DISPLAY CELEBRATES 60 YEARS OF PHI BETA KAPPA AT COE

An exhibit marking the 60th anniversary of Coe’s Phi Beta Kappa chapter is on display in the Pochobradsky Reading Room on the first floor of Stewart Memorial Library.

The installation includes a traveling history display created by the national Phi Beta Kappa organization, augmented by Coe-related items such as the college’s Phi Beta Kappa charter.

The oldest and most prestigious honor society in America, Phi Beta Kappa was founded in 1776 at the College of William and Mary. The society’s Greek initials stand for the motto, “Love of learning is the guide of all life,” and the organization has been an advocate for excellence in the liberal arts and sciences throughout its history.

Seventeen U.S. Presidents, several U.S. Supreme Court Justices, and many national leaders, inventors and authors have been among its members, who are chosen by invitation only based not only on GPA but on breadth of academic interests. Membership is offered to no more than 10 percent of the graduating class at Phi Beta Kappa institutions.

Notable Coe Phi Beta Kappa members have included journalist William Shirer ’25, painter Marvin Cone ’14, and musician and educator Alma Turechek ’25. NFL Hall of Fame coach Mary Levy ’50 was among the first Phi Beta Kappa initiates at Coe who returned for their 60th reunion at Homecoming in October.

Coe was also featured on the cover of the fall edition of The Key Reporter, Phi Beta Kappa’s national quarterly publication for members.
Nearly 400 parents and siblings experienced a slice of life as a Coe student during Family Weekend Sept. 24-25.

In addition to the usual campus tours, receptions, musical performances and athletic events – including a clash of nationally ranked Coe and Central football teams – participants were given the opportunity to perform community service. More than 100 Coe students and family members participated in efforts to plant trees at a local park or complete the final cleaning at newly built Habitat for Humanity homes.

A silent auction conducted during Family Weekend raised over $3,000 for the Parents’ Scholarship Fund. Silent auction items ranged from the ordinary to the unique and were all well received by the bidders. Many donors see the silent auction as a way to give back to Coe for the educational experience they or their child received.

Since it was launched in 2001, more than 500 current and past Coe parents have contributed to the fund each year. Scholarships are awarded to seniors with a 2.5 or higher grade point average who are involved in co-curricular activities and demonstrate financial need. This year, the Parents Council hopes to generate $50,000 in scholarships.
LESSONS FROM COE HELP RECENT GRAD MAKE HER MARK

After making the most of her Coe College experience, Katherine Roger ’08 continues to serve as a model Kohawk and champion of the liberal arts. Since graduating from Coe, Roger has taken a new name – she dumped Katie in an effort to seem more grown up – and is following a new career path. An English and French major from Minneapolis, she accepted a two-year position with Teach for America to teach reading to middle schoolers in Washington, D.C.

“It was really, really challenging,” said Roger, noting the 50 percent literacy rate in parts of the nation’s capital. Roger took students who tested at the fourth grade reading level to seventh grade achievement in one year.

Soon after beginning her teaching career, plans to pursue graduate study in environmental policy were replaced by a master’s in secondary education. The change in direction was aided by lessons learned at Coe.

“Coe prompted me to ask so many questions about the world and why things are the way they are,” Roger said. “Coe really empowered me to be a leader.”

While graduating from American University in May, Roger was a national nominee for the Sue Lehmann Excellence in Teaching Award from Teach for America. She was one of 50 nominees from a pool of 3,700 teachers and the lone nominee among 200 secondary teachers in D.C.

She now works as a program director for Teach for America, coaching 35 teachers in 27 D.C. schools.

While at Coe, Roger served as president of Delta Delta Delta and received the national sorority’s Sarah Ida Shaw Award. She also co-founded the Coe Environmental Club, was vice president of Student Senate, a resident assistant and held jobs in the Admission Office and the Writing Center.

Roger encourages current students, which includes her brother, Jonathan Roger ’12, to get involved, take advantage of opportunities that are presented and to be leaders in whatever interests them. She said Coe taught her to be the change she wants in the world.

“On campus, if I had a concern, I would work with other students, my wonderful professors or administration to change something,” she said. “As a teacher, I did the same thing in my classroom to lead students to success, and now in my new role I get to do the same thing with other teachers and the D.C. Public School system at large. Coe students are really lucky because they get to be part of a small community that really values each person’s unique perspective.”

MEET YOUR PARENTS COUNCIL

Coe College recognizes that parents of college students bring unique insights to an institution. The Parents Council was formed to tap this valuable resource. Composed of families and/or individuals reflecting the academic class and geographic distribution of the student body, the council meets twice per academic year. The Parents Council was established to:

- promote parents’ knowledge and understanding of Coe College’s education program and policies,
- provide a communication channel between parents and the college and among parents,
- assist with internship and career opportunities for students,
- assist in recruitment and retention of new students, and
- promote the development of Coe College through personal, corporate and foundation financial support.

Current members of the Parents Council are:
- Cindy Banchy of Rosemont, Minn., mother of Noah Banchy ’12
- Shelly Barton of St. Paul, Minn., mother of Anna Barton ’14
- Perri and Cathy Carnes of Littleton, Colo., parents of Hannah Carnes ’11
- Danny Chang of Afton, Minn., father of Paden Chang ’12
- Tim and Becky Crouch of Independence, Mo., parents of Emily Crouch ’12
- Katie Kozisek of Chicago, mother of Anne Kozisek ’12
- Sally Nordstrom ’78 and Kent Cooling ’78 of Cedar Rapids, parents of Chelsea Cooling ’10 and Chase Cooling ’13
- Sally and Jim Porter of Overland Park, Kan., parents of Emily Porter ’12
- Lori and Kent Reynolds of Anamosa, Iowa, parents of Deg Reynolds ’13
- Janet Schupbach of Cedar Falls, Iowa, mother of Andrea Schupbach ’10 and Michelle Shupbach ’13
- Dennis and Deb Yossi of Cedar Rapids, parents of Chris Yossi ’12

For more information about Parents Council, contact Parent Programs Director Kate Rose at 1-877-KOHAWKS (564-2957) or 399-8663 or krose@coe.edu.

Gathering at Coe during Family Weekend were Parents Council members (front row, left to right) Shelly Barton, Cindy Banchy and Katie Kozisek. (Second row) Cathy Carnes, Becky Crouch and Sally Nordstrom ’78. (Third row) Dennis and Deb Yossi and Kent Cooling ’78. (Back) Danny Chang and Jim Porter.
Fall Term
Thanksgiving Recess (after last class) ...................... Nov. 23
Classes resume.......................................................... Nov. 29
Classes end...................................................................Dec. 13
Final Exams................................................................. Dec. 15-18

Spring Term
Classes begin...............................................................Jan. 11
Martin Luther King Jr. Day (no day classes, evening classes will meet) ..................................................Jan. 18
Spring Break (after last class)................................. March 4
Classes resume......................................................... March 14
Student Research Symposium (no day classes, evening classes will meet) .............................................. April 12
Classes end.....................................................................April 28
Final Exams................................................................. April 30, May 2–4
Baccalaureate ............................................................. May 7
Commencement .......................................................... May 8

May Term
Classes begin............................................................. May 11
Memorial Day (no classes)......................................... May 30
Classes end................................................................. June 7

Note: For the most complete and updated campus calendar, select “View Full Calendar” on Coe’s Web site (www.coe.edu).

Coe students participating in May Term in Spain were featured on the cover of a Spanish courses brochure for the University of Alicante. Accompanied by Assistant Professor of Spanish Monica Fuertes-Arboix, the students spent three weeks in Spain and were placed in classes according to their skills. Pictured (bottom up and left to right) are Beth Curley ’13, Jesse Bell Bern ’13, Malyssa Oblander ’10, Alex Grell ’11, Hailee Gehrls ’13, Kyla Rumage ’12, Taylor Allen ’12, Erinn Hoel ’12 and Anne Kozisek ’12.