

# MINNESOTA



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ON THE COVER: Inside the new Northrop, photographed by Patrick O'Leary. This page, clockwise from top: Patrick O'Leary, Paul Smith, Stephanie Rau



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# A Grand Reopening of the Imagination

**W**hen I attended the press conference at Coffman Memorial Union last November announcing plans for the grand reopening of the Northrop, I experienced something foreign in my 27 years of attending press conferences: I felt inspired.

I had toured the Northrop a couple of years ago, in the earliest days of the revitalization project, but as I listened to University Provost Karen Hanson (B.A. '70) and others describe the transformation that was taking place, it became clear that this project was vastly bigger than making an old building functional again. It was a fundamental reimagining. The revitalization creates a state-of-the-art facility that is, in Hanson's words, at multiple crossroads: a literal one at the center of campus; of the past, present, and future of the University; and of academics and the arts.

I hope the inspiration I felt then comes through in the pages of this issue of *Minnesota*. We're pleased to give alumni a sneak preview of the reimagined Northrop, beginning with photographs from the early days of the project, when the theater was dismantled down to the dirt and daylight streamed in where an exterior wall used to be, and including whatever finishing touches we could squeeze in before press time. Patrick O'Leary (M.A. '86), the University's dogged photographer who began documenting the revitalization almost from the first strike of the shovel, made his hundreds of photographs available to us. Would that we could have published all of them instead of a fraction!

As you view the photos and read the articles, keep in mind that, were it not for alumni, the Northrop would never have arisen on the patch of earth it has occupied since 1929. The possibility of creating such a facility—one that eventually became known as The Carnegie of the Midwest because of the luminaries that graced its stage—was withering away for lack of funds until alumni dug deep in their pockets to bring the \$1.32 million project to fruition. It's a testament to the impact alumni have had and continue to have on shaping the life of this University.

When we first began working on this issue, I was surprised and delighted to discover how readily people talked about their memories of the Northrop. Whether alumni or not, people have abundant and vivid recollections of the place. Such is the power of the Northrop in the imagination and experience of students, alumni, and the wider community.

But don't take my word for it. Make a plan to come to campus and experience the new Northrop for yourself. In the meantime, enjoy this issue of *Minnesota*. ■

*Cynthia Scott (M.A. '89) is the editor of Minnesota. She can be reached at scott325@umn.edu.*



Cynthia Scott

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**A U TURN HOME**

Moments prior to the arrival of the Winter 2014 issue of *Minnesota*, I had been on the phone with a close friend, telling her I was moving back to Minnesota after 18 years away. I've spent my life traveling, "trying on" different cities and even different countries. At the end of my occasional visits to relatives in the Twin Cities, I always asked myself, "Why did I ever leave here?" It's the only place I ever felt nurtured, supported, and at home.

I served as an editorial assistant for *Minnesota* from 1995 to 1996 while earning my B.A. in English, and Shelly Fling's editor's note elicited a knowing laugh from my throat. I was transported right back to those often high-stress days digging up intriguing stories about talented alumni doing meaningful things, getting immersed in their lives if only for the hours or days allowed to craft a story—and never forgetting the great people I was privileged to profile.

When I read Susan Maas's finely written cover story, "Unbridled Hope," tears welled up in my eyes and streamed freely down my cheeks. It is because of alumni like CeCe Terlouw, the fine work of the *Minnesota* staff, and U of M alumni worldwide that I feel so compelled to return to my home state to contribute to the community that has nurtured me and so many others, and to finally be an active part of the Alumni Association. I have spent my life giving my professional and emotional self to others in an effort to help them live better lives. Now, I belong

to Minnesota, returning the favor to the place and the people that taught me how to give so many years ago.

**Sara Hauber (B.A. '96)**  
Chicago

**MISGUIDED FOCUS**

I urge alumni, their families, friends, and associates to strongly oppose the wrong-headed plan by President Kaler and Athletics Director Norwood Teague to try to raise millions from the private sector to expand athletics facilities.

Athletics have nothing to do with education and such donations will take money away from projects directly related to the U's mission, education.

Contact Kaler, Teague, the Board of Regents, Governor Dayton, and your state legislators to tell them this idea is totally misguided, that you worry about public monies inevitably being used despite pledges to the contrary. The U should focus on education, not meaningless sports.

**Willard Shapira (B.A. '58)**  
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Fri, Apr 4, 8:00 pm (Gala performance, reception, and dance party)

Sat, Apr 5, 8:00 pm

Sun, Apr 6, 2:00 pm

Carlson Family Stage at Northrop

### *Giselle* with live orchestra

Celebrate the historic Grand Reopening of Northrop with national treasure American Ballet Theatre performing classic romantic storybook ballet *Giselle* with live orchestra, a post-performance dessert and champagne reception, and Northrop Inside Out After Dark dance party featuring a live DJ and special performances.

### MORE GRAND REOPENING EVENTS

A variety of both free and ticketed Grand Reopening events begin with the Gala and continue throughout April, May, and June.



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American Ballet Theatre in *Giselle*. Photo © Gene Schiavone.



University of Minnesota postdoctoral fellow and alumna Chelsey Thul, third from left, with members of G.I.R.L.S. during basketball practice.

## Girls Gotta Move

Sutra, a sixth-grader, is used to holding up her ankle-length skirt with one hand while using the other to dribble a basketball in the gym at the Brian Coyle Community Center in Minneapolis. It's no easy task, especially when she also has to readjust her hijab (headscarf) before going for a crossover and driving to the basket.

Sutra is one of about 30 East African girls who participate in sports activities twice a week as part of the Girls Initiative in Recreation and Leisurely Sports (G.I.R.L.S.) program, a joint project of the Somali Youth Enrichment Club, the University of Minnesota, and the University of Minnesota Medical Center, Fairview. It's possible she will be able to wear something more comfortable on the court soon, thanks to a two-year project between G.I.R.L.S. and students in the University's Apparel Design program.

While some of the participants in G.I.R.L.S. are able to wear shorts and go without their hijabs when playing, others, like Sutra, follow Islamic dress codes requiring females to cover their hair and wear loose-fitting, floor-length garments. The need to stay completely covered keeps many Somali girls and teens from participating in sports at all, says Chelsey Thul (M.A. '08, Ph.D. '12), a post-

doctoral fellow in the department of pediatrics. While researching the disparities in physical activity among Minnesota adolescents from different cultures, Thul, a volunteer and consultant for G.I.R.L.S., found Somali girls in the Twin Cities to be the least active of all cultures.

So she teamed up with Elizabeth Bye, head of the Department of Design, Housing, and Apparel in the College of Design; Nicole LaVoi, associate director of the University's Tucker Center for Research on Girls & Women in Sport; Fatimah Hussein, founder of the G.I.R.L.S. program; and G.I.R.L.S. coaches Jennifer Weber and Muna Mohamed to come up with a solution. Knowing that input from the girls was key, they paired program participants with apparel design and students to create culturally appropriate active wear.

The girls will be involved in every stage of the design process, from internet research and watching Gopher women's sports to sketching with the students and choosing fabrics before the final fashion show. "Like all girls, they want to be free to move their bodies, and if it's not cute, they won't wear it," says Thul, explaining that these girls "just have more complex cultural needs."

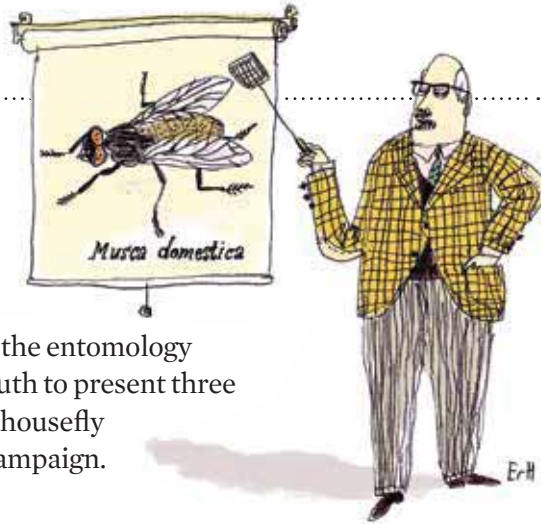
—Sarah Barker

Wow, it's like a whole little world in here."

A student's voice from deep inside the hood of a parka as he prepared to step into subzero temperatures on a January day

## Tweets of Yore

If we had Twitter 100 years ago, what would your Alumni Association have been tweeting? We looked back to the 1914 editions of the *Minnesota Alumni Weekly* to see what was trending.



Professor F.L. Washburn of the entomology department traveled to Duluth to present three lectures, with slides, on the housefly to help kick off an anti-fly campaign.

**#swatteam**

Engineering students celebrated St. Patrick's Day with a parade followed by green tea in the library of the engineering building.

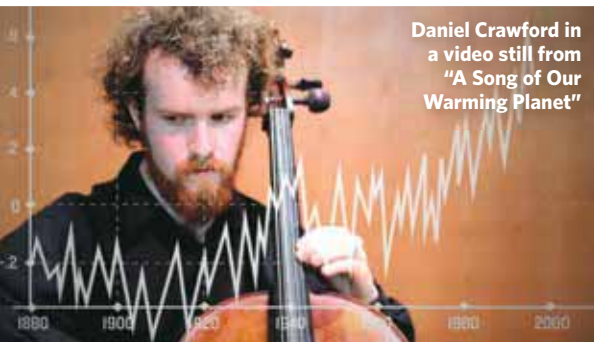
**#wildandcrazyguys**

Mrs. George Vincent, wife of the University president, bagged a deer on a hunting trip to northern Minnesota. **#gunpowderpuff**

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## Climate Change Noted

What does climate change sound like? University of Minnesota assistant professor of geography Scott St. George wondered if the answer might help engage students in his environmental studies class who are left cold by charts and graphs. St. George, a resident fellow with the U's Institute on the Environment, approached student Daniel Crawford, a cellist, with the idea of setting climate change data to music.



Translating temperature records from NASA's Goddard Institute of Space Studies into musical notes, Crawford created "A Song of Our Warming Planet," a hauntingly rising melody that traces the upward trend in global temperatures from 1880 to 2012.

Since its June 2013 debut at *Ensia* ([ensia.com](http://ensia.com)), the digital magazine of

the Institute on the Environment, a video of Crawford's composition has logged more than 135,000 views in nearly 150 countries, been tweeted by former Vice President Al Gore, among others, and turned up on a variety of websites, from the *New York Times* and *Salon* to *Scientific American*.

"Data visualizations are effective for some people, but they aren't the best way to reach everyone," St. George told *Ensia*. "Instead of giving people something to look at, Dan's performance gives them something they can feel."

To listen to "Song of Our Warming Planet," [www.ensia.com/videos/a-song-of-our-warming-planet](http://www.ensia.com/videos/a-song-of-our-warming-planet).  
—Mary Hoff

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wrapper,

helpful  
healer,

[your name here]  
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### **The Cold Comfort of Home**

Temperatures in the single digits did not deter 45,021 Gopher fans from gathering at TCF Bank Stadium on January 17 for the Hockey City Classic, the largest attendance ever for a hockey game in Minnesota. The Classic featured the No. 1-ranked Gopher women defeating Minnesota State 4-0 and, pictured here, the No. 1-ranked men downing Ohio State 1-0.

BRUCE HEMMELGARN/UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA ATHLETICS

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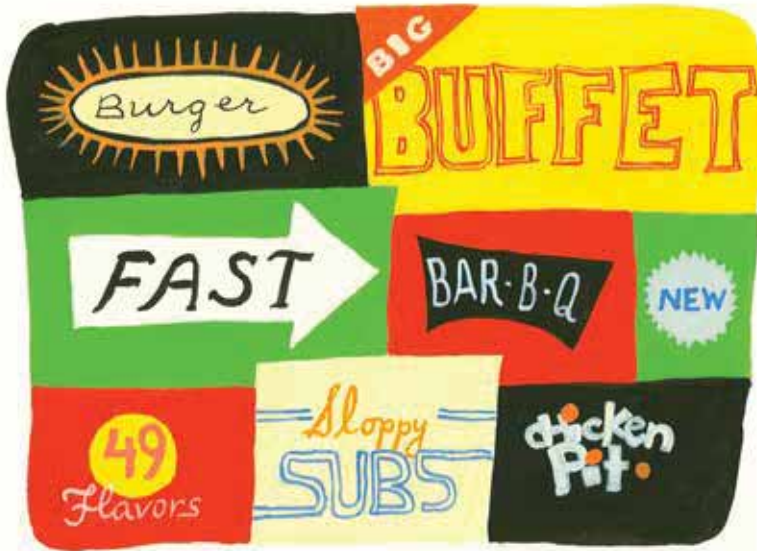
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## BUYING INTO A BAD DIET

College students who live off campus but purchase food at campus-area venues have diets that resemble those of consumers who frequent fast food restaurants, according to a new study by researchers at the University of Minnesota's School of Public Health.

Although previous research indicated that young adults who prepare food at home had healthier diets than those who purchased most of their meals at fast food restaurants, it was not known where eating on campus fell into the equation.

Lead researcher Jennifer Pelletier and colleague Melissa Laska examined the diets of 1,059 students living off campus at a two-year community college and a four-year public university in the Twin Cities. The venues studied included food and beverages purchased from à la carte facilities such as a student union, vending machines, and from a restaurant or store within walking distance of campus. Dining halls were not included. The study found that young adults who frequently purchased campus food had higher fat and sugar intake and skipped meals more often than their peers who carried food with them from home. In addition to having lower fat and sugar intake and skipping fewer meals, students who brought food from home also ate more fruits, vegetables, fiber, dairy, and calcium.

The study was published in the November 4, 2013, issue of the *American Journal of Health Promotion*.

**Compiled by Mary Hoff, Deane Morrison, and Cynthia Scott.**

University of Minnesota Alumni Association members may access many of the journals that publish these studies through the Libraries Online member benefit. Go to [www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/Libraries](http://www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/Libraries).

## FILLING THE HARVEST GAP

Harvesting existing cropland more frequently could substantially increase global food production without the need to clear more land for agriculture, according to a new study from the University of Minnesota's Institute on the Environment (IonE).

IonE postdoctoral research scholar Deepak Ray and director Jonathan Foley tapped a massive database of cropping records that the institute has compiled from around the world, tracking global harvest



## MENTALLY ILL PRICED OUT OF TREATMENT



COLLEGE FOOD: JULIETTE BORDA • HARVEST & MENTALLY ILL: ISTOCK • CANCER: SCIENCE PHOTO

trends of 177 crops between 1961 and 2011. They uncovered bountiful “harvest gaps”—the difference between land’s annual potential and actual harvest frequency. Africa, Latin America, and Asia have the highest concentration of potential gains. Researchers found that closing harvest gaps could theoretically boost production more than 44 percent worldwide.

Increased cropping frequency holds promise for reducing the

pressure to destroy rain forest and for mitigating risk under a changing climate. The researchers noted, however, that efforts to increase harvest frequency must take into account the need to avoid the deterioration of soil, water, and the agricultural land base.

“The challenge for our generation is to meet growing food demands without destroying our environment. Increasing cropland harvest frequency is another piece toward solving the global food security puzzle,” Foley says.

The research was published in the November 25, 2013, issue of *Environmental Research Letters*.



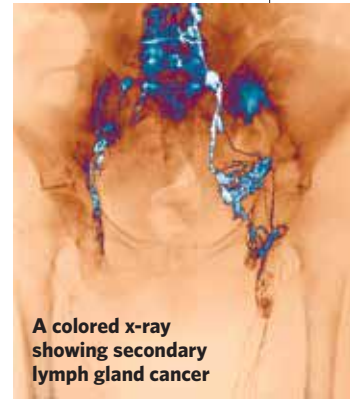
## WHAT THE NODES KNOW

Cancer patients don’t die from primary tumors—they die from metastasis, the process where cancer cells migrate to other parts of the body. But little research has been done on metastasis.

Akhouri Sinha, a professor in the University of Minnesota’s Department of Genetics, Cell Biology, and Development, along with colleagues at the Minneapolis Veterans Administration Health Care System, examined microscope slides of 32 patients. They found that in some nodes and in some patients, the immune system killed cancer cells. But in others, the cancer cells were resistant to the workings of the immune system.

Researchers hypothesized that patients whose nodes showed little or no cancer cell death may require more aggressive therapy than those whose nodes showed otherwise. Sinha suggested that pathologists, who typically report only whether or not lymph nodes are positive, perform a simple test that would show the extent of cell death in the nodes. With that knowledge, physicians could adjust patients’ therapy accordingly.

The study was published in the September 2013 issue of *Anticancer Research*.



**A colored x-ray showing secondary lymph gland cancer**



To listen to an interview with Sinha, go to [www.accessminnesotaonline.com](http://www.accessminnesotaonline.com).

A new study by researchers at the University of Minnesota’s School of Public Health shows that people with mental health problems are more likely to have public health insurance—Medicaid or Medicare—or be uninsured than have private insurance. Medicaid and Medicare were found to provide the most affordable means to access mental health treatment, while cost was an obstacle to treatment among the uninsured and the privately insured.

Kathleen Rowan, a doctoral student in health services research, policy, and administration in the University of Minnesota’s School of Public Health, led the study, which examined national data from 1999 to 2010 for trends in access and cost barriers. The study concluded that the Affordable Care Act (ACA), because it designates mental health and substance abuse services to be essential health benefits, has potential to provide coverage for currently uninsured people

with mental health issues. However, it states that opt out of Medicaid expansion, some people at risk for serious mental illness could remain unable to receive treatment. Further, the study noted that the persistence of cost barriers among those with private insurance suggests that the current financing of care in that market is insufficient and has implications for reform under the ACA.

The study was published in the October 2013 issue of *Health Affairs*.

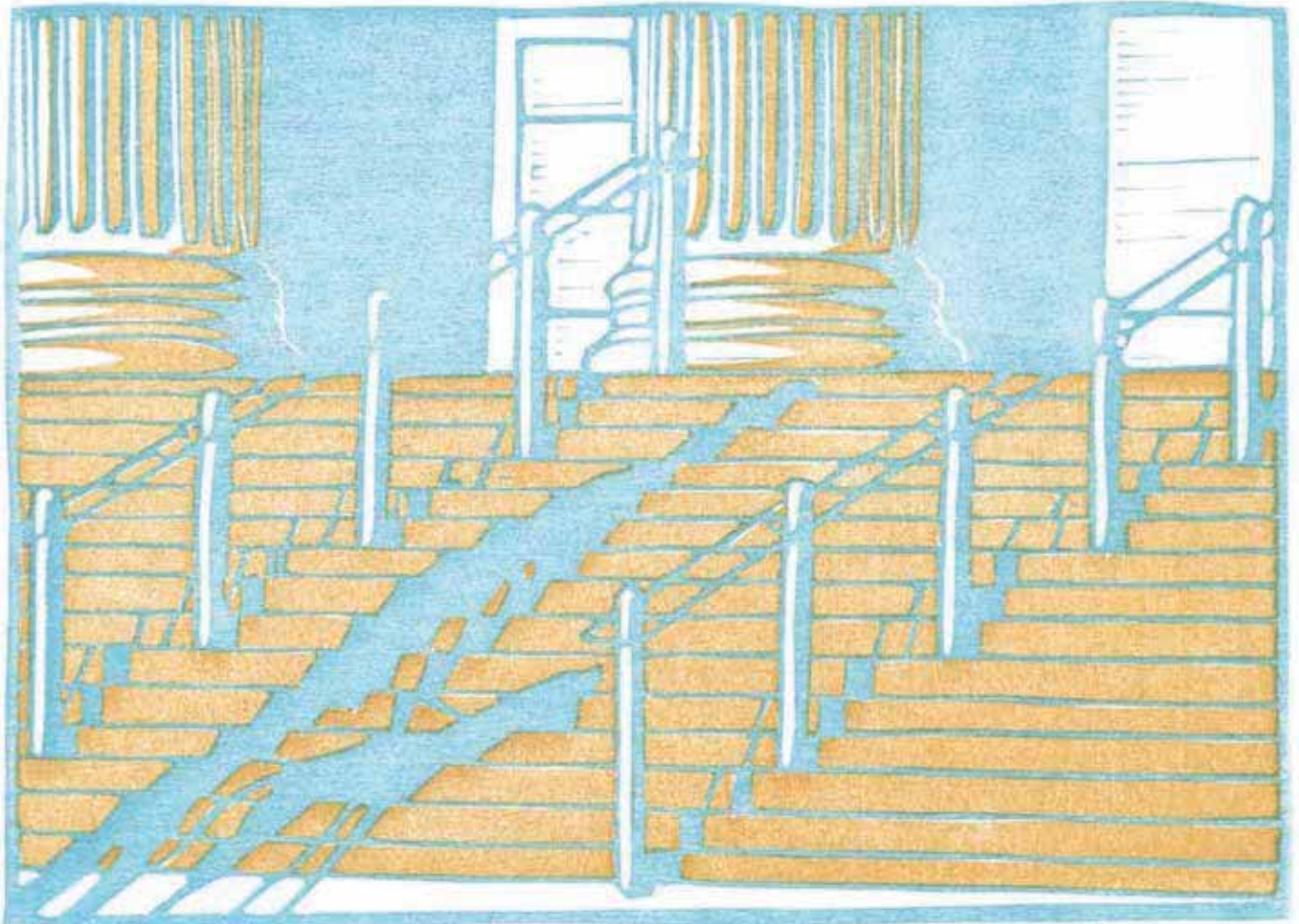
# Step by Step

LIFE OPENED UP  
ON THE STEPS  
OF NORTHROP

One bright, warm, mid-September morning in 1992, the Route 16 bus made its usual stop at the University of Minnesota's Coffman Memorial Union. Air brakes hissed. Doors whooshed open. I firmly gripped the harness handle of my black Labrador guide dog and commanded, "Baxter, forward!" I followed his competent lead and praised him with, "Atta boy!"

For what would be the first of many times in the coming years, Baxter and I joined the mob crossing the Washington Avenue footbridge en route to classes, labs, and lectures. I was full of trepidation over the sheer amount of physical work involved in getting to campus and back home, managing my studies, and tending to my family. But, class by class, season after season, for the next five years, we trudged the three blocks from our Golden Valley home, crossed a highway frontage road to wait at a suburban bus stop, and transferred in downtown Minneapolis to get to the U—our U.

At age 44, it was my turn to pursue the education of my choosing, where all my ways of knowing would be respected as valued contributors to learning. Where, regardless of my physical blindness—a permanent disability often regarded as a major obstacle to achievement and success—my dream of being respected as a whole person



ESSAY BY JANE TOLENO // ILLUSTRATION BY NICK WROBLEWSKI



could be realized. I wanted to be in charge of whether or not—and what—I learned, how and why I learned, and my goals. I did not want the “you-can’t-do-it” messages that had haunted my childhood and hindered my learning to direct my education this time. I was determined to inform more than just my mind—I wanted to know how human differences could be valued. I hoped to learn more about living and I wanted to be part of how others learned.

That first day on campus, Baxter and I negotiated the green space known as the Mall, which stretches from Washington Avenue to the steps of Northrop Auditorium. I created a mental map of distance, landmarks, and changes in the texture of the ground. I catalogued building sizes based on the sounds coming from them, the echoes that bounced from them, and the gateway-like spaces between them. Once past Walter Library on the left, I held my breath until Baxter stopped to indicate a change in front of us. I reached out my foot and found the steps of Northrop. Baxter and I climbed them and sat down on the top step to celebrate. Such wide, ordinary, rough, concrete steps. Solid and safe. Not going anywhere, here when I needed them for rest, to process the day, to assure me that I could go far. I listened from this new vantage point to how far away the bus stop sounded. I reveled in a new sense of belonging.

From then until our June 1997 graduation, the steps were a reliable constant in my life. Whenever I had to go to the East Bank, they were part of my route. While perched there, I soaked in the sunshine, observed or participated in events, had fun, or hid out. The steps became the place where I gathered the courage to turn impossibles into why-nots. They became my higher ground and my launching point. I thought through the design of my major, then called an individualized degree interdepartmental major, the foundation of which was built from my previous post-secondary starts and stops. I opted to enter the College of Liberal Arts Honors Division. Did I say I wanted to be in charge of my learning? My choices provided fabulous opportunities for facing challenges of learning inside and outside traditional classrooms: internships, a teaching assistant position, one-on-one directed study, employment in the New Student Program, and applying for and being awarded scholarships.

Once, on a very early spring morning, an enthusiastic cadence informed me that an ROTC contingent jogged toward me on the steps. I jumped up, stood directly in the cadets’ path, and waited. “Make a hole!” a leader called. They parted to circle around and past me, never wavering in their tempo. Laughing, I pivoted, dropped Baxter’s harness handle and kept his leash, slapped my right hand on the nearest shoulder, and jogged with them to the end of the mall before dropping out. For those moments, I experienced the comradeship of soldiering on.

One late spring evening, a writing instructor asked the class to look at postcards of world-famous locations and people and create our own stories about the pictures. The instructor had

forgotten that I couldn’t see. She accompanied Baxter and me outside to a marble bench not too far away from those Northrop steps of mine. “My postcard?” I asked her. “Yes,” she said. After exploring the stonework with my hands, I asked her to describe the marble. I thought about her description of the blacks and whites, then blended my discoveries and her descriptions into the following poem.

### **Said In Marble**

Marble is white-water rapids and Siberian tigers!  
Utterly cool-to-smooth,  
Marble holds memories of molten years.

When I touch marble, when she touches me,  
My imagination deeply moves.  
When artists and artisans dare to touch her,  
She mesmerizes them.  
They roll their sleeves—they take the challenge.  
With patient strength  
Of mind and spirit, hands and tools,  
Artisans achieve great dreams and arrive at silk.

Marble hard copies measured time.  
Its patterns bear witness to revolution and work.  
Blacks and whites in marble slice through struggle to freedom.  
Throughout the centuries of churches  
Marble has been the testament of priesthoods.

Marble is the million journey-stories of slow being and  
pressured change.  
It is the migration of a million geese  
Through geographies of memory and dreams;  
Over sharp-edged mountains,  
Across deep-shadowed valley darkness,  
Within the fractured look and roll of oceans.

One day,  
I want to be said in marble.

On graduation day, as always, those wide, welcoming steps lured me to stop and reflect. This University and I had stood every test each offered the other. Faculty had indeed embraced all my ways of learning: I had been encouraged to publish my memoir, *BlindSight: Come and See*; I enjoyed new relationships, experienced new situations, and gained new perspectives and skills. I am honored to be an alumnus of such a place.

I am thankful for the ordinary—no, extraordinary—steps that were so pivotal to my learning. Now, 16 years later, whenever I worry about venturing outside the box, I sit on metaphorical Northrop steps—my steps—until the edges of the box gradually recede. As a student back then, I learned something important about taking time to find solid ground when I needed to. Now, I savor how my education has made a difference in my life. ■

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*Jane Toleno (B.A. '97), now in her mid-60s, has begun rereading beloved books from her childhood to see if what she learned from them then is what she learns from them now. She and her husband, Tom, are traveling from their home in Big Lake, Minnesota, across the United States and Canada for a couple of years before settling in Minneapolis, near their children and grandchildren.*

*First Person essays may be written by University of Minnesota alumni, students, faculty, and staff.  
For writers' guidelines, go to [www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/firstperson](http://www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/firstperson).*



WELCOME TO



# THE NEW NORTHROP!

classic has been transformed. The Northrop, which has served the University and the community since 1929, will reopen April 4 after a three-year, \$88.5 million revitalization. The new Northrop will be a vital academic center of distinction and discovery that enlightens, challenges, and engages alumni, students, faculty, and the community. Carpenters, electricians, painters, and others were putting the dazzling finishing touches on the project as this issue went to press. Enjoy this exclusive back stage pass to the grand reopening.

# The Hearth of the University

Its grand reopening is historic —and deeply personal

As we look forward to the reopening of Northrop in April, I have found myself thinking back to my own earliest visits to that magnificent venue as a child growing up in St. Paul. Did I enter that grand space for the first time to hear the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra perform a “Young People’s Concert”? Perhaps, because my elementary school arranged buses to take its students there, and I remember the thrill of going with my classmates to those concerts. Did I go first holding my parents’ hands, perhaps to see *The Nutcracker*? That, too, was a magical event.

As a teenager I often asked my parents to let me tag along to events at Northrop. They were regulars at Northrop concerts and performances, though my father, in particular, certainly didn’t have the good fortune I had to grow up with easy access to the arts. He grew up during the Depression, on a failing farm, but he had a high school teacher who took an interest in him and urged him to further his education and go to the University of Minnesota. My guess is that the first time he saw a professional musical performance was indeed at Northrop, perhaps during





## By Karen Hanson

Senior Vice President For  
Academic Affairs and Provost

his student days—perhaps as he began to date the U of M student who would become my mother.

Sitting with my parents in Northrop, seeing the Royal Ballet and the sublime pairing of Rudolph Nureyev and Margot Fonteyn, the stars of the Bolshoi Ballet; the Martha Graham Dance Company; the Royal Danish Ballet; the Ballet Folklórico de México; and learning to love dance, as my mother always had, and as my father now did, too, I was at once widening my world and deepening my ties with my parents—no easy matter in adolescence. I learned in the darkness of Northrop that the beauty of a Puccini aria could bring tears to my father’s eyes—though I also knew that in my family this could scarcely be acknowledged. When Northrop offered its gallery to local schools for artworks youngsters had created in response to musical prompts, and my junior high effort was exhibited, my parents quietly visited the gallery. When one of my brothers played in a Northrop Marching Band concert, under Frank Bencriscutto’s direction, my parents were in the audience.

When I followed my parents and older brother and became a student at the University of Minnesota, Northrop remained important for me. It presided majestically over the Mall, as it does today, the iconic building of the University. I passed it each day as I walked between classes. Its stately Ionic columns, its massive gable, and its noble inscription, “The University of Minnesota: Founded in the Faith that Men are Ennobled by Understanding; Dedicated to the Advancement of Learning and the Search for Truth; Devoted to the Instruction of Youth and the Welfare of the State,” all provided a silent but deeply inspiring sense that the U was where I belonged—where I could learn and grow—and that, through the U, I could be connected to bigger things, to diverse communities and cultures, and to the world of ideas.

Northrop was a landmark, but it was also a campus gathering

place, its plaza a site for casual socializing and earnest politics, and the auditorium and galleries the venues for performances, lectures, art shows, and major university ceremonies. For me, Northrop provided a good portion of what we now call the “cocurriculum.” I did my best to attend every free lecture, every poetry reading, every concert or performance I could afford. These experiences shaped my interests, my sensibilities, and my understanding, and I am profoundly grateful that I had those opportunities.

In Northrop, I heard Stan Getz and Astrud Gilberto, Cannonball Adderly and Wes Montgomery, Simon and Garfunkel, Andrés Segovia, and Joan Baez. I listened to lectures by poets, journalists, politicians, activists, and artists. And I walked across the Northrop stage myself, in cap and gown, when I graduated.

That graduation was decades ago. The ensuing decades took a heavy toll on Northrop. The building fell into disrepair, and it came to be used less often for campus and community events. For later generations of students, it had become a magnificent fossil, rather than a living presence. Its steps were a place to sit on a warm spring day, not a stairway to intellectual and cultural enrichment.

But just before I returned to Minnesota two years ago, University leaders seized an opportunity to reimagine Northrop. Their vision reflected the University’s vigorous commitment to enhancing undergraduate education and the community engagement that is central to the mission of a great land-grant research university in the heart of a major metropolitan area.

The revitalized Northrop that opens in April will be a multi-purpose, state-of-the-art cultural center—with vastly improved sightlines and acoustics—fully integrated with campus and community life. Northrop will continue its long tradition of hosting internationally renowned artists in music, dance, and theater.

It also will house modern seminar and meeting spaces; multimedia facilities; a café; and six student study lounges. And Northrop will again, more than ever, be a central campus and community gathering place—the “hearth of the University”—for major events, from convocations to lectures by illustrious speakers.

The building also will be home to three University-wide academic programs: the University Honors Program, the Institute for Advanced Study, and the College of Design’s Travelers Innovation Lab. These programs will be springboards for the kind of teaching and learning collaborations that are so important in the modern university—engaging people from many disciplines across the University and from communities far and wide. Northrop’s walls may be constructed of steel and stone, but its cultural and intellectual spaces will be open, porous, and dynamic.

As I look forward to the grand reopening, my excitement is not just “provostial” but deeply personal. I know what Northrop has meant to me and to many others, especially alumni. I hope others will have what I was privileged to have. I hope new generations of Minnesota youngsters will be bused to campus for concerts and lectures. I hope our families will come to connect with the arts and with one another. Northrop is a splendid landmark, a monumental building, but it is also a special place of learning, memory, and celebration. Northrop is an icon of the University of Minnesota—and it belongs to all of us. ■

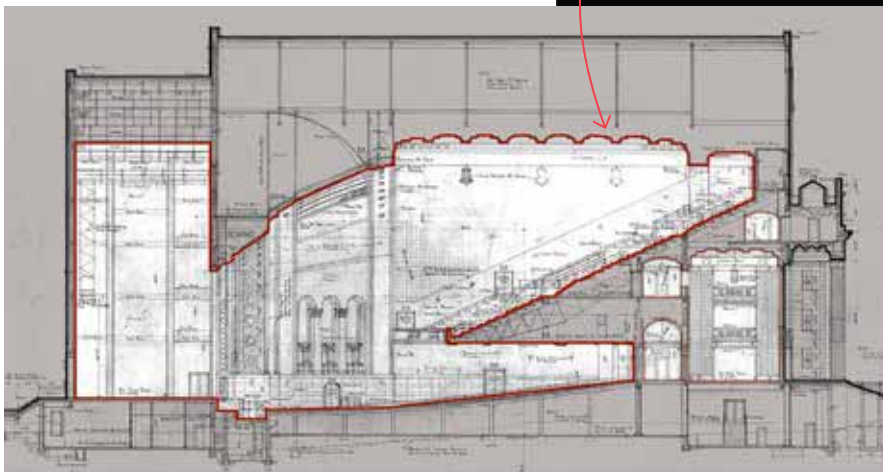
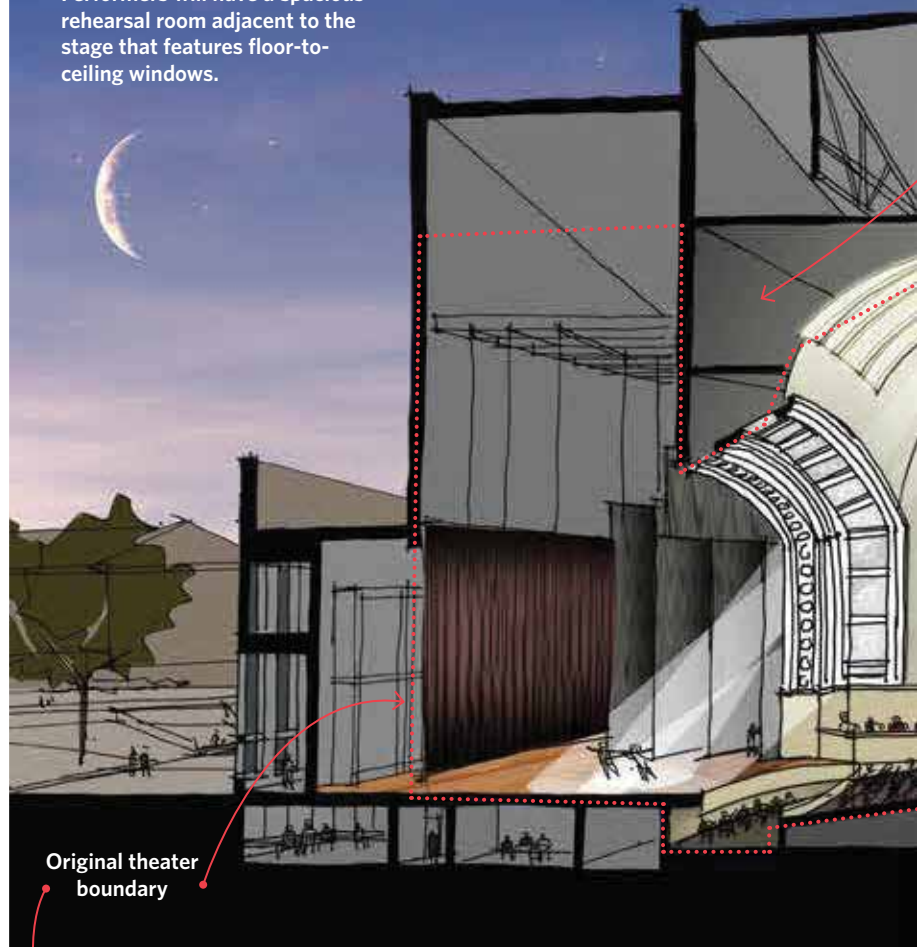
*Karen Hanson (B.A. '70) graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in philosophy and mathematics.*



Performers will have a spacious rehearsal room adjacent to the stage that features floor-to-ceiling windows.



The Lindahl Founders Room on the second floor is one of the new spaces that will serve multiple academic, cultural, and civic purposes.



## Then & Now

Drawings of the original Northrop, left, and the new Northrop, above, illustrate the reimaged use of space that guided the revitalization. The chart at right contrasts the features of old and new.

The organ loft will eventually be home to the historic Aeolian-Skinner Opus 892 pipe organ, which has 6,975 pipes, is approximately 40 feet tall, and spans the width of the main stage.

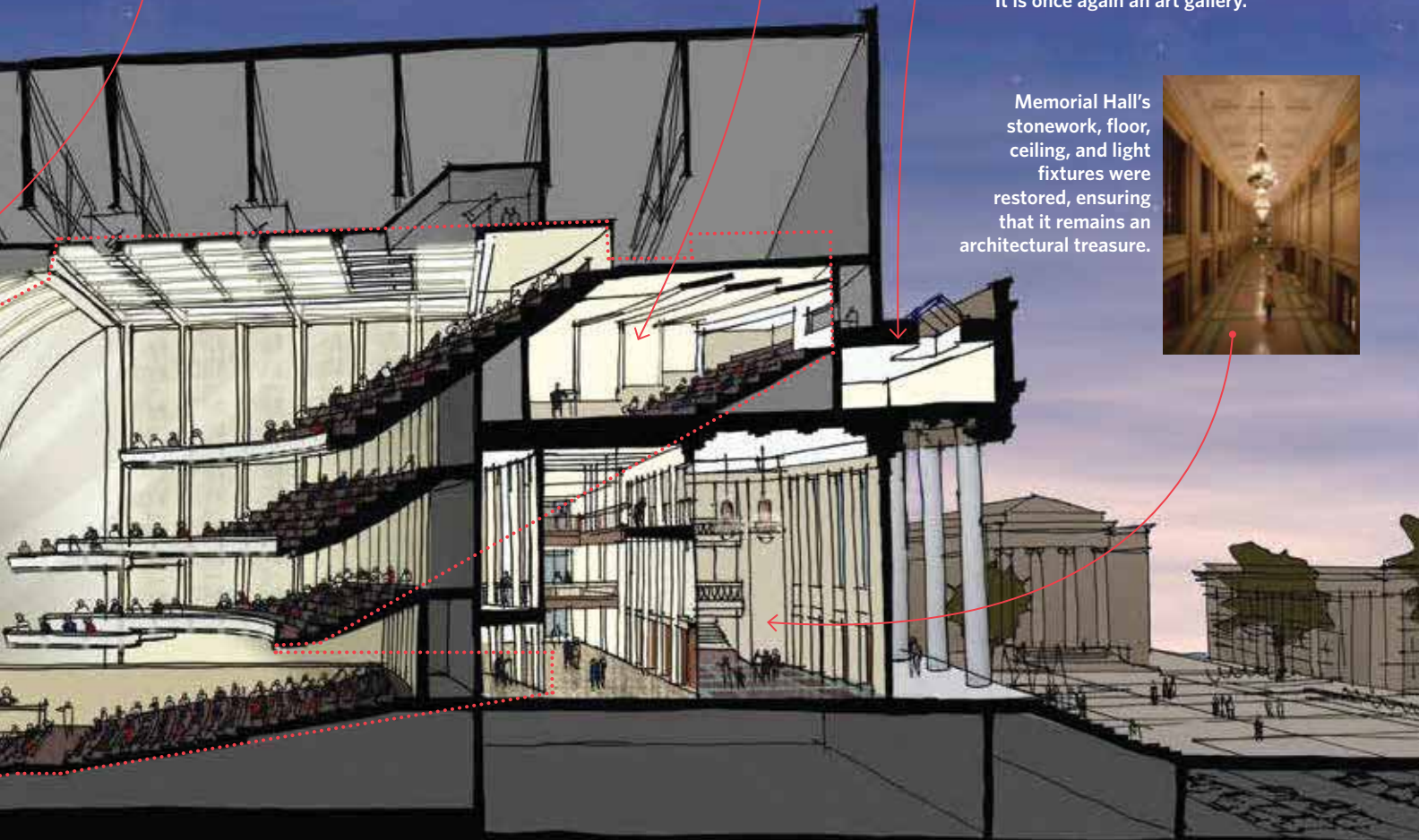


The acoustics in the multipurpose 168-seat Best Buy Theater automatically adjust to either a lecture or a recital.



The original location of the Weisman Art Museum. The space has been used for storage since the museum moved to its current location in 1993. It is once again an art gallery.

Memorial Hall's stonework, floor, ceiling, and light fixtures were restored, ensuring that it remains an architectural treasure.



MAIN THEATER

	<u>20THCENTURY</u>	<u>21ST CENTURY</u>
Seats	4,487	2,700
Balconies	1	3
Seats within 100 feet of stage	960	2,160
Theater square feet	31,050	28,000
Theater dimensions	150 x 176 ft.	100 x 133 ft.

BUILDING

Stages	1	2
Ticket windows	2	6
Public restrooms	11	21
Concession stands	4	8
Elevators	1	2

ADDITIONAL SPACES

- University Honors Program
- College of Design Travelers Innovation Lab
- Institute for Advanced Study
- Café and coffee bar
- 2 conference rooms
- A 168-seat lecture/recital hall
- 2 seminar rooms
- 7 other multipurpose spaces
- Northrop Presents
- University of Minnesota Tickets and Events

## The Art and Science of Demolition

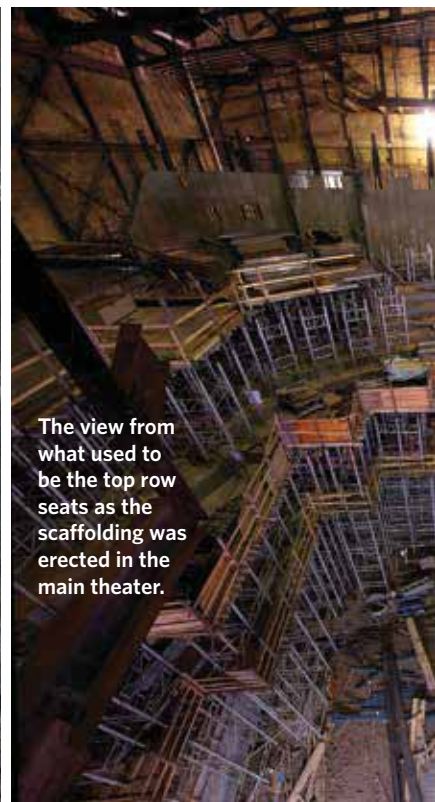
Every reconstruction begins with demolition, and Northrop's was an engineering feat. It began with a massive excavation in 2011. The revitalization required more than 700 pages of drawings—construction of the original Northrop had 32 pages.

As of the end of 2013, more than 70 percent of the waste generated on the project had been recycled.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY PATRICK O'LEARY



Workers supported the proscenium arch on jacks, removed the old footings, and drove micropiles into bedrock 40 feet below in order to support the new structure.



The view from what used to be the top row seats as the scaffolding was erected in the main theater.





This is what the main theater looked like in late 2011, after workers had stripped it down to the dirt floor and broke through the back and side walls.



A team reviewed progress on the project. The revitalization commanded the expertise of a large team of architects, engineers, electricians, acousticians, and construction managers.

## School Project

To grasp the magnitude of the Northrop revitalization project, consider this: Alumnus and interior design architect Rich Bonnin (B.A. '93) has spent nearly the same number of years working on it as he did on campus as a student.

Bonnin, who guided the interior design team for principal design firm HGA Architects, has a decidedly more intimate relationship with the Northrop now than when he was a studying architecture at the U. "It was often the building I just walked through or beneath on my way from Rapson Hall to the mall," he says.

But that distant relationship is forever changed. Bonnin and the many other architects, engineers, acousticians, and team members involved in the project had to get to know every nook and cranny. The design principles that defined the project presented a captivating challenge: Advance the University's academic priorities and serve the entire community by creating a space that is welcoming, functional, and world class. And by the way, preserve and honor Northrop's historic significance.

As astounding as the physical revitalization is, Bonnin thinks the new Northrop offers another kind of revitalization as well. "For alumni, I believe the Northrop revitalization is a clear and physical sign that the University remains strong, vibrant, and is continuously evolving," Bonnin says. "With the incredible programming that is coming, the new Northrop will be one of the most accessible ways for alumni to engage in the vibrancy of what is going on at the University."

A season ticket holder for the Northrop Dance series since graduating from the U, Bonnin takes special satisfaction in his contribution to the revitalization. "Helping shape what this landmark will be for its next century has been very rewarding, even though no one has yet seen the completed project. No matter what else I do in my career, this will always be one of my most memorable projects," Bonnin says.

—Cynthia Scott

Metal mesh screens above the proscenium allow sound from the stage and organ loft to transmit outward.

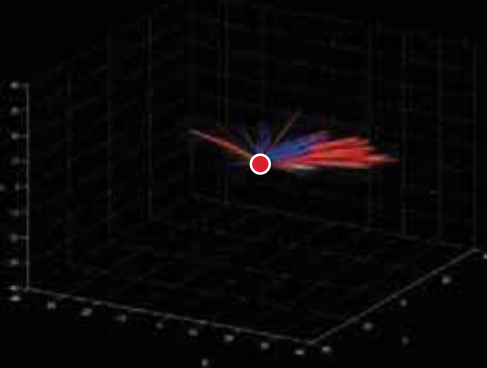


“THE NORTHROP REVITALIZATION IS A CLEAR AND PHYSICAL SIGN THAT THE UNIVERSITY REMAINS STRONG, VIBRANT, AND IS CONTINUOUSLY EVOLVING.”

—RICH BONNIN



Interior design architect Rich Bonnin, right, and Nick Bindert (B.S., B.A.S. '13), an intern with J.E. Dunn Construction, look over the work on the second balcony.



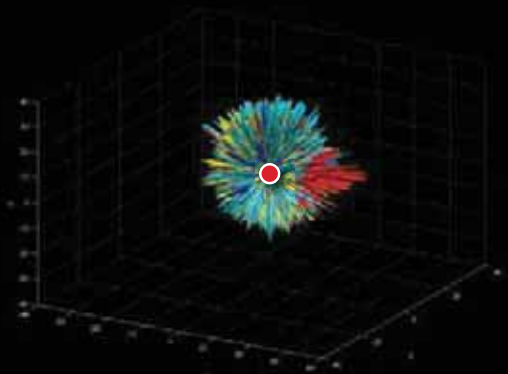
This illustration models the sound experience in the old Northrop, where acoustics were dominated by direct sound from the stage, a lack of reflections from the walls and ceiling, and low reverberance.

● = YOU



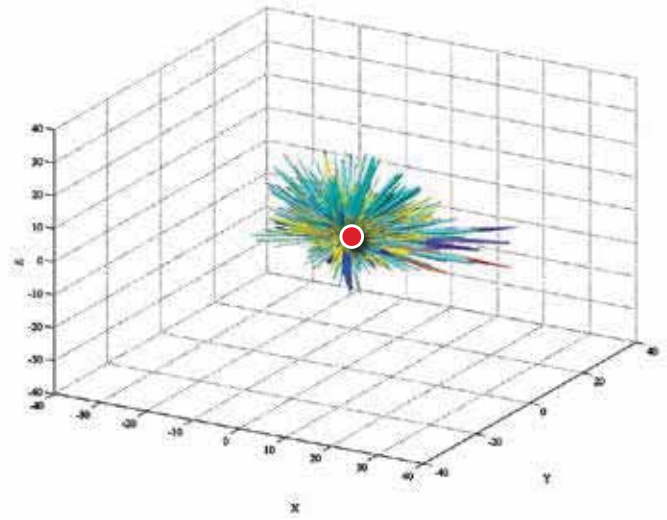


At Concertgebouw, a balance of direct and reflected sound creates intimacy and envelopment.



## This is your brain on world-class acoustics

Acoustics and theater designers from the international firm Arup provided guidelines for ensuring that nearly every angle and surface increases “envelopment,” the sensation that sound is coming from all around the listener. The new Northrop’s acoustics are comparable to the world’s top concert halls, such as Amsterdam’s Concertgebouw. The illustration below is a model of Northrop’s sound from an orchestra level seat.



ACOUSTIC MODELS: ARUP

The old, deep, single balcony cast an “acoustic shadow” over the seats below. The three new balconies are angled in such a way as to improve the soundscape.



NEW NORTHROP PHOTOS: PATRICK O'LEARY



This 10-foot-high band of stone at the front of the hall is rilled with fine grooves so that sound will disperse uniformly. For amplified pop performances, fabric banners fall down the walls to deaden the natural acoustics. Speaker arrays will assume much of the burden of carrying sound to the audience.



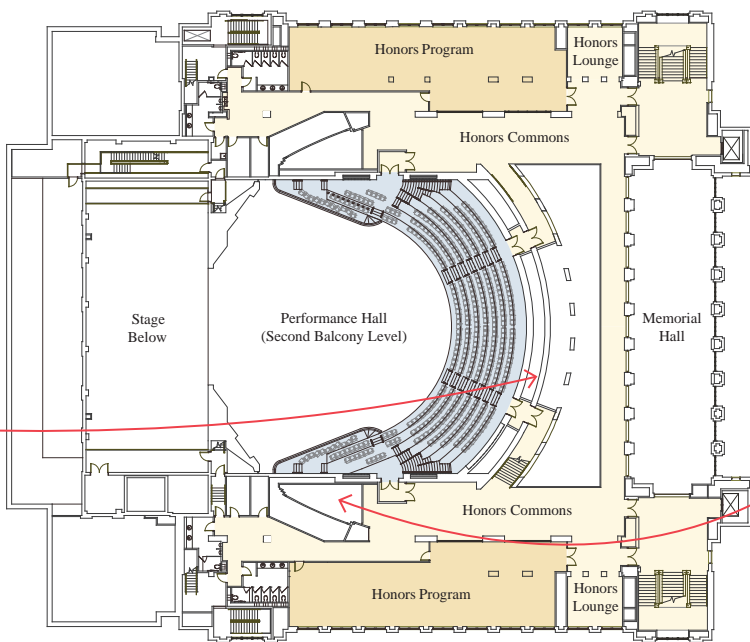
## Preservation Takes Center Stage

The team took pains to preserve and restore many of Northrop's original details, such as the familiar proscenium and the loggia (series of columns) that flanked the stage.

The central arch was carefully removed prior to demolition and six of its original stone medallions were restored for display in the new atrium. To adapt the arch for stage lighting and other theatrical uses, they were recast in lightweight material.

The medallions depict different disciplines at the University. Workers install a new section above.





**Third Level Floor Plan**



This loggia and its twin were originally inside the main theater. Rather than tear them down when the theater walls were reconfigured, they were restored in place near what are now stairways to the new balconies.

# From Opera to Henry Kissinger

Northrop seemed destined for a colorful history even before the first nail was driven.

By Tim Brady

## Alumni Dig Deep to Get It Done

Let's call the early history of Northrop . . . tentative.

Construction was originally scheduled to follow on the heels of Memorial Stadium's construction in 1924, and fund-raising for the two projects was conducted simultaneously. The problem was, when enough money to build the new Gopher gridiron arrived in the coffers of the Greater University Corporation (GUC)—the fundraising group established to oversee the project—enthusiasm for funding the auditorium suddenly waned.

The initial price of the joint venture was a little over \$2 million, with around \$750,000 designated for the stadium and the rest slated for the auditorium. Some 17,000 donors, including alumni, faculty, area businesses, and students, pledged funds for the separate constructions. But when the Gophers debuted at the new Memorial Stadium against Red Grange and the Fighting Illini in the fall of 1924, the GUC was still half a million dollars short for construction of Northrop. One year passed, then two years, then three. Subscribers were not paying their pledges for the second half of the project. With the help and urging of the Alumni Association, Minnesota graduates remained true to their promises, fulfilling them at a rate of 83 percent. But students were not so forthcoming—they were paying at a rate of just 22 percent in 1926. The GUC threatened to take pledgers to court, but in the end, alumni dug a little deeper, and the University's Board of Regents found some money. Together, these additional funds allowed construction to begin on the new auditorium at the head of the Mall—just where Cass Gilbert had envisioned the structure in his plans for the University. The building was completed in 1929.



Northrop under construction in 1928



This steel acoustic shell, installed in 1961, was the first of its kind in the world.

## The Fury about the Sound

Northrop quickly established itself as *the* concert venue in the Twin Cities for great artists touring the country. Soon after it opened, Northrop became home to the Minnesota Orchestra (originally known as the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra). It also housed the famed 40-foot-high Aeolian-Skinner pipe organ, built in the 1930s.

Yet almost from the very beginning there were complaints about Northrop's acoustics. In 1952, Twin Cities architect Winston Close, working as an adviser to the University, hired an acoustical consulting firm from Cambridge, Massachusetts. Consultants advised that a number of sound-sucking materials be removed from the walls and ceiling of the building. All seats were removed and reupholstered, and absorption pads were removed from the ceiling.

Still, the orchestra, artists, and audiences at Northrop demanded more improvements, and eventually a first-of-its-kind-in-the-world steel acoustic shell was built to better direct sound from the stage. Plexiglas panels jutted out over the audience to further enhance the





A crowd gathered to hear Admiral William Halsey in 1945.

music. The shell was removable and could be taken down for performances that demanded the full run of the stage. It debuted at Northrop in October 1961. The Minnesota Orchestra would begin construction on Orchestra Hall less than a dozen years later.

### A Stage for Dignitaries

Since its construction, Northrop has served as the premier gathering place for a variety of campus activities, both within the building and on the terrace without. Its location at the head of the Mall gave it an immediate primacy of place for a host of special outdoor occasions, convocations, and ceremonial events, ranging from Cap-and-Gown Day to visits from dignitaries like Admiral William Halsey.

“Bull” Halsey, Fleet Admiral of the United States Navy in the South Pacific during World War II, came to the University of Minnesota in November 1945, during a nationwide war-bond-selling tour, in the wake of Japan’s surrender to the United States three months earlier. Captain Harold Stassen (’29L.), Halsey’s flag secretary on the U.S.S. Missouri and former governor of Minnesota, accompanied him. Stassen would soon be off to San Francisco, where he served as a delegate and signatory to the conference that established the United Nations.

### The Carnegie Hall of the Midwest

Over the years, Northrop was home to an amazing array of concerts, ballets, lectures, and symposia. Until the Minnesota Orchestra built its own home in downtown Minneapolis, and other venues such as Ordway Hall in St. Paul arrived on the urban landscape, Northrop could legitimately claim its nickname, “the Carnegie Hall of the Midwest.” A “sprung-wood” stage floor added in 1974 enhanced dance performances and raised sightlines for audience members to better enjoy the increasing number of performers who came to Northrop.

A cavalcade of greats appeared on the Northrop stage, ranging from Margaret Mead to Robert Frost, from Henry Kissinger to Bill Cosby. Through the course of its long history, however, no series of entertainments at Northrop was as widely anticipated or highly attended as the annual series of programs known as the Artists Course. Beginning even before Northrop opened in 1929, the Artists Course brought the finest musical talent in the world to Minnesota. The long list of performers is a Who’s Who of 20th century artists, including Paul Robeson, Vladimir Horowitz, Yehudi Menuhin, Igor Stravinsky, Lotte Lehmann, Sergei Rachmaninoff, Van Cliburn, Louis Armstrong, Robert Goulet, the Kingston Trio, Marcel Marceau (for whom acoustics were not a problem), and more.

No performer was more representative of the talent that graced the Northrop stage than world-famous contralto Marian Anderson, who gave 19 concerts there. Her first at Northrop was in 1939 and it was there that she ended her distinguished performing career with a concert in 1964. She was honored after her last performance with a reception that included Governor Karl Rolvaag, University President O. Meredith Wilson, and a slew of other local dignitaries.



Marian Anderson presented 19 concerts at the Northrop.

## Bringing Down the House

The advent of raucous rock concerts coincided with the aging of Northrop—with predictable results. In 1976, a crowd at a Johnny and Edgar Winter concert wreaked havoc on the place, with attendees smashing a box office window, plugging restroom drains, and dragging fire hoses out of their cabinets just because. The next night's concert, featuring The Average White Band, was promptly cancelled and debate flared about banning rock concerts altogether from the auditorium. Fourteen years later, the B-52s came to Northrop and literally brought the house down.

The band started innocently enough, but just before the break, as the group tore into its hit "Love Shack," the balcony began to shake and chunks of plaster began falling from the ceiling. The concert continued with only a few emptied seats. At the start of the second set, lead singer Fred Schneider held up a fist-sized hunk of plaster as fair warning, while another member of the group advised the audience to "dance in your heads."



The B-52s almost brought the house down in 1990.



James Morrill's inauguration as president of the University drew a large audience in 1946.

## Pomp and Circumstance

Northrop has served as the ceremonial heart of the University of Minnesota campus since its construction. The April 1946 inauguration of the eighth University of Minnesota president, James Morrill, prompted a three-day celebration centered around Northrop. With the lean war years behind and a campus suddenly bursting at the seams with new students, academic pomp was given full rein in a

procession up the Mall from Coffman Union to Northrop Auditorium. Students trailed into the hall to hear what Morrill had to say about the future of the U of M. More speeches and endless rounds of dinners and scholarly chitchat followed; the University of Minnesota had crowned a new prexy. Morrill would serve until 1960.

## A Rallying Ground

Just as the Northrop served as the center of institutional ceremony at the University of Minnesota, it was also the center for protest. The plaza outside the front entrance to the building, completed in 1966, made a convenient gathering platform for a variety of demonstrations, teach-ins, and political rallies, particularly during the years of the Vietnam War and Civil Rights protests. A host of speakers, including Eugene McCarthy (M.A. '39), addressed audiences and cameras from the steps of Northrop through these years. The apotheosis of these protest gatherings probably occurred during the student strike of May 1970, when about 6,000 people spread out on the grounds around Northrop to hear speakers lambaste the Nixon administration's actions in Cambodia. ■



Eugene McCarthy spoke at a rally in 1968.

*Tim Brady is a writer living in St. Paul and a regular contributor to Minnesota.*



# An Invitation to Alumni

By Christine Tschida

s Provost Hanson so eloquently recounts on page 18, Northrop memories are powerful.

This spring, the memory making will start anew. Northrop will once again host graduation ceremonies for nearly 2,500 students, who will march proudly across the newly renovated stage to receive their diplomas. But in the weeks between our April 4 grand reopening and the start of graduation season, we hope alumni and the entire community will find Northrop a place to visit every day to experience something illuminating and exciting.

As it has been for much of its long history, Northrop will once again be the place—right in the center of campus—to see some of the best performing artists in the world today. Our gallery will feature exhibitions of visual arts and the new 168-seat theater on the fourth floor will be a venue for film screenings. Our new resident partners—the University Honors Program, the Institute for Advanced Study, and the College of Design Travelers Innovation Lab—will all contribute to the programming in Northrop’s many diverse spaces, realizing our new vision for the intersection of academics and performing arts. They will sponsor speakers, lectures, and symposia on topics as wide ranging as invasive species, the criminal justice system, and ancient Mayan civilization.

Final exams come close on the heels of our grand reopening, so the new student study spaces in six different lounges, paired with good coffee and snack items from our new café, are sure to attract a following and make Northrop a daily campus destination.

I invite alumni to start making Northrop memories once again. The grand reopening Gala is the weekend of April 4 through 6 and features American Ballet Theatre performing *Giselle* with live orchestra. That’s just the beginning! Visit our website at [www.northrop.umn.edu](http://www.northrop.umn.edu) for more details on this and the wide array of events that follow.

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*Christine Tschida is the director of Northrop.*





“The University taught me;  
my mentor got me involved.”  
-Richard Orr, '06

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# MEDELLÍN & MINNESOTA

## PARTNERS IN HUMAN RIGHTS

A unique program at the University of Minnesota is helping shape human rights advocacy in Colombia

BY J. TROUT LOWEN



It's a chilly fall day, but the discussion in University of Minnesota Professor Barbara Frey's graduate seminar on human rights advocacy is rapidly heating up. About a dozen students are clustered around a blackboard dusty with chalk diagrams and leafleted with multicolored sticky notes. The students are trying to map a human rights problem: How does the criminal justice system in Colombia work, and who are the institutional actors responsible for prosecuting human right abuses? Puzzled by the intricacies of the country's legal system, the students turn to Juliana Velez, a 24-year-old exchange student from the Universidad de Antioquia in Medellín, Colombia, for help.

Velez, who earned her law degree in Colombia before coming to the University last fall, is well aware that obtaining justice from the country's courts is not always a straightforward affair, especially when it comes to the poor. So with translation help from a Spanish-speaking student from Mexico, she does her best to answer the students' rapid-fire questions. By the end of the session, Frey's class has a more sophisticated understanding of the Colombian legal system. They also have a better grasp on the laws and legal mechanisms they can use when advocating for people in need—a vital part of the learning process for these students, for whom human rights questions can be a matter of life and death.

Frey is the director of the University's Human Rights Program in the College of Liberal Arts, and these students are participants in a unique partnership between the Human Rights Program, the Law School's Human Rights Center, and four Colombian law schools in the city of Medellín and the surrounding state of Antioquia. Funded by a \$1.25 million grant from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the partnership aims to strengthen Medellín law schools' ability to teach, research, and provide clinical legal representation that promotes international human rights and laws.

It's also intended to improve Colombian citizens' access to justice, especially in historically underserved rural areas ravaged by decades of civil war and illegal drug trafficking. "Ultimately, the purpose of the grant is to provide legal services to vulnerable populations," Frey says, explaining that over the course of the three-year program students and faculty from the University of Minnesota will collaborate with students and faculty at the Universidad de Medellín, Universidad de Antioquia, Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana, and Universidad Católica de Oriente to develop curriculum and faculty expertise, as well as educate students about human rights law.

The University of Minnesota has long been known for its expertise in human rights education and advocacy. Since the late 1980s, the Institute for Global Studies and the Law School have offered graduate and undergraduate courses in human rights law. Frey and Law School Professor David Weissbrodt, who codirects the Antioquia partnership, are widely recognized for their human rights work. Frey spent a decade as director of the Minneapolis-based Advocates for Human



Rights, and has served as director of the University's Human Rights Program since its creation in 2001.

A noted legal scholar, Weissbrodt helped establish the University's online Human Rights Library, a unique repository of more than 60,000 human rights documents in multiple languages. More than 250,000 students, scholars, and activists access the library each month from more than 150 countries. All of this experience, along with the breadth of involvement of University faculty and the Twin Cities Human Rights community, fueled USAID's decision to fund the grant.

Each semester through the summer of 2015, University faculty will conduct workshops and teach courses in Medellín. At the same time, one visiting faculty member and two students from Colombia will spend a semester here, studying and discussing human rights law and practice. The ongoing exchange will benefit everyone involved, Frey says, noting that University faculty "will certainly learn as much as they will teach" and then share that knowledge with students from both countries. "The goal is to help the students (in Colombia) use human rights law more strategically in their cases," Frey explains. "But it's also great for our students because they get to work on real human rights cases, and to understand human

**Opposite: Colombian students Juliana Velez and Martine Palacios with Barbara Frey on the University of Minnesota campus last fall**

**Above: Velez and Palacios talk with a resident on a visit to La Picacha, a barrio near Medellín, in February**

rights law in another context. You really have to work on real-world cases or it becomes the study of human rights from afar."

### **PARTNERING AT A CRITICAL TIME**

In addition to funding the University/Colombia partnership, USAID has also funded partnerships between Colombian law schools and American University and the University of Florida. All three grant-supported programs come at a critical time. The oldest democracy in South America, Colombia has experienced decades of civil war, drug trafficking, and endemic government corruption. Slowly, though, things have been changing for the better. In 2012, for example, the Colombian government initiated peace talks with the National Liberation Army (ELN) and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, better known as the guerilla group FARC. For many, the talks represent the first real opportunity for a peaceful end to the ongoing conflict that has left 220,000 Colombians dead and more than 5.7 million citizens displaced.

Also in 2012, the Colombian government began implementing the Victims and Land Restitution Law, which will return millions of acres of abandoned and stolen land to people forced to flee their homes and farms during violent conflicts between government forces, rebels, and right-wing paramilitary groups. As some measure of peace and stability returns to the country, economic activity and tourism have increased. Medellín is becoming known for its cutting-edge public transportation

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**Above: Velez, Palacios, and other law students from the Universidad de Medellín are assisting residents of La Picacha, pictured here, who are threatened with eviction.**

**Opposite: Palacios and Velez make a presentation on their work in the La Picacha case to a class at the Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana in Medellín.**

rather than for being the home territory of the notorious late drug lord Pablo Escobar. USAID believes that engaging law schools in training students who can represent vulnerable groups and monitor their treatment is vital to the creation of a more civil society.

Juliana Velez agrees. She is heartened that President Juan Manuel Santo wants to negotiate with the guerillas after what has been, for her, a lifetime of war. But she knows Colombia's struggles are far from over. "Some places you can be safe," she explains. "There are public services. The justice system and the courts are functioning and are good. It is not the disordered country it was in the 1990s, but we have places where it is so dangerous, where there is territorial conflict between paramilitaries and criminal bands."

In rural areas, Velez continues, residents continue to suffer violent conflict, forced displacements, illegal drug trafficking, and the more recent scourge of illegal gold mining by criminal and rebel groups seeking to replace cocaine with a new income stream. Land restoration efforts are painfully slow as well. Though they received thousands of claims, the Colombian courts had ordered just 15 restitutions by the end of 2012, and land claimants and the human rights advocates who support them are routinely threatened and killed.

### WORKING TOGETHER FOR CHANGE

Velez knows that human rights advocates, including lawyers, may sometimes be risking their lives to help their clients, but she is committed to improving access to justice for the country's poor.



It's something she learned from her mother. "She is not an activist, but she is a peaceful person all of the time," Velez explains. "This moment in Colombia is important because the government wants to speak about peace."

During their six-week visit to the University, Velez and fellow Colombian student Martine Palacios, 20, worked hard to learn all they could to prepare for the real-life cases they will be handling back home. For Palacios, one of the most helpful things was learning about the clinical legal education component of the U's program. Though law school students in the United States engage in clinical legal education—practicing law hands-on by providing free legal services to the poor while in school—that kind of training doesn't happen in Colombia, where legal education tends to emphasize the technical aspects of the law rather than its application.

Currently, students in Minnesota and Colombia are working jointly on two legal issues. The first involves the court-ordered displacement of residents living in poor barrios along the Picacha River in Medellín, and the second is the drafting of a report to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child calling attention to plight of impoverished girls and displaced families in the Antioquia regions.

The La Picacha case was originally cast as an environmental lawsuit. The river, which flows through Medellín, overflows its banks frequently, destroying slums where the poor live. Some

amicus brief in support of the residents arguing for an alternative relocation plan on human rights grounds. "The University has been helping us see the case's larger human rights perspective," Velez says, noting that the people living in the flood zone don't have adequate housing.

Seeing how their work fits into the larger arena of international human rights is one of the biggest lessons Velez and Palacios have learned. "Here, when you're working with a human rights issue, it's collaborative," Velez says. "I think that's fundamental because when you work in a group you are more strong. You have more strategies, more contacts, more ways to make the problem visible."

### CHANGING LIVES THROUGH ADVOCACY

Like Velez, Palacios, who is halfway through law school at the Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana in Medellín, hopes to use what he learns at the University to better help people back home. Even one person can change things, Palacios says, adding that he was inspired to pursue law by his father, who taught him to think critically and to look at situations from multiple perspectives.

Being exposed to so many new perspectives and ways of thinking about human rights has already had a significant impact on the way Palacios views human rights in his country. For example, in the past he had little sympathy for the FARC. Instead, he favored former Colombian President Alvaro Uribe's policy of "democratic security" that targeted guerilla groups while being supported by billions of dollars in aid.

Although Uribe's democratic security policy did make some parts of Colombia safer, reducing the number of homicides, kidnappings, and terror attacks, it escalated the human rights crisis. Like many others in Colombia, Palacios says he believed the harsh measures were necessary to combat the guerillas and that he didn't fully understand the negative impact of Uribe's policy. Looking back with the benefit of his human rights training, he no longer views the guerillas as the enemy.

Such a broad collaboration between law schools is unprecedented, not just in Colombia but in the United States as well, Frey says. That collaboration has been especially important for Palacios. He is the only law student in his school interested in working on the La Picacha case; many of his peers have never even been to the court building in Medellín because it's located in a dangerous area of the city. Many of his classmates graduate without ever having attended a legal hearing, he says.

Working on La Picacha with students from the Universidad de Antioquia has made the law come alive, Palacios says. "Before, I know all the rules about the process, but when you see and meet the people, have the practical experience, it is very different," he says. "This has changed my life, my way to see the world, my way to see the law." ■

*J. Trout Lowen (B.A. '89) is a Minneapolis-based writer and editor.*



residents have died in the flooding. The Medellín government wants to build dams or levies to control the river and stop the flooding, and the local court has ordered the forced eviction and relocation of nearly 200 families living in the flood zone.

Students from the Universidad de Medellín have filed a lawsuit on behalf of the affected families to stop the evictions because the government's relocation plans put residents in a dangerous area controlled by a rival criminal gang. Working with Velez and Palacios, University law students have drafted an



Kelly Roysland

## Still At Home in the Barn

**C**oaching is the family business for Kelly Roysland (B.S. '07, M.Ed. '09). Berniece Carlin, her maternal grandmother, started the girls' volleyball team at Fosston (Minnesota) High School in the early days of Title IX, the federal law passed in 1972 that mandates gender equity in education. Roysland's parents, Mike and Kim, also coached basketball and volleyball at Fosston High; it was from there that Mike advanced to his current position as women's basketball coach at the University of Minnesota, Crookston. So it's no surprise that Kelly's career path opened as clearly as a drive to the basket.

A former Gopher hoops standout and captain who called the Barn home for four years, including on coach Pam Borton's 2004 Final Four team, Roysland is now in her fourth season as a Gopher assistant coach. She works with the guards and is known for her solid recruiting and communication skills.

"I always said I'd be a teacher and coach," she says. "I really felt like, in a sense, that's what I was given the ability to do—teach kids, mentor kids, help them become better basketball players and better individuals. I just felt like it was a natural fit for me."

Roysland, 29, returned to the U in 2010 after two seasons as an assistant coach at North Dakota State University. Borton felt Roysland's familiarity with Minnesota's program trumped her limited coaching experience. "She knows me better than anybody," Borton says. "She knows the system. She knows how we want things taught. I trust her with everything we

do within the program. I don't have to be looking over her shoulder on the court seeing if she's doing all the right things teaching the guards."

As a recruiter, Borton says Roysland played a critical role in landing incoming freshman Carlie Wagner of New Richland-Hartland-Ellendale-Geneva, Minnesota's top high school player, as well as Gopher sophomore guard Shayne Mullaney.

"I think she really helped us bring our recruiting to a different level, because she knows the type of players that I want to coach, and the type of players that are going to be successful in the Big Ten," Borton says.

Junior All-Big Ten guard Rachel Banham grew up watching Roysland play and is thrilled to be learning from her. "She's been there, so she gets it," Banham says. "If I'm frustrated with something, and I don't think the other coaches get it as much, she'll say, 'I know,' and she'll give me tips, since she's been in that position."

Borton sees a head coaching job in Roysland's future, especially after watching how she demands more of players this season. "She's never done that before," Borton says. "She's never been comfortable being the hammer, the one who's going to come down on the kids. You have to be able to do that as a head coach."

Mike Roysland, meanwhile, eagerly anticipates another head coach in the family. "I think she'll be fantastic," he says.

—Pat Borzi

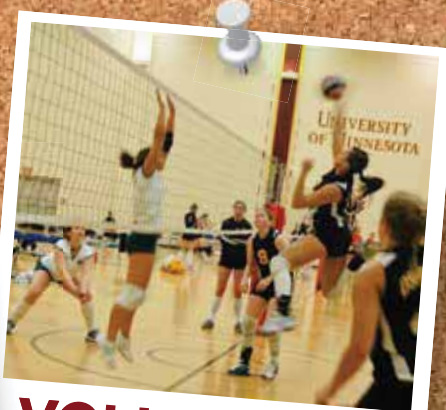


To listen to an interview with Kelly Roysland, go to [gophersportsupdate.com/2013/06/18](http://gophersportsupdate.com/2013/06/18).

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Clara Adams-Ender

### Marching On

Since retiring from the Army in 1993, Clara Adams-Ender (M.S. '69) has, among other things, launched Caring About People With Enthusiasm, Inc., a management consulting business; started a foundation to help low-income students pay for their education; and mentored young military officers and many others. A sharecropper's daughter who rose through the ranks to become a brigadier general during her 34-year military career, Adams-Ender is spunky and plainspoken.

"Don't be driven by what other people think about you because it's what you think of yourself that really counts," she draws. "You know, you can't go changing every time somebody's got an opinion or you won't know who you are or where you're

going." It's a sentiment that wasn't always easy to hold tight to, says Adams-Ender, 74.

Born in 1939 in Willow Springs, North Carolina, Adams-Ender was the fourth of Caretha Bell Sap and Otha Leach's 10 children. The entire family helped out with the chores on the tobacco farm they ran on 30 acres owned by a local white landowner. There was never enough money, she remembers. But there was always plenty of love and encouragement from both parents, who told each of their children they were somebody. "They said we shouldn't listen to anyone who told us different," Adams-Ender says.

Even though her mother and father finished only sixth and third grades, respectively, they were fiercely devoted to education. "They always told us, 'You need to go to college because if you have a college education, nobody can ever take

that away from you,'" she recalls. Always a good student, Adams-Ender thought she might become a lawyer. But she did as her father asked and enrolled at nearby North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (NC A&T) to pursue a nursing degree, a common choice for women at that time.

While at NC A&T, Adams-Ender experienced some of her proudest moments when she joined classmates for sit-ins that ended the Greensboro Woolworth's segregationist policy of denying service to black patrons at the lunch counter. She also relieved her parents of the financial burden of college by enlisting in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, which paid for her last two years at NC A&T in return for three years of service after she graduated in 1961.

That decision marked the start of a career during which Adams-Ender served

around the world, earned two master's degrees, and made history as a woman and an African American. She was the first woman in Army history to be awarded an Expert Medical Field Badge and a promotion to brigadier general in 1987.

The recipient of numerous awards, Adams-Ender was thrilled to make the short trip into Washington, D.C. from her home in Lake Ridge, Virginia, last October to be recognized as a Living Legend by the American Academy of Nursing, one of nursing's highest honors. "We say a lot of nice things about people when they're gone, but being recognized by my peers while I'm still living, well, that was one of the most joyous occasions of my life," she says.

—Meleah Maynard

## Lights, Camera, Action

Like many novelists, Peter Geye (B.A. '00) secretly harbored a dream that someday one of his books would get made into a movie. But it was a dream and nothing more. So last year, when he was approached by Hello! Films, a Hollywood-based production company, about optioning film rights to his first novel, *Safe from the Sea*, Geye was caught off guard.

"It felt surreal," he says. "Ever since the novel was published [in 2011], people who are close to me were always ribbing me, saying, 'When is it going to get made into a movie?' I told myself to never buy into that. But then it happened. And it caught me by surprise."

The movie deal coincided with the sale of Geye's second novel, *The Lighthouse Road*, to Unbridled Books, publisher of *Safe from the Sea*. For a novelist, such moments of professional success are often spaced years apart, so Geye felt fortunate to be able to focus his attention on another major project.

"I'd found out a week earlier about the movie and I felt giddy and distracted," Geye says, explaining that his contract gives him "zero creative control" over the finished screenplay. "But as soon as I found out that Unbridled was interested in publishing my second book, it became the bigger deal to me, and I think that was a good thing. It was a relief that I could be more excited about publishing a second book than fixated on a movie deal."

This shift of focus felt healthy, Geye explains, because movie deals are just deals, not actual movies. For every book



Peter Geye

that makes it to the silver screen, hundreds of optioned novels fester in production company offices.

But evidence is mounting that *Safe from the Sea*, the story of a troubled father-son relationship set on Minnesota's North Shore, will actually make it to theaters. This fall, the *Duluth News Tribune* reported that filmmakers were scouting locations in the region, and Hello! Films producer Lenny Beckerman was quoted saying that he plans to begin shooting the film there in April.

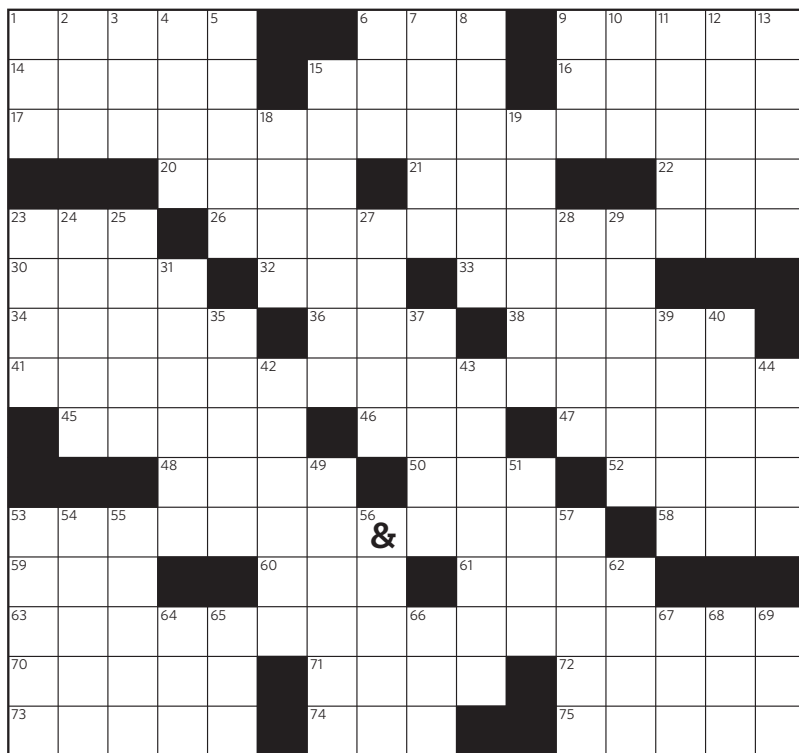
These days, Geye has yet another distraction: He's at work on his third novel, a sequel of sorts, to *The Lighthouse Road*, also set on the North Shore. During daytime hours in his family's southwest Minneapolis home, the proud Gopher—"I love that place like a kid loves Christmas," he says about the University—also focuses on what he calls his "real job," as a stay-at-home dad of three children, ages 8, 6, and 4.

As for Tinseltown dreams, Geye is working on a laissez-faire attitude. "We'll see what happens," he says. "There is always the outside chance that it won't end up happening, but signs point to it actually getting done."

—Andy Steiner

## Minnesota Mergers & Makeovers

By George Barany and Deane Morrison



### ACROSS

- 1 French river to the English Channel
- 6 Green govt. grp. since middle of Nixon admin.
- 9 Encouraged, with "on"
- 14 *A Prairie Home Companion* will be at Northrop on the 26th of this month in 2014
- 15 Sports legend Musial (baseball) or Smith (tennis)
- 16 Cuban poet-patriot José
- 17 East Bank landmark with some new wings
- 20 Underworld figure
- 21 Surname shared by U of M Regents Professor Emeritus Benjamin and an operatic slave girl
- 22 End of a block?
- 23 "Gross! Don't tell me any more!"
- 26 Expansion of the old sport activity building
- 30 Arthur Marx's instrument
- 32 Noon, to Nero
- 33 Concertmistress's chance to shine
- 34 Not quite right
- 36 Nancy, in Nancy
- 38 Oil gland secretion
- 41 Corridor that keeps track of 63-Across?
- 45 Journalist Alexander
- 46 Sign of a B'way hit
- 47 Brit who sang of Benny (with help from Bernie)
- 48 "Let's see now, where \_\_\_?"
- 50 Ear: Prefix
- 52 It's 1 for 90°
- 53 Related fields housed in bldg. opening in 2014
- 58 Slalom starting point?
- 59 Palindromic "War on Poverty" agcy.
- 60 Pound sound
- 61 Organize alphabetically, say
- 63 See 41-Across
- 70 Chloride or carbonate, e.g.
- 71 Ultimatum word
- 72 Emmy winner (on her 19th try) Susan
- 73 Odometer button
- 74 Illumination source that is replacing the incandescent bulb
- 75 Piggens

### DOWN

- 1 Matched in poker
- 2 Unlock, poetically
- 3 Med. viewing technique that's superstrong at the U
- 4 Catchall category: Abbr.
- 5 Violinist Misha or trumpeter Ziggy
- 6 Greek vowel
- 7 "Ici on \_\_\_ français"
- 8 Class clown's capers
- 9 Aussie bird that will never be an airline mascot
- 10 Ethane, e.g.
- 11 Gatsby description
- 12 Chopin composition, e.g.
- 13 Two identical molecules linked together
- 15 Common gerund in Minnesota weather reports
- 18 Pinnacle
- 19 Lubricating membrane
- 23 Minnesota may have one in January
- 24 Cass and Michelle, famously
- 25 "Fighting" Gopher hockey rival
- 27 Laughfests
- 28 Pupil, in Picardie
- 29 John Bardeen won two of these after leaving the U of M faculty
- 31 Dismissive outbursts
- 35 Where Moses took two tablets
- 37 Knucklehead
- 39 Cause a knot to be not
- 40 Particles of interest in Tate Lab
- 42 Sprint Cup org.
- 43 Bland quality
- 44 Chemical endings signifying double bonds
- 49 Children of \_\_\_ (antithesis of Jacob)
- 51 \_\_\_ before (at the latest)
- 53 \_\_\_ vortex (antithesis of 23-Down)
- 54 "Die Lorelei" poet Heinrich
- 55 Bear and Berra
- 56 Rank \_\_\_
- 57 They put a degree candidate on the defensive
- 62 Threaded fastener
- 64 Garden tool
- 65 Wile E. Coyote's undoing, often
- 66 \_\_\_: *My Problem Child* (memoir by Swiss chemist Albert Hoffmann, who lived to age 102)
- 67 Biol. or chem., e.g.
- 68 Surface for Ridder and Mariucci
- 69 Frank McCourt memoir

*George Barany is a professor of chemistry at the University of Minnesota and Deane Morrison is an editor and science writer in the Office of University Relations.*



Answers to the Gopher Crossword appear on page 49. To solve this puzzle online, go to [www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/crossword\\_spring14](http://www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/crossword_spring14).



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## The Gold Rose in Texas

Thousands of Gophers headed south to Houston, Texas, on December 27 for the Texas Bowl, featuring the Gophers taking on the Syracuse Orange at Reliant Stadium. The Gophers earned the bowl appearance following an 8-4 regular season that included four consecutive Big Ten conference victories. The Gophers fell to the Orange 21-17. Pregame festivities pictured here included the 'Sota Social, hosted by the Alumni Association at the Westin Galleria.



**Top:** Fans exude excitement for the bowl game upon arrival in Houston.

**Above:** Members of the Spirit Squad welcome fans as they enter the 'Sota Social.

**Right:** Goldy teaches fan Larry McAlpin that you can never have enough maroon and gold.

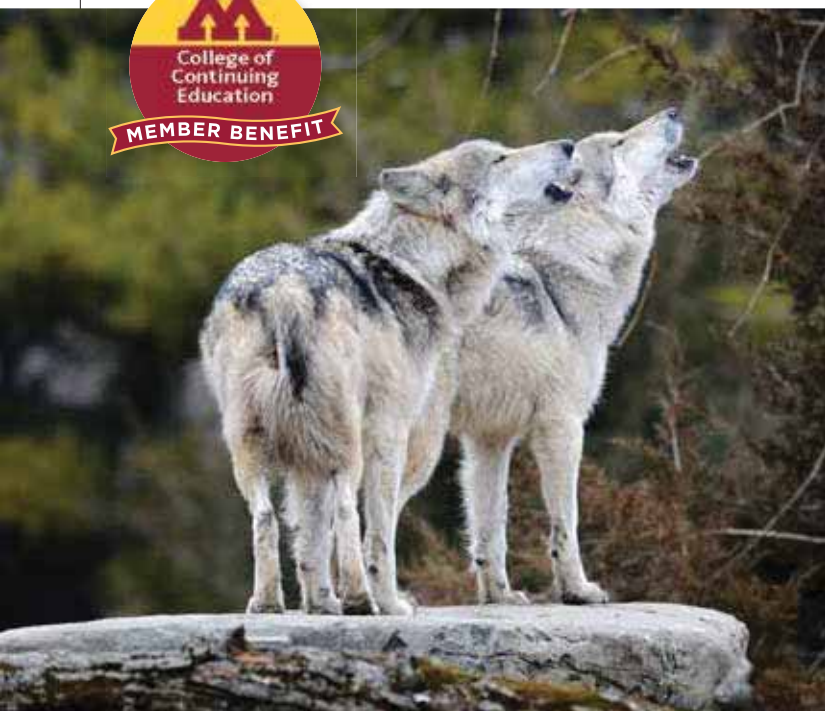


**Above:** Gopher graduate assistant Mike Sherels with daughter Valerie, who was born during last year's visit to the Texas Bowl.

**Left:** University President Eric Kaler shows his good luck charm for staying a leg up on Syracuse.



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Noted wolf researcher L. David Mech, vice chair of the International Wolf Center in Ely, Minnesota, will lead the short course Conservation and Controversy: The Wolf in Minnesota as part of the University of Minnesota's College of Continuing Education Learning Life programming. The course will examine the wolf's social behavior, its placement on the Federal Endangered Species List, its eventual recovery in several states, and its delisting and subsequent state management.

The course will be held April 23 and 30 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Continuing Education and Conference Center at 1890 Buford Avenue in St. Paul. Alumni Association members receive a 10 percent discount on all Learning Life offerings.

Learn more at [www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/learninglife](http://www.MinnesotaAlumni.org/learninglife).

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### CZECH CARTOON ON STAGE

The University Opera Theatre will present Leoš Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen* (*The Adventures of Vixen Sharp Ears*) April 10 through 13 at Ted Mann Concert Hall. Inspired by a Czech newspaper comic strip in the 1920s, Janáček transformed the comedic cartoon into a philosophical reflection on life in *The Cunning Little Vixen*. The dance-opera integrates themes of nature, the life cycle, and the spiritual side of life in exquisitely enchanting music, making it accessible to all ages.

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### Answers to the Gopher Crossword on page 44

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A	P	R	I	L		S	T	A	N		M	A	R	T	I		
W	E	I	S	M	A	N	A	R	T	M		M	U	S	E	U	M
			C	A	P	O		L	I	U				A	D	E	
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			S	H	A	N	A		S	R	O	E	L	T	O	N	
			W	A	S	I		O	T	O		S	I	N	E		
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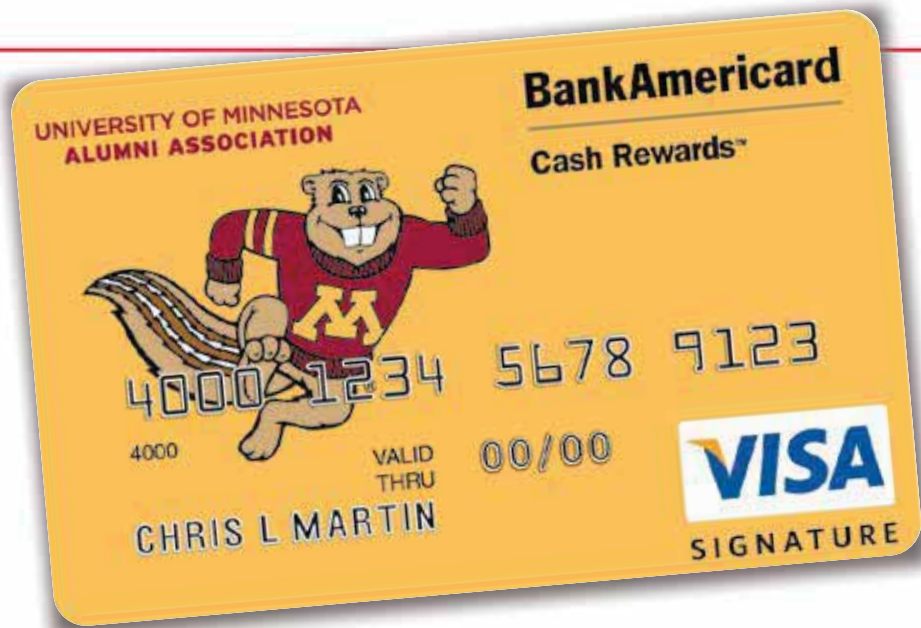
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The University of Minnesota's rowing team maneuvers during practice on the Mississippi River.

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