On May 25, 2010, the NYUCD Class of 2010, including approximately 350 candidates for the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery, as well as candidates for Advanced Education certificates, MS degrees in clinical research, BS degrees in dental hygiene, and AAS degrees in dental hygiene, saw their dreams come true as they received the appropriate academic degree or certificate in front of a crowd of nearly 3,000 people in the Theater at Madison Square Garden.

In addition to the conferral of degrees and certificates, highlights of the graduation ceremony included presentation of the Dr. Michael C. Alfano Award for Promoting Diversity in Dental Education to Dr. Rueben C. Warren, Director of the National Center for Bioethics in Research and Health Care at Tuskegee University, and the Dr. Harry Strusser Memorial Award for distinguished contributions to improved public health to Ms. Saundra Thomas, Vice President for Community Affairs at WABC-TV. Ms. Thomas has played a pivotal role in sustaining a 25-year partnership between NYUCD and WABC-TV to provide free annual dental screenings for New Yorkers. (See related story on p.92.)

“The NYU College of Dentistry today celebrates the achievements of our newest alumni and of the faculty who have guided them to this momentous day,” said Dean Bertolami. “With their strong educational background, community-service orientation, and global perspective, the members of the Class of 2010 are poised to advance dentistry in dramatic ways. We cheer the hard work, discipline, and dedication that has led them to this day, and we wish them great success and happiness in the years ahead.”

Dr. Rueben C. Warren, recipient of the Alfano Award for Promoting Diversity in Dental Education.

Ms. Saundra Thomas, recipient of the Strusser Award

Celebrating OUR COMMUNITY

GRADUATION 2010: A DAY OF ACHIEVEMENTS CELEBRATED
Nicole Holland, Class of 2010, Sets Her Sights on Combining Public Health Dentistry and Advocacy for the Underserved

While providing oral health screenings to children in an underserved Brooklyn neighborhood during her senior-year rotation aboard the College of Dentistry’s Smiling Faces, Going Places mobile dental van, Dr. Nicole Holland, Class of 2010, encountered a 9-year-old boy who only brushed his teeth during weekend visits to his grandmother’s house. When another dental student on the van learned about the boy’s oral health habits and pressed him to explain why he didn’t brush daily, the child became embarrassed and non-communicative. It turned out that it was only when he visited his grandmother that he became aware of the importance of brushing his teeth.

“The interaction between my fellow students and this child illustrates how challenging it can be to communicate effectively with patients from underserved communities,” Dr. Holland says. “It’s a challenge I intend to address as I pursue a career in public health dentistry.”

To that end, Dr. Holland will enroll in fall 2010 in a Master of Science in Health Communication program jointly sponsored by the Tufts University School of Medicine and Emerson College in Boston, which provides students with a foundation in the science, theory, and practice of effective health communication and prepares them to achieve a broad range of public health goals, from information dissemination, to knowledge of the social and environmental determinants of oral health, to behavior change and advocacy.

“Once I complete the MPH program, I plan to divide my time between practicing dentistry and advocating for better communication between providers and patients and more effective oral health education for the underserved,” says Dr. Holland.

Throughout her four years at the NYU College of Dentistry, Dr. Holland was an active member of the student-led Oral Cancer Walk Committee, which has organized five annual walks through Harlem to raise awareness of oral cancer. Moreover, during her senior year at NYUCD, Dr. Holland participated in an outreach to Grenada (see related story on p.48), and in an Oral Medicine Honors program that provided both valuable clinical training and an opportunity to educate patients about the connection between tobacco use and oral cancer and the importance of quitting smoking.

Dr. Ross Kerr, Clinical Associate Professor of Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology, Radiology & Medicine, who mentored Dr. Holland as a member of the Oral Cancer Walk Committee and who teaches in the Oral Medicine Honors Program, says, “Nicole’s professional demeanor, chairside manner, professionalism, and ethics are all exemplary, and she gets on exceedingly well with patients and staff.

“I am delighted that she has decided to expand her horizons by enrolling in the Tufts University/Emerson College MPH program. The program looks very exciting, and, given her interest in oral cancer, I am hopeful that she will be able to use her experiences at NYUCD to help promote greater awareness of this disease. We need more dentists embarking on careers in health communication and I feel that Nicole has the attributes to excel in this field. “

Perhaps the most valuable lesson I’ve learned,” Dr. Holland says, “is that through effective communication, every healthcare practitioner has the power to help his or her patients become more accountable for their health.”
ALEXIS COHEN, CLASS OF 2011: THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC HEALTH DENTISTRY

Alexis Cohen always knew that her longing for adventure and hands-on experience would never allow her to sit still for any length of time. The journey to NYU, where Alexis is currently pursuing dual degrees in dentistry and global public health, has been fueled by a passion to engage in the world at large and make a difference.

At NYUCD, Alexis has gone well beyond her academic requirements, tackling a remarkable array of extracurricular pursuits. She has served on NYUCD’s Greening Committee; helped to plan and participate in the school’s annual Oral Cancer Walk; volunteered via the Inter-American Health Alliance for one month at a health clinic in rural Guatemala, an experience that prompted her to start an NYUCD chapter to raise awareness and funds for the clinic; and has been active on the Student Council, as secretary in her second year and as president during 2009-2010. Alexis’s dedication and hard work in both the academic and extracurricular arenas have garnered her awards, including an American Dental Association (ADA) Foundation Scholarship Award and an NYU President’s Service Award.

“It’s definitely a balancing act,” says Alexis. As Student Council president, she has been especially busy. “One of my goals has been to increase collaboration and cohesiveness between the student body and the administration, which has resulted in more regular meetings to share ideas. We’ve also started monthly recognition awards for both students and faculty, since I felt people don’t always get enough recognition.”

Administrators and faculty at NYUCD who have worked closely with Alexis are struck by her unique combination of intelligence, unassuming demeanor, and solid leadership skills. Said Dr. Michael O’Connor, Vice Dean for Administration and Finance, who chairs the two-and-a-half-year-old Greening Committee, “As a charter member of the Greening Committee, Alexis has demonstrated outstanding student leadership. She has strong beliefs and articulates them very well, always backing up her views with data in a non-confrontational manner. You can’t help but react positively—she’s humble and effective in an understated way.

That’s strong leadership.”

The path toward public health dentistry was a bit circuitous for Alexis. In 2003, she graduated with a film degree from Northwestern, but soon realized that a career in the movie industry was not for her. To do some soul-searching, she decided to spend time abroad and enrolled in the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme, sponsored by the Japanese government, which enabled her to live in Fujisawa, a city an hour outside of Tokyo. There she taught English to Japanese junior high and high school students for one year.

“I had decided I wanted to do this but then spent the entire plane ride over crying,” said Alexis. “I didn’t know Japanese and had never taught. But I got through it, and it was so positive, I now have no fear of putting myself in a situation where I might not know everything.”

Alexis’s experience in Japan jump-started her global interests. She also realized she wanted to work in a health-related field, and a friend in dentistry was so positive, Alexis’s goal of eventually treating underserved dental patients.

In fall 2009, with the first two years of NYUCD course work behind her, Alexis began the Master’s in Global Public Health portion of her joint degrees. A highlight of 2010 was the two weeks she spent in Grenada participating in the joint NYUCD–Henry Schein Cares Global Student Outreach Program’s initial national oral health survey. Alexis was part of the survey team that went into schools to gather baseline data on tooth decay rates in children. In addition to her other talents, Alexis is also an excellent photographer and took the photo of the Grenadian children shown in this article. In Grenada, she worked under the guidance of Dr. Stuart Hirsch, NYUCD’s Associate Dean for International Affairs and Development.

“Alexis is a great mentee,” said Dr. Hirsch, “because she’s that student who really appreciates the mode they’re in—she’s like, ‘feed me,’ always wanting to know more.”

Added Dr. Hirsch, “She has a global perspective and a great passion to serve underserved communities. She’s very special.”

“Every time I tell Dr. Hirsch how thankful I am for our connection he says, ‘No, I’m thankful—you are the future.’ To which I always respond, ‘No pressure, right?’”

—STEPHANIE SUSNJARA
One hundred and eleven full- and part-time faculty members, administrators, and staff were honored recently at the 2010 annual Service Recognition Ceremony for their contributions to the Colleges of Dentistry and Nursing over an extended period of time.

“All of these people have displayed exemplary dedication and play an important role in NYUCD/NYUCN’s continued success,” said Dean Bertolami. “We are tremendously grateful to them all and salute their commitment to the Colleges of Dentistry and Nursing.” The names of recipients of Service Recognition Awards appear below.
CONGRATULATIONS TO...

MR. RICHARD ANCHUNDIA, formerly an Administrative Aide, on his promotion to Admissions Counselor. In his new role, Richard, who holds a law degree from Seton Hall University, will interview applicants, as well as review and analyze applications.

DR. CHARLES N. BERTOLAMI, Herman Robert Fox Dean of the NYU College of Dentistry, on copresenting, with NYU College of Nursing Dean Terry Fulmer, a lecture entitled “Interprofessional Education: The Nursing and Dentistry Collaboration at NYU” at the ADEA CCI (Commission on Change and Innovation in Dental Education) Oversight Committee meeting in January. Dean Bertolami was also quoted in the ADA News, where he praised the ADA’s Center for Evidence-Based Dentistry and its recent workshop held at NYU for “strengthening participants’ ability to search for, read, and interpret clinical practice guidelines, as well as individual research studies and systematic reviews summarizing findings from multiple clinical studies, with a view to learning how to translate those findings into clinical practice.” Dean Bertolami was also selected to receive an American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Presidential Citation for his service to dental education.

DR. TIMOTHY BROMAGE, Adjunct Professor of Biomaterials & Biomimetics and of Basic Science & Craniofacial Biology, on being selected as the recipient of the 2010 Max Planck Research Award (see related story on p. 30); on being named an Honorary Professor by La Salle Centro Universitario in Madrid, Spain; on being named a finalist for the Biology ImageLibrary Awards; and on being interviewed for a “Strides in Science” feature appearing on the American Association for Dental Research (AADR) Website.

DR. MIJIN CHOI, Clinical Assistant Professor of Prosthodontics, on receiving the 2010 Claude R. Baker Faculty Award presented by the American Academy of Fixed Prosthodontics. The award recognizes one outstanding...
Dr. Elena Cunningham, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Basic Science & Craniofacial Biology, on presenting an abstract entitled “How Do Lemurs Return to Important Locations” at a symposium entitled “From Random Walks to Travel Routes: Understanding Patterns of Primate Movement,” part of the 23rd Conference of the International Primatological Society, in Kyoto, Japan. Dr. Cunningham’s presentation was co-supported by the National Geographic Society and the NYU College of Dentistry.

Dr. Ananda Dasanayake, Professor of Epidemiology & Health Promotion, on co-authoring articles entitled “Maternal Drinking and Oral and Oro-pharyngeal Cancer: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis” for Oral Oncology, “A School-Based Oral Health Education Intervention Program to Promote Better Oral Health Practices: Experience from an Aboriginal Community in Taiwan” for the Journal of Health Care for the Poor and Underserved, “Does Periodontal Therapy Reduce the Risk for Systemic Diseases?” for Dental Clinics of North America, and “TNF-α and Antibodies to Periodontal Bacteria Discriminate Between Alzheimer’s Disease Patients and Normal Subjects” for the Journal of Neuroimmunology. The Journal of Neuroimmunology article was co-authored with Dr. Angela Kamer, Assistant Professor of Periodontology & Implant Dentistry; Dr. Ron Craig, Associate Professor of Basic Science & Craniofacial Biology; Dr. Robert Norman, Research Associate Professor of Epidemiology & Health Promotion; and Dr. Robert Boylan, Associate Professor of Basic Science & Craniofacial Biology.

Ms. Lisa Duddy, Clinical Assistant Professor of Dental Hygiene, on receiving an NYUCD Students Council Faculty Appreciation Award.

Ms. Jill B. Fernandez, Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatric Dentistry and Director of Pediatric Outreach Programs, on receiving the 2010 Miracle of Pediatric Outreach Programs and the 2010 Miracle of Pediatric Outreach Nurses. The NYUCD’s Special Olympics team also participated in the 2010 Special Olympics.

Dr. Joseph G. Ghaafari, Adjunct Professor of Orthodontics, on co-authoring an article entitled “Correspondence Between Subjective and Linear Measurements of the Palatal Airway on Lateral Cephalometric Radiographs” for Archives of Otolaryngology.

Dr. Gary R. Goldstein, ’69, Professor of Prosthodontics, on authoring an article entitled “The Longevity of Direct and Indirect Posterior Restorations Is Uncertain and May Be Affected by a Number of Dentists, Patients, and Material-Related Factors” for the Journal of Evidence-Based Dental Practice.

Ms. Winnie Furnari, Clinical Assistant Professor of Dental Hygiene, on co-authoring articles entitled “Core Value: Individual Autonomy & Respect for Human Beings” and “Childhood Illnesses Revisited: Polio and Chickenpox/Shingles,” as well as an ethics column entitled “The ADHA’s Code of Ethics,” for ADHA Access Magazine. Professor Furnari has also been appointed ADHA’s liaison to the National Diabetes Education Program Pharmacy, Podiatry, Optometry, and Dental Professionals Work Group.

Dr. Donna Hallas, Clinical Associate Professor of Nursing and Coordinator of the Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Program, on copresenting a workshop entitled “Nurse Practitioners’ Interventions to Reduce the Incidence of Early Childhood Caries” at the Greater New York National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, with Ms. Jill Fernandez, Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatric Dentistry and Director of Pediatric Outreach Programs.

Ms. Nicole Greco, Instructor in Dental Hygiene, on authoring an article entitled “Human Papillomavirus” for ADHA Access Magazine.
DR. JASON HOLDEN, Clinical Assistant Professor of Prosthodontics, on coauthoring an article entitled “Comparison of the Marginal Fit of Pressable Ceramic to Metal Ceramic Restorations” for the Journal of Prosthodontics, with Dr. Gary R. Goldstein, ’69, Professor of Prosthodontics; Dr. Eugene Hittelman, Associate Professor of Epidemiology & Health Promotion; and Ms. Elizabeth Clark, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Biomaterials & Biomimetics.

DR. EDWARD J. MILLER, JR., Clinical Assistant Professor of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery, on being elected President of the New York County component of the New York State Dental Association.

DR. KAMBIZ A. MOH AJER, Clinical Professor of Periodontics & Implant Dentistry, on presenting two papers at the 50th International

DR. KAMBI Z A. MOH AJER, Clinical Professor of Periodontics & Implant Dentistry, on presenting two papers at the 50th International

DR. MAUREEN MCANDREW, Clinical Associate Professor of Cariology & Comprehensive Care and Director of Clinical Faculty Education, on authoring an article entitled “Use of an Action Learning Model to Create a Dental Faculty Development Program” for the Journal of Dental Education.
Iranian Dental Association Meeting: “Placement of Dental Implants in Deficient Ridges in Implant Panel,” and “Recent Approaches in Periodontal Plastic Surgery.”

DR. FREDERICK G. MORE, Professor of Epidemiology & Health Promotion and of Pediatric Dentistry, on being featured in the ADEA Newsletter “Educator Spotlight,” about his course entitled “Diversity, Attitude and Health Beliefs.”

DR. DOUGLAS MORSE, Associate Professor of Epidemiology & Health Promotion, on coauthoring an article entitled “Smoking and Drinking in Relation to Depressive Symptoms Among Persons with Oral Cancer or Oral Epithelial Dysplasia” for Head & Neck, with Dr. Walter Psoter, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology & Health Promotion, and Dr. Elise Eisenberg, ’84, Clinical Professor of Epidemiology & Health Promotion.

DR. IVY PELTZ, ’83, Clinical Associate Professor of Cariology & Comprehensive Care, on co-presenting a workshop entitled “How Am I Doing? Using 360° Evaluations to Improve Faculty Performance” at the 2010 annual meeting of the American Dental Education Association, with Dr. Maureen McAndrew, ’83, Clinical Associate Professor of Cariology & Comprehensive Care.

DR. WALTER PSOTER, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology & Health Promotion, on coauthoring articles entitled “Accuracy of Two Impression Materials Using Mechanical Mixing and Direct Impression Techniques: A Three-Dimensional Study” for the Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry; and “Caries Patterns in the Primary Dentition: Cluster Analyses of a Sample of 5,169 Arizona Children 5–59 Months of Age” for the International Journal of Oral Sciences, with Dr. Douglas Morse, Associate Professor of Epidemiology & Health Promotion.

DR. ARNOLD E. RAY, ’62, Clinical Associate Professor of Cariology & Comprehensive Care, on authoring an article entitled “Numb Chin Syndrome: Dental Implications” for The New York State Dental Journal.

DR. JOAN PHELAN, Professor & Chair of the Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology, Radiology & Medicine, on being profiled in Primus, the magazine of the Columbia University College of Dental Medicine, as a notable alumnus.

DR. WALTER PSOTER, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology & Health Promotion, on coauthoring articles entitled “Accuracy of Two Impression Materials Using Mechanical Mixing and Direct Impression Techniques: A Three-Dimensional Study” for the Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry; and “Caries Patterns in the Primary Dentition: Cluster Analyses of a Sample of 5,169 Arizona Children 5–59 Months of Age” for the International Journal of Oral Sciences, with Dr. Douglas Morse, Associate Professor of Epidemiology & Health Promotion.

DR. STEFANIE RUSSELL, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology & Health Promotion, on coauthoring an article entitled “Self-Reported Willingness to Have Cancer Screenings and the Effects of Sociodemographic Factors” for the Journal of the National Medical Association. Dr. Russell’s coauthors included Dr. Ralph V. Katz, Professor and Chair of the Department of Epidemiology & Health Promotion. Added kudos to Dr. Russell on being accepted into the NIH Advanced Training Institute on Health Behavior Theory.

MR. CHIRAG SADANA, above left, Assistant Director of the Office of Informatics, and receiving an NYUCD Faculty Council ‘Teacher Recognition Award.’

DR. STUART L. SEGELNICK, Clinical Associate Professor of Periodontology & Implant Dentistry, on being elected a faculty member of Omicron Kappa Upsilon (OKU).

Congratulations also to Dr. Marjan Moghadam, Clinical Assistant Professor of Prosthodontics; Dr. Ash Estafan, Clinical Assistant Professor of Prosthodontics; and Dr. Gerald Klaczany, Clinical Associate Professor of Cariology & Comprehensive Care, who were also elected as faculty members of OKU.

DR. DONNA SHELLEY, Associate Professor of Cariology & Comprehensive Care and Director of Interdisciplinary Research & Practice, on coauthoring an article entitled “Increasing Access to Evidence-Based Smoking Cessation Treatment: Effectiveness of a Free Nicotine Patch Program Among Chinese Immigrants” for the Journal of Immigrant and Minority Health.

DR. ANDREW I. SPIELMAN, Professor of Basic Science & Craniofacial Biology and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, on being elected Chairman of the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations (JCNDE), a 15-member body which oversees the written National Board Dental Examinations for all dentists and dental hygienists in the United States. Added kudos to Dr. Spielman on receiving the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Colgate-Palmolive Co. Excellence in Teaching Award, and on being featured in the ADEA Newsletter’s Guest Perspective on Change and Innovation in Dental Education, where he discussed the importance of looking beyond the metrics that predict success in dental school and asking, "What attributes predict success in life?"

MS. RITA STARTU, Assistant Dean for Development & Alumni Affairs, on being appointed to the Advisory Board of Norwalk Hospital in Connecticut.

MS. LISA B. STEFANOU, Clinical Assistant Professor of Dental Hygiene, on authoring an article entitled “The New Face of Denture Patients” for Dimensions of Dental Hygiene.

DR. ERIC S. STUDLEY, ’85, Clinical Assistant Professor of Cariology & Comprehensive Care, on copresenting a workshop entitled “Seeing is Believing: Using Videotapes for Assessment of Communication Skills” at the 2010 annual meeting of the American Dental Education Association, with Dr. Ivy Peltz, ’83, Clinical Associate Professor of Cariology & Comprehensive Care, and Dr. Ralph P. Cunningham, ’72, Clinical Associate Professor of Cariology & Comprehensive Care. Dr. Studley also co-presented a poster entitled "What a Pain in the Assessment! Using Exams as a Teaching Tool" at the ADEA meeting with Dr. Peltz and Dr. Aneta Wojcik, Instructor in Cariology & Comprehensive Care.

DR. JOHANNA WARSHAW, Instructor in Basic Science & Craniofacial Biology, on receiving an NYUCD Faculty Council Teacher Recognition Award.

PROFESSOR CHERYL M. WESTPHAL, Assistant Dean for Allied Health Programs, on authoring a guest editorial entitled “Women’s Health” for ADHA Access Magazine.

DR. ANTHONY VERNILLO, Professor of Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology, Radiology & Medicine, on coauthoring an article entitled “Marketable Spit—Property and Privacy Paradoxes—an Ethical and Legal Counterpart to Blood” for the Journal of the Canadian Dental Association, with Dr. Paul Wolpe, Professor of Bioethics and Director of the Center for Bioethics at Emory University.

DR. MARK S. WOLFF, Associate Dean for Predoctoral Clinical Education and Professor and Chair of the Department of Cariology & Comprehensive Care, on presenting a workshop entitled "Dentin Hypersensitivity: State-of-the-Art and New Therapeutic Approaches" at the National Congress of Dentistry in Chieti, Italy. Dr. Wolff also coedited the July 2010 edition of Dental Clinics of North America: Current Concepts in Cariology, and coauthored “Defining Dental Caries for 2010 and Beyond,” which appears in that issue.

DR. YU ZHANG, Assistant Professor of Biomaterials & Biomimetics, on authoring an article entitled "Graded Restorations for All-Ceramic Crowns" for the Journal of Dental Research, and on coauthoring "Damage and Reliability of Y-TZP After Cementation Surface Treatment," also for the Journal of Dental Research. Dr. Zhang’s coauthors included Dr. Van Thompson, Professor and Chair of the Department of Biomaterials & Biomimetics, and Dr. Dianne Rekow, Provost of the Polytechnic Institute of NYU.
Dr. Peter Aborn, ’73: CNN Hero of the Year Nominee

Dr. Peter Aborn, Class of 1973, was recognized by CNN in 2009 as one of 100 CNN Heroes, a program that searches out unsung heroes around the world who give exceptional service to others. Dr. Aborn was recognized for creating Project Talamanca, a program he founded in 1996 to bring free dental care to people living in rural areas of Costa Rica, a country in which there are two dentists for every 30,000 people.

Dr. Aborn, a native New Yorker, left Scarsdale to go to Costa Rica in 1995, where he settled and established a practice in San Pedro. Two years later, he had an experience that changed the trajectory of his life. In 1997, Dr. Aborn first visited the Talamanca Reserve, a cloud forest approximately 2,400 feet above sea level, as a dental volunteer. By the time his volunteer activity was over, he felt he could not leave. In the years that followed, Dr. Aborn worked tirelessly and nearly alone, traveling to more and more remote regions, increasingly on his own time and at his own expense.

In January 2005, when floods all but destroyed what infrastructure the Reserve had, Dr. Aborn enlisted two of his colleagues and became among the few who responded with material assistance. Under Dr. Aborn’s leadership, this nucleus has become Project Talamanca, a multinational, interdisciplinary volunteer organization, which in addition to providing dental care, also conducts research on the prevalence of partial and total edentulism, periodontal disease and the effect that natural medications have on it, and the prevalence of intra- and extra oral leishmaniasis, a parasitic disease found in parts of the tropics, subtropics, and southern Europe.

In January 2010, Dr. Aborn’s fellow NYUCD alumnus, Dr. Gary R. Goldstein, Professor of Prosthodontics, joined Dr. Aborn on a Project Talamanca outreach, helping to treat over 600 patients in four-and-a-half days, 60 percent of whom were children.

“What Peter has done in Talamanca is amazing,” says Dr. Goldstein. “He has single-handedly, with sheer force and determination, brought much-needed health care to an extremely remote community. But Peter needs our help. If you are in need of a grounding, life-altering experience, then consider doing as I did and joining him in Talamanca. You can contact Peter directly at peter.aborn@gmail.com.”

Dr. Larry Rosenthal Honored as Mann Foundation “Man of the Year”

Dr. Larry Rosenthal, ’72, was honored in April by The Mann Foundation, which benefits the Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center at Mount Sinai Hospital, at its Fifth Annual Mann of the Year Awards, held at Cipriani 42nd Street in New York.

Each year since 2005, the Mann Foundation has honored a select group of New Yorkers for their support of research dedicated to finding a cure for Alzheimer’s disease. Dr. Rosenthal was cited for his “impact on his profession and the community, and his support for research initiatives dedicated to finding a cure for Alzheimer’s disease.”

Brooklyn Street Named in Memory of Dr. Michael J. Brienza, ’94

A street at the intersection of Cropsey Avenue and 15th Avenue in Brooklyn has been officially named “Dr. Michael Brienza Way” by the New York City Council in memory of Dr. Brienza, class of 1994, who passed away in April 2009.

In addition to his extensive professional activities, which included serving as president of the Bay Ridge Dental Society and the New York State Dental Society of Anesthesiology, and as a fellow of the American Dental Society of Anesthesiology, Dr. Brienza proudly served his country in the US Naval Reserves, attaining the rank of Commander. A recipient of the Homeland Security Commendation, he also received a number of other commendations and awards, including one for expert marksmanship.
Alumni in the Spotlight

‘60s

DR. STANLEY F. MALAMUD, Class of 1969, on authoring an article entitled “Phentolamine Mesylate for the Reversal of Residual Soft-Tissue Anesthesia” for Dental Economics.

‘80s

DR. EUGENE L. ANTENUCCI, Class of 1983, on being named a spokesperson for dental equipment manufacturer Planmeca USA.

DR. GERALD CURATOLA, Class of 1983, on appearing on “The Dr. Oz Show” to discuss early detection of oral cancer.

DR. JONATHAN LEVINE, Class of 1989, on appearing on “The Dr. Oz Show” to discuss the benefits of aesthetic dentistry.

‘90s

DR. CHARLES BURNS, Class of 1995, on being elected President of the Fifth District Dental Society of the New York State Dental Association.

DR. GERARDO SANTIAGO, Class of 1991, on receiving the Southwest Florida Parent and Child People’s Choice Award for outstanding community service.

‘00s

DR. RUBEN COHEN, Class of 2002, on being a first responder in Haiti one week after the earthquake of 2010. Dr. Cohen was profiled in the ADA News for his relief work in Haiti.

DR. ADNAN QAYYUM, Class of 2003, on being a guest on “American Health Front,” an educational program on NBC-IV Channel 10 in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

DR. TEJDEEP RATTAN, Class of 2009, on being promoted to the rank of captain in the US Army.
In Remembrance

Dr. Raymond Beldegreen, Class of 1936
Dr. Gustav Lasoff, Clinical Professor of Orthodontics
Dr. Sidney R. Berger, Class of 1977; former Clinical Assistant Professor of Endodontics
Dr. Gerald N. Green, Class of 1962; Clinical Associate Professor, Cariology & Comprehensive Care
Dr. Jay Steinberg, Class of 1984
Dr. Roy A. Swenson, Class of 1950

“Thank you, Professor Wheeler, for your excellence as an educator and clinician, and for your gift to us of a life well lived.”

Professor Alla Wheeler
1958–2010
Wake Up, Dentistry!