Reunion 2019 Alumni Awards

The following awards were presented at Alumni Convocation during Reunion Weekend 2019.

Eigenbrodt Cup - Michael D. Loberg ’69, P’00

The Paul E. Raether ’68 Alumni Achievement Award - Erik Bloomquist ’14

Gary McQuaid Award - Rhoden B. Monrose ’09

The Kathleen O’Connor Boelhouwer Alumni Initiative Award - Crisanne M. Colgan M’74

Alumni Medal for Excellence - Donna F. Haghighat ’89

Alumni Medal for Excellence - Doug M. Macdonald ’89

Alumni Medal for Excellence - Danae Goldberg McKenzie ’09

Alumni Medal for Excellence - Frank Kirkpatrick ’64

Citations for the 2019 Alumni Awards

The Eigenbrodt Cup

Michael D. Loberg ’69, P’00

The Eigenbrodt Cup, presented by Miss Sallie Eigenbrodt to the college in memory of her brother, David L. Eigenbrodt, Class of 1831, is one of the greatest honors that can be bestowed on a Trinity alumnus/a. A recipient of this honor must be an alumnus/a of national or international prominence, who has rendered unusual and significant service to the college. Each recipient receives a medallion symbolizing the honor; the cup itself, inscribed with his or her name, remains at the college. The cup has been awarded annually since 1935, except in 1939, 1944, and 1963.

Aristotle said, “What is the essence of life? To serve others and do good.” As a scientist and entrepreneur in the pharmaceutical industry and as a volunteer for Trinity and in your
community, you have embodied the words of the Greek philosopher by always keeping the well-being of others at the heart of your endeavors.

You came to Hartford from St. Louis, Missouri, as the college’s first Joseph V. Getlin Scholar. A talented science student, you majored in chemistry and were a member of Pi Kappa Alpha and Trinity’s fencing team. After graduation, you earned a Ph.D. from Washington University in St. Louis. Your distinguished career began at the University of Maryland, where you developed a radiopharmaceutical that continues to be marketed today and rose to associate professor of medicine and pharmacy. In 1979, you left academia and became a vice president of the Squibb Institute for Medical Research. Over the ensuing 18 years, you served as president of its various U.S. pharmaceutical and Northern European businesses, serving last as president of its oncology and immunology division. From 1997 until 2006, you were CEO of NitroMed, a pharmaceutical company, and led its successful IPO in 2003. You were awarded New England Biotech Entrepreneur of the Year in 2005 and World Economic Forum Biotech Pioneer in 2006. Since 2007, you have been a board director at ArQule. In 2015 you joined the board of IGM Biosciences, assuming the chairmanship in 2018. Both ArQule and IGM Biosciences are pioneering efforts aimed at treating—and one day curing—a range of cancers and rare childhood diseases.

A full-time resident of Martha’s Vineyard with your wife of 50 years, Melinda, you use your considerable experience to give back to your community. You have served as an elected health commissioner since 2009. You also are president of Vineyard Medical Care, the island's only walk-in clinic, which you purchased in 2014. Concerned with the prevalence of Lyme disease on the island, you co-founded and co-chaired the Martha’s Vineyard Tick-Borne Disease Initiative and the related Martha’s Vineyard Center for Clinical Research.

Your service to Trinity is no less impressive. In 1998, you and Melinda reestablished the Getlin Scholarship, which honors Captain Michael Getlin, a St. Louis native and the first Trinity student to perish in the Vietnam War. You once said that without this generous scholarship, you could not have attended Trinity, and you are honored to pass on this privilege to other students from the Midwest.

You were a member of Trinity’s Board of Trustees from 2004 to 2013 and currently are a Trinity Presidential Adviser. Over the years, you have served on various committees, including the Academic Affairs and Campaign Executive Committees and several Reunion Committees. You also returned to campus to give the occasional chemistry seminar at the invitation of your mentor, Vernon K. Krieble Professor of Chemistry, Emeritus, Henry A. DePhillips.

You passed on your love of your alma mater to your son, Bradley, who graduated from Trinity in the Class of 2000.
Madam President, on the occasion of his 50th Reunion, I am honored to present for The Eigenbrodt Cup, a most distinguished alumnus, Michael D. Loberg, Class of 1969.

Paul E. Raether ’68 Alumni Achievement Award

Erik C. Bloomquist ’14

Renamed in honor of Paul E. Raether ’68 on the occasion of his 50th Reunion in 2018, this award is given each year by the National Alumni Association to a member of the alumni body who has, preferably recently, distinguished him/herself in either his/her line of endeavor or beyond the call of normal pursuits. As an award given by the alumni association to one of its own members, it is considered to be of a singular purpose and intended to be clearly distinct from The Eigenbrodt Trophy and the Alumni Medal for Excellence.

It is fitting that you are receiving this award for achievement today. What you have accomplished as an actor, director, writer, producer, and choreographer in the five years since your Trinity graduation is unprecedented. But it is not surprising; you have been telling stories and putting on plays since you were a child.

You were heavily involved in theater at Trinity. At the 2013 Trinity Film Festival, your film Midnight Brew received the Screener's Choice award. A theater and dance major with a minor in music, you graduated cum laude and received the Harry Dobelle Book Prize in Musical Theater. You said your liberal arts education at Trinity allowed you to approach your career from the perspectives of an artist, technician, and critical thinker. You also are an alumnus of the London Dramatic Academy.

To date, you have received two New England Emmy Awards for outstanding director and writer and eight nominations. You also are a Top 200 Director on HBO’s Project Greenlight, which gives first-time filmmakers a chance to direct a feature film. Your nationally syndicated television series, The Cobblestone Corridor, for which you served as showrunner and lead actor, won three New England Emmys and received nine nominations. In January, Connecticut Magazine included you in its “40 Under 40: The Class of 2019.”

Long Lost, your debut feature, received numerous distinctions, including the Eastern Oregon Film Festival’s Directors to Watch award. Your short horror film She Came from the Woods was similarly lauded, including Tri-Cities International Film Festival's Best Horror Short award.
A member of the Actors’ Equity Association, you have appeared on stage in the U.S. premiere of Calendar Girls and the world premiere of Rear Window, which starred Kevin Bacon.

You also have served as an adjunct faculty member, artist-in-residence, and visiting artist at Trinity, Clark University, Avon Old Farms School, Miss Porter’s School, and Saint Andrew’s School (Florida), where you filmed a TEDx talk. In 2015, you returned to Trinity to direct Carrie: The Musical.

What is most impressive is that you launched your career from your home state of Connecticut. A native of Newington, you shot The Cobblestone Corridor at the University of Connecticut School of Law in Hartford and The Ethel Walker School in Simsbury. Long Lost was shot entirely in a Greenwich mansion and featured local talent. Next on your agenda is another feature-length film, Ten Minutes to Midnight, which will begin filming soon in Willimantic.

Madam President, on the occasion of his 10th Reunion, I am honored to recommend for the Paul E. Raether ’68 Alumni Achievement Award, Erik C. Bloomquist, Class of 2014.

Gary McQuaid Award
Rhoden Monrose ’09

The Gary McQuaid Award was established by family and friends in memory of Gary W. McQuaid ’64 and in recognition of his leadership as a Trinity undergraduate and his subsequent success in the business world. The award is presented annually by the National Alumni Association to the alumnus/a who has demonstrated leadership as an undergraduate and success in the business world.

You benefited from nonprofit organizations growing up, and now you are helping your generation to give back. You are the founding CEO of CariClub, an online platform that connects young executives with nonprofit organizations seeking junior board members. This win-win scenario means young professionals gain valuable leadership experience while lending their talents and expertise to nonprofits.

The idea for the company was born of your own experience. As a trading associate with Citigroup, you volunteered with Row New York, a nonprofit that teaches rowing and offers academic support to underserved youth. You eventually became a Young Executive Board member of the organization. However, the process of finding the nonprofit and its board felt
haphazard to you. Seeing an unserved market, you began building CariClub at night and eventually left your position with Citigroup, much to the shock of your friends.

Following your passion proved to be the right decision. Since its launch in August 2015, CariClub—named for the Latin word caritas, meaning charity—has connected associates from firms including Deloitte, KKR, Morgan Stanley, Unilever, and Davis Polk with hundreds of nonprofits.

Born on the island of St. Lucia in the Caribbean, you moved to Harlem with your mother and sister when you were 12. Though you initially struggled to adapt to a new country, you received support from a nonprofit that helped you prepare for, apply to, and matriculate at a private boarding school.

The boost was all you needed. You excelled in school and earned a full scholarship to Trinity, where you majored in economics. Outside of the classroom, you were a member of Trinity’s crew team and Psi Upsilon.

A most dedicated alumnus, you serve on Trinity’s Board of Fellows and on your Reunion Committee.

Madam President, on the occasion of his 10th Reunion, I am honored to recommend for the Gary McQuaid Award, Rhoden Monrose, Class of 2009.

The Kathleen O’Connor Boelhouwer ’85 Alumni Initiative Award

Crisanne M. Colgan M’74

This award, presented by the National Alumni Association Executive Committee, in memory of Kathleen O’Connor Boelhouwer ’85, a Trinity leader, both as a volunteer and as a senior professional, annually honors that alumna or alumnus whose leadership, persuasion, and activities advance the engagement of Trinity’s alumnae in the college’s excellence and reputation. The Boelhouwer Award will recognize that person each year who helps expand the number of women in leadership volunteer roles at Trinity, and/or who helps connect successful alumnae to one another and the college, and/or who helps educate alumnae about their philanthropic power in support of Trinity, and/or who increases alumnae mentoring on- and off-campus, and/or helps recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Trinity women, as graduates or as undergraduates.
You once said you treasure the rich experiences you had as a master's degree student in French at Trinity. This gratitude is obvious in the level of service you give to the college.

You understand the importance of being part of a community of accomplished and committed alumnae. To that end, you are a member of Founders Council of the Women’s Leadership Council (WLC) at Trinity. Founded in 2010, the WLC promotes active engagement of Trinity women by encouraging them to help shape the future of the college and to be responsive to the needs of female students.

You can be counted on not only to attend council meetings but also to take leadership roles. Over the years, you have hosted events and offered encouragement and support to students and alumnae at Hartford-area mentoring and networking opportunities. In addition, you serve on the Trinity College Alumni Association Executive Committee and on the Trinity Club of Hartford Executive Committee. You also were a member of the Graduate Studies Advisory Board and will join the Board of Fellows in July.

Always willing to mentor young people, you have presented at the Bantam Student Success Program and served as a panelist for Venture Trinity. In addition, you are a founding member of UConn Women and Philanthropy and served on both the state and national boards of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. You are also past president of the Avon-Canton Rotary Club, and earned recognition by the club as a Paul Harris Fellow.

You earned your bachelor’s degree with high honors in French and English from the University of Connecticut, spending your senior year studying at the University of Rouen in France. You came to Trinity for your master’s in French and were impressed by the highly expert faculty who shared your passion about French language and literature. Following graduation, you earned a sixth-year diploma in professional education and a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction from UConn. For your exceptional scholarship, you were elected to the Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies.

You inspired many students during your 41-year career in K–12 education. In addition to teaching French and English at St. Thomas Aquinas High School in New Britain from 1973 to 1980, you served as chair of the school’s World Languages Department. Later, you were vice principal for academics at Sacred Heart High School in Waterbury and assistant principal at Bethel High School. In 1986, you were appointed senior director of instruction for the Avon school district and, from 1995 until your retirement in 2014, you were principal of Roaring Brook School in Avon. Currently, you are an adjunct professor in the graduate education program at the University of Saint Joseph.
Madam President, on the occasion of her 45th Reunion, I am honored to present for the Boelhouwer Award, Crisanne M. Colgan, M’74.

Alumni Medal for Excellence
Donna F. Haghighat ’89

This medal is awarded annually to alumni who have made significant contributions to their professions, to their communities, and to Trinity College.

Three decades ago, Trinity’s National Alumni Association honored you with its Senior Achievement Award. The list of accolades and the depth of appreciation for your activities as a student have been surpassed only by your stellar achievements as a graduate of Trinity College.

As a student, you were an economics major who earned a reputation for always being the first to volunteer. Community Outreach, Adopt-A-Grandparent, and Trinity’s minority orientation programs all benefited from your enthusiasm and perseverance. You were a key member of the Asian Students International Association, a student representative to the National Alumni Association Executive Committee, a member of the President’s Special Council on Women, and a fundraiser extraordinaire. You served for three years as class president, winning reelection your senior year by impressive margins.

After graduating, your connection with the college continued to run deep. You have served on the Alumnae Leadership Committee and the Women’s Leadership Council, and you have been a leader on your Reunion Committee. You also are a valued member of the Trinity National Marketing Advisory Committee. In 1996, you were honored with the Young Alumni Award in recognition of your continued leadership with the college. You also were instrumental in moving Tech Savvy, a program that inspires girls and their parents to explore STEM fields, to the Trinity campus, where the program continues to thrive.

You also have been a leader in your profession. After earning a J.D. from the University of Connecticut, you brought your skills and expertise in fundraising, strategic planning, and building advocacy programs to organizations such as the Aurora Women & Girls Foundation, the YWCA Hartford Region, the Hartford Public Library, the Women’s Education and Leadership Fund at University of Hartford, and the American Association of University Women Connecticut Chapter. You currently serve as CEO of the Women’s Fund of Western Massachusetts, which strives for gender equity by elevating the collective power of local women to take charge and to lead with purpose.
Though 30 years have passed since you were recognized with the Senior Achievement Award, its words of praise echo today—you are “an example for all of us to follow.”

Madam President, on the occasion of her 30th Reunion, I am honored to recommend for the Alumni Medal for Excellence a most dedicated alumna, Donna F. Haghighat, Class of 1989.

Alumni Medal for Excellence

Douglas M. Macdonald ’89

This medal is awarded annually to alumni who have made significant contributions to their professions, to their communities, and to Trinity College.

From your years as a chemistry major at Trinity College to a career dedicated to developing drugs with the power to save lives, you have consistently placed commitment to community at the top of your priority list.

From the moment you arrived at Trinity, you were eager and engaged. As a freshman class dorm observer and member of your sophomore, junior, and senior class committees, you worked to enhance the vibrancy of student culture. You served as vice president of the Chemistry Society during your junior year and then took the helm as president during your senior year. A President’s Fellow in chemistry, you served as chair of the editorial board of The Trinity Papers and coordinator of photography for the Ivy. An outstanding student, you were a teaching assistant during your junior and senior years.

You went on to earn an M.S. in medical sciences from Boston University and a Ph.D. in pharmacology and experimental therapeutics from Boston University School of Medicine. As a molecular neuropharmacologist, you have been a researcher with leading academic and medical laboratories including the Rockefeller University, the Schering Plough Research Institute, and Sanofi-Aventis. Since 2005, you have been a valued member of the team at CHDI Foundation, a biomedical organization dedicated accelerating therapeutic development for Huntington’s disease where you served as its director of drug discovery and development, and are currently director of research operations and scientific alliances. You have authored over thirty influential scientific manuscripts in peer-reviewed journals, are an inventor on several US patents, and have been an invited speaker at scientific conferences around the world.
Over the years, your devotion to Trinity College has been steadfast. You have served as President of your class for the past 25 years, as a member of the NAA executive committee, the Board of Fellows, the STEM Advisory Board, the Bantam Alumni Mentoring Network, and your class Reunion Committee and Executive Board. Always the willing volunteer, you have also served as treasurer of the Trinity Club of Boston and are an active member of the Trinity Club of Los Angeles. With an eye to Trinity’s future, you have joined the Elms Society. You also are a member of Boston University School of Medicine’s Dean’s Advisory Board, chair of the Scientific Advisory Board for the CureDuchenne foundation, advisor of the ALS Association, lecturer at the University of Southern California, and a member of the NIH/NINDS Neuropharmacology and Diagnostics Small Business Innovation Research Study Section.

In all that you do, your commitment to collaboration and engagement embody Trinity College’s mission to produce graduates with the power to lead transformative lives.

Madam President, on the occasion of his 30th Reunion, I am honored to recommend for the Alumni Medal for Excellence a most dedicated alumnus, Douglas M. Macdonald, Class of 1989.

Alumni Medal for Excellence
Danae Goldberg McKenzie ’09

This medal is awarded annually to alumni who have made significant contributions to their professions, to their communities, and to Trinity College.

As an avid ballet dancer, you took both literal and figurative leaps of faith. Likewise, you put your faith in Trinity College in 2005 and emerged a confident and devoted graduate. With appreciation for all that Trinity provided to you, you have become a leader in giving back to the college’s student and alumni communities.

As a student, you pursued a major in psychology and a minor in literature and psychology. You served as the assistant program coordinator for both the Rising Stars and Jones-Zimmermann Academic Mentoring Programs, a Do It Day captain for all four of your years at Trinity, and a member of PRAXIS, a residence-based community service program. You also volunteered as a student admissions associate for the Office of Admissions.

Since graduating a decade ago, you have been a leader in the alumni community. You are a member of the Executive Committee of the Trinity Club of Boston after leading the Trinity Club of Washington, D.C., for five years. You also are active in the Women’s Leadership Council and
have hosted panels that demonstrate how the Trinity experience helps prepare graduates for various career paths and opportunities in Boston.

As a senior project manager in the healthcare practice for Weber Shandwick, a leading global communications and engagement firm, and previously as an account supervisor at MSL and as a tenured member of Ogilvy’s Washington, D.C., office, you integrated social-change principles into communication campaigns to influence behavior and to help people lead safer, healthier, and happier lives. In doing so, you are living the Trinity mission—taking the lead as an independent thinker who strives to transform our world.

Madam President, on the occasion of her 10th Reunion, I am honored to recommend for the Alumni Medal for Excellence a most dedicated alumna, Danae Goldberg McKenzie, Class of 2009.

**Alumni Medal for Excellence**

**Frank Kirkpatrick ’64**

This medal is awarded annually to alumni who have made significant contributions to their professions, to their communities, and to Trinity College.

Distinguished graduate, legendary faculty member, and trusted friend. The list of all that you have achieved and all that you have imparted to the Trinity College community over the past six decades would fill more pages than in all eight of your powerfully reasoned and brilliantly written books.

From your days as a student, upon which you have reflected about your “impatience of one wanting to get through college and into seminary,” to your return as professor of religion, you have inspired a deeper understanding of religion and philosophy by asking complicated questions and presenting critical conundrums to generations of Trinity students. You exposed students to the most inspiring, intriguing, and perplexing religious and philosophical thinkers and to the complicated history and mysteries of Western civilization.

As a student, you also had many questions about religion, faith, and philosophy. Seeking answers, you graduated from Trinity in 1964 and went on to earn an M.A. in comparative religion from Columbia University and Union Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. in religious studies from Brown University. When you returned to campus to join the faculty in 1969, you
focused on the philosophy of religion, Christian social ethics, and the history of Christian thought in the West.

In recognition of your outstanding teaching, you were named Charles A. Dana Research Professor in 1993–1995. In 2011, you were awarded the Thomas Church Brownell Prize for Teaching Excellence. You also received the Trinity Club of Hartford Person of the Year award in 1984. You served as the Interim Dean of the Faculty from 2004-2006 and as Faculty Ombudsman for many years. In 2016, you retired as the Ellsworth Morton Tracy Lecturer and Professor of Religion, Emeritus. Wearing your alumnus hat, you have been an active volunteer, joining the Bantam Alumni Mentoring Network and your Reunion Committee.

Perhaps your greatest contribution to Trinity College was providing an opportunity for scores of students to engage with the wonders of religion and to grapple with the riddles of our universe within the safe walls of your classroom.

Madam President, on the occasion of his 55th Reunion, I am honored to recommend for the Alumni Medal for Excellence a most dedicated alumnus, Frank Kirkpatrick, Class of 1964.