

# The Phillips Scholar

## *The Stephen Phillips Memorial Scholarship Fund*

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The Stephen Phillips  
Memorial Scholarship Fund  
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*The Staff (from the left):  
Kate Gearan, Pamela  
Constantine and Karen  
and Arthur Emery.*

### *Is There Life after College?*

Where do Phillips Scholars go once they graduate from college? We surveyed the Class of 2007 this summer and were thrilled to hear from 80% of them (125 grads) by early fall. Here is a sampling of what they are up to:

- 31% are working in a field related to their college studies or their desired career;
- 24% will attend graduate school in the fall, or have been accepted and have deferred for a year;
- 12% are working for a year while investigating or applying to graduate school;
- 8% will be in school—either 5th year programs, Fulbright studies, or non-degree programs;
- 4% are living abroad;
- 3% are involved in public service: Ameri-corps, Peace Corps, or political campaign work
- 19% are still job hunting.

To put faces to these statistics, we asked a few grads to flesh out for us what they are doing. Two alumni spent the summer working for the Obama for America campaign. Tristan Freeman (Brown University) and Matt Harutunian (Providence College) were both attracted to “the freshness and optimism” of Senator Obama’s campaign. Tristan had been interested in the Senator since his 2004 speech at the Democratic Convention, seeing him as a politician without political baggage and with the ability to energize those who had heretofore been uninvolved in politics. Working in fundraising at the Cambridge, MA, office, Tristan’s task was to translate that enthusiasm into support through events targeting young professionals, such as “Generation Barack Obama” events. Tristan reports that the experience was entirely positive, that to see this process up close gave him hope for the Senator’s campaign and makes him less cynical about politics.

Matt worked on the road as part of the national advance staff organizing media events. He coordinated with state and local campaign offices to find event locations and to craft appropriate messages, to alert the press about these events, and to help recruit crowds—some well into the thousands. His office was a wireless laptop and Blackberry as he traveled to seven states in 10 weeks, where he was inspired by the dedication and work ethic of the staff and volunteers. “It was more like a movement for change than a political campaign,” he writes. Back in Massachusetts now, he handles outreach and special assignments for Congressman Ed Markey.

Daniel Santimore (Gordon College) falls into two categories of alumni pursuits,

*continued on page two*



*Members of the Obama for America  
advance staff pose with the Senator.  
Matt Harutunian is in the front row.*

*continued from page one*

as he is currently living on Mt. Scopus in Jerusalem and studying there through a Fulbright Scholarship. “I’ll be researching at the École Biblique and at the Albright Institute of Archaeological Research as an associate fellow and working with the unsurpassed archaeology faculty at the Hebrew University. My main project looks at a foreign, Mycenaean (pre-Greek)-like people who arrived at the end of the Bronze Age. Their civilization is a case study in acculturation. I intend to focus on the cultic aspect of their first 300 years in Palestine, analyzing how their cult changed and why they acculturated to the Israelite/Canaanite motifs so quickly. Also, there has not yet been serious work done to bring together the religions remains from this culture, so my work here will provide me with that opportunity.” Daniel later hopes to pursue graduate studies in Northwest Semitics and Archaeology at UCLA.

Georgetown University grad Seamus Kraft sees “compassionate thought turned into compassionate action” in his role as Special Assistant to Claudia McMurray, the Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans, Environment and Science. His studies of political philosophy and diplomatic history at Georgetown fostered his desire to work for the Department of State, and this background, along with being, in his words “lucky and forcibly patient” got him a White House appointment to State. Seamus keeps the Assistant Secretary’s schedule, manages her work flow, arranges her travel and provides a second set of eyes on everything she does.

“The Department of State’s *raison d’être* is to advance the goals of the US overseas, and my bureau focuses on the environmental slice of that mandate. This principle permeates each handshake, meeting and memo. On a daily basis, I see real people and real animals in real tough situations helped by our country,” reports Seamus. “This is where the magic happens.” But he also finds that environmental issues are greatly nuanced, further complicated by muddy international politics, and require great diplomacy at all levels. “Environmentalists are our gadflies, and we are working to make private industry our partners, not our foils,” he explains.

Seamus is pleased to have discovered that his colleagues in government service include incredibly dedicated, erudite and self-sacrificing individuals, not the stereotypical bureaucrats that one might mistakenly expect. And he also admits to being almost surprised that “Mom was right all along,” that those years of education, work and life experiences do prepare you for a career-- a sentiment echoed, no doubt, by hundreds of Phillips Scholars alumni!

## *Salem Visitors*

We were thrilled this summer to meet those students who were able to juggle their work schedules so that they could come visit us in Salem--and especially excited to host a busload of students from the Upward Bound program at Lyndon State College in Vermont. They stopped in Salem to say hello and take a tour of the Stephen Phillips House museum this past July during a trip to Boston.



understanding college financing. We wish them all the best of luck as they prepare for college!



*Daniel Santimore at the center of Machtesh Ramon, the largest natural crater in the world.*

## News from the Phillips House

*Margherita Desy, Site Manager of the Phillips House writes:*

The 2007 season at Historic New England's Phillips House in Salem marked the 100th birthday of Stephen Phillips (September 27, 1907), for whom the house and Scholarship are named. Stephen Phillips intended 34 Chestnut Street



*This is likely the first bookplate style that young Stephen Phillips used to mark his books, c. 1915.*  
Courtesy Historic New England

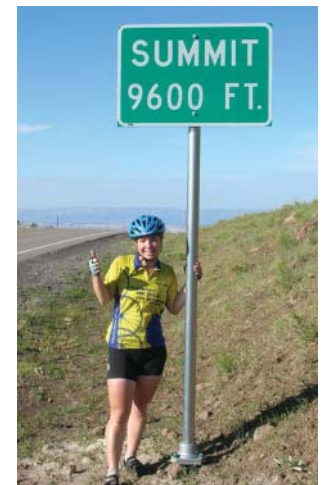
to become a museum, calling it a "veritable treasure house of antiquities." Upon Stephen's death in 1971, his wife, Betty Phillips, set up the house as a memorial to her late husband, his family, and the maritime heritage of Salem. Sixty-two Phillips Scholars and their family members visited the museum this summer season and learned first hand about the Phillips family and the life and interests of Stephen Phillips.

This season was also the first where the house was fully integrated into the stewardship of Historic New England, the oldest and largest regional preservation organization in the country. Young Stephen Phillips' playroom on the first floor was converted into the new orientation center. A beautiful Victorian room, the playroom is the perfect place to welcome our visitors and exhibit treasures from the collections. We currently show Phillips family books including several of young Stephen's that carry his own personal bookplate (see illustration). His many interests: pirates, Admiral Nelson, sailing ships, WWI, and fables are evident.

The autumn/winter season of 2007-2008 marks the beginning of "Winter Weekends." For the first time the Phillips House will be open Saturdays and Sundays, November 3- February 24, 2008, from 11-4pm. This winter schedule enables Historic New England to showcase another site in the off-season and provides visitors to Salem the opportunity to experience the rich history we have to share. If you have not visited the Phillips House, I hope you will consider it this winter or next summer, after it reopens on June 1st. We look forward to welcoming you and sharing with you stories of the Phillips family!

## Coast to Coast for Social Justice

What does a University of Wisconsin student who also works as a bicycle messenger do to celebrate her 2007 graduation? She rides her bike from New Haven, CT, to San Francisco, CA, to raise funds for Habitat for Humanity. Studio Art major Emma Bailey spent 9 weeks riding across mountain and desert with the 2007 Habitat Challenge to raise money for the construction of 4 to 5 homes for low-income families in New Haven and to raise awareness about the need for affordable housing nationwide. They stayed in church basements and community centers, sharing with their hosts information and a slide show about the Habitat program and their ride. About once a week, Emma writes, "We would trade our bikes for hammers and help with a Habitat build site. People showed us amazing generosity, providing food or inviting us into their homes for a shower and the occasional bed. In Iola, KS, one couple tuned up all of our bikes overnight and others took us to the airport to go up in powered parachutes. In small towns, our group of 25 would spike the population, and literally half the town would come to dinner with us." As for the ride itself, Emma was surprised by how much she loved the silence and open space of the desert and by just how mountainous Utah and Nevada are.



Although Habitat no longer sponsors this ride out of safety concerns, Emma enjoys both fundraising and long-distance rides for the adventures along the way and the pace of seeing the landscape as she bikes from town to town.

## Renewing your Award

*All recipients MUST file a complete Renewal Application by April 1, 2008 to receive an award for 2008-2009!*

Close to 450 students will apply to renew their awards this spring, always a welcome challenge to the staff, as we enjoy hearing from each student about how the year is going. It is a great help to us if you send your Renewal Application during March, rather than waiting until the last minute. Here's the

easiest way to ensure that your application arrives on time and is complete:

- In January, file your Renewal FAFSA on line. You need this for your college financial aid process, too.
- Order an official transcript with fall 2007 grades on it as soon as the grades are posted from first semester.
- Download our Renewal Application and its Instructions from the Renewal Applicants page of the website, complete it and return it to us **no later than April 1, 2008 along with the required supporting documents.**

## Off to Namibia



2007 Cornell University graduate Hannah Naomi Kim, shown here with her thesis paintings entitled “(from Sudan): Scatter, Walk, Pray” will head to Namibia in 2008 on a Fulbright Scholarship. Intrigued by its national history, first under the rule of Germany and then South Africa, she will study colonial photography and the development of the visual culture of contemporary Namibia through the medium of paintings, her field of study. Inspired by a vivid dream, a mentor’s recommendation and other connections, Hannah expects her time in Namibia will change her

life, especially in light of her experiences this fall living in New York city. She writes, “I’m learning that beneath all sleek exteriors, complex histories, and drama lies the human story, the human touch. I need to remember, as I travel abroad that, ultimately, we are in this story of humanity together.”

## Sharon De Oliveira: Alumni/Alumnae Scholar



The Phillips Scholarship Alumni/Alumnae Award was established in 2003 to recognize one new scholarship recipient in particular who exhibits great concern for improving his or her community and has met our academic and financial need standards. The Trustees are very pleased to award \$15,000 to Sharon De Oliveira, a 2007 honors graduate of Malden (MA) High School and currently a first-year student at Northeastern University.

Sharon’s activities both in and out of high school focused on creating positive change. A member of the leadership team of Malden High’s Project 540, she was instrumental in their work to identify needs and create action plans to improve the school community. She also participated in numerous community service programs through Key Club, National Honor Society and her church. With great facility for foreign languages (she is fluent in English, Portuguese and Spanish, and continues to study French at Northeastern) and having had a wonderful living experience in China through Summer Search, an organization that provides support and opportunities to low-income youth, Sharon will

major in International Affairs at Northeastern University.

Sharon writes that she loves Northeastern, although there aren’t enough hours in the day to take advantage of all that Northeastern offers, as well as keep up with rigorous course work. She has joined the International Affairs Society, where she is excited to find others who share her interests. She is participating this fall in a project called Global Pact, through which the group will form a local NGO (non-governmental organization) that will work to improve some aspect of people’s lives in the Boston area. Although it represents a huge time commitment, Sharon is hoping to both meet more people through the project and also have a chance to serve the greater Boston community.

## Words of Thanks

The following Phillips Scholar Alumni have donated generously to the Phillips Scholarship Alumni/ae Award during the past year. Matched dollar for dollar by a friend of the scholarship, these funds helped expand our ability to assist students with the soaring costs of education. A sincere thank you to all.

### \$1,000 and above

- \*Anonymous
- \* †Emma Nowinski

### \$100-\$499

- Eileen Cuddy
- \* †Nathaniel Malloy
- \* †Katherine McGuire
- Richard Moy

Patricia Tobin

†Paul Yee

### \$50-\$99

- \*Michael Bednark
- †Daniel Hartmann
- \* †Joseph Kimok
- \*Michael Kishko
- \*Jennifer Scafidi

### up to \$49

- † Dale Anderson
- † Laura Anderson
- † Carly Bagdonas
- † Lindsey Bagdonas
- John DeCaro
- Kathleen Doherty
- \* † Joseph Ferrantino
- \* Jocelyn Finos

- \* Jackie Gould
- Matthew Harutunian
- † Ross Hogan
- \* David Ingram
- \* Leah Kelley
- † Seamus Kraft
- Emily Pellini
- \* Lauren Pizzi
- \* Brad Russo

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