“Too often inaudible above the thunder of ceremonial applause for Dr. King’s ennobling dream is his remonstration that black Americans were dealt a check after the Civil War that came back marked ‘insufficient funds.’”

—NYU HISTORIAN DAVID LEVERING LEWIS AT A DISCUSSION ON THE LEGACY OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOSTED BY THE JOHN BRADYMAN CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF CONGRESS

HEARD ON CAMPUS

“I don’t think a president who takes over the command of the armed forces in war can come out of that untouched. It’s one thing to have a great worldview and talk about American leadership, it’s another thing to be at the airbase when they bring the coffins back or go to Walter Reed and see kids who are permanently maimed because of your decisions. And I think George W. Bush felt that enormously, and that President Obama feels it very, very heavily.”

—RET. GEN. WESLEY CLARK SPEAKING ON THE 2012 ELECTION IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT AT THE SCHOOL OF CONTINUING AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES’ CENTER FOR GLOBAL AFFAIRS

“On TV shows that they have today, they make it look like you’re gonna become famous overnight—and it doesn’t work that way. It just doesn’t. And the kids, they’re not singing now, they’re screaming.”

—A SPECIAL CONVERSATION WITH CROONER TONY BENNETT HOSTED BY THE HUDSON UNION SOCIETY AT THE NYU SKIRBALL CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
The New York Times

MEGAN DOLL

NOAH DEVEREAUX

ADAM CONNER-SIMONS


Boston-based journalist whose work has appeared in The New York Times, The Globe and Mail, and small. Such proved to be common on the Spring 2013 issue. But Wednesday came calling in the form of new pitches and ideas—
even better than those with which we started.

In one feature, we set loose a photographer on our New York City campus. The resulting visual essay (“All-Nights,” p. 42) is a play to the work/play rituals that continue around Washington Square throughout the winter hours. Another feature sounds trippy, but we assure you that it’s cutting-edge research. Scientists at NYU are examining how psilocybin, a psychedelic chemical found in more than 200 varieties of mushrooms, may be used to decrease anxiety among cancer patients (“Trip to the Doctor,” p. 39). Early results from the study show great promise.

“The Art of Television” (p. 36) should have been the most difficult, but up really was down on this issue. Three of the most renowned TV showrunners in the business—the brains behind Boardwalk Empire, The Walking Dead, and Breaking Bad—quickly and happily paused from their hectic lives to grant us in-depth interviews. We hope you enjoy our conversations with them as much as we did.

Every issue holds surprises. This round, our editorial juggling reminded us of a line from Kurt Vonnegut’s Cat’s Cradle: “Peculiar travel suggestions are dancing lessons from God.” Bon voyage.

—The NYU Alumni Magazine team

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We Hear From You

Thanks to all those who responded to the Fall 2012 issue. Let’s keep the conversation going...

Rockwell painted for The Saturday Evening Post during World War II. Bob Shearer (GSAS ’78, STEINHARDT’93) Scarsdale, New York

SIGNED OUT

I was thrilled to read the article “Table for One,” about the book Going Solo by sociology professor Eric Klinenberg. He states: “The truth is that no one really knows how they will be living in three or five or 10 or 50 years. The odds are that most Americans will spend some of their adult lives living alone…” Well, I had no idea that in my mid-fifties I would suddenly be left alone—a widow after 37 happy years of marriage (my husband and I married two months after graduation). He was gone from a short and aggressive bout with multiple myeloma—a lethal blood cancer. It is more than four and half years now since I became a widow, and a few of my female friends think something is wrong with me [because] I don’t chase men. They cannot fathom that while I am alone I do not feel lonely. I work full-time, I volunteer, I am on the advisory board of the local hospital, and get lots of invitations. Yes, I am flourishing, albeit in a different form than when I flourished when my husband was alive.

I cannot speak for the “never marrieds”; however, there is something to be said about being content with and enjoying one’s own company. Kudos to Alyson Krueger for writing a great article and to professor Klineberg for bringing this subject to light. I feel vindicated!

Jane Garrette Egelscy (WSC ’74) Langhorne, Pennsylvania

Please send your comments and opinions to: Readers’ Letters, NYU Alumni Magazine, 25 West Fourth Street, Room 619, New York, NY, 10012; or e-mail us at alumni.magazine@nyu.edu. Include your mailing address, phone number, school, and year. Letters become the property of NYU and may be edited for length and clarity.

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