

FALL 2019

*Memories are all we really own.*  
– Elias Lieberman, Class of 1900



# THE NEWSLETTER

## DEWITT CLINTON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

www.dewittclintonalumni.com

DWCAumni@aol.com

OCTOBER 25, 2019, THE SECOND ANNUAL INDUCTION INTO THE DEWITT CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL

## FACULTY HALL OF HONOR



Honored Retired Faculty: (from left) Robert Amlin '62, James A. Garvey III, Murray Hyman, George Kanganis '61, Charles Horowitz, Elizabeth Daly, Rose Kelly McTague, Eugene Weissman, Iris Levine, Ronald Mass, Stanley Sprung '65, John Bergmann, Dennis Brennan, Arthur Backman. Marked Absent: Noriberto Blanco, Robert DiLorenzo, Deborah Eiseman, David Feder, Audrey Greenblatt, Neil Harrow '55, Fred W. Kelly, Phyllis McCabe, Noreen O'Rourke, William Palace, Tajdatt Poonai, Harry Pottok.

The second annual induction into the DeWitt Clinton High School Faculty Hall of Honor was held in the school auditorium on October 25, 2019. Twenty-six retired faculty members (see above) were honored for their years of dedication to our school and its students.

Each inductee was introduced with a brief biography and then asked to address the assembly. Family members

and guests joined in extended applause for each inductee as did Principal Pierre Orbe and Alumni President John Barbarette, present-day faculty, other staff members and students, and former students.

Our inductees will inspire present and future faculties, who in time will receive the same recognition.

(See pages 6-7)

P. 2 Reports: Alumni President, Principal  
P. 3 The Beautiful Castle on the Parkway  
P. 4 DWC's Big Garden; Srs.-Frosh Bond  
P. 5 Sydney Valerio '99: True to DWC

P. 6-7 Faculty Hall of Honor Induction  
Pp. 8-9 Alumni News; Michael Blake '00  
P. 10 Books by or about Clintonites  
P. 11 In Memoriam; Alumni Notes

Pp. 12-13 May 2019 Alumni Dinner Forms  
P. 14 Preview of the DWC Magazine 2020  
P. 15 Dues Form for 2020  
P. 16 Taking an Important Part of DWC with You



dewittclintonalumni.com

- ◆ Stay current with the DeWitt Clinton Community.
- ◆ Download this *Newsletter* in color.
- ◆ Download the 64-page booklet *DWCHS Notable Alumni*, 2020 edition coming in January.

## John Barbarette '64, DWC Alumni Association President



### PRESIDENT

John Barbarette '64

### VICE PRESIDENTS

Robert Esnard '56  
 Gilbert Walton '77  
 Sydney Valerio '99  
 Kishan Singh '09

### SECRETARY

Orlando Rao '73

### TREASURER

Amy Melendez '90

### BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Reginald Grier '46  
 Marc Siegel '64  
 Joel Weisvogel '69  
 Joseph Maurice '73  
 Hon. Rolando T. Acosta '75  
 Cedric Fergus '78  
 Jose Santos '81  
 Jannie Rosado '90  
 Natasha Van-Reil '92  
 Ivette Terry '95  
 KaDarra Lowe '02  
 Ramon Reeves '03

### PHOTOGRAPHER

Henry "O" Ordosgoitia '77

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Gerard Pelisson Hon. '03

### PRINCIPAL

Pierre Orbe



As we go further into the 2019-2020 school year and approach the Thanksgiving Day season, our alumni have a lot to be thankful for.

The class of 2019 had the highest graduation rate in many years. Their success supports our belief that Clinton is on its way to becoming, once again, a School of Excellence. We are also thankful for the dedication and determination of Principal Orbe and his committed staff.

On Friday, October 25, the Alumni Association hosted the Second Annual DeWitt Clinton High School Faculty Hall of Honor Induction. Along with the honorees, there were family and friends as well as other teachers, past and present. It was heartwarming to hear honorees tell us how much being a teacher at Clinton meant to them. What a great afternoon for all! I would like to thank our alumni historian and editor-in-chief of the Alumni Newsletter and the inspiration for the Faculty Hall of Honor, Gerard Pelisson. Gerard gives so much of his time and expertise, all for the love of Clinton. I would also like to thank Assistant Principal Steven Deep for his help in making this day a huge success.

The Alumni Association is dedicated to preserving Clinton tradition as well as being part of its future success. In order for Clinton to succeed, once again we need all of your support. The Alumni Association supports all in-school activities from athletics to the arts, the ROTC, and all worthy programs our students create. We need each of you to reach out to any of your classmates and invite them to join the Association. I would also ask that you attend the All-Class Alumni Reunion Dinner on May 21, 2020. If you cannot attend, please consider taking an journal ad or making a contribution to one of our programs. A lot of work and dedication has gone into creating our newsletter so we hope you enjoy reading it.

## Pierre Orbe, DWC High School Principal



This year we are pleased to announce that despite the loss of space, we continue to focus on our larger goals to ensure all students go to college or have a career pathway. Our graduation goal target is 85%. We are expecting that out of our 258 graduates, that at least 50% of these students achieve acceptance and attend four year colleges. We are proud to announce that three seniors have become QuestBridge finalists and will be matched to top 20 universities nationwide with full tuition paid.

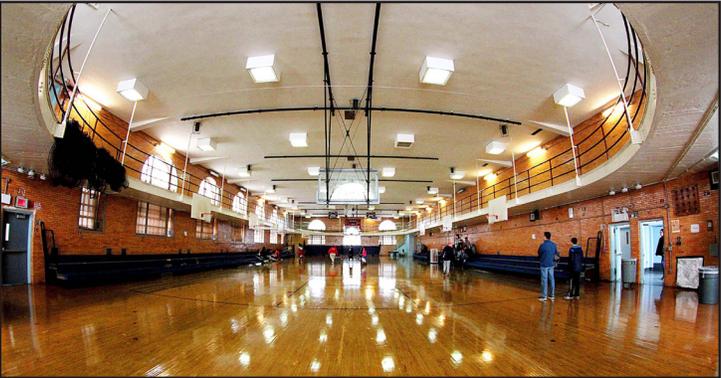
To ensure that we continue to shift our culture to one that not only graduates 85% of its students, but also ensures these students attend college, we have tapped into a very powerful resource by the name of Naviance. Description: "Naviance is an American college and career readiness software provider that partners with high schools and other K-12 institutions to provide students with college planning and career assessment tools." As its Web site states, it is a web-based software that allows students to develop a profile based on their average and test scores. We have already begun to use this program with students. They are asked to complete a survey that matches them to colleges and careers based on their report card average. The goal is that students reflect on their report card efforts and how many or few opportunities they have available based on this work. We will also use this to understand what careers students are interested in and help those who are most disconnected from the education process.

We hope that in the years to come that I will be able to report that not only is our graduation rate high, but that our success follows our students into college. This will ensure that the legacy of DWC continues... "ever to thee... fairest of high schools."

Thank you to all alumni who have supported our school through all the difficult times. With a little luck and a lot of hard work, DWC will be just as strong as any of the best schools.

Worth All the Support  
YOU Can Give It.  
See pages 5 & 15

# THE CASTLE ON THE PARKWAY



Download the magnificent **DWC** MAGAZINE 2020 at <https://www.dewittclintonalumni.com/>

## The Garden (the Farm, Really) on the Parkway



This harvest season marked ten years of bringing garden joy and community to DeWitt Clinton High School Campus. Oh, yes, and bringing fruits and vegetables too. Many people and groups have contributed to the success of the garden, but the loudest cheers have to go to former English teacher Ray Pultinas (photo to the left). He has been the sun, water, rain, air and inspiration that took a seedling of an idea and turned it into DWC's Garden of Eden. He is proof that one person can make a difference.

## A Senior-Freshman Picnic: What a Great Idea!



October 25, 2019:



The senior class welcomed the freshman class with a picnic. The freshmen had a month of questions about everything connected with Clinton. The seniors eased the anxiety of the newcomers with all kinds of advice and whom to see for particular issues. A few shared games also helped the cause.

## Why I Stay True to DeWitt Clinton High School

By Sydney Valerio '99,  
Vice President, DWC Alumni Association

In the May 1963 edition of *Life* magazine, James Baldwin is quoted saying, “You think your pain and your heartbreak are unprecedented in the history of the world, but then you read.” In the decades that have followed my graduation from DeWitt Clinton High School, I have read/learned about different school systems and communities whose legacy and history pale in comparison to our alma mater.

DWC is anchored in my mind as my home. As a NYC kid, I learned its motto “*Sine Labore Nihil*—Without Work Nothing” and now as a NYC adult and an educator, I know that the future of DWC depends on the hard work of the entire DWC Community. Participation in the DeWitt Clinton Alumni Association has always been the best way for alumni to show support for their alma mater. If you recently graduated, I invite you to join the Alumni Association (check it out on page 15). Your membership in the Association is how you can give back to and preserve a place that has championed our own educational and personal development and will do the same for future generations.

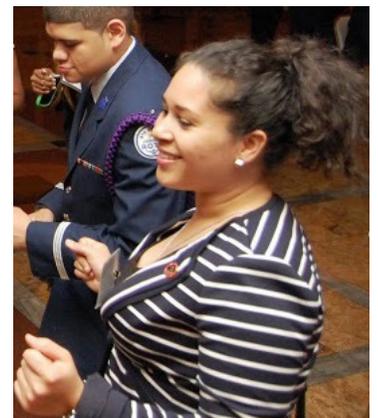
When I attend the monthly meetings of the alumni board, I enter a space whose welcome mat requires me to reflect on where my footsteps have travelled since I graduated in 1999. When we spoke of the year 2020 during my days as a 90s kid at DWC, we envisioned a society known to the *Jetsons*. It included so much of what we see today: robots that clean for us, devices that allow us to speak via a screen, and people who are genetically modified so as to avoid developing certain diseases. As 90s kids, we were the first part of the millennial generation that experienced a human analog-based world before it became highly digitized. That networking and its opportunities to bond is probably the main reason my peers and older generations continuously attend alumni events.

Upon graduating from Clinton, I attended Pace University and quickly learned how much I wanted to serve my community as an educator. During my junior year in college, 9/11 occurred. For many of us, this national tragedy motivated us to become educators, social workers, politicians, engineers and entrepreneurs. Many also joined the armed forces to serve our country for the decade of wars ahead. Some of us also began to form our own families. As NYC kids entering adulthood, we had to come to terms with deciding to leave a gentrifying New York City or to stay in the communities that raised us. When the ten-year mark of having graduated from Clinton arrived, I had already formed a family, had already become an educator and professor & had naturally decided to join the Alumni Association in order to support the school and galvanize my peers into showing up for our alma mater.

As a graduate student at Columbia University, I learned first hand about why the opening decade of the 2000s was a rough moment in education both city-wide and nationally. At that time, Clinton, like all the major public high schools of the Bronx, was facing a changing and gentrifying city. At that time, morale in the educational profession was low and this was due in

part to the city’s efforts to break up large schools, along with federal mandates that underfunded them and brought more bureaucratic red tape to curriculum development and teacher evaluation. Our alma mater faced a near complete shutdown, which motivated many of us to show up in its defense. Today, hundreds of alumni still show up for DWC by attending sporting events, paying membership dues and attending the annual alumni dinner in May. It is still a school we should be proud of. It has the largest hydroponic farm in the country and has a beautifully maintained James Baldwin Garden managed by my former English teacher Mr. Pultinas. As a writer, it doesn’t escape me how poetic it is that DWC is planting, growing, and developing in multiple ways that can be seen now and in many more ways in the decades ahead. This is a cause worthy of our support. No one wants to say, “I went to Clinton, but it doesn't exist anymore.”

My involvement in the Alumni Association has provided a unique look into what happens at the school. As a parent, I am glad to see my own daughters walk through Clinton’s halls. My oldest played for the Flag Football team & made her own marks and records as its quarterback. My youngest daughter currently plays for the softball team. The sports teams are very active and led by coaches who bleed Red & Black, many of whom are DWC graduates. Every game I attend reminds me of how much Clinton is my backyard and a place for my own family to feel like it’s our home. As noted in Baldwin’s words, it’s the part of our lives that we come to see as a gem, a place worth honoring, supporting and preserving. Join our Alumni Association and continue to help Clinton thrive and grow.



Clockwise (top): student cheerleader; early training for daughters to be cheerleaders; dancing away at an Alumni Dinner.

October 25, 2019

The Second Annual Induction Ceremony into the  
DeWitt Clinton High School  
Faculty Hall of Honor



October 25, 2019 Inductees

<b>Robert Amlin '62</b> English Teacher, Dean, Coach 1977-2002	<b>Deborah Eiseman</b> Special Education Teacher 1983-2008	<b>George C. Kanganis '61</b> Economics-History Teacher/Asst. Chair 1967-2004	<b>William Palace</b> ESL Teacher, Dean of Students 1965-1994
<b>Arthur Backman</b> Health Education Teacher, Coach 1958-1991	<b>David Feder</b> Mathematics Teacher, Math Team Adv. 1975-2002	<b>Fred W. Kelly</b> Band Director, Music Teacher 1977-2001	<b>Tagdatt Poonai</b> Mathematics Teacher 1983-2007
<b>John Bergmann</b> Social Studies Teacher, Dean, Coach 1975-2002	<b>James A. Garvey III</b> Social Studies Teacher, Mock Trial Adv. 1967-2004	<b>Iris Levine</b> English Teacher, Dean, Teacher Mentor 1983-2004, 2007-2008	<b>Harry Pottok</b> Business Education Teacher 1966-1982, 1986-1997
<b>Noriberto Blanco</b> Social Studies Teacher, COSA 1983-2011	<b>Audrey Greenblatt</b> Librarian 1973-1993	<b>Ronald Maas</b> Math Teacher, Computer Data Mgr. 1969-2002	<b>Stanley Sprung '65</b> Mathematics Teacher, Dean 1969-2003
<b>Dennis Brennan</b> Health Education Teacher, Coach 1975-1995	<b>Neil Harrow '55</b> Guidance Counselor 1968-1994	<b>Phyllis McCabe</b> English Teacher, MACY Honors Coord. 1983-2007	<b>Eugene Weissman</b> Mathematics Teacher 1969-1997
<b>Elizabeth Daly</b> Business Education Teacher, Dean 1977-2007	<b>Charles Horowitz</b> Social Studies Teacher 1967-2002	<b>Rose Kelly McTague</b> English Teacher / AP Supervision 1969-2008	
<b>Robert W. DiLorenzo</b> Social Studies Teacher, Dean, Coach 1970-1976, 1978-1980, 1980-2004	<b>Murray Hyman</b> Science Teacher 1966-1983, 1984-2004	<b>Noreen O'Rourke</b> Mathematics Teacher, Programming 1965-1985	




Honoring faculty members with twenty years or more of service to DeWitt Clinton High School, and thankful to every faculty member who created and advanced the Clinton spirit since 1897.

## DEWITT CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY HALL OF HONOR

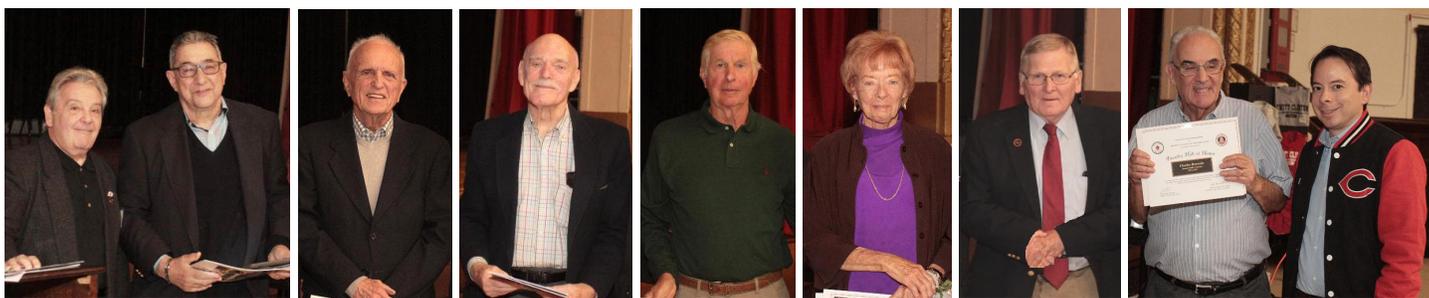
We mingled dreams with drab realities,  
Our teen-age shacks with palaces of time  
Rejecting easy doubt and doubtful ease  
When guides, beloved teachers, bade us climb  
Envisioned heights from which at their command  
With joyous eyes we glimpsed the promised land.

— Excerpt from Salute to DeWitt Clinton (1897 to the Present), a poem by Elias Lieberman, who had been a student on opening day in 1897 and a member of the first graduating class of 1900. Lieberman became a New York City Public Schools teacher, the first principal of Thomas Jefferson High School in Brooklyn, and a well-respected poet, whose most celebrated work is "I Am American," written in 1914 and set to music in 2001. The poem quoted above, written in 1968, reflects on the importance of the Clinton faculty in Lieberman's education and life. His first faculty was the Opening Day Faculty on September 12, 1897.




The Faculty Hall of Honor, inaugurated on October 25, 2018. Pierre Orbe, Principal, DeWitt Clinton High School; John Barbarette '64, President, DeWitt Clinton Alumni Association; Jose "Pepe" Figueroa '68, Major Contributor

## Presentation of Individual Certificates of Induction



(From left) John Barbarette '64, Robert Amlin '62, Arthur Backman, John Bergmann, Dennis Brennan, Elizabeth Daly, James Garvey, Charles Horowitz, Pierre Orbe



(From left) John Barbarette '64, Murray Hyman, George Kanganis '61, Iris Levine, Ronald Mass, Rose Kelly McTague, Stanley Sprung '65, Eugene Weissman, Pierre Orbe.



Emcee Gerard Pelisson



Barbara Chafetz, 2018 inductee, spoke on behalf of 2019 inductee Audrey Greenblatt

On October 25, 2019, the second annual induction ceremony into the DeWitt Clinton High School Faculty Hall of Honor was held in the school auditorium. The Color Guard presented the colors and members of the chorus sang the national anthem. Principal Pierre Orbe gave the inductees and their guests a report on the major academic gains the school has achieved in the past year, including a large increase in the graduation rate. Alumni president John Barbarette '64, in welcoming everyone, pointed out that he and some of the inductees were Clinton students around the same time. Retired teacher Gerard Pelisson paid tribute to recently deceased faculty members and to José "Pepe" Figueroa '68, whose generous gift allowed a 45-year-old dream to honor retired educators to become a reality.

Of the twenty-six inductees, twelve could not attend. (See "Marked Absent" under the front page photo.) The fourteen inductees present were introduced individually by Mr. Pelisson with a biographical sketch. Each honoree was presented with a Certificate of Induction, photographed with Principal Orbe and President Barbarette '64, and asked to address the assembly with remembrances of the good old days at Clinton. As many a tear fell, it was evident that all the inductees were cherishing the moment and the company of former colleagues. But just as the festivities were to end, a former student asked if he could speak. Jonathan Asher and David Refkin, both class of 1975, had flown in from the Midwest that very morning to honor their former teachers, in particular, James Garvey and Charles Horowitz. It was Jonathan who asked to speak. His words were magic. He spoke of his great love of Clinton and his admiration for his teachers. His words were the final proof of the importance of the Faculty Hall of Honor. (GJP)



Jonathan Asher

## Gathering Before the Induction



Inductee Artie Backman about to enjoy lunch.



Inductee Betty Daly flanked by daughter Mary Colleen Coffey (l) and granddaughter Ashling Coffey (r).



Inductee Murray Hyman, with daughter Julie Hyman

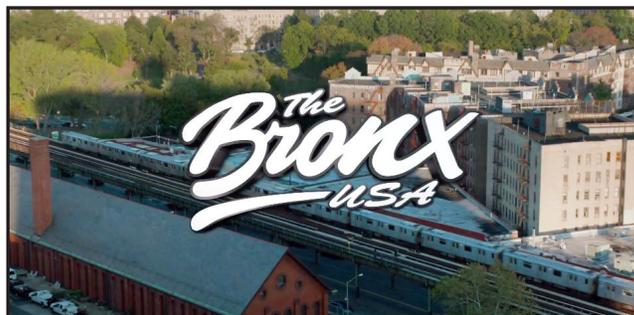


Inductees Eugene Weissman and Jim Garvey.

## Alumni News



**George Shapiro '49** cannot get the Bronx out of his head. The famed *Seinfeld* TV series co-executive producer has returned to producing, this time a documentary, *The Bronx, USA*. HBO aired the premiere on Oct 30. Shapiro gives DWC a good representation in the film. Clinton students are interviewed, and so are many prominent Bronxites, such as Colin Powell and Robert Klein '58.



**Nathaniel "Nate" Archibald '66**, NBA Hall of Famer, was the guest of honor at a reception held on September 18 at the Museum of the City of New York on Fifth Avenue and 103rd Street. The reception offered a preview of an upcoming exhibit CITY/GAME: BASKETBALL IN NEW YORK. The exhibit will open in February 2020 and will feature basketball stars of Clinton's past along with many others from private and public schools and colleges and professional teams. At the reception, Nate was interviewed by sports journalist Bill Rhoden. Snippets of documentaries about Nate were shown and that, of course, meant that everyone present got a taste of life on the castle on the parkway. Nate used the opportunity, as he did at the Clinton ceremony in September 2018, to discuss his approach to bringing the best out of youngsters. Yes, he would want them to be good athletes if that is what they want to do. But his key purpose to help youngsters to develop all the skills that will enable them to be productive, good citizens.



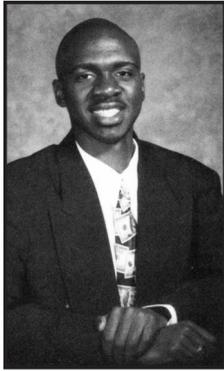
**Daniel Quintero '78** rose to the podium on September 28, 2018 to open the 11th Annual Day for Kids Festival in the Bronx. The celebration was part of the good work that the Kips Bay Boys & Girls Club does for the youngsters in our favorite borough. Though originally seeing professional baseball as his life's goal, he soon turned to "giving back." Since 1996, Danny has been the executive director of the Kips Bay Club, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary (1969-2019) in the Bronx. As a youngster, he belonged to the club and benefited greatly from the safe environment and activities it offered. Under his leadership, the club has grown significantly in the number of youngsters served and in the scope of its programs. For more information on the Kips Bay Boys & Girls Club, check out its Web site at <https://www.kipsbay.org/>



**Omar J. Randall '92** has held the rank of Colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps since January 2019. In June Col Randall took command of Combat Logistics Regiment 37 and Camp Kinser in Okinawa, Japan. After commissioning from the University of Connecticut in 1996, Col Randall has steadily risen through the ranks, having demonstrated key leadership skills across three tours in Iraq, as a Detachment Commander for Marine Expeditionary Unit Service Support Group 13, a Battalion Logistics Officer for 1st Battalion, 2nd Marines at Camp Lejeune, NC, a Joint Logistics Planner at US Central Command, a Battalion Commander at Combat Logistics Battalion 31, a Country Desk Officer at the US Agency for International Development, a Section Head for Logistics Plans and Operations at the Pentagon, and Assistant Chief of Staff for Logistics at 3d Marine Expeditionary Brigade and 3d Marine Division.

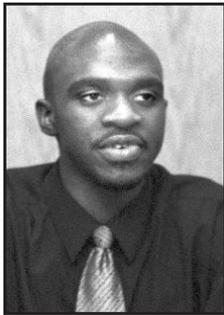


**Nelsie Castillo '00** is principal of Bronx Bridges High School, which is located in the former Adlai E. Stevenson High School building. In 2013, she had been accepted into the Leadership Academy's Aspiring Principals Program (APP), which focused on recruiting, preparing and supporting leaders for the highest-need schools in New York City. Though that program had its critics and is now defunct, Nelsie was able to use it to accomplish her dream of becoming a principal. She has a B.A. from Middlebury College and an M.A. in English as a Second Language from Pace University. After earning her undergraduate degree and working as a paralegal at a midtown law firm, Nelsie joined Teach for America in an effort to serve English language learners. From thereon, the world of education was on her mind and she has succeeded most admirably.



***Michael Blake  
Class of 2000***

***a Life of Service  
Looking Toward  
Capitol Hill***



Michael Blake was born and raised in the South Bronx to parents who came to the United States from Jamaica in the 1970's. His mother, Hilary, a breast cancer survivor, went from being homeless to working 40 years at a manufacturing plant in New Jersey while raising four boys. Michael's father, Headly, was a hospital maintenance supervisor.

At DWC, Michael held the elected office of president of the senior class, which automatically tells us that he was very involved in his high school and always looking for ways to improve Clinton life. Then it was off to the very prestigious Northwestern University (Illinois), where he earned a degree in broadcast journalism before embarking on a career in public service. He started as an intern in the Illinois State Senate before going on to manage winning state legislative races in Michigan and hold critical senior staff positions on President Barack Obama's 2008 and 2012 campaigns. The president even went on record to say that he would not have won the 2008 election without Michael's tireless work in key midwest states. After the inauguration, Michael served in the White House as the deputy associate director for African-American state and local and elected officials and minority business outreach. Not bad for a 26-year old from the Bronx!

In 2014, Michael was elected to the New York State Assembly from the 79th District in the South Bronx (and re-elected in 2016). Presently, he is a vice chair of the Democratic National Committee and last year, he was honored to be named a Fall Fellow at the Harvard University Institute of Politics. But as you can see from the bottom photo, he spends a lot of time advocating for people. He has helped create jobs by getting Small and Minority/Women Owned Business Enterprises contracts with New York State, getting senior citizens heat in their homes, and training millennials in politics.

Michael's desire to serve led him to run for senior class president at Clinton in 1999. It now leads him to be a candidate for the 15th Congressional seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. The primary is set for June 23, 2020. The general election is November 3, 2020. His good work for people makes Clinton proud and our country a better place.

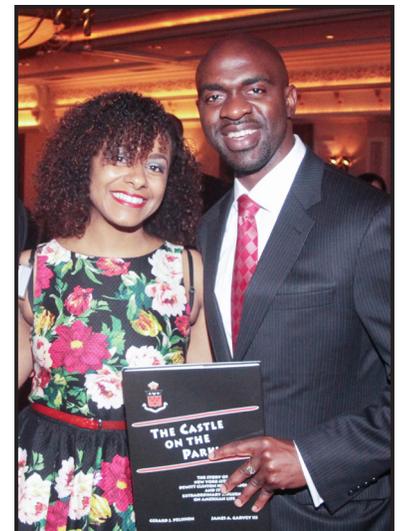
It is said that when George Washington was leaving Mount Vernon to fight in the Revolution, his wife Martha begged him to stay home. His response: Great things are about to happen and I want to be part of them.

Michael Blake feels the same way. Great challenges are facing America today and he wants to be part of the solution.

GJP

...oh, one more...

As a Clinton alum always ready to learn more about the Castle on the Parkway.



Photos from top to bottom:

As DWC senior class president

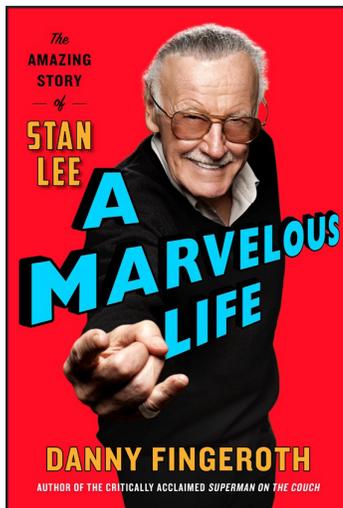
As a journalist student at Northwestern University

As a White House official for African-American affairs

As a NYS Assembly member, meeting with his constituents

As a candidate for the U.S. Congress bumping into Orlando Rao '73

## Books by or about Clintonites



*A Marvelous Life: The Amazing Story of Stan Lee* – by Danny Fingeroth

*A Marvelous Life: The Amazing Story of Stan Lee* is the first comprehensive biography published of the former Marvel Comics president and publisher. It is written by Lee's frequent collaborator, Danny Fingeroth, a longtime writer and editor at Marvel Comics and now a lauded pop culture critic and historian, who knew and worked closely with Stan Lee for over forty years.

*A Marvelous Life* features exclusive, in-depth interviews between the two of them, conducted shortly before his death in November 2018, along with behind-the-scenes stories and interviews with other legendary comics and media figures.

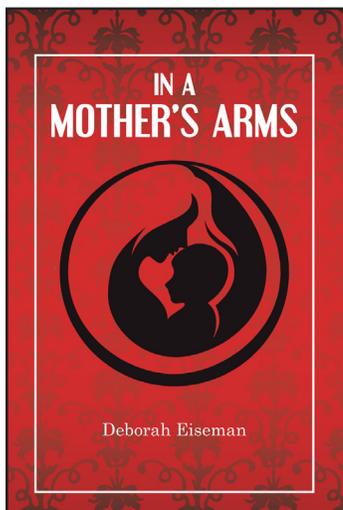
Stan Lee was the most famous American comic book creator who ever lived. Thanks, especially, to his many cameos in Marvel movies and TV shows, Lee was—and even after his death, still is—the voice and face of comics and popular culture in general, and Marvel Comics in particular. How he got to that place is a story that has never been fully told—until now.

Hardcover: 400 pages

ISBN-10: 1250133904

Publisher: St. Martin's Press (November 5, 2019)

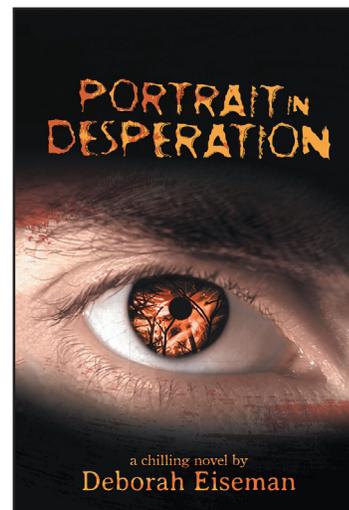
ISBN-13: 978-1250133908



*Congratulations to author Deborah Eiseaman for her 2019 induction to the D'WC Faculty Hall of Honor*

Check out [www.deboraeiseaman.com](http://www.deboraeiseaman.com)

*IN A MOTHER'S ARMS* tells of Laura, the matriarch, Rose, her rebellious daughter, and Cari, her granddaughter, their trials and triumphs as women and mothers in the first half of the twentieth century. Laura's life begins in Hungary, where her mother is murdered. She comes to America and marries Sol Silberman. Her tempestuous daughter, Rose, longs to be a liberated woman. She is passionate for a forbidden Latin lover and becomes pregnant. Cari sees herself as her parent's mistake, leaving her lonely and fearful.



***PORTRAIT IN DESPERATION***: Attracted by her beauty and innocence, Isuf Januzaj, an Albanian crime lord, chooses twelve-year old Kaitrina Bogdani to be his bride. Forced into marriage, Kaitrina has to survive his perversion and jealousy. After witnessing a heinous act of violence, she flees her husband and hides in Philadelphia, changing her identity. She falls in love with Mark D'Angelo, an artist, who is unaware of Kaitrina's past. She returns to Isuf to protect Mark, leading to violence, death and desperation.

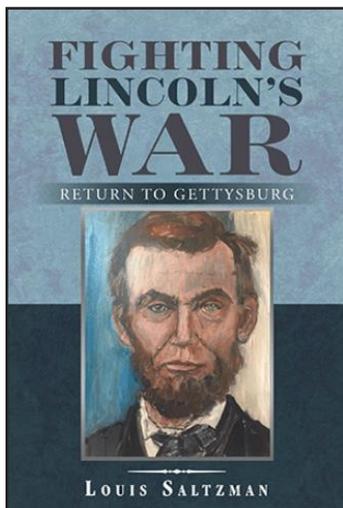
Hardcover: 266 pages

Publisher: AuthorCentrix, Inc.

(April 5, 2018)

ISBN-10: 1641334282

ISBN-13: 978-1641334280



*Fighting Lincoln's War: Return to Gettysburg* – by Louis Saltzman '67

In June 2020, Dr. Paul Diamond is sent back in time along with three other team members to Washington City in 1863. Their mission is to meet and help Abraham Lincoln and the Union armies defeat the Confederate army led by Robert E. Lee by offering advanced weapons that would help defeat the Southern armies at Gettysburg and Vicksburg, thereby hastening their surrender. Their efforts are hampered by a spy and secret organization that will do whatever possible to sue for peace and force the North to leave the Union as it is, allowing slavery to remain the way it was before the Civil War began.

Paperback: 274 pages

ISBN-10: 1982222506

Publisher: Balboa Press (March 26, 2019)

ISBN-13: 978-1982222505

Note: All the comments in "Clinton Authors" come from publishers or authors, unless otherwise indicated.

## In Memoriam

Marshall Deutsch '37 (December 23, 2017)  
 Jacob Kream '38 (June 29, 2019)  
 William Wills '39 (August 14, 2019)  
 Maurice Nadjari '42 (October 25, 2019)

Peter Claman '44 (September 12, 2019)  
 Richard Clancy '46 (August 14, 2019)  
 Howard Rosenberg '52 (September 8, 2019)  
 Noel Natkiel '63 (September 14, 2019)

Simona L. Burgess '99 (September 9, 2019)  
 Martha Scriven-Campanella, Retired Faculty  
 (September 19 2019)



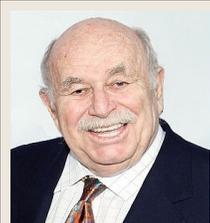
**William Wills '39**, enlisted in the U.S. Army on October 17, 1940 and became a combat engineer with the 1st Infantry Division. He landed on 3 separate beaches during the war: Africa, Sicily and D-Day on Omaha Beach. He fought thru France, Belgium, Germany and into Czechoslovakia.

He was honorably discharged as a sergeant on June 20, 1945. Wills joined the NYPD on September 21, 1946. He served the people of NYC as a patrol officer, mounted cop, sergeant and member of the emergency service squad until he retired on July 10, 1972. For the rest of his life, he was active in charity causes. Wills died in Virginia Beach, Virginia, on August 14, 2019.



**Maurice Nadjari '42** enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1943. After service in Europe and the Pacific, he graduated from City College in 1947, then earned a law degree at New York University in 1950.

From 1972 to 1976, Nadjari served as a state-appointed prosecutor of corruption in New York City's criminal justice system. His aggressive style of pursuing indictments was criticized by many, but supported by many others. Had he gone too far or had he come too close in his search into corruption in courthouses and political clubhouses? Maurice Nadjari died at his home in Huntington, New York, on October 25, 2019. He was 95.



**Peter Claman '44** was an award-winning architect, whose work shaped New York City's skyline and created buildings where thousands now live and work.

As an example of how hard it is not to join up with fellow Clintonites, in 2000, Schuman, Lichenstein, Claman, and Efron were the architects of the Belvedere, a New York City luxury apartment building. Kriesler, Borg, and Florman were the construction managers, Robert Borg from the class of 1940. Peter Claman passed away on September 12, 2019 - two months after his 91st birthday.



**Simona L. Burgess '99** will remain a Lady Governor legend forever. On the girls' basketball team, she scored a record-breaking 1,631 points. She then went on to play at Seton Hall University. In 2005, the call to civil service led her to join the NYPD. In 2010, she was promoted to detective. A few years later, she was diagnosed with cancer and after a valiant struggle to conquer it, she passed away on September 9, 2019 at the age of 38. What did her NYPD colleagues say of her? A woman of great character, funny, loving, intelligent, strong, driven to succeed and a true warrior.

## Alumni Notes

**Arnold Schaub '46**—Looking for '46 classmates. His address is 108 Redan Drive, Smithtown, NY 11787 Tel: 516-304-8687.

**Justin L. Vigdor '46**—Past president of the New York State Bar, past president of the Monroe County Bar, New York State Uniform Law Commissioner, and founder of the Al Sigl Center and the Telesca Center for Justice.

**Reginald Grier '46**— Thanks, the *Newsletter* keeps me informed.

**Jordan Gorell '48**—Graduated from Northeastern University in 1964. Retired from the U. S. Air Force and Reserve in 1991 with 32 years of service. Retired from Boeing in 1995.

**Ronald S. Poydasheff '48**In memory of Sgt. Major Candelario '64, Alfred Perlmutter '48 and Howard V. Lee '51.

*Editor's Note:* All three were paid tribute for their military service in the September 2019 *DWC Alumni Newsletter*.

**Neil Lederer '62**—Retired school superintendent, worked in public education for 52 years.

**Bob Benna '63**—Wrote my letter supporting Principal Orbe's efforts to improve DWC. Enjoying retirement. Life is good.

**Antonio Fianza '53**—I will never forget Joe Prezioso who treated me and all my teammates as though we were his sons.

**Ken Murphy '65**—Thanks again for another fine and informative newsletter for Sept '19. Hard to believe it is almost one year (9/24/18) since I attended the ceremony at DWC for the renaming of Gym 3 & Court in honor of my former teammate Nate "Tiny" Archibald & Dolph Schayes. I got to meet with you (Gerard) and present you with our Bronx/Manhattan Champs 64-65 picture. It will always be a very special moment for me, not only to have seen and met former teammates and friends, but to have taken a tour of the school & campus after 54 years.

**James Gilmore, Retired Faculty**—I think it was the best I have ever read (referring to the September 2019 *Alumni Newsletter*).

**William Palace, Retired Faculty**—Thank you for allowing me to see photos of comrades I have not seen in many, many decades.

# Come Celebrate Yourself and DWCHS

Celebrating the following anniversary classes:

60th - 1960 ♦ 50th - 1970 ♦ 40th - 1980 ♦ 30th - 1990

25th - 1995 ♦ 20th - 2000 ♦ 10th - 2010



## DeWitt Clinton High School 123rd Reception

Sponsored by the DeWitt Clinton Alumni Association

6:30-10:30 P.M.,

Thursday, May 20, 2020

Marina Del Rey

One Marina Drive, Bronx, NY

*Good Food and Cheer*

*Choice of Main Course*

*Music and Dancing*

*Open Bar*

### Dinner Reservation

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Per Person \$125 Annual dues members  
includes \$150 Non members and  
valet after May 11  
parking

I would like to sponsor  
\_\_\_\_\_ Senior Student(s).

Enclosed is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or charge my credit card.

Visa       Master Card       American Express       Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

I cannot attend but enclose a contribution for \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
or charge my credit card to support the DeWitt Clinton Alumni Assn, Inc.

Make checks payable to DeWitt Clinton Alumni Assn, Inc. (Do not use DWC abbreviation.)

### Sit With OR Guests

- |          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____  |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____  |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____  |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____  |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

Please return by May 11, 2020 to:  
DeWitt Clinton Alumni Assn, Inc.,  
P.O. Box 566, Elmsford, New York 10523-0566  
Phone (914) 961-3003 Fax (914) 961-0291

## Your Ad for the 123rd Dinner Journal

Ad Size: Not to exceed 6" x 9" for a page ad. Book size 7" Wide x 10" High

Please check one:

Write in your ad here or attach copy

- Red & Black Page \$1,000.00
- Platinum Page 750.00
- Gold Page 500.00
- Full Page 200.00
- Half Page 100.00
- Quarter Page 50.00
- Business Card 35.00
- Booster 25.00

Name and year graduated (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_

Company (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Work Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or charge my credit card: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Visa       Master Card       American Express       Discover

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to DeWitt Clinton Alumni Assn, Inc. (Do not use DWC abbreviation.)  
Contributions are tax-deductible.

**Please return by April 30, 2020 to: DWC Reunion Dinner-Journal Ads  
PO Box 566, Elmsford, NY 10523-0566  
Telephone (914) 961-3003 Fax (914) 961-0291**

# DWC MAGAZINE



Published by  
**THE DEWITT CLINTON  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

YOUR CHANCE  
TO SEE THE  
WHOLE PICTURE  
OF WHAT  
**DEWITT CLINTON  
HIGH SCHOOL**  
HAS TO OFFER  
TODAY.

IT ALL  
BEGINS  
INSIDE.

Edition  
2020



## THE *PROMISE* OF DEWITT CLINTON HIGH SCHOOL

High school should be a special place where you advance in wisdom and confidence as you gain a better understanding of who you are and whom you want to become. For more than 200,000 youngsters for more than 115 years, that special place has been DeWitt Clinton High School, located in the Castle on Moshulu Parkway in the Bronx.

DeWitt Clinton offers a full high school experience with rigorous academic studies, a wide range of student activities, and championship-winning athletic programs. Its graduates attend the finest colleges in the nation, though remaining forever proud to be part of the history and traditions of a high school that has had an extraordinary influence on American life.

As a comprehensive high school, DeWitt Clinton is proof that a good education doesn't take place just in the classroom. That is why Clinton offers many extracurricular activities where you can express your individual talents, learn to be a leader and decision maker, and make friends with students from many different backgrounds. In other words, you do not have to decide before entering high school what you want to do with your life. **Having a Clinton full high school experience gives you the opportunity to explore a wide range of career choices.**

While Clinton today enjoys a 21 acre campus in the Bronx, its story begins in Manhattan. Before subways ran beneath New York City streets and riding a horse was still the fastest way to get around town—before there was a Bronx Zoo—before the first airplane took flight and talking movies were invented—there was DeWitt Clinton High School. In 1897, its opening-day classes were held on the top floor of a grammar school on 13th Street in Manhattan. With enrollment rapidly increasing every year, the school moved in 1906 to its own, new building at 59th Street and Tenth Avenue. In 1929 when an even larger building was needed, DeWitt Clinton traveled to its present site on Moshulu Parkway in the Bronx.



### John Barbarette '64, President DWC Alumni Association



Great things are happening at DeWitt Clinton High School and I invite you to be part of them – if the time is coming for you to apply to high school.

Let me start by introducing our Alumni Association. Founded in 1901, the Association is dedicated to preserving the heritage and rich tradition of DWC High School. That dedication includes funding programs that provide today's Clinton students a well-rounded education with life-enriching experiences. It includes support for all athletic programs, art and music, the ROTC and many other activities. In the past ten years, the Association has also provided over \$445,000 in scholarship grants to graduating seniors. Few high schools have such a committed alumni association. It is a good feeling to know that you will always be part of a caring Clinton community. To quote the great African-American poet Countee Cullen, DWC class of 1922, "Once a Clintonite, always a Clintonite."

On the academic front, on pages 4/5, Principal Pierre Orbe explains the requirements to gain a DWC diploma. You will have a choice of majors to make your high school experience meaningful and enjoyable, and counseling services will be available to support your growth as a person and a student. Yes, great things are happening at DWC. This 16-page magazine is your invitation to see the real DeWitt Clinton High School.



DeWitt Clinton

March 2, 1769 - February 11, 1828

United States Senator,  
New York City Mayor,  
New York State Governor,  
Established the New York City  
Public School System

Thirty counties and municipalities  
are named for DeWitt Clinton

### DeWitt C-L-I-N-T-O-N Boom!

Clinton, oh Clinton, ever to thee,  
Fairest of high schools  
Give her three times three, oh classmates!  
Long may we cherish thee,  
Faithful we'll be,  
Clin—ton, oh Clin—ton,  
For you and me!



## CONTENTS

Pages 1, 2 (Shown)

Page 3  
Photos of the school

Pages 4, 5  
Principal Orbe with  
academic offerings,  
accomplishments

Page 6, 7  
Activities that make  
DWC special

Pages 8, 9  
Classroom activities,  
clubs, teams, events

Pages 10, 11  
22 athletic teams

Pages 12, 13  
Highlighting  
individual  
graduates from  
the past 30 years

Page 14  
How the DWC  
Alumni Association  
benefits the school  
and students

Page 15  
Parent voices,  
Applying to DWC

Page 16  
Alumni creations  
known worldwide

# Membership Dues 2020



I would like to receive a paper edition of the Alumni Newsletter.

Please Print

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR GRADUATED \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

DWC SCHOOL AFFILIATIONS (CLUBS, SPORTS)

\_\_\_\_\_

NOTES \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please use the above space to provide news about yourself for our publication.

Barrese Society: I have paid dues for \_\_\_\_ consecutive years. This year's donation includes \_\_\_\_ missed year(s).

Dues January 1, 2020	\$35.00
Voluntary Assessment (in support of student activities)	\$15.00
Total Sustaining Donation	\$50.00

The Alumni Association will shortly mail the Barrese Society pins to all those alumni who have contributed to the Association for at least ten years in a row. Thank you, loyal sons and daughters of DWC.



Actual size: 1" diameter

- Century Club \$100 (includes dues)
- Red and Black Club \$200 (includes dues)
- Governor's Club \$300 (includes dues)
- President's Club \$500 (includes dues)
- Guernsey Club \$1,000 (includes dues)
- Alumni Leadership Weekend Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Dues can be paid securely on line at [www.dewittclintonalumni.com](http://www.dewittclintonalumni.com)



Enclosed is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ or charge my credit card \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

- Visa
- Master Card
- American Express
- Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

*The DeWitt Clinton Alumni Association thanks you, our loyal supporters.*

Make checks payable to DeWitt Clinton Alumni Assn, Inc. Mail to: P.O. Box 566, Elmsford, NY 10523-0566 (DO NOT USE DWC ABBREVIATION ON ANY CHECK YOU SEND.)

(A donation for scholarships require a separate check made payable to the DeWitt Clinton Scholarship and Student Aid Fund, Inc., and mailed to P.O. Box 566, Elmsford, NY 10523-0566.)

**DeWitt Clinton Alumni Assn, Inc.**

P.O. Box 566  
Elmsford, New York 10523-0566

**DeWitt Clinton Scholarship  
and Student Aid Fund, Inc.**

Phone (914) 961-3003 ♦ Fax (914) 961-0291

[www.dewittclintonalumni.com](http://www.dewittclintonalumni.com)

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
White Plains, NY  
Permit No. 2042

ADDRESS SERVICE  
REQUESTED

**Advice Given to the Class of 2019 . . . and Worthwhile for Every Class that Follows**



On Graduation Day, you will receive your DeWitt Clinton High School diploma. Treasure it. At the end of the ceremony, you will bid your teachers and classmates an emotional farewell with lots of hugs and more than a few tears. Differences of race, religion and ethnicity will not divide you. What will matter is that you are all Clintonites. During your years at Clinton, you learned that no group has a monopoly on virtue or intelligence. As you travel through life, remember all the good people of every background that you met at Clinton, and let them inspire you to treat everyone you meet with kindness and generosity.

— Gerard J. Pelisson Hon. '03, Retired Faculty