric aircraft with a combination of typical engines that consume fuel, along with a battery system for different phases of flight.

There are plenty of complicated systems fit into the small space of the aircraft and they need to be very light.

Why is Concordia in an ideal location for aerospace research?

CM: Montreal is the third-largest hub for aerospace in the world after Seattle and Toulouse.

If we don't take the lead, we will become followers, and a lot of other cities in the world are competing to increase their share of the aerospace industry.

We see a lot of new technologies including artificial intelligence, electrification and hydrogen that are game-changers in the context of making aerospace greener, but they require a lot of research and development to be carried out in the coming years.

How are you collaborating with researchers from other disciplines?

SLH: We're working on a project based in Europe called AGILE 4.0 that is developing methods and tools to collaborate between different research centres and companies based in Europe, Canada and Brazil.

What is interesting about aircraft design is that it's so multidisciplinary — no one alone can develop the technologies of the future. ■

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CONCORDIA

Memoir, science fiction, poetry and other new works by Concordia alumni



HARVIN BHATHAL

In her latest collection, ***On Her Own Terms: Poems about Memory Loss and Living Life to the Fullest*** (Harbour Publishing, \$22.95), **Carolyn Gammon**, MA 94, conjures a kind and unflinching portrait of her mother's dementia, ultimately revealing the love, joy and life that remain even as memory fades.

Sheldon Teitelbaum, BA 77, recently published ***More Zion's Fiction: Wondrous Tales from the Israeli ImagiNation*** (Zion's Fiction Partnership, 2021, \$19.95), the second of a three-volume collection of Israeli science fiction and fantasy. The compendium of 17

tales includes a foreword by renowned writer David Brin and an afterword by author and academic Marleen S. Barr.

In ***The Crooked Path: Colonization to Decolonization*** (New Federation House, 2021, \$29.95), **Brian Hawker**, BA 68, MA 95, uses observations and insights from his decades of experience as an educator to illustrate the challenges still faced by Canada's Indigenous peoples.

Tarah Schwartz, BA 94, a former CTV Montreal news anchor, has written a moving and eloquent story of her struggles to become a parent. In ***Can't Help Falling: A Long***

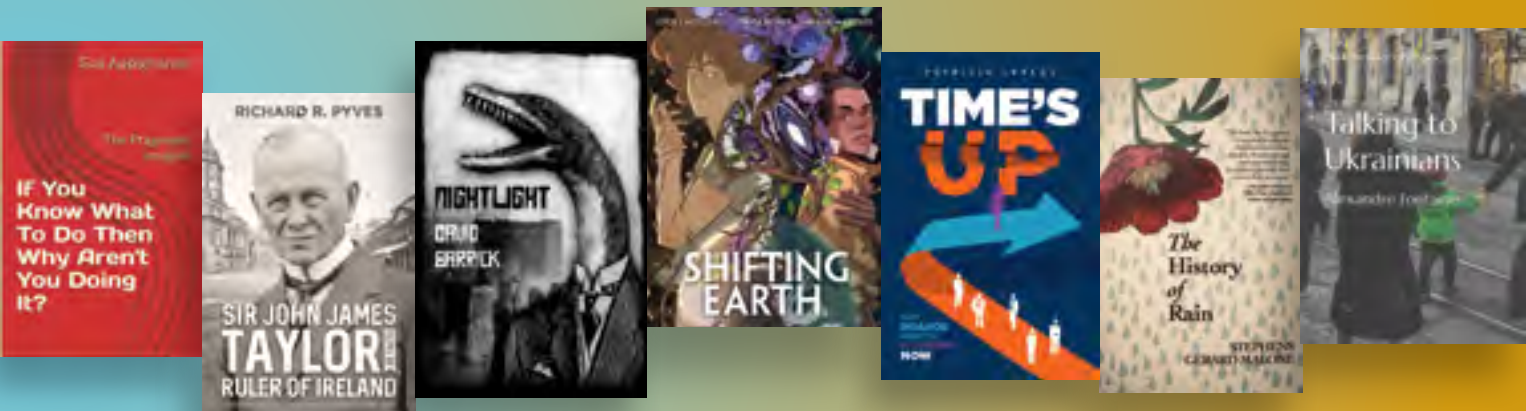
Road to Motherhood (Linda Leith Publishing, 2022, \$21.34), Schwartz puts words to excruciating loss as she recounts her unexpected and deeply inspiring journey.

After a family tragedy forced him to rethink his personal and professional path, **Daniel Baylis**, BA 08, embarked on a 1,000-kilometre trek across Israel and Palestine on foot. In ***Wild Birds*** (Sparks Publishing, 2021, \$24.99), a memoir that serves as a counterpoint to most portrayals of the Middle East, Baylis chronicles his quest to understand more about the Holy Land and humankind.

In her new English-language translation of Franz Kafka's

final story, ***Josephine the Singer or A People of Mice*** (Hungry I Books, 2022, \$12.00), **Karin Doerr**, BA 74, includes an introduction that reconsiders the work in the context of Kafka's Jewish identity. The translation was published by Hungry I Books, the publishing arm of the Concordia Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies.

If You Know What To Do Then Why Aren't You Doing It?: The Pragmatic Insights (self-published, 2022, \$11.99) offers a different spin on the self-help genre in which **Gus Appignanesi**, BSc 72, investigates the human tendency to self-sabotage plans to adopt positive life changes.



Rick Pyves, BSc 72, shares the incredible story of a family ancestor in **Sir John James Taylor: De Facto Ruler of Ireland** (self-published, 2022, \$24.95). The historical book describes how a commoner born in India rose through the British civil service to become assistant under-secretary for Ireland in 1918, a position of considerable importance at the outset of the Irish War of Independence.

In his new collection of poems **Nightlight** (Palimpsest Press, 2022, \$19.95), **David Barrick**, MA 12, delves into the surreal nature of the human imagination through such devices as classic horror cinema and an after-hours jazz club.

Shifting Earth (Berger Books, 2022, \$19.99), a science-fiction graphic novel by **Cecil Castellucci**, BFA 93, tells the story of two women from alternate worlds. In one world, a climate crisis has done irreparable harm. In the other, children are scarce and humans must serve a purpose or pay an unthinkable price. Ultimately, both women must display tremendous courage in the face of terrible choices.

In **Time's Up: Why Boards Need to Get Diverse Now** (James House Publishing, 2021, \$14.26), **Patricia Lenkov**, MBA 86, uses data and published research to show the benefits of more heterogeneous corporate

boards as well as the impact of diversity on company performance.

The History of Rain (Nimbus Publishing and Vagrant Press, \$21.95), the fifth novel from **Stephens Gerard Malone**, BA 83, follows the journey of a First World War veteran. From assistant groundskeeper at a French-army hospital to travelling the world as a landscape artist, Rain's nomadic lifestyle also highlights the lengths he'll go to chase his unrequited love.

In **Talking to Ukrainians: An Outsider's Perspective** (Library and Archives Canada, 2022, \$22.92), **Alexandre Fontaine**, BA 17, explores the different

dynamics at play in the country today and historically, and how many see Ukraine's relationship with Russia. Profits from the book's sales will be donated to an orphanage in Western Ukraine. ■

Healing, in colour

Bridget Griffith is the 2021-22 winner of the Gabriel Safdie Award in Creative Writing for Fiction



The following is excerpted from a longer work.

The lion's eyes had begun to fade from gold into violet, lightly shaded and dancing with spots of sky blue. Lucy sat back against the headrest, adjusting her seatbelt and colouring lightly as the road dipped and lifted. She drowned out her mother's occasional sniffles with bulky headphones, music blasting through so Vanessa could just barely hear the irate tune. Glowering, Lucy raised the volume on her phone as the sound of the radio began to filter into her ears. The tight feeling in her chest hadn't gone since leaving the house, joined now by a faint sense of nausea. Lucy looked up at the highway snaking into the distance ahead of them. She let the pencil slide into her book's spine and lifted her hand to her mouth, clamping teeth around nails. The road grew bumpier as they travelled through a construction zone. She turned her music up higher.

When she felt a hand wrapping around hers, Lucy tried to pull away with a groan. Her mother nudged her thigh, so she removed her headphones and turned.

"What?" She snapped.

"Lucy, you need to stop right now. You're being totally unfair," Vanessa's voice spiked, piercing Lucy's ears like needles.

"No I'm not!" Lucy ripped her hand away from her mother, kicking the dashboard with her left leg. "You're the one who made me get all dressed up for no damn reason, and you're the one who keeps on nagging me about if I'm okay or not! Maybe you're the one who doesn't want to do this because you know it isn't going to go how you want!"

For a moment, the car got quieter, only disturbed by the voice on the radio moving rapidly against an electric rhythm, yelling about things that Lucy hated. She leaned forward and slammed her hand against the power button. Silence.

Slowly, Vanessa spoke again, "Hon, the last time your dad saw you, you were a wreck. He needs to see that you're strong now, that you're doing better! He thought that your life was ruined forever and he blames himself every single day for it. You need to show him he's wrong."

Lucy could feel her face growing hot and the tightness in her chest travelling up the sides of her head, the anger all-consuming.

"He did ruin my life. He isn't wrong."

"Lucy! Don't you dare say that to him. That is not true."

"Fuck you, Mom."

"Are you kidding me? You are so disrespectful, I'm doing this for you!"


Vanessa's voice, like a fly on Lucy's shoulder, was drowned out by the heavy bass of music as she slapped her headphones back on.

The air inside the facility was stale, so much so that Lucy could taste the bitterness.

The lights were artificial and dim, burning her eyes and causing her head to throb despite their mute effect. With a deep sigh, Lucy slid the crutch out from beneath her right armpit and leaned it against the table, taking a seat on cold metal. She chanced a look at her mother, who sat beside her with colouring book and pencil case in hand. Her lips were a sloppy mauve and her reddened skin was smeared with fresh concealer and foundation, hastily applied in the parking lot. It made Lucy roll her eyes. She reached for her book. The silence between them remained rigid, neither mother nor daughter willing to be the first to break the ice.

Lucy didn't look up from her book at first when another body slid into the bench across from her and her mother. She focused instead on the melting of silver into red, making perked ears appear deeper, dimensional.

"Hi, Vee." His gruff voice, damaged from years of cigarettes, made Lucy's shoulders rise.



“Hi, Kevin,” Vanessa’s voice was low, barely above a whisper.

Her silver bracelets grazed the metal of the tabletop, clinking when she reached across to wrap her hands around her husband’s wrist.

Momentarily, no words were spoken. A hand came into Lucy’s view, large and square, brittle hair growing past the ink of a tattoo. He was asking, or maybe begging her to look at him. She glanced at his hand, then reached for the navy blue beside her.

“Hey, Lu.” Kevin’s voice grew quieter, as if he was speaking to a feral animal on the hunt for an escape.

Lucy finally looked up, surprised to hear her father speak directly to her.

His clothes were a sickening beige from head to toe, thick and low collared. His hair was tangled and messy in spite of a clear effort to tame it. His once clean-shaven face was scruffy, beard growing and covering up the sharp jaw Lucy had always been able to identify him by when he

picked her up from school and the crowd made her feel lost. A year in prison changed him from Lucy’s father to a man who was just getting by.

Kevin’s eyes, which were a soft shade of brown — amber, Lucy called them — were bloodshot and decorated by the exhaustion of sleepless nights and emotional fatigue. In other ways, he seemed the same. Same broad shoulders, same tattoos, patterns in blue and red and orange. Lucy’s initials and birthday were still inked into his right wrist, fading from black into grey. He was the same man he’d been more than a year ago. But now, Lucy knew better.

“Hi, Dad,” she grumbled.

She felt determined, after everything, not to give him the reunion he desired.

“How, uh... how have you been doing?” he asked.

“Oh, you know.”

For a moment, Lucy felt Vanessa’s eyes boring into her, and her father swallowed.

He shifted in his seat uncomfortably and scratched behind his ear; what he did when he was nervous. Lucy scoffed under her breath, returning to her lion.

“Lucy,” Vanessa’s voice was careful, but threatening, “maybe we should talk about last year? The accident?”

“We don’t- we don’t have to, Vee, not if she doesn’t want-”

“Oh no, I think we need to. Lucy? Is there anything you want to say about it?”

Peering up at her parents, Lucy set her pencil down and scratched her chin ever so curiously. “Sorry, what accident? I don’t remember any accidents.”

Vanessa opened her mouth, the lines on her face deepening with impatience. Before she could speak, Kevin interrupted.

“The car wreck, Lu. You know what we’re talking about.”

“Oh,” she perked up as if in recollection, staring her father down, “you mean when you

picked me up while blackout drunk, killed two people and permanently disabled me? Yeah, that wasn’t an accident. You could have avoided that.”

Her mother gaped and her father’s mouth spread into a tight line. Almost trembling. Neither knew what to say.

Vanessa was first to speak, as unimpressed as Lucy anticipated, “Lucy. That is no way to speak to your father! Of course it was an accident, he didn’t mean to do it, and how dare you accuse him of anything otherwise!”

“Shut up, Mom.”

“Vanessa, please.”

Voices overlapped in accusatory and furious tones, rising in volume, until Vanessa and Kevin were arguing and Lucy once again stared solely at her colouring book. She scratched at the lion’s chin in vigorous strokes, cherry red, lemon yellow and gold. After a few long moments passed, silence fell. Lucy looked up to see other visitors staring at them, and a correctional officer inviting them to leave. ■



CONCORDIA'S INDIVIDUAL ALUMNI RECOGNITION AWARD RECIPIENTS, FROM LEFT: **NADIA NAFFI**, MA 12, PHD 18; **KAYLEE COHEN**, BSC 22; **NORMAN E. HÉBERT**, BCOMM 77; **AJAY K. GUPTA**, BCOMM 95 (REPRESENTED AT THE CEREMONY BY HIS FATHER, **KRISHNA M. GUPTA**); **ROGER CÔTÉ**; **AFROZA KHANAM CHOWDHURY**, BENG 22; **RUMA AHMED**, BENG 22; **FATOUMATTA TEWA CAMARA**, BA 12

Concordia's **30th Alumni Recognition Awards** (ARA) ceremony — an annual celebration of notable students, staff and alumni — was held on June 13 at the Windsor Ballrooms in Montreal. Sponsored by the Concordia University Alumni Association and emceed by **Sean Henry**, BA 01, host of CBC Montreal's *Daybreak*, the event honoured nine award recipients. **1**

NORMAN E. HÉBERT, BCOMM 77

HUMBERTO SANTOS AWARD OF MERIT AND SERVICE

A member of the Order of Canada for his exceptional record in business and philanthropy, **Norman E. Hébert** serves as president and CEO of Groupe Park Avenue, one of the largest independent automobile dealerships in Quebec. He served as chair of Concordia's Board of Governors from 2012 to 2020.

NADIA NAFFI, MA 12, PHD 18
JOHN F. LEMIEUX YOUNG ALUMNI MEDAL

Nadia Naffi is an assistant professor at Université Laval's Faculty of Education. As Chair in Educational Leadership in Innovative Pedagogical Practices in Digital Contexts — National Bank, her research focuses on the development of digital citizenship and agency to combat online disinformation.

ROGER CÔTÉ

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD

Roger Côté retired in 2020 after a 43-year career in university and post-secondary education management — 40 of which he spent at Concordia. His many mandates included terms as vice-president, Services; associate vice-president, Enrolment and Student Services; and director, Financial Aid and Awards Office.

AJAY K. GUPTA, BCOMM 95

BENOÎT PELLAND ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR AWARD

Ajay Gupta recently retired as chief of investment strategy at Creative Planning, a wealth-management firm. He is also the founder and former CEO of Gupta Wealth Management as well as the former president and a current board member of Deepak Chopra's foundation.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY CONCORDIA

OUTSTANDING STAFF AND FACULTY AWARD

Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) at Concordia promotes a safe and sustainable campus environment. Responsible for the management and coordination of programs and services that minimize health, safety, environmental and regulatory risks, EHS collaborates regularly with all Concordia sectors, particularly since the onset of the recent pandemic.

KAYLEE COHEN, BSC 22
OUTSTANDING STUDENT LEADER AWARD

Actuarial mathematics graduate **Kaylee Cohen** was involved in the Mathematics, Actuarial and Statistics Student Association (MASSA) as of her first academic term at Concordia. As president of MASSA, she organized events to help students find internships and full-time employment after graduation.

AFROZA KHANAM CHOWDHURY, BENG 22

OUTSTANDING STUDENT LEADER AWARD

As a mechanical engineering student, **Afroza Khanam Chowdhury** led outreach efforts for the Gina Cody School's chapter of Women in Engineering (WIE). She also served as a student representative for the Department of Mechanical, Industrial and Aerospace Engineering, a teaching assistant, Co-op mentor, study group leader, campus tour guide and volunteer lunch server at the People's Potato.

RUMA AHMED, BENG 22
JUSTICE, EQUITY, DIVERSITY
AND INCLUSION AWARD

Ruma Ahmed joined the WIE executive team in 2018 to work on a program to encourage girls to consider careers in STEM. In her fourth year at the Gina Cody School, she became president of WIE and led new initiatives to grow its mission.

FATOUMATA TEWA CAMARA, BA 12

JUSTICE, EQUITY, DIVERSITY
AND INCLUSION AWARD

Fatoumata Tewa Camara founded the non-profit Young Athletes of Montreal in 2015. The organization seeks to promote inclusion and excellence through sports for Black high-school students in the city. As a human-resources professional, Camara develops materials and programs that support impactful equity, diversity and inclusion efforts.

2 Three students who performed with distinction for Canada at the **Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics and Paralympics** were honoured by Concordia on April 26. The hybrid event — hosted by President **Graham Carr** and moderated by **Anne-Marie**

Croteau, dean, John Molson School of Business, and **Mourad Debbabi**, dean, Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science — celebrated **Pascal Dion**, **Anton Jacobs-Webb** and **Marion Thénault**. Dion, a finance undergraduate, won gold in men's short-track speed skating, 5,000-metre relay. Paralympian Jacobs-Webb, a mechanical engineering student, won a silver medal as a member of Canada's men's para ice-hockey team. Aerospace engineering student and freestyle skier Thénault took home a bronze medal in mixed team aerials.

3 Concordia's Black Perspectives Office (BPO) co-presented the university's second **Black Graduation Celebration** on June 18. The event, which honours generations of Black alumni and commemorates the accomplishments of current students, featured remarks from the BPO's manager, **Annick Maugile Flavien**, BSc 13, GrDip 15, MA 18, as well as **Angélique Willkie**, associate professor, Contemporary Dance, and co-chair of the Concordia University Task Force on Anti-Black Racism.



2 CONCORDIA STUDENTS AND OLYMPIANS **MARION THÉNAULT**, **ANTON JACOBS-WEBB** AND **PASCAL DION**



3 ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR **ANGÉLIQUE WILLKIE**, CO-CHAIR OF THE CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY TASK FORCE ON ANTI-BLACK RACISM, DELIVERED REMARKS AT THE UNIVERSITY'S SECOND BLACK GRADUATION CELEBRATION.



HONORARY DOCTORATE RECIPIENTS, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: **LADY MIREILLE GILLINGS**, DSc 22; **OLIVETTE OTELE**, LLD 22; **NATHALIE PETROWSKI**, BA 76, DLitt 22; **DAVID KEITH**, DSc 20; **JENNIFER FLANAGAN**, DSc 20; **MARGIE GILLIS**, DFA 20; **LEE-ANN MARTIN**, DFA 22; **JULIE GICHURU**, LLD 22; **GUY CORMIER**, LLD 22

Jennifer Flanagan, DSc 20, for empowering underserved populations through STEM programming.

Margie Gillis, DFA 20, for contributions to modern dance, teaching and activism.

Lee-Ann Martin, DFA 22, for revolutionizing the study and influence of Indigenous art.

Julie Gichuru, LLD 22, for pioneering journalism, peace advocacy and the championing of African leadership.

Guy Cormier, LLD 22, for business vision with a strong social conscience.

5 Close to 900 people attended Concordia's 2022 **Parents Welcome Tent**, a celebration for new students and their families held at Grey Nuns Garden on Sir George Williams Campus on August 27 with live music, refreshments and remarks from **Paul Chesser**, BA 94, GrDip 97, vice-president of Advancement.

4 A new cohort of honorary doctorates was celebrated by Concordia at faculty convocations and two special dinners held in June:

Lady Mireille Gillings, DSc 22, for visionary leadership in the biotechnology and philanthropic sectors.

Olivette Otele, LLD 22, for leadership on equity issues through scholarship and service.

Nathalie Petrowski, BA 76, DLitt 22, for contributions to Quebec's cultural landscape.

David Keith, DSc 20, for innovative research on solar geoengineering and climate mitigation.



PAUL CHESSER, BA 94, GRDIP 97, VICE-PRESIDENT OF ADVANCEMENT, WELCOMED NEW STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES TO CONCORDIA AT THE ANNUAL PARENTS WELCOME TENT.

FORMER STINGERS WOMEN'S HOCKEY COACH AND NEW CONCORDIA SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE, **LES LAWTON**



6 **Les Lawton**, one of the most accomplished coaches in the history of varsity women's hockey, was inducted into the **Concordia Sports Hall of Fame** at a ceremony held on September 24. Lawton led the Stingers to 15 provincial titles and two national championships in his 34 seasons behind the bench. After a stroke compelled him to retire as coach, Lawton became a champion fundraiser for Shuffle — Concordia's annual walkathon in support of students. He has since raised tens of thousands of dollars on behalf of the Stingers women's hockey program.

7 The **2022 Concordia Golf Classic**, held on September 6 at Golf Griffon des Sources in Mirabel, Quebec, **raised a record \$550,000** for student scholarships and bursaries. The only fundraiser in Quebec that unites executives from Canada's nine major banks has raised more than \$7 million and helped thousands of students since it was inaugurated in 2004.



7

THE 2022 EDITION OF CONCORDIA'S GOLF CLASSIC RAISED MORE THAN HALF A MILLION DOLLARS IN SUPPORT OF STUDENTS.

7 **HOMECOMING 2022**

Concordians returned to campus to take part in a variety of Homecoming events from September 14 to 17:

8 **Queer Homecoming** featured Montreal journalist **Richard Burnett**, BA 88, in conversation with acclaimed artist **JJ Levine**, BFA 10, MFA 18, whose most recent exhibition *Queer Photographs*, was presented by Montreal's McCord Museum.

9 The **35th anniversary of Quebec's first Executive MBA** program was celebrated by students, alumni and John Molson School of Business supporters, and featured remarks by President **Graham Carr**, John Molson dean **Anne-Marie Croteau** and program director **Rahul Ravi**.



8

MONTREAL JOURNALIST **RICHARD BURNETT**, BA 88, AND ARTIST AND PHOTOGRAPHER **JJ LEVINE**, BFA 10, MFA 18

10 Alumni of Concordia's **Public Scholars** program — designed to help PhD candidates share research with a broader community through media partnerships — gathered to reconnect and welcome the 2022 cohort, which includes 10 talented doctoral students. The event was hosted by **Effrosyni Diamantoudi**, Concordia's interim dean of Graduate Studies.

11 The **Honourable Murray Sinclair**, former senator, judge and chairperson of Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission, was awarded the Loyola Medal, Concordia’s most prestigious non-academic award, at a livestreamed ceremony held in Winnipeg on September 15 and presided over by **Allan Vicaire**, BA 09, senior advisor of Indigenous Directions at Concordia.

12 Concordians gathered on the grounds of the university’s Grey Nuns Residence for the **Homecoming Garden Social** with President **Graham Carr** on September 23. Guests were treated to music by DJ **Chris Tan**, BFA 11, of music duo Royce & Tan, live illustrations by artist **Andrzej Pijet**, BFA 09, MA 13, and a surprise flash mob by students in Concordia’s Faculty of Fine Arts.

13 The **Concordia Stingers football team hosted crosstown rival McGill** on September 17 as part of Homecoming 2022. Beyond the game — a resounding 42-16 Stingers victory over the Redbirds — **reunions were held to commemorate championship football teams of the past** from Concordia and Loyola College. “Hopefully these activities create

opportunities for former players from our two founding institutions to link up with the current team,” said long-time assistant coach **Pete Regimbald**, BA 73, a member of Concordia’s Sports Hall of Fame. “It’s important they understand that they were part of the building block of Stingers football.”

14 The 33rd edition of **Shuffle**, Concordia’s flagship fundraiser, drew hundreds of participants who raised an impressive \$220,000 in support of student scholarships, bursaries, resources and services. The **Shuffle for Climate Justice team** also took part in Montreal’s climate march on the same day, and repurposed material from the **Concordia University Centre for Creative Reuse** to make signs for the occasion.

15 More than 250 people attended Concordia’s hybrid event **Media Manipulation: Disinformation and Misinformation in the Digital Age** on May 10. The panel discussion, which featured guest speakers from Harvard Kennedy School’s Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy, as well as award-winning journalists, covered meme culture, disinformation campaigns, Canada’s Freedom Convoy and the Russian invasion of Ukraine. ■



JOHN MOLSON DEAN **ANNE-MARIE CROTEAU** (FAR LEFT) AND **RAHUL RAVI**, EMBA PROGRAM DIRECTOR (FOURTH FROM LEFT) WERE JOINED BY ALUMNI AND FRIENDS TO CELEBRATE THE PROGRAM’S 35TH ANNIVERSARY.



EFFROSYNI DIAMANTOUDI, INTERIM DEAN OF GRADUATE STUDIES, HOSTED A HOMECOMING EVENT FOR CONCORDIA’S PUBLIC SCHOLARS.



CONCORDIA’S 2022 LOYOLA MEDAL RECIPIENT, THE **HONOURABLE MURRAY SINCLAIR**



12

CLOSE TO 200 CONCORDIANS CONGREGATED AT THE GREY NUNS GARDEN ON SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS CAMPUS FOR THE **HOMECOMING GARDEN SOCIAL** ON SEPTEMBER 16.



14

CONCORDIA PRESIDENT GRAHAM CARR WELCOMED FACULTY AND STAFF TO LOYOLA CAMPUS FOR A POST-SHUFFLE CELEBRATION.



13

PAUL CHESSER, VICE-PRESIDENT OF ADVANCEMENT AND STINGERS FOOTBALL HALL OF FAMER, GREETED FORMER STINGERS STANDOUTS BEFORE THE SEPTEMBER 17 HOMECOMING GAME AGAINST MCGILL.



15

MEDIA MANIPULATION EVENT PARTICIPANTS, FRONT ROW FROM LEFT: **APHRODITE SALAS**, MA 99, **JENNIFER HOLLETT**, BA 97, AND **CRAIG SILVERMAN**, BA 99; BACK ROW: **JANE LYTUVYENKO**, **JOAN DONOVAN**, BA 06, MA 08, AND **BRANDY ZADRONZNY**



14

TEAM MEMBERS FROM BANGS OF GLORY RAISED MORE THAN \$3,000 FOR SHUFFLE 33. FROM LEFT: **DANIEL BARTLETT**, BA 08, **LORRAINE DAGENAIS**, **CAROLINE D'AMOUR**, BCOMM 08, **ELIZABETH CHAN**, BFA 01, AND **ANGELA POLYZOGOPOULOS**, BCOMM 98

View our event schedule at
concordia.ca/alumnievents.

Alumni with more than one degree from Concordia, Sir George Williams University and/ or Loyola College are listed under their earliest graduation year.

63 Richard Pound, BA, LLD 10, was named an honorary member of the International Olympic Committee.

75 James McCully, BA, BSc 78, was featured in a *National Geographic* article about a game-changing transplant that can treat dying organs.

87 Joseph Racanelli, BA, was appointed vice-president of Investor Relations at Electra Battery Materials Corporation.

88 James Clark, BComm, was appointed chief financial officer at Martello Technologies Group Inc.

Chris Passier, MCompSc, was named vice-president of Platform Software and Vancouver site executive at Flex Logic Technologies.

Dino Rambidis, BComm, was appointed chief financial officer at CN Investment Division.

89 Paul Christie, BA, was appointed executive committee member at the Association of Canada Search, Employment and Staffing Services.

Karen Mazurkewich, GrDip, was appointed vice-president of Stakeholder Relations and Communications at the Greater Toronto Airports Authority.

90 Marc Costantini, BSc, joined Manulife as global head of Inforce Management.

Benoit Forcier, BComm, returned to Cycle Capital as senior partner, where he will be leading a new international fund.

91 Mario D. Morroni, BComm, was appointed president and CEO at Cominar.

92 Allan Marinelli, BSc, president of Quality Validation 360 Inc., has published 62 peer-reviewed scientific and engineering articles. His latest, "Risk Analysis (FMEA) for Radio Frequency Monitoring Devices," was published in *BioProcess International* in February 2021, and can be found at bioprocessintl.com.

Brian Scudamore, Attd, published a new book, *BYOB: Build Your Own Business, Be Your Own Boss*.

93 Naveed Irshad, BSc, was appointed CEO of Canada Segment at Manulife.

Charlie Kawwas, BEng, MASc 99, PhD 07, was named president of Broadcom Inc.'s new Semiconductor Solutions Group.

Lila MacLellan, BA, joined *Fortune* magazine as a reporter.

Mitchell Saul Pantel, BA, was appointed part-time medical member of the Transportation Appeal Tribunal of Canada.

Annamaria Testani, BComm, EMBA 00, joined IG Wealth Management as head of Client Experience.

94 Jordan Freed, BEng, was appointed president and managing director of Kongsberg Geospatial.

Cynthia Holmes, MBA, was appointed interim vice-provost, Academic, at Toronto Metropolitan University.

Alana Lapierre, BA, was named senior vice-president of Human Resources at NFP Canada, a leading insurance broker and consultant.

Dan Laxer, BA, joined *The Suburban* as a reporter.

Bernard Leblanc, BComm, was appointed president and CEO of fashion retailer Simons.

Rowena Pinto, BA, MA 97, was named president and CEO of Jack.org.

Beverly Wilks, BComm, was named senior marketing manager at Bell Business Markets.

95 Michael Malana, BComm, was appointed chief financial officer at Panoro Mineral Ltd.

96 Pedro Azevedo, BComm, was named chief financial officer at NanoXplore Inc.

James McKenna, MBA, joined Barclays as head of its Diversified Industries Group.

Marco Pacitti, BEng, was appointed director for Eastern Canada at DPI Construction Management.

97 Peter Picciola, BComm, was named chief investment officer at TB Real Estate Investment Trust.

Elana Schachter, BA, was named head of so.da's creator agency Kin Community Canada.

98 Chris Avery, AMBA, was named vice-president, Commercial Strategy, at WestJet.

99 Lynda Gauthier, BComm, was named group chief risk officer and chief sustainability officer at Sagicor Financial Company Ltd.

Robert Kopersiewich, MBA, was appointed vice-president of Engineering at CMC Electronics.

01 Anna Kozel, BCompSc, was named vice-president of Marketing at VuWall.

02 Melissa Nussbaum, BComm, GrDip 08, was appointed chief operating officer and chief financial officer at WeTransfer.

03 Tony Capotosto, BComm, joined Scotiabank as regional vice-president, Quebec and Eastern Ontario.

Michael Gentile, BComm, was named strategic advisor at Geomega Resources Inc.

Marilou Wolfe, BFA, was appointed chair of the 23rd Outaouais Film Festival.

04 Nigar Sultana, BComm, was named partner at MNP LLP.

Abraham Tachjian, BA, was named lead of Canada's open banking system by the Government of Canada.

05 Rishi Sharma, BComm, was appointed chief financial officer and executive vice-president of Finance at Velan Inc.

06 Joëlle Calce-Lafrenière, BFA, was named interim director of the *Chambre de l'assurance de dommages*.

TAKE PRIDE in your alma mater!

07 Seif El-Bakly, BComm, was appointed chief operating officer at Argo Blockchain.

Annie Karasseferian, BA, was appointed senior director of Regional Marketing at Scotiabank, Quebec and Eastern Ontario.

Meïssa Ngarane, BA, was named partner at Lapointe Rosenstein Marchand Melançon.

David Zilberman, BA, MA 07, served as head coach of the Canadian freestyle wrestling team at the 2022 Commonwealth Games.

08 Lisa Koperqualuk, BA, was named president of Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada (more on p. 41).

09 Andrea Clarke, BSc, MSc 12, MBA 17, was appointed president of the Lucie and André Chagnon Foundation.

Judith Wahnon, BAdmin, was appointed vice-president of Marketing for SecuriThings.

10 Fadhl Al-Bayaty, BEng, MEng 13, was named vice-president of Product Management at VuWall.

12 Jason Libenson, BComm, was appointed capital markets advisor at Stone Gold Inc.

Kyle Sutton, BSc, was named head sports therapist for the Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières's Patriotes teams.

13 Alex Leopold, BA, was named first vice-president of Office Advisory and Transaction Services Group at CBRE.

14 Jonathan Gagnon, MCompSc, was named vice-president of Software Engineering at Croesus.

Jonathan Mzengeza, MBA, was appointed portfolio manager at Applied Research.

15 Alexander Tiscione, BComm, MBA 20, was named global equities analyst at Van Borkom Global Asset Management.

17 Ettore Gattolin, MBA, was appointed vice-president, Mergers, Acquisitions & Special Projects at Dilawri Group of Companies.

Chrystal Healy, MBA, was appointed vice-president of Corporate Responsibility at Transat A.T.

Sammy Mayers, BA, was named head scout for the Acadie-Bathurst Titan in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League.

Mathilde Rohr, BFA, joined Hearth Gallery as its cultural connector.

18 Marion Macé, MEnv, joined Saint-Damien Development Corporation as a development agent.

Heidi Yetman, MA, was elected president-designate of the Canadian Teachers' Federation.

21 Catherine Brunet-Beauséjour, BSc, was named assistant athletic therapist for the CFL's Saskatchewan Roughriders.

Catherine Maertens, MA, was appointed to the Montreal Youth Council.



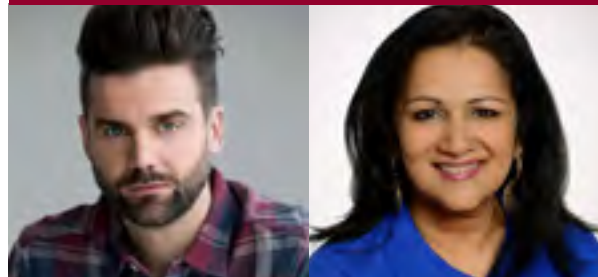
Cuckoo Kochar, MEng 78
Founder and president, DCR/Phoenix

Caroline Ouellette, LLD 19
Four-time Olympic gold medalist



Anne-Marie Withenshaw, BA 02
Radio and television host

Patrick Kwok-Choon, BA 06
Actor



Jean-Philippe Wauthier, BA 03
Host, *Bonsoir bonsoir!*

Sudha Krishnan, BA 99
Anchor, CBC Montreal News

You are part of Concordia's accomplished 240,000-member alumni family.

- Tell us where you're at: concordia.ca/keepintouch
- Share your successes: alumni@concordia.ca
- Join us on social media: [@ConcordiaAlumni](https://www.instagram.com/ConcordiaAlumni)



#CUpride #CUalumni

James A. O'Reilly, BA 60, was appointed Knight of the National Order of Quebec.

John Berry, BA 63, was awarded the Canadian Psychological Association's Gold Medal for Distinguished Lifetime Contributions to Canadian Psychology.

Mario Spina, BA 69, was named to the North Bay Sports Hall of Fame.

François Morelli, BFA 75, was awarded the 2021 Ozias-Leduc Prize for his artwork.

Allan Ailo, BA 76, was invested as a fellow of the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada in recognition of his contributions to the society and for the promotion of heraldry in Canada through artwork, lectures and writing.

Monique Régimbald-Zeiber, BFA 82, was awarded an Artistic Achievement Award at the Governor General's Awards in Visual and Media Arts.

Emilio Imbriglio, BComm 81, GrDip 82, was hired as the inaugural executive fellow at Concordia's John Molson School of Business.

Dominique Beauchamp, BA 85, received an honourable mention from the Portfolio Management Association's 2022 Awards for Excellence in Investment Journalism for her news articles in *Les Affaires*.

Charles Campbell, BFA 92, won the Shadbolt Foundation Visual Arts VIVA Award.

Samira Nasr, BA 93, editor-in-chief of *Harper's BAZAAR*, accepted the National Magazine Award in General Excellence for Service and Lifestyle.

Jin-me Yoon, MFA 93, won the 2022 Scotiabank Photography Award for her photography, video and installation work challenging the narratives of nation and inclusion.

Linda Gyulai, GrDip 93, was a finalist in the 2021 awards program of the Canadian Association of Journalists. She was nominated for her article "A 'monumental scam' to take grandma's land" in the *Montreal Gazette*.

Kat Coric, BFA 96, joined forces with Montreal drag icon Mado Lamotte in August for a fundraising initiative in support of community group RÉZO.

KC Adams, BFA 98, was the inaugural recipient of ohpinamake, a \$10,000 art prize from the University of Saskatchewan Art Galleries and Collection awarded to Indigenous artists.

Régine Chassagne, BA 98, LLD 16, a member of the band Arcade Fire, was longlisted for the Polaris Music Prize.

Jason Baerg, BFA 99, was selected as the Ontario Science Centre's 2021-22 artist-in-residence.

Marie Leofeli Romero Barliz, BFA 99, was the winner of the Prix Jovette-Marchessault, which recognizes and showcases the contributions of women to Montreal's theatre scene.

Nakuset, BA 00, won a special prize in the Inspiration category at the Women's Y Foundation's 2022 Women of Distinction Awards (more on p. 38).

Richard Reed Parry, BFA 03, a member of the band Arcade Fire, was longlisted for the Polaris Music Prize.

Erika Rath, BA 04, was the recipient of the Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence.

Jarred Knecht, BComm 07, MBA 11, was a finalist for the 2022 EY Entrepreneur of the Year in Quebec.

Julien BriseBois, EMBA 07, general manager of the Tampa Bay Lightning, was a finalist for the NHL's 2022 General Manager of the Year.

Moyra Davey, BFA 08, was awarded an Artistic Achievement Award at the Governor General's Awards in Visual and Media Arts.



JAE WOO KANG

KUDOS

Gabrielle Martin, BFA 09, won the Isadora Award for excellence in choreography.

Jessica Dymond, GrDip 10, worked as an editor on the National Film Board's VR experience *This Is Not a Ceremony*, which celebrated its world premiere at the Sundance Film Festival in January.

Teresa Hunkeler, MBA 10, was among the 2022 cohort of the Elevate Women Entrepreneurs Pre-Accelerator.

Hany Fahmy, PhD 12, associate professor and finance intellectual lead at Royal Roads University's School of Business, was nominated for the Early in Career Research Award by the Confederation of University Faculty Associations of British Columbia.

Diyar Mayil, BFA 12, MFA 22, was awarded the 2022 Claudine and Stephen Bronfman Fellowship in Contemporary Art.

Anahita Norouzi, MFA 13, was the winner of the 2022 Impressions residency.

Deragh Campbell, BA 13, was named one of *The Globe and Mail's* 22 most influential people in Canadian film.

Deepa Mehta, DLitt 13, won the Library and Archives Canada Scholar Award.

Vaitea Cowan, BComm 15, was the winner of the Earthshot Prize, a global award for the environment that honours just five recipients each year.

Lino Saputo, LLD 15, was named a laureate of the Institute for Governance of Private and Public Organizations.

Aimee Wall, MA 15, was a finalist for the 2022 Amazon Canada First Novel Award.

Andrea Limbardi, MBA 16, was named president of Indigo Books & Music.

Zahra Zangeneh, PhD 16, chief operating officer and co-founder of VitalTracer, received a \$15,000 grant from PME MTL, as well as support from the CEI MTL. VitalTracer also recently signed a contract with the Sainte-Justine Hospital.

Linda Morais, BSc 17, won silver at the 2022 Commonwealth Games in women's wrestling – 68kg.

Ardath Whynacht, PhD 17, author of *Insurgent Love: Abolition and Domestic Homicide*, won the Atlantic Book Award for Scholarly Writing.

Clara Lacasse, BFA 18, was the recipient of the 2022 New Generation Photography Award.

Alexander Sinora, BComm 18, was named one of *The Globe and Mail's* 50 Changemakers.

Louis Vachon, LLD 19, was named the Financial Personality of the Year by *Finance et Investissement* in its annual *Top des leaders de l'industrie financière*.

Scott DeJong, MA 20, current PhD candidate, was a finalist in the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation 2022-25 Scholarship and Engaged Leadership program.

Brigitte Laganière, BA 20, GrCert 22, was among the first players named to the new Montreal Force professional women's hockey team for its 2022-23 season.

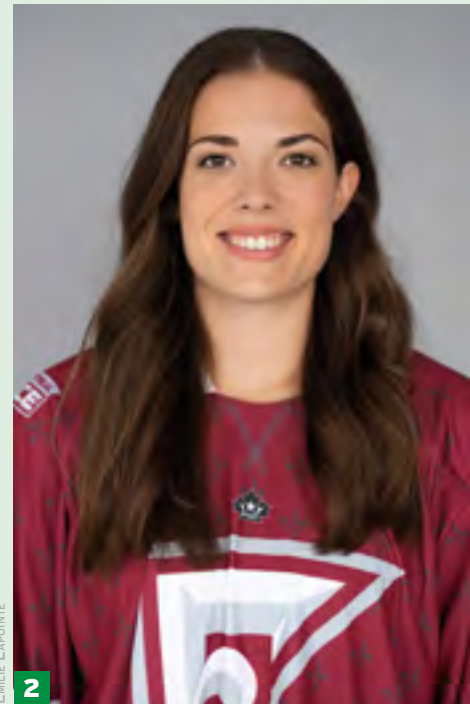
Carol Nguyen, BFA 20, was the winner of the IMDbPro Short Cuts Share Her Journey Award for her film *Nanitic* at the 2022 Toronto International Film Festival.

Christina Beaudry-Cárdenas, BFA 22, was the winner of the 2022 Oliver Jones Award presented by the Montreal Jazz Festival.

Julio Sevilla, international projects manager for Concordia International, was awarded the Ohtli medal from the Government of Mexico. The medal recognizes individuals who have aided, empowered or positively affected the lives of Mexican nationals abroad.

Barry Lorenzetti, Campaign for Concordia donor, was appointed Knight of the Order of Montreal. The Canadian Italian Business and Professional Association additionally named Lorenzetti its 2022 Man of the Year.

Jean-Pierre Desrosiers, former member of Concordia's Board of Governors, was appointed Knight of the National Order of Quebec.



ÉMILIE LAPOINTE



ORDER OF CANADA

Five members of the Concordia community were recognized with the Order of Canada — one of the country's highest civilian honours — for their outstanding achievements, dedication to community and service to the nation:

Naomi Azrieli, Campaign for Concordia donor, and chair, Azrieli Foundation

Geneviève Cadieux, associate professor, Department of Studio Arts

Ethel Côté, GrDip 02, founder, MécènESS, and co-founder, Social Enterprise Council of Canada

Madeleine Féquière, BA 85, corporate credit chief, Domtar Corporation

Suzanne Sauvage, president and CEO, McCord Stewart Museum; former member of Concordia's Board of Governors

TOP 50 WOMEN LEADERS OF MONTREAL

Every year, Women We Admire — a source for news and information about women leading in their fields — names its Top 50 Women Leaders of Montreal. The 2022 list includes five alumnae:

Alissa Sklar, BA 92

Kim Fuller, BFA 96

Chakameh Dadpay, MAsc 08

Lauren Scott, BComm 10

Celeste Kuramoto, BFA 22

SOBEY ART AWARD

As one of the most generous prizes in contemporary art, the Sobey Art Award recognizes emerging Canadian artists of all ages. Six Concordians were among those longlisted for this year's award:

Joshua Schwebel, BFA 06, Quebec

Laurie Kang, BFA 08, Ontario

Anna Binta Diallo, GrCert 09, Prairies & North

Anna Hawkins, MFA 14, Prairies & North

Nico Williams, MFA 21, Quebec

Michaëlle Sergile, MFA student, Quebec

ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

Recognized for their outstanding research and career achievements, six Concordia alumni and faculty members are among the latest inductees to the Royal Society of Canada:

Ehab Abouheif, BSc 93, MSc 95 (Fellow)

Wen Tong, PhD 93 (Fellow)

Charmaine Nelson, BFA 94, MFA 95 (Fellow)

Tristan Glatard, associate professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering (College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists)

Catherine Mulligan, professor, Department of Building, Civil and Environmental Engineering (Fellow)

Emad Shihab, professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering (College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists)

SCOTIABANK GILLER PRIZE

Canada's most prestigious literary award for fiction, the Scotiabank Giller Prize awards a Canadian writer with \$140,000. Three Concordia alumni are among this year's contenders:

Rawi Hage, BFA 98, for *Stray Dogs* (Knopf Canada, 2022); shortlisted

Dimitri Nasrallah, MA 03, for *Hotline* (Véhicule Press, 2022); longlisted

Fawn Parker, BA 17, for *What We Both Know* (McClelland & Stewart, 2022); longlisted

'Remarkable vision, generosity and transformational support'

Gina Cody distinguished with excellence in philanthropy award

IAN HARRISON,
B COMM 01

Gina Cody, MEng 81, PhD 89, namesake and historic benefactor of Concordia's Gina Cody School of Engineering and Computer Science, has been named Outstanding Major Donor for 2022 by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Quebec.

The honour, part of the AFP's annual Excellence in Philanthropy Awards, was bestowed on the strength of Cody's \$15-million gift to Concordia in 2018 and overall support for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)

education — particularly for women and students from marginalized and underprivileged backgrounds.

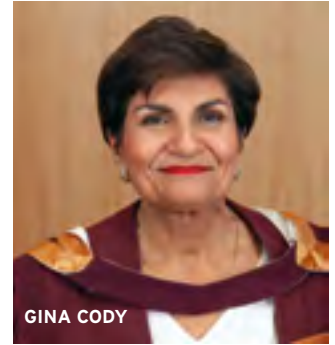
"I want to thank AFP Quebec for this tremendous honour," says Cody. "My hope is that it inspires others to generously support post-secondary education and research, one of the most effective ways to encourage positive change for society."

"This award is a testament to Gina Cody's remarkable vision, generosity and transformational support of her alma mater," says Concordia President and Vice-Chancellor Graham Carr. "With her support we've been able to create new

graduate and undergraduate scholarships as well as research chairs designed to attract leaders in emerging technologies to help us address many of this century's most urgent challenges."

Gina Cody arrived in Canada from Iran in 1979 to complete a master's degree in engineering at Concordia. By 1989, she became the first woman to receive a PhD in building engineering from the university.

Cody then spent three decades as president and principal shareholder of a major Canadian engineering firm. Throughout her time in a largely male-dominated field, she provided professional



GINA CODY

engineering services to some of Canada's largest REITs, financial institutions, builders and developers.

Cody now serves as a mentor to young women in engineering and has received multiple honours including the Order of Canada, Ordre de Montréal and, most recently, an honorary doctorate in engineering from the Université de Sherbrooke. ■

SAVE THE DATE

CONCORDIA OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, February 18, 2023

Meet professors, take a campus tour, learn about programs and admissions, attend presentations and more.

concordia.ca/openhouse



ALUMNI ART

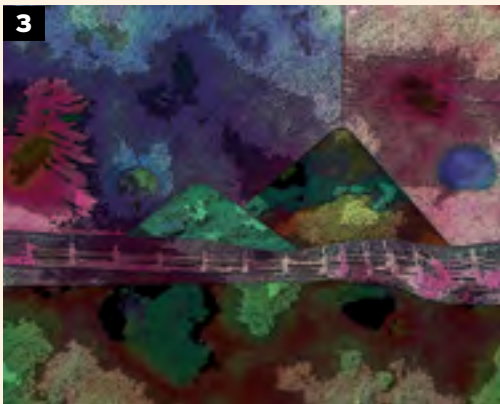
1 From December 10, 2021, to September 5, 2022, **Lorraine Simms**, MFA 90, presented a solo exhibition at the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa. *Shadowland / Terre Obscure* featured the artist's drawings – her representation of the shadows of animal bones – which she researched at the American Museum of Natural History. Simms will also present new drawings from the series at Montreal's OBORO gallery from November 6 to December 10. 1) "Hippo Amphibias, AMNH #70019," graphite on acid-free paper (2021).



2 A large-scale contemporary abstract painting by **Chrissy Cheung**, BFA 00, is currently on display at a car dealership in CF Richmond Centre in Richmond, B.C. The painting "incorporates colour theory with original pigment and fluoro push-pull illuminosities," says Cheung. 2) "Mystic River," acrylic, pigments on canvas (2021).



3 Two recent paintings by **Raymonde Jodoin**, BFA 83, were chosen for the 16th edition of the International Digital MiniPrints Exhibition. The show runs until December 14, 2022, at Centre d'artistes Voix Visuelle in Ottawa. **3** "Trois Soleils (3 Suns)," digital print on photo paper (2021).



4 **Diego Morales**, BFA 03 – who goes by Don Diego – presented *Wild Hurly-Burly* at Galerie Erga in Montreal. Morales's solo exhibition, which ran from August 10 to 14, depicted landscapes as a journey of the relentless pursuit of tranquility. **4** "Sisters," acrylic on canvas (2019).

5 From July 4 to August 19, 2022, **Shelley Freeman**, BFA 99, presented "Pier" and five other water-themed paintings in a summer group exhibition at The Gallery at Victoria Hall in Westmount, Que. Freeman was among 10 local artists featured in the exhibition. **5** "Pier," oils on panel (2019).



Ned Goodman (1937 - 2022)

'He left an undeniable mark'

Ned Goodman, LL.D. '97 — a champion of Concordia and architect of Canada's modern investment management industry — passed away on August 7, 2022. He was 84.

"Ned was a remarkable businessman, philanthropist and friend of higher education," said President Graham Carr. "He left an undeniable mark on our university and our country."

Goodman partnered with Concordia to create the world's first joint MBA-CFA program in 2001 — the Goodman Institute of Investment Management.

"When you compare the CFA pass rates of Goodman



students with the world average, the difference tells you the success of the program," said Richard Renaud, BComm 69, LL.D. '09. "Graduates are the best paid in the country and the most influential people in the

financial-services business."

A native of Montreal, Ned Goodman received a BSc in geology from McGill University in 1960, an MBA from the University of Toronto in 1962 and, later, his CFA charter.

He made his mark as

the co-founder of two investment firms, Beutel, Goodman & Company and Dundee Corporation, and as a builder of several successful mineral and extraction-based firms — notably International Corona and Kinross Gold.

Goodman was inducted into the Canadian Mining Hall of Fame in 2012 and the Order of Canada in 2016. He also served as chancellor of Brock University from 2007 to 2015.

Ned Goodman is survived by his wife, Anita Silver, BA '77, sons Daniel, David, Jonathan and Mark, as well as 16 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. ■

Lucille Gross, S BA 42, March 22, 2022. She was 100.

Dora (Berkson) Morrow, S BA 48, August 17, 2022. She was 95.

Clifford D. Pennock, S BA 49, June 2, 2022. He was 94.

John Granatstein, L BA 50, April 28, 2022. He was 94.

James (Jim) O'Shaughnessy, L BSc 50, December 4, 2021, Ottawa, Ont. He was 92.

Mary Aaron, S BComm 51, She was 90.

George E. Griffin, L BSc 51, May 3, 2022, South Hadley, Mass. He was 93.

Murray McCrory, L BA 52, January 13, 2022. He was 93.

Michael J. McManus, L BA 52, June 27, 2022. He was 91.

Naomi Sorkin-Richer, S BA 52, December 14, 2021, Toronto, Ont.

Saul Handelman, S BA 52, August 11, 2022.

Peter Guy Silverman, S BA 53, October 7, 2021, Tweed, Ont.

William H. Wilson, L BComm 53, June 9, 2022. He was 90.

Rimantas Lapinas, S BSc 54, January 10, 2022. He was 90.

Gabor Jellinek, BSc 54, January 2, 2022. He was 87.

Marilyn Joan Begley, S BA 55, July 16, 2022. She was 88.

Donald N. Charness, S BComm 55, July 16, 2022.

Philip Shuster, S BComm 56, March 28, 2022. He was 93.

Archie Deskin, S BA 57, September 5, 2022. He was 95.

André F. Durso, L BA 57, March 23, 2022. He was 85.

Boerries H. Terfloth, S BComm 57, May 22, 2022. He was 93.

George W. Duran, S BSc 58, March 6, 2022. He was 89.

William D. Hyde, S BA 58, September 18, 2022, Georgetown, Ont. He was 92.

Neil Desmond Shee, L BA 58, June 21, 2022. He was 87.

Gayla (Wood) Freitag, S BA 59, March 2, 2022. She was 83.

Shannon Grover, L BA 59, June 4, 2022. He was 86.

Yvonne Patricia Henderson, S BA 59, June 13, 2022. She was 91.

Leo Alfred Moore, L BA 59, January 6, 2022. He was 84.

Thomas Finbar Lee, L BSc 60, S BA 63, S BComm 66, June 8, 2022. He was 82.

Mel Hoppenheim (1937 - 2022)

'A visionary builder'

Mel Hoppenheim, LL.D. '09 — film-industry entrepreneur and namesake of Concordia's cinema school — passed away on July 27, 2022. He was 84.

"Mel Hoppenheim was a visionary builder whose entrepreneurial spirit and generous support helped foster remarkable talent across the country," said President Graham Carr. "We are proud to have benefited from his passion."

In 1997, Hoppenheim gave \$1 million to the Faculty of Fine Arts to support students in the Department of Cinema. The renamed Mel Hoppenheim School of Cinema has since become the largest university-based centre for the study of film



in Canada and recently unveiled a plan to triple capacity by 2024.

Hoppenheim was born in Montreal in 1937. At age 12, he joined the workforce to help support his family after the sudden death of his father.

In his convocation address to Concordia graduates in 2009, Hoppenheim described his childhood struggles as pivotal. "The hard work shaped me and gave me the courage to get my diploma at Sir George Williams University."

In 1965, Hoppenheim established a small film-equipment rental business and later acquired Panavision Canada Corp.

As his career progressed, he invested to help Canada become a centre for film, notably through the establishment of Mel's Cité du Cinéma — today known as MELS Studios, the country's largest provider of services to the film and television industry.

The Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television honoured Hoppenheim with an Achievement Award in 2010. In 2015, he was appointed Member of the Order of Canada.

Mel Hoppenheim is survived by his wife Rosemary, six children, 14 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. ■

Donald L. Bishop, S BSc 61, S BComm 63, August 20, 2022, Magog, Que. He was 89.

Eric Cohen, S BComm 61, July 23, 2022. He was 82.

Mary Y. Stracina, S BA 62, April 14, 2022. She was 94.

Gunars Aleksis, S BSc 63, May 15, 2022, Halifax, N.S. He was 96.

Arthur Levine, S BA 63, February 9, 2022. He was 82.

Roger A. R. Shackell, S BComm 63, April 22, 2022, Collingwood, Ont. He was 82.

Bronislaw Skorski, S BSc 63, April 26, 2022. He was 80.

David Dies, S BSc 64, S BA 67, July 20, 2022. He was 79.

Bruce H. Dolphin, S BA 65, February 6, 2022.

Harvey Borsuk, S BSc 66, S BEng 68, MEng 83, April 7, 2022.

Norman Feigen, S BSc 66, MSc 76, October 15, 2021, Burlington, Ont. He was 77.

Louis B. Gascon, L BA 66, March 29, 2022.

Douglas H. Goldhamer, S BA 66, February 3, 2022.

Susan M. Hanson, L BA 67, March 1, 2022. She was 75.

Gerald Poznak, S BSc 67, January 24, 2022. He was 77.

Peter Prupas, S BSc 67, March 4, 2022. He was 76.

Stan Brasgold, S BA 68, April 11, 2021.

Darrell Keane, S BSc 68, BComm 94, March 16, 2022. He was 78.

Bernard Pennee, L BA 68, January 23, 2022. He was 74.

Barry Loker, BSc 68, MSc 76, June 23, 2022. He was 85.

Attila Szepesi, S BEng 68, November 30, 2021. He was 93.

Linda (Hecht) Bogante, S BSc 69, September 18, 2022.

Ruth Greenberg, L BComm 69, April 30, 2022. She was 87.

Michael G. Ryan, S BA 69, June 3, 2021, Ottawa, Ont. He was 73.

Morton A. Katz, S BComm 69, April 25, 2022. He was 95.

IN MEMORIAM

JoAnne Morrisette,
L BA 69, January 31, 2022,
Burlington, Ont. She was 73.

Richard King, S BA 70,
January 2, 2022.

Max Hochman, S BA 71,
February 3, 2022.

Gregory Christopher,
BSc 72, Cert 89, March 11,
2022. He was 91.

Bryan P. Mackasey,
L BComm 72, January 12,
2022. He was 74.

Patrick S. Hosein,
L BComm 73, MBA 85,
June 4, 2022.

**Sandra L. (Waters)
Tremblay**, S BA 73, January
2022, Almonte, Ont.

Dipak K. Basu, S MEng 74,
March 6, 2022, Kolkata, India.
He was 84.

Liselotte (Epstein) Ivry,
L BA 74, June 21, 2022.
She was 96.

Edith M. Paton, S BA 74,
May 14, 2022.

Shirley Donaghy, BA 75,
January 25, 2022. She was 76.

Joseph P. McCarthy, BSc 75,
June 8, 2022. He was 70.

Peter Willis, BComm 75,
January 26, 2022. He was 68.

David Edgecombe, BA 76,
November 23, 2021.
He was 68.

Ann (Kidston) Crompton,
GrDip 77, December 15,
2021. She was 90.

Nicole Fournier, BA 77,
March 25, 2022. She was 74.

James Higgins, BComm
77, September 13, 2022,
Oakville, Ont. He was 67.

Pamela Askew, BA 78,
BEd 79, January 17, 2022.
She was 91.

Patricia A. Delaney, BFA 78,
MA 96, March 2, 2022. She
was 90.

Eugene Homenock, BA 78,
January 9, 2022. He was 69.

Stephen F. Richardson,
BComm 78, January 21, 2022.

Brian A. Evans, BA 79,
January 2, 2022. He was 80.

Tibor Javory, MEng 79,
December 12, 2021.
He was 89.

Lois McAlary, BA 79,
September 12, 2022. She was 86.

Anthony Schwarz, GrDip 79,
April 8, 2022. He was 81.

**Dorothy (Goldstein)
Finkelberg**, BFA 80,
January 29, 2022.

Keith M. Wilkinson, MA 80,
January 28, 2022. Calgary,
Alb. He was 73.

Jane Desjardins, BFA 81,
May 27, 2022. She was 87.

Carole G. Hughes, GrCert 82,
BA 88, July 12, 2022.
She was 86.

Helen Mankofsky, BFA 82,
GrDip 82, MFA 88, December
21, 2021.

Gary A. Wagner, BSc 82,
January 26, 2022. He was 68.

Esther Buchsbaum, BA 83,
May 14, 2022. She was 65.

Lina Buttino, BA 84,
May 5, 2022.

Lynn Efos, BComm 84,
June 28, 2022.

Brian D. Krecklo, BComm 84,
April 2, 2022. He was 74.

Steven Heighton (1961-2022)

'He was brilliant at everything'

Concordia colleagues remember Steven Heighton, who passed away on April 19 at the age of 60.

The 2002-03 Department of English writer-in-residence authored poems, short fiction, novels, essays, songs, a children's book and a memoir.

Mikhail Iossel, associate professor of English, recalled Heighton as "a very good man: kind, soulful, gentle and remarkably talented.

"His students loved him," Iossel said. "Prose, poetry, songs — he could do anything, and he was brilliant at everything. It is a devastating loss."

Heighton's work was widely recognized. He won the Governor General's Award for English-language poetry in 2016 for his collection *The Waking Comes Late*. His work was additionally nominated for many other awards, including the Hilary Weston

Writers' Trust Prize for Nonfiction.

As writer-in-residence, Heighton quickly became a valuable mentor for students. He will forever be remembered for his deep commitment to Concordia's Creative Writing program. ■



MARK RAYNES ROBERTS

Wendy (Markey) Rogers, BA 84, May 28, 2022, Ottawa, Ont. She was 79.

Brian K. Norman, BEng 84, December 20, 2021, Toronto, Ont. He was 75.

Margaret Le Gallais, BFA 85, December 5, 2021.

Stephen Weisnagel, BSc 85, BEng 94, April 19, 2022. He was 62.

Douglas L. Salter, BEng 86, April 9, 2022. He was 59.

Barry J. Yaxley, BA 86, December 10, 2021. He was 77.

Ronald G. Curtis, BA 87, July 11, 2022. He was 64.

Paul Diver, BEng 87, August 2, 2022. He was 65.

Patrick Phelan, BComm 87, January 17, 2022. He was 58.

Robert L. Baird, BA 88, MA 96, January 16, 2022. He was 94.

Sylvia Margaret Camp, BA 89, MA 94, June 28, 2022. She was 90.

Barbara E. Jackson, Cert 89, August 8, 2022. She was 95.

Margaret Siemak, BSc 89, July 21, 2022. She was 58.

Ronald Beauvais, BA 90, March 3, 2022.

Rebecca F. Ansley, BA 91, September 11, 2022, Toronto, Ont. She was 62.

Louis Torok, BA 91, August 17, 2022, St-Lambert, Que. He was 55.

Guy Saint-Pierre, LLD 92, January 23, 2022. He was 87.

Rosemary Turpin, BA 92, December 24, 2021. She was 76.

Lee Hopkins, BCompSc 93, May 26, 2022.

Réjean Dupré, EMBA 94, April 9, 2022. He was 76.

Catherine J. Sisler, MFA 95, December 18, 2021.

Donna Donnelly, GrDip 95, July 29, 2022. She was 79.

Carol-Ann Brown, BA 98, December 15, 2021. She was 67.

Denis (Denny) Bernard, BA 98, December 2, 2021. He was 49.

Luigi Luzio, BA 99, May 13, 2022. He was 70.

Antoinette Viscione, BComm 99, June 21, 2022. She was 57.

Vera Fergenbaum, BFA 00, May 5, 2022. She was 83.

Kevin J. Walsh, BA 02, July 19, 2022. He was 44.

Maria Sakhrani, BA 03, March 25, 2022. She was 44.

Lucienne (Chammah) Torchia, BA 03, April 2, 2022. She was 83.

Michael Citrome, BA 04, March 26, 2022. He was 41.

Anna Nack, BA 04, July 12, 2022. She was 96.

Carmela (Iuticone) Vincelli, BA 04, July 29, 2022. She was 81.

Catherine Barber, BFA 05, December 27, 2021. She was 64.

Richard Stachrowski, BComm 07, February 11, 2022. He was 71.

Lorraine (Lapointe) Semienchuk, BA 08, January 13, 2022. She was 77.

Roger Angel, former professor, Philosophy of Science at Concordia, July 22, 2022. He was 89. ■

John Visentin (1962 - 2022)



Business leader and Concordia alumnus Giovanni “John” Visentin, BComm 84, passed away on June 28 in Riverside, Conn., following an ongoing illness. He was 59.

After graduating with a Bachelor of Commerce

from Concordia, Visentin pursued a career in technology and business, quickly rising through the ranks — first at IBM and then at HP, among other major companies — before serving as chief executive of Novitex Enterprise Solutions

from 2013 to 2017. He then joined Xerox as CEO and vice-chairman in 2018, leading the company through the COVID-19 pandemic — a position he held until his death.

Visentin is survived by his wife and five daughters. ■

Nalie Agustin (1988 - 2022)

'A true force'

Nalie Agustin, BA 12, a best-selling author, public speaker and cancer-awareness advocate who shared her journey on social media, passed away on March 22, 2022. She was 33.

The Department of Communication Studies alumna was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2013, shortly after graduating from Concordia. Agustin shared everything — the struggles of dealing with chemotherapy, mastectomy, radiation and reconstructive surgery — on her blog and YouTube channel, amassing a large following of supporters and fellow advocates.

When the cancer moved to her lungs in 2017, Agustin published *Chemo Secrets: Tips, Tricks and Real Life Experiences from a Young Breast Cancer Survivor* to help guide other young women going through chemotherapy.



“Creating my own platform to reach out to women my age who have this really rare diagnosis, in my own style and way, is exactly what Concordia prepped me for,” said Agustin in an interview with her alma mater in 2019.

“I’ve learned a lot about the mind, body and spirit along the way, and I believe it is my purpose to continue to share.”



TO HONOUR HIS SISTER'S LEGACY, JUSTIN AGUSTIN COMMISSIONED A MURAL OF NALIE BY JASMINE DEARDEN NEAR CONCORDIA'S SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS CAMPUS.

Agustin published *The Diary of Nalie: A Collection of Life Lessons and Reflections Shared While Thriving Through Stage IV Cancer* in 2021, while she continued to share her story with more than 119,000 Instagram followers around the world. Among them was public figure Sophie Grégoire Trudeau, who, upon learning

about Agustin's death, commented on a post by the alumna's family:

“My heart breaks hearing this news. Everyone who read your words, who heard you speak, who crossed your path, could tell there was something unique about you. You were a true force.” ■

Michael Perceval-Maxwell (1933 - 2022)

Remembered as one of the most celebrated history graduates of Sir George Williams University — one of Concordia's founding institutions — Michael Perceval-Maxwell passed away on May 21. He was 88.

Perceval-Maxwell had

a long career at McGill University's Department of History and Classical Studies, where his influential books and articles on 17th-century Ireland cemented his reputation as an expert in the field of Irish and British history.

In his service as department chair and dean of arts, Perceval-Maxwell helped sustain McGill's reputation in the humanities, while establishing his department as a vibrant centre for the study of Irish History and remaining a close friend of Concordia's Department

of History.

In 1997, he and Robert Tittler, distinguished professor emeritus at Concordia, established the Montreal British History Seminar, hosted at McGill and Concordia alternately — which continues today. ■

'I am deeply connected to paying homage to my ancestors and my community'

Lessons learned lead to future change

NICOLE ANTOINE, BA 10

When I think back to my younger self, I really thought I had it all figured out. In reality, I was far from knowing what I wanted, but is that necessarily a bad thing? We get caught up in trying to have all the answers when the universe often has a different plan.

Prior to enrolling as a university student, my mind was set on becoming a lawyer. I chose an undergrad in history and political science based on that aspiration, rather than evaluating and scoping out any other opportunities available to me. Tunnel vision can be good, but it also requires flexibility. It can become difficult to know when and how to pivot when confronted with an obstacle: How do I know when the universe is redirecting me towards my path of purpose?

To say that I haven't been met with my share of rejection and failure would be a lie. Yet I've learned to recognize that there were no mistakes, no missteps, no wastes of time. Instead, these became lessons helping to bolster a foundation that would lead and fuel me to something bigger.

'THE BEST VERSION OF MYSELF'

Fast-forward to my 10-plus years following graduation, to where I am now comfortably rooted and empowered as someone with an eclectic background in law, community and marketing, here charting my own path as a changemaker.

With an amazing village of support and mentorship, I've been able to soak up many lessons and tools to perfect my craft. And, while I don't know where I'll end up in another 10 years, I can say that I am comforted by the certainty that I'll be a better human.



HATRICK MERVILLE

"Not only are we enough, but we are deserving of opportunities that will accelerate our journey towards our passions."

I strive to be the best version of myself and approach every task, no matter how small or seemingly unimportant, with excellence. I am deeply connected to paying homage to my ancestors and my community by making sure that we take back ownership of our culture and our story.

My most recent project, Blaxpo, is meant to disrupt how the corporate world chooses to see us as Black people, and, more importantly, how we choose to see ourselves. I have unapologetically curated a space, a reliable foundation for the Black community to thrive while unwiring the mindset of not being enough. Not only are we enough, but we are deserving of opportunities that will accelerate our journey towards our passions.

Blaxpo connects BIPOC [Black, Indigenous and People of Colour] individuals with forward-thinking

companies that share a mission and vision of an equitable and diverse workforce. I want to simplify and remove the systemic barriers that so often stand in the way. I want to give the underrepresented a platform that empowers them on their own journeys, careers and livelihoods.

My rally call is to take up space! It's okay if our paths aren't always linear. And it's okay if we feel uncomfortable. That's how we can effectively move the dial towards a more equitable and diverse tomorrow. ■

Nicole Antoine is the CEO and co-founder of Four Brown Girls, architect of Blaxpo and marketing strategist consultant at N/A & Company Inc.




CONCORDIA AT 50

Before we celebrate our fifth decade
in 2024-25, we want to hear from you!

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- ▶ **Did you** meet your spouse, business partner or best friend in 1974-75?
- ▶ **Is there** a Concordia professor who helped shape your journey?

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