



LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Friends and Alumni:

I am very pleased to be able to report that this past year was a successful year for North Bennet Street School.

As you can see from the Treasurer's Report, we ended the year solidly in the black. We had a full time enrollment of 156, the highest in years and just one person shy of

the record. Those admitted were selected from a field that started with over 4,500 inquiries over the course of the year, and indications are that the number of prospective students for next year will be even higher. These results reflect the efforts of a talented and dedicated faculty and staff.

But rather than use this Annual Report as an opportunity to highlight all of our accomplishments, we have chosen to use it as an opportunity to highlight one important area in which we still have challenges to face: financial aid.

The importance of providing our students with additional financial aid is an issue that the Board of Directors chose to address this year through the establishment of an endowed scholarship fund named for long time Associate Director Walter McDonald. The Case Statement for the endowment fund, found on the following page, describes the financial realities that face our students.

The Case Statement presents the facts and figures, but the need for financial aid is first and foremost a personal issue, and that is why we are devoting this year's Annual Report to profiles written by individual students who have made a significant financial commitment to come to North Bennet Street School. These students are the norm, not the exception. Some have mortgaged homes, some work nights and weekends to pay the tuition, and most have taken out loans to be able to study here.

Moments after the vote to establish the Walter McDonald Scholarship Endowment Fund, \$50,000 was pledged by individual Board members. The Windgate Charitable Foundation has also responded, offering an endowment challenge grant to provide up to \$100,000 in matching funds each year for the next three years. It is an impressive and extremely encouraging start, and one that bodes well for the future of the school.

Thanks to all of you,

Miguel Gómez-Ibáñez
Executive Director



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“ I am a Jewelry Making student. Just being in college is something I never thought I would do. I was a Union Laborer for 20 years.

About five years ago I was seriously hurt on the job. Shortly after, I was taking a vocational rehab program when a friend of mine who is a jeweler told me about this school, so I convinced the rehab counselor to visit the school. She said it was too expensive and they would not support my enrollment. Long story short I eventually went back to laboring and worked for several

different companies and it truly was a struggle. The whole time I thought it was a huge mistake not to have gone to NBSS no matter what the financial risk.

In April of 2006, I applied for a Town job, where I passed a physical and other tests only to have the Head of the Water Department say he just didn't feel comfortable hiring me because

of my physical condition. At that very moment I knew exactly what I wanted to do.

The weeks following, my wife Anna and I, along with our two children, Sofia, three, and Joseph, two, decided to enroll in NBSS taking huge risk and financial burden to take this course. We moved in with my mother, sold our house, cashed in my annuity and borrowed a substantial amount of money. I would like to thank Walter McDonald for his guidance on the loans. It has been difficult. It wasn't only the tuition, but the cost of the tools, the materials and just getting here.

When I met Rosemary Trainor, the teacher, she didn't look down on me because I was a laborer. She's a real person. I probably wouldn't be here if Rosemary wasn't teaching the course. There was a time early on the first soldering project, I asked Lisa Hunt, Assistant Instructor, “You have to tell me if I can't do this because I can't afford to waste time.” Lisa said I could do it. I wasn't sure at the time because you really don't see it at first, but she was right. Since then there have been other times, but I always know now that I can do it.

When I went for that Town job I thought I had a job for life and now I do.

I would like to thank Bob Delaney and the admissions personnel, my instructors, Lisa Hunt, Gretchen Furse and especially Rosemary Trainor for giving me the chance of a lifetime with the opportunity to take this course. ”

STUDENTS

Emily Scott*
Michael Sprague
Seth Tanguay*
Vinh Tran
Marjorie Trovato

LOCKSMITHING

Peter Bowler*
Cole Bushwa*
Jeffrey Champion*
Michael Chiesa*
Eugene Courtney*
Michael Diamond*
Kenneth Gibbons*
Michael Kaluzny
Brett Keightley*
Aaron Nelson*
Sean O'Mara
Louis Paoletti*
Apostolos Papavassiliou*
Michael Raymond
Martin White*
Calvina Wong*
Barbara Zillman*

BASIC PIANO TECHNOLOGY

William Chubb III*
Seth de Berry*
Dennis Erwin*
Jacob Gonchar*
Shawn Hansen*
Jon Hayden
Emily Holsapple*
Sakiko Isomichi*
Xiaodan Liu*
Kevin Luke*
Robert Purcell*
Nate Reyburn*
Michael Shaw*
Elizabeth Snow*
Emily Stafford*

ADVANCED PIANO TECHNOLOGY

Ryan Boyajian*
Susan Burgess*
Louis del Bene*

Crystal Fielding*
Joan Lawrie*
Jason McDevitt*
Byron Muller*
Matthew Onigman*
Shao-Tien Timothy Peng*
Soo-Leng Stoddard*

PRESERVATION CARPENTRY

Andrew Athanas*
Michael Bernstein
Joshua Bloom*
Stephen Brown*
Jacob Burgette*
Lucas Davisson
Joshua Ewart
Kelly Fuller*
Michael Hevenor
Nathaniel Hill
Brian Horne
Tara Hrynik
Amy Kellett
Christopher Knapp
Scott Lewis*
Christopher Murphy*
Adam Reitano
Adam Rissolo
Jeffrey Stanley
Trevor Thomas*
Larry Waldrop, Jr.*
Brian Willett

VIOLIN MAKING AND REPAIR

Celeste Devlin
Eli Feuer*
Sef Gray
Thomas Hyde
Joe Lotito
Joseph McDevitt
Wyatt Meng
Erika Safran
Alexis Scott Tribblett MengAdam

BOOKBINDING

Accordion Books

Advanced
Non-Adhesive
Bookbinding

Crossed Structure
Bookbinding (2)

Double Board Coptic
Bookbinding*

Introduction to
Calligraphy

Introduction to Cloth
Case Bookbinding (5)

Introduction to
Non-Adhesive
Bookbinding (5)

Japanese Bookbinding

Limp Vellum
Bookbinding (2)

JEWELRY

Bezel Making &
Setting for Faceted
Stones

Fundamentals I of
Jewelry Making (2)

Fundamentals II of
Jewelry Making (2)

Introduction to
Forging

Introduction to
Stone Setting

Introduction to
Wax Carving

Loop In Loop
Chain Making*

Marketing Your
Craft*

Working With Gold

Working with
Palladium*

PIANO

Introduction to
Piano Technology

WOODWORKING

Carving the Ball &
Claw Foot (2)

Decorative Inlay (2)

Flat Edge Tool
Sharpening (2)

Fundamentals of
Fine Woodworking
(14)

Fundamentals of
Furniture Making

Fundamentals of
Machine
Woodworking (11)

Furniture
Embellishment –
Shell & Fan Carving

Green Woodworking –
Joined Stool*

Historic Timber
Framing

Introduction to
Bowl Turning (2)*

Introduction to
Chip Carving

Introduction to
Drafting

Introduction to
Gilding

Introduction to
Hammer Veneering

Introduction to
Spindle Turning (6)

Ladder Back
Chair Making*

Machine
Woodworking –
Frame & Panel Chest

Machine
Woodworking –
Shaker Style Table

Platform Framing*

Queen Anne Side
Chair

Relief Carving I (2)

Seventeenth Century
Wood Carving*

Shaker Oval
Boxmaking (4)

Shaker Wall Clock*

Three-Month
Furniture Making
Intensive (3)

Traditional Slip Seat
Upholstery

Traditional Windsor
Chair Making

Understanding
Design Through
Furniture Classics*

Window Sash
Restoration*

**Denotes new workshop*

*() Indicates a workshop
ran multiple sessions*



“ I attended Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) where I earned a degree in graphic design in 2006. I am grateful to have a design background and am happy with the skill set I gained while studying there. While computer graphics is often the medium of choice in graphic design, and I enjoy using the computer, I have found that I am happiest when working and creating with my hands. SCAD gave me a great foundation for hands-on work and thorough training in computer design applications: I love being able to strike a balance between the two.

During my sophomore year in college a friend introduced me to bookbinding. She was taking a course offered in the Fibers Department, called Experimental Bookmaking. After my friend showed me how to make a few books I officially had the bug! It wasn't until my senior year that I had the opportunity to take the actual class. By that time I had already discovered North Bennet Street School and had dreams of continuing my training here. Upon completion of the bookbinding class at SCAD, I had made up my mind to apply to the program. When I learned I was officially accepted, it was one of the most exciting days of my life.

When I started at SCAD my resources consisted of personal savings, and support from my parents and grandparents. My personal savings were absorbed by tuition costs the first quarter.


I received federal loans and scholarships and my parents helped support me, but when I left I had loans totaling around \$20,000. I currently work at the school Gallery on Saturdays and during summer breaks, but my parents prefer that I devote the school year to my studies to maximize the learning experience. They support me for the additional fees that the loans fail to cover.

Last year I took out more loans and I have applied for loans again this year. This summer I worked as a conservation assistant at the American Antiquarian Society (AAS) in Worcester, MA, a job for which I was well prepared after my first year in the bookbinding program. It felt good to take care of expenses myself for a few months.

After graduation I am hoping to spend a few summer months in Uppsala, Sweden studying in the bindery of the Uppsala University Library. I was also invited to return for another summer position at the AAS conservation lab. In the long run I envision myself owning my own bindery where I would like to sell new work as well as repair books for private or institutional clients. In the meantime I would love to work in an institutional conservation lab or bindery.

My main goal is to continue learning as much as I can about bookbinding and my time here at NBSS has been a phenomenal way to work on reaching that goal. ”

MONICA FEENEY | BOOKBINDING | SEATTLE, WA



Last year I took out more loans and I have applied for loans again this year.



“ I worked for 11 years in human services with people with disabilities. I had two full-time jobs - an overnight job at a respite center, and during the day I worked with autistic clients, redirecting them from self abusive behavior. After 11 years I went into a residential program myself for alcohol abuse and for treatment of bipolar disorder. I went into the program for a year to get some structure and control over my life. It was ironic, and humbling, that I found myself living with my former clients. I learned to manage my mood swings with treatment for depression, found appropriate medication, and started seeing a counselor myself. I've been sober for seven years. I've always been good with my hands. I grew up in Texas around people who earned their living with their hands, and I can't do anything else. I have always been interested in locks, maybe because I was in foster care growing up and always trying to get out of places. They are puzzles to me, there are no two alike. I love the quality, the craftsmanship, and the overwhelming ability just to take something apart. I studied every book on locks I could get my hands on before I came here.

I found the North Bennet Street School website and decided to apply. Since I didn't have any money, I went to my Congressman to find out what I could do, and they connected me to the Department of Human Services, which assisted

me with about \$5,000. I took out Pell Grants and a Stafford Loan, but I'm still \$3,000 short, and I'm going to contact the State of Massachusetts to see if they can help. The tuition isn't that bad, but there are also the books and the tools.

Dave Troiano, the teacher, has been a really good mentor for me, and helped me through. There are very few well trained locksmiths above Bangor, but you can't learn locksmithing as an apprentice in Maine because no one will

North Bennet Street School
Treasurer's Report

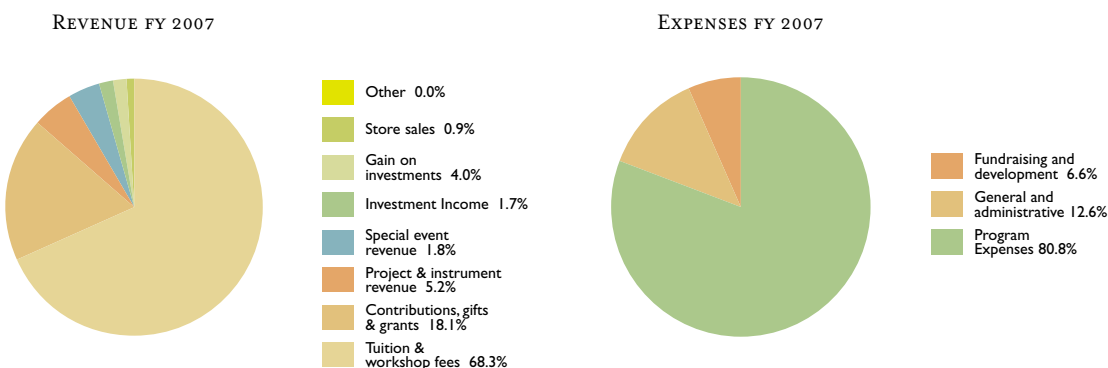
A handwritten signature in cursive script, followed by a rectangular stamp or seal. The signature is dark and appears to be written in ink. The stamp is a dark, textured rectangle, possibly a carbon copy or a seal, located to the right of the signature.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

North Bennet Street School Statement of Activities For the Years Ended July 31, 2007 and 2006

	July 31, 2007	July 31, 2006	% Change
REVENUE			
Tuition & workshop fees	\$2,560,892	\$2,449,714	4.54%
Contributions, gifts and grants	679,162	509,300	33.35%
Project and instrument revenue	193,191	56,064	244.59%
Special event revenue	66,027	58,537	12.80%
Investment income	63,565	68,884	-7.72%
Gain on Investments	149,945	26,812	459.25%
Other	273	2,319	-88.23%
Store sales net of cost of sales	35,798	27,440	30.46%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$3,748,853	\$3,199,070	17.19%
EXPENSES			
Program expenses	\$2,719,072	\$2,703,118	0.59%
General and administrative	424,593	368,659	15.17%
Fundraising and development	222,048	168,758	31.58%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,365,713	\$3,240,535	3.86%
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	\$383,140	\$(41,465)	
Net assets, beginning of year	\$3,899,433	\$3,940,898	
Net assets, end of year	\$4,282,573	\$3,899,433	

This statement is an excerpt from the audited financial statements of North Bennet Street School



“ I went to Brigham Young University in Provo Utah. Before my last year I took a course on The History of The Book and we went on a field trip to tour the university’s book conservation lab. That was my first real introduction to book conservation. I discovered the world of rare book conservation and I knew it was what I wanted to do.

I talked to Mark Pollei (BB’94), the director of the conservation lab. He let me know about all the different options and helped me decide that coming here was the best thing that I could do. My senior year I took a course in book arts in the art department, and Mark was able to get funding from the library to give me a part time job in the conservation lab that last year.

I just had a real struggle in college wondering what I was going to do. It took me 3 years before I decided on my major, linguistics. I enjoyed linguistics, but not because I thought it would provide me with employment. All my friends were studying business, medicine, law- but nothing really called out to me. I knew that I just wouldn’t be happy with the average person’s working day job. Then I felt this spark of interest when I discovered the world of old and rare books and that fact that you could make a career working with them. The year I worked with Mark Pollei in the lab at BYU solidified it. I knew it was something I would enjoy.

My wife Amy and I live in Somerville with our daughter Clara, who is 3 years old, and our son Forrest, who is one month old.

I didn’t really have any savings when I moved here after college. I tried working at a part-time job in a bookstore nights and weekends, but I decided to cut that part-time job because it didn’t work out. I worked there for a while because I was interested in the field, but I would be willing to work for a lower wage if I could work in the field full-time. After my part-time job ended, I was able to find a full-time position in the conservation lab. I would just re-re here to work full-time in the conservation lab. I would just re-re here to work full-time in the conservation lab.





// I left New England for the SunBelt when I was 25. I have spent the last 20 years in Florida working at various jobs. In 1991 I went to seminary in New Orleans and graduated in 1996, when I returned to Florida to work as a parish priest. Just prior to coming here I was the Catholic campus minister at Florida State University in Tallahassee.

My interest in piano technology started because I loved to play. My father was in education, and we didn't have any extras, so growing up I didn't have a decent piano in working order. I had several pianos—three were given to me, and I learned a little tuning and how to paste the action parts together using thread. I was an undergraduate majoring in piano/performance before I got my first “real” piano.

After 20 years in Florida I began to realize that I wouldn't have my family around forever, so I wanted to move back to New England. I asked my bishop for a transfer but he turned me down. The only future

David Firestone
John F. Gifford,
Jewelry '97, Furniture '01
Miguel Gómez-Ibáñez,
Furniture '99
Nehemias Gorin
Charitable Foundation
J. Kimo Griggs
Deborah J. Hall
Bryan T. Hartzler,
Piano '00 (Piano)
Andrea M. Hill
Brian Holt,
Furniture '05
Walter Hunnewell, Jr.
Inland Underwriters
Insurance Agency
Barbara R. Kapp
Wallace Kemp
L. Patton Kline Family
Foundation, Inc.
Charles L. Kline,
Furniture '05
Catherine C. Lastavica
Francis J. Lynch III
Nancy Maull
Walter McDonald
James McNeely
Stephen E. Memishian
Peter Nessen
Norfolk and Dedham
Group
Paul H. O'Connell,
Preservation Carpentry '87
Marie Oedel,
Bookbinding '02
Richard Oedel,
Furniture '05
Carol O'Hare
Ann O'Rahilly,
Bookbinding '95
Lynn C. Osborn
Morgan Palmer
Finley Perry
Pomeroy & Co., Inc.
S. Parkman Shaw, Jr.
Sepp Gold Leaf Products
Reiko Shoji
Eloise G. Smyrl

J. Arthur Taylor,
Furniture '00
Robert Weir
Mary Willett
Jane Wilson
Norman & Rosita
Winston Foundation, Inc.
"The Woods" Charitable
Foundation

MASTER CRAFTSPERSON

(\$500 - \$999)

Charles C. Ames
Albert G. Bangert,
Furniture '03 (Furniture)
Beasley & Reidy
Restoration,
Pres. Carpentry '03
(Pres. Carpentry)
Patricia Belden
Elise Brink
Columbia Contracting
Corp., *(Pres. Carpentry)*
Judy Ferenbach,
Bookbinding '97
(Bookbinding)
G. Keith Funston, Jr.
Elaine Garneau
David M. HE: -';EtrzV1

Kenneth P. Tucker,
Piano '83 (Piano)

Tom & Alice Walsh

Tatiana Wilcke,
Furniture '89 (Furniture)

Harold A. Wilson,
Furniture '01 (Furniture)

Valerie A. Wyckoff,
Bookbinding '89
(Bookbinding)

Kazuo Yoshizaki,
Piano '99 (Piano)

APPRENTICE

(\$1 - \$99)

William Alvarado,
Furniture '98 (Furniture)

Neldy Arsenault,
Locksmithing '88
(Locksmithing)

Rachel A. Burchard

Patricia M. Cabot,
Piano '94 (Piano)

Cate Carulli,
Piano '87 (Piano)

Robert Cashman,
Furniture '90 (Furniture)

Judith Calkins,
Bookbinding '98
(Bookbinding)

William Contente,
Piano '81 (Piano)

Mark DeGrandpre,
Jewelry '94 (Jewelry)

vr: wil Dovr,

Furniture '04 (Furniture)



// Before I came to North Bennet Street School I was an architect. I graduated from MIT and had been working in the field for 18 years. I think I got disillusioned by being more of a lawyer than an architect, writing memos all day. I had vaguely heard about woodworking courses and I looked on the web and found the workshops. It

seemed like that's really what I wanted to do. I took both fundamentals workshops and it cemented the idea for me.

Part of the process of thinking through coming here was going back through all the positions I had as an architect. I always felt I had more in common with the builder. I was pretty good at Construction Management, and I felt a lot more connected there, but it was still all paperwork. I realized that what had inspired me about architecture school was the design and the hands on building which is part of architectural education, but lacking in the professional world.

It took from the time I applied to the full time program in March until the middle of August to finally make the decision, and to go to my firm to tell them I was leaving. It was a huge financial difficulty because I am a single parent. My wife passed away six years ago, and after that I made the decision to sell our large house and get a smaller one where I could erase our mortgage and put an addition on to make it more mine. I did that, but ended up borrowing against the new house to take out equity so I could pay for school. I work doing small scale residential additions on the side, and that relieves some borrowing. I recently applied for Mass Health which is now paying for most of my health care. I also get a small amount of Social Security for the kids.

All in all, I will have borrowed about \$50,000 to come here. At the moment I'm paying interest only. As I look to the future, it's a little scary. I've been toying with the idea of moving to Vermont. The difference in house prices is a huge financial incentive. I plan to keep both the residential additions and the furniture making going when I leave. I have set up a website that shows both.

If I had the money, I would start a scholarship for single parents. It's a special set of circumstances to have to take care of the kids while you're going to school. //

GIFTS & SUPPORT

MATCHING GIFTS

Firestone & Parson
Pioneer Investments

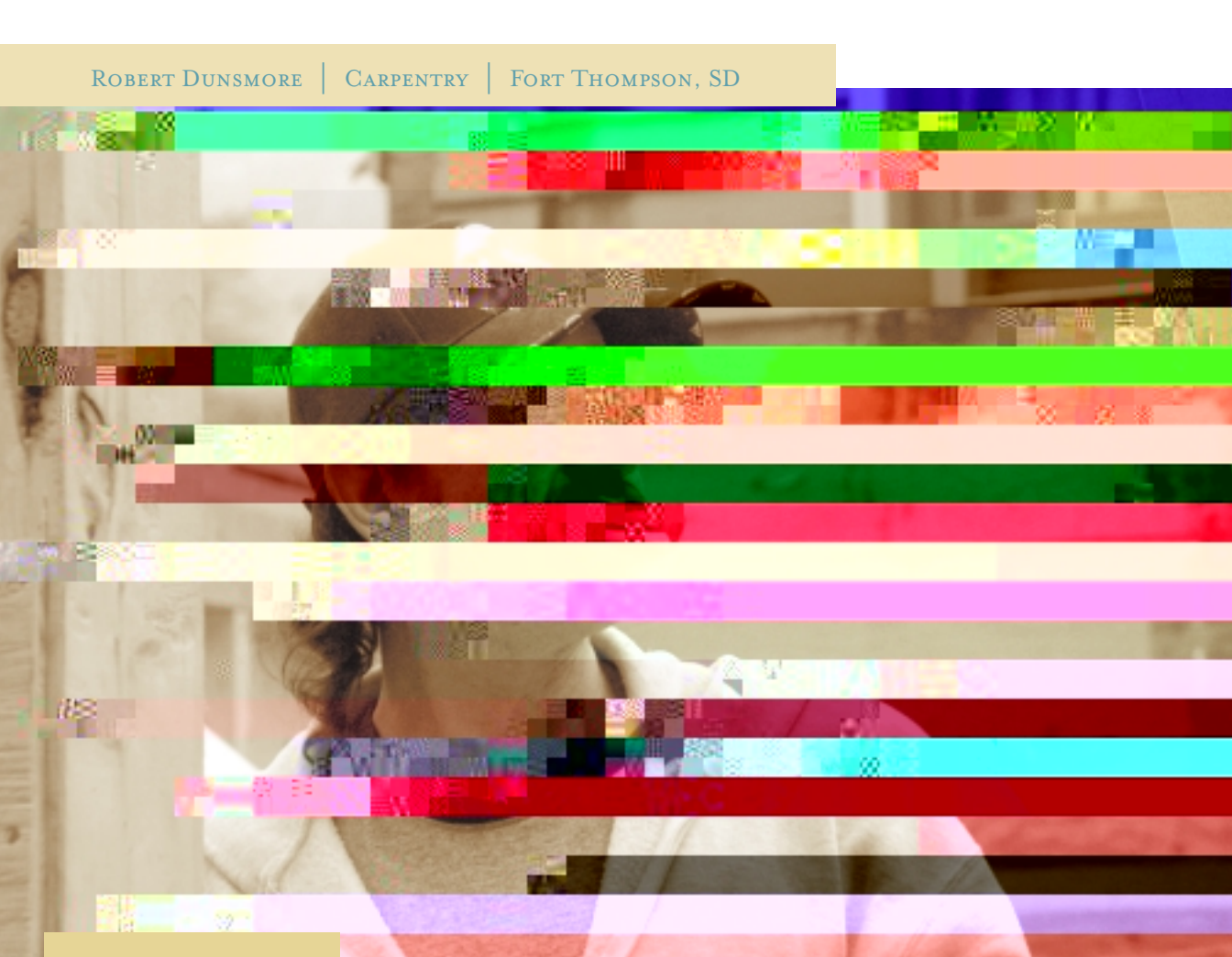
IN MEMORIAM GIFTS

*In Memory of Bette Chase,
Furniture '98*

Esther E. Chandler
David J. Doucette
Margaret M. Dooner
Robert Ehrlich
Raymond & Evelyn
Rothschild

*In Memory of Clayton Ecke
Robert & Joanna Ecke*

In Memory of Harry Hauser,



I am 46, a
Crow Creek
Sioux
from Fort
Thompson,
South
Dakota.

“ I am 46, a Crow Creek Sioux from Fort Thompson, South Dakota. I was in the Army from 1978 to 1981, post Vietnam, as a helicopter crew chief. When I got out of the service I worked numerous jobs. I worked for the casino for awhile. In the late '90s I lived in Rapid City and worked for a

construction company for a few years.

In April '06, I went back to the reservation to help my brother who was disabled, and I got involved with Construction Work Therapy, a program for veterans run by the Black Hills Veterans Administration office. One of the directors there said “Do you want to go to Boston to train at the Bedford Veterans Construction Team Program?” I said yes.

The program in Bedford trains Native American vets so we can start our own Veterans Construction Team (VCT) on the reservation. Right now, everything is built on the reservation by outside contractors and they don't hire local help, so all the money leaves the reservation. Under the VCT program we can bid on construction projects, and since we are both Native American and vets, we go to the top of the bidding list.

I got to Boston in September '06, and started looking for schools to give me the training I needed. I looked at Middlesex Community College and was going to take bits and pieces of courses here and there, until North Bennet Street School came up. It had everything I needed. They got me a house in Lowell, and I get a ride to school from one of the students in my class. If he can't take me I take the VA van from Lowell to Bedford, and then there's a bus straight to Arlington.

Mass Rehab and the work therapy program pay the rent. The tuition is covered by the Mass Rehab and Veterans Employment Assistance. Right now I'm living on my savings, but I'm short. I don't have any personal loans; that would be the last resort, and if I have to I will. In October I went with a group of vets to Washington to talk to Congressmen about getting more money for this program. We asked for \$20,000 more for each person to pay for school.

When I finish here I will go back. I imagine I'll live in Sioux Falls, where the reservation is two hours away, but I'll be in the field all the time because they want me to be a program director, recruiting and telling everyone what we're trying to do. That will change my life. It's an opportunity, not really for me, but for the program. Instead of waiting for 20 years for help, like after Vietnam, we're going to help the vets now when they come back, and there are going to be a lot of vets coming back. If they can get help early it will help everybody in the long run. ”

STAFF & FACULTY

ADMINISTRATION

Miguel Gómez-Ibáñez,
Executive Director

Walter McDonald,
Associate Director

Frank Baird,
Building Manager

Janet Collins,
Workshop Director

Ken Craggs,
Gallery Manager

Robert G. Delaney,
Director of Admissions

Lillian DiGiorgio,
Admissions Office Manager

Stacie Dolin,
*Workshop and Student
Services Assistant*

Elaine Garneau,
Business Manager

Sara Goodrich,
*Assistant to the Executive
Director*

Jason Gregoricus,
*Director of Student and
Alumni Services*

Sheila D. Perry,
Director of Development

Laurie L. Riordan,
Development Coordinator

Ronald Santos,
Custodian

Pat Schrom,
Accounting Assistant

Kara Stepanian,
*Associate Director
of Development*

Eleanor Tait,
Receptionist

Brian Weldy,
Workshop Manager

INSTRUCTORS

BOOKBINDING

Mark Andersson,
Department Head

CABINET & FURNITURE MAKING

Steve Brown,
Department Head

Dan Faia

Alex Krutsky

Lance Patterson

Sidney Schwartz

PIANO TECHNOLOGY

Larry Fine

Lewis Surdam

PRESERVATION CARPENTRY

Sara Chase

William Finch

Andrew Ladygo

William McMillen

VIOLIN MAKING & REPAIR

David Polstein

Chris Reuning

Marilyn Wallin

BOARD STANDING COMMITTEES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Burton M. Harris,
President

S. Parkman Shaw, Jr.,
Treasurer

James McNeely,
Clerk

Jacqueline Blombach,
Member-at-Large

David Bush-Brown,
Member-at-Large James McNeely,

NO