

News from...

Friends of the South End Library

SUBMITTED BY FOSEL

South End Writes

"The Resisters" by Gish Jen
Tuesday, February 2, 7:00 PM, 8:30 PM

Gish Jen, the acclaimed author of many novels, short stories and thought-provoking essays, has agreed to return to the Friends of the South End Library series South End Writes to discuss her widely praised eighth novel, *The Resisters*, on Tuesday, February 2, at 7 PM. via ZOOM.

Jen visited the South End library in 2017 to present her earlier work of fiction, *The Girl at the Baggage Claim: Explaining the East-West Culture Gap*.

The first paragraph in the New York Times review of *The Resisters* describes a searing picture of a world we hope we will never see but which conceptually appears increasingly close at hand: *The Resisters* "... imagines a society even more catastrophically divided than our own.



Gish Jen. Photo courtesy FOSEL

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Gorman's inauguration poem has black women talking

REV. IRENE MONROE

Amanda Gorman mesmerized a nation with her inauguration poem "The Hill We Climb." The beauty of her presence and the power of her words captured a country battle-scarred and looking for a lifeline. "After four years in a dark wilderness, she was like a ray of sunshine and a burst of hope which had been in too short a supply for far too long," Cambridge Councilwoman E. Denise Simmons said.

The 22-year-old recent Harvard grad and spoken-word poet honed her skills around the Boston poetry scene. Gorman follows the august footsteps of presidential poets Robert Frost and Maya Angelou. She is one of the new voices continuing the African American women's literary tradition—blending writing with activism. She adds to a long and storied tradition of poets Angelo, Audre Lorde, Nikki Giovanni, Sonia Sanchez, Ntozake Shange, and

Gwendolyn Brooks, to name a few.

The words and wisdom of these sister-poets continue to anchor so many black women through hardship, uncertainty, and loss. Their stories empower and affirm us and are guides for self-care and survival. These women have informed Gorman's poems and whose shoulders she stands on. And, Gorman knows this. "I repeat a mantra to myself: I am the daughter of Black writers, we are descended from freedom fighters who broke their chains and changed the world. They call me," Gorman proudly shared in an interview with PopSugar.com

Gorman was tasked to write on the inauguration's theme, "America United." It was a tall request to fulfill given the civil unrest of last summer and the recent Capitol siege. However, Gorman being an extraordinarily confident and gifted writer, delivered, crafting a poem—part personal, political, and prophetic. The poem spoke honestly



Amanda Gorman's Instagram account in the moment while suggesting a future America can become.

"Now more than ever, the United States needs an inaugural poem," Gorman told the New York Times. "Poetry is typically the touchstone that we go back to when we

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EBNHC Expands Pediatric Practice at SECHC

SUBMITTED BY SECHC

throughout Boston."

As part of its recent expansion into the South End, East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) is pleased to announce that board-certified physician, Caroline Castleforte, M.D., will join the South End Community Health Center (SECHC) as a practicing pediatrician.

Dr. Castleforte most recently practiced at Boston Children's Hospital as an attending physician in the Division of Emergency Medicine.

SECHC and EBNHC have been committed to providing the community with accessible quality medical care for more than 50 years. Dr. Castleforte stated, "When considering joining the SECHC and EBNHC I was inspired by the dedication, teamwork, and commitment of the staff. I am excited to utilize my expertise to help further the mission of the organization in providing affordable, high-quality and personalized care to children

Spending her career in academic medicine working as a clinician and educator, Dr. Castleforte brings more than 14 years of experience as a practicing pediatrician to this new role. Prior to joining SECHC and EBNHC Dr. Castleforte worked at Boston Children's Hospital from 2012 to 2020 as an attending physician in the Division of Emergency Medicine, the Sedation Team and the Primary Care Center.

In 2020, Dr. Castleforte joined the Amwell Medical Group as a telehealth physician for pediatric urgent care visits. In 2011, she worked as an International and Private Patient's Trust Fellow at Great Ormond Street Hospital, the largest and most specialist tertiary care center for children in England, where she piloted projects focusing on reducing medical errors, improving efficiency and standardizing medical charting.

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South End Honor Roll

Courtney Pierre has been named to the Dean's List at Hamilton College for the 2020 fall semester.

To be named to the Dean's List, a student must have carried throughout the semester a course load of four or more graded credits with an average of 3.5 or above.

Pierre, a senior majoring in economics, is a graduate of The Governor's Academy.

Originally founded in 1793

as the Hamilton-Oneida Academy, Hamilton College offers an open curriculum that gives students the freedom to shape their own liberal arts education within a research- and writing-intensive framework. Hamilton enrolls 1,850 students from 49 states and 49 countries. Additional information about the college can be found at www.hamilton.edu.

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Online

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Online

Food Pantries

Information from the City of Boston

Haley House Food Pantry, 23 Dartmouth Street, Thursday, 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., 617-236-8132

Rosie's Place/Pantry, 889 Harrison Ave., Mondays: 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesdays and Fridays: 8:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Tuesdays and Thursdays: 4:30-6:30 p.m., 617-442-9322

Salvation Army/South End Food Pantry, 1500 Washington Street, Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays: 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., 617-536-5260.

Catholic Charities/El Centro del Cardena, Monsignor Reynolds Way, Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays: 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m., 617-522-4040

Boston Medical Center Food Pantry, 1 Boston Medical Center Yawkey B, Monday through Friday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., 617-414-3834

Grant A.M.E./Self-Help, 1906 Washington St., First and third Thursday of the month: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., 617-427-0670

American Red Cross/Mobile Market, 1033 Massachusetts Ave., Times vary, call ahead: 617-375-0735.

Islamic Multi Service Organization, 722 Shawmut Avenue, Second Sunday of the month: 1:30 - 4 p.m., 617-442-2805

Union United Methodist Church Food Pantry, 485 Columbus Ave., Second Tuesday of the month: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m., 617-287-1020

Locations and times are subject to change. Please check back to confirm information before you head to a meal pickup site or food pantry.

Visit <https://www.boston.gov/departments/food-access/map-covid19-food-resources> for a full list of pantries.

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Monroe

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have to remind ourselves of the history that we stand on, and the future that we stand for."

As the nation's first youth poet laureate and the nation's youngest inaugural poet, Gorman has got America talking about herself, especially Black women.

"This young woman framed the concept of a nation that is not broken, merely unfinished, yet accurately reflecting the mood that if we all work to move beyond the bitterness, the vitriol, and the inflammatory language, we can strive to make our tomorrows better than our yesterday," Simmons said.

Growing up in the era of the Obama presidency and now with Vice President Kamala Harris becoming the first woman and person of color as vice president, Gorman espouses an optimism about the future that I'd expect to hear from Generation Z.

"Where a skinny Black girl descended from slaves and raised by a single mother can dream of becoming president,

only to find herself reciting for one," Gorman said in her inaugural poem.

Gorman sees barriers broken for her and other black girls' future. However, this country's troubling history continues to have stubborn, unyielding, and systematic ways of tainting a possible future. And, the backbones of black women carrying this nation leave

some resolved that America is not ready to change. Blacks and other people of color are still battling voter suppression, police brutality, mass incarceration, health disparities, COVID, and policies that don't help them. Many sisters hope this new and aspirational Biden-Harris administration will be more of substance than the symbolism of black and brown representation. Perhaps then Black women can actualize Gorman's vision.

"I see the world quite differently than this beautiful and talented young woman. I'm not sure that she is talking to me. I am tired of being the resilient one. The one that has to carry the Republic on our backs as we "step out of the shade of flame and unafraid." I am afraid and tired. I am not hopeful. I don't see the light as something that is for my people or me-- but I'm glad that the young sister sees the light and believes it is for her and others. Yes, the light has always been there, but it isn't necessarily for black folks except to occasionally shine on our suffering, deaths, murders, inequities, etc.," Armenta Hinton of Central Pennsylvania shared with me.

Gorman and Hinton express the book-ends of varying views I've heard from black women across generations. I love Gorman's poem. It envisions a future America many of us hope for - a multicultural democracy and a participatory government. However, I am cautious and caught between Gorman's youthful optimism and Hinton's lived-reality.

FOSEL

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In Jen's *AutoAmerica*, almost all of the jobs have been automated and rising seas have swamped large sections of the country. The privileged, known as the "Netted," have "angelfair" skin and live on high ground, while the "Surplus," whose skin is often "copertoned," suffer on swampland and rickety houseboats..."

The author, a Cambridge resident, has published short work in the *New Yorker*, the *Atlantic Monthly*, and dozens of other periodicals, anthologies and textbooks. Her work has appeared in *The Best American Short Stories* four times, including *The Best American Short Stories of the Century*, edited by John Updike. Nominated for a National Book Critics' Circle Award, her work was

featured in a PBS *American Masters* special on the American novel and is widely taught.

The author is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

She has been awarded a Lannan Literary Award for Fiction, a Guggenheim fellowship, a Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study fellowship, and a Mildred and Harold Strauss Living; she has also delivered the William E. Massey, Sr. Lectures in the History of American Civilization at Harvard University.

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Email info@friendsofsouthendlibrary.org and you will receive the ZOOM info. FOSEL subscribers will receive the ZOOM link in our Mailchimp newsletter just before the event.

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South End News

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Honor Roll

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Destiny Edwards of Boston Named to the Fall 2020 Semester President's List at Dean College

Dean College is pleased to announce that Destiny Edwards has earned a place on the President's List for the fall 2020 semester. Students named to the President's List have demonstrated a serious commitment to their studies while at Dean College.

Founded in 1865, Dean College is a private, residential college located in Frank-

lin Massachusetts, 45 minutes from Boston, Massachusetts, and Providence, Rhode Island. Dean College offers baccalaureate degrees, associate degree programs, as well as a robust schedule of part-time continuing and professional education credit and certificate programs throughout the calendar year.

Carrie He and Mathew Khan Named to Fall 2020 Dean's List at Lasell Students

Carrie He and Mathew Khan were recently named to the Fall 2020 Dean's List for strong academic performance, with a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher at Lasell University.

Crime

COURTESY ADAM GAFFIN
WWW.UNIVERSALHUB.COM

Driver hits ambulance at Mass and Cass, runs away, is arrested on a rooftop, removed via fire ladder, police say

Boston Police report arresting an Andover man they say ran into the back of a Boston EMS ambulance that had its lights and sirens going, then got out and ran away, ultimately winding up cornered and then cuffed on the roof of an industrial building next to Clifford Park.

Police say the crash, shortly before 9 p.m. on Wednesday, caused minor damage to the ambulance's rear bumper. The suspect fled on foot. Police began looking for him and ultimately found him on the roof of 150 Shirley St., several blocks away, where state troopers who had joined the pursuit climbed up after him and placed him in custody. A Boston Fire ladder truck was brought in to bring the suspect down to the ground and to booking.

The suspect was charged with operating after suspension, operating within 300 feet of an ambulance with its lights and siren activated, leaving the scene of an accident causing property damage and trespassing, police say, adding he was also charged with possession of Class B drugs for the "small plastic bag containing crack cocaine" officers found in his wallet.

Gun- and knife-toting drug dealer arrested outside Southampton Street shelter, police say

Boston Police report officers stationed outside the Southampton Street homeless shelter early this morning arrested a man already wanted on several drug warrants on new drug and gun charges after they spotted him surrounded by a crowd of people outside the shelter, sitting on a motorcycle with a bag of crack in one hand.

Police say officers spotted people crowd-

ing around an individual around 1:45 a.m. at Southampton and Atkinson streets - near where a man was stabbed to death on Jan. 4.

As the officers exited their cruiser and began to approach, the individual wearing the motorcycle helmet attempted to flee, but struggled to start the motorcycle. They noticed that he was holding a clear plastic bag in his right hand, and as they attempted to gain control of this hand, a violent struggle ensued. During the struggle the plastic bag dropped to the ground, revealing multiple small plastic bags containing a substance believe SEN210128CRIME.d to be crack cocaine. With the assistance of other officers, the suspect was secured. Prior to being transported, officers removed the black backpack, and recovered a two-pronged fixed blade knife from his jacket pocket.

During booking, officers discovered \$5,349 in his clothing and a Glock 22 .40 caliber firearm loaded with 20 rounds, as well as 24 white pills, two scales and three phones in his backpack, police say. Also, the suspect's motorcycle, which did not have plates, was reported stolen in Washington, DC, police add.

The suspect was charged with possession of crack with intent to distribute, possession of oxycodone with intent to distribute, carrying a dangerous weapon (knife), unlawful possession of a firearm, unlawful possession of a large-capacity firearm, unlawful possession of ammunition, unlicensed operation, operating without registration and receiving stolen property. He also got a ticket for driving without a license and registration, police say.

This is in addition to three warrants he was already wanted for out of Boston Municipal Court downtown on various drug charges as well as assault and battery, and a separate warrant out of Lawrence District Court on a cocaine-possession charge, police say.

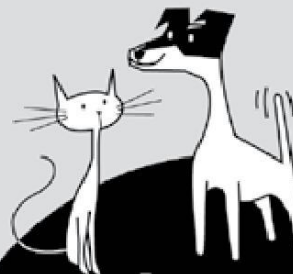


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Heart of Gold

Remembering the life of Andrew Parthum

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

Andrew Parthum, a South End neighbor, friend, and community activist of over 20 years, died peacefully at home on January 29, 2020, with his partner of 31 years, history professor Bill Leonard, at his side. He succumbed at age 57 after a brave, eight-year battle with brain cancer. A native of Andover, Parthum was born on April 14, 1963.

A proud, former Eagle scout, Parthum graduated from Andover High School and earned a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science from Clarkson University, which led to a career as a quality assurance engineer.

Parthum's passions included theater, especially musical theater; traveling domestically and abroad with Leonard to destinations such as Provincetown; to European destinations such as Spain, France, Italy and Ireland; and around Latin America to Costa Rica, Argentina, and Machu Picchu in Peru.

Parthum and Leonard particularly enjoyed sharing their travels with people they cared about, renting a house in Tuscany with

friends and making memories in Provincetown with friends from the Boston area and from Montreal.

For much of his life, Parthum was also devoted to civic engagement and contributing to his community. Parthum and Leonard moved to the South End in April, 2000, making their home in the then brand-new complex at 1597 Washington Street, and Parthum became deeply involved in the Blackstone/Franklin Squares Neighborhood Association (B/F/SNA), participating in and helping organize park clean-ups, the annual Tree and Wreath sale fundraiser, and in 2006, initiating the scholarship fund with a benefit at his home. The scholarship fund, which usually holds its Heart of Gold fundraisers in February and a reception introducing scholarship recipients in May or June, was Parthum's pride and joy.

This writer recalls greeting Parthum at the annual scholarship events and seeing him always beaming, looking as though he had won the lottery when in fact he was awarding money to youth who need and merit it. Trumpeter Matthew Hull, a 2010 B/F/SNA scholarship recipient who graduated from Berklee College of Music, recalled Parthum's disarming demeanor helping to calm his nerves when he attended his scholarship interview.

"The interview took place at Flour on Washington St. and was a delightful experience as I remember it. With my high school graduation just a few weeks away and my studies at Berklee College of Music starting that Fall, I was in a very sensitive place and nervous about the interview. I remember Andrew as very kind and warm during this meeting, and he was very interested in what kind of career I wanted to pursue," Hull said via e-mail. Hull performed with his group at subsequent Heart of Gold fundraisers.

The first 25 to 30 minutes of the Tuesday, January 19 B/F/SNA Zoom meeting were devoted to remembering Parthum with a slide show and remarks from members, all citing his warmth, his relentlessly positive attitude and hard work for the community. Lisa Jenks, who joined B/F/SNA in 2012 and served with Parthum as co-chairperson of the scholarship committee for four years, reminisced fondly about Parthum's gratitude and graciousness in working with other volunteers.

"Andrew's warmth and friendly smile made it easy to get to know him. At nearly every meeting, he said the same phrase, 'When I started out with this idea of raising

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Scholarship recipients, Andrew Parthum second from right. Photo by Michelle Maniscalco

SECHC

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From 2009 to 2012 she worked at Cincinnati Children's Hospital as an attending physician in the Division of Emergency Medicine where she co-led a project analyzing the cost of medical care using it as a tool to educate medical providers on ways to reduce cost to

the medical system while still providing excellent medical care.

"Caroline's breadth of experience as a practicing pediatrician comes at an important time for SECHC and EBNHC and the communities we serve," said Jackie S. Fantes, MD, FAAFP, Chief Medical Officer at EBNHC. "Preventive pediatric care has become more critical than ever during the pandemic. As the health centers continues to grow, Dr.

Castleforte will play a key role in expanding our services for the families in the South End."

Castleforte holds a BS in Pre-medicine from University of Dayton, and a medical degree from Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine. She then went on to complete her pediatric residency program at Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

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food *for* thought



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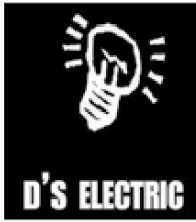
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COVID-19 RESOURCES

Greater Boston Basic Needs Supports

Catholic Charities Greater Boston Basic Needs Department

Serving Suffolk and Middlesex County. Services include: food pantry assistance (Dorchester, South End, Somerville); emergency financial assistance; emergency essential assistance; SNAP outreach; HIV support services; resource & referral assistance

More Info: Please call (617) 506-6628 or email Basic_Needs@ccb.org

Resources for Immigrant Communities: What's available?

Protecting Immigrant Families Campaign (NILC & CLASP)

The PIF Campaign has developed a quick reference guide on immigrant eligibility that provides a general overview of some of the federal public programs available to support individuals and families during the COVID-19 crisis. In light of implementation of public charge regulations, we have also included clarification about whether certain public programs are taken into account for public charge purposes. The guide includes links to deeper dive resources on eligibility from our partners. <https://protectingimmigrantfamilies.org/>

Suffolk County Resource Guide

Suffolk County District Attorney, Rachel Rollins

This is a collection of resources currently available in Suffolk County, Ma, compiled by the staff of the Juvenile Alternative Resolution Program of the Juvenile Unit at the Office of Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins. It is not a complete list, and you should continue to consult relevant experts and your care providers when appropriate. This guide is intended to be a starting point for residents and service providers for finding resources to assist during the COVID-19 National Emergency. Our current circumstances are fluid and evolving; information, services, and recommendations may change over time. We advise you to contact any of the included services outlined here ahead of time to ensure up-to-date accuracy. <https://www.suffolkdistrictattorney.com/>

DTA SNAP and Cash Benefits During COVID-19

Massachusetts Legal Services

To view a general overview of DTA policies and how to ensure folks can access benefits, please visit MLRF's COVID-19 page: <https://www.masslegalservices.org/DTA-COVID-19>

Hunger and Food Resources for Households

Project Bread's Hunger and Food Resources page offers information for families and households on school meal sites and locations; the Food Resource Hotline (to get connected to food, and for SNAP application assistance); and policy updates (state and federal level). <http://www.projectbread.org/>

Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB)

GBFB partners with 500+ hunger-relief agencies, including food pantries, community meal programs and other food assistance providers throughout the nine counties and 190 towns and cities across Eastern Massachusetts. These efforts have doubled in the wake of COVID and increased food needs. This page offers information on food pantries across the state, as well as additional resources for food assistance, including school meal sites. <https://www.gbfb.org/>

Massachusetts State Updates & Resources

State of Massachusetts (Governor's Office) and MA DPH is working closely with the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide updated information about the novel coronavirus outbreak. <https://www.mass.gov/offers>:

- Prevention and treatment
- Cases, quarantine and monitoring
- State of emergency
- Printable fact sheets and FAQ
- Emotional health and well-being resources
- Press release
- MA 2-1-1

SIREN COVID-19 Resource Page

Social Interventions Research & Evaluation Network (SIREN)

sirennetwork.ucsf.edu/covid-19-resources includes resources on a national level such as:

- Social needs surveillance
- Recent news articles about COVID and health equity
- Resources for clinicians and patients
- Insurance coverage and codes for COVID-related healthcare services
- Pharmacy delivery services
- Vaccination scams/exploitation
- Housing
- Employment/income concerns
- Utility concerns
- Social isolation
- Advocacy opportunities

The City of Boston

The City of Boston has a free texting service to provide daily updates and information about the coronavirus. Text BOSCOVID to 99411 to opt-in for English. Language and communications access remains a priority for Mayor Walsh, so this text service is also available in Spanish, Haitian Creole, French, Cabo Verdean Creole, and Portuguese.

- Text BOSEspanol for Spanish
- Text BOSKeyol for Haitian Kreyol
- Text BOSFrancais for French
- Text BOSKriolu for Cabo Verdean Creole
- Text BOSPortugues for Portuguese

Updates in 10 total languages can additionally be accessed through boston.gov/coronavirus/multilingual-help. Each language has its own page and hosts multilingual print materials distributed citywide.

HOMELESS SERVICES AND HOSPITAL CAPACITY

On April 2nd, Mayor Walsh announced that construction begins at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center to add 500 beds for treating homeless adults who have tested positive for COVID-19 and need care, but do not require full hospitalization.

The City has released a Request for Proposals to secure a partner organization to operate the facility. If necessary, the Convention Center beds will be opened up for hospitals to use for sub-acute COVID patients in the general population.

These 500 beds will bring Boston's total number of new beds for homeless individuals to over 1,000. This includes Boston Medical Center's Newton Pavilion facility, which the City and State are working to re-purpose as a medical facility for homeless residents affected by the coronavirus.

Parthum

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funds to help south end students, it was just me and a few friends getting together in my apartment BUT NOW BECAUSE OF YOU (the committee), the scholarship program has grown beyond what I ever could imagine.' He always passed along the credit to his peers and reminded the committee and the recipients that small ideas can become very big ideas!"

Jenks said in an email. In recorded remarks played at the virtual meeting, Mayor Martin J. Walsh cited Parthum's activism for LGBTQ rights and his role as founder of B/FSNA's annual book and supply scholarships for South End college students, "which has made a difference in the lives of countless students and their families. He loved our city and our city loved him.

His legacy will live on and continue to inspire us all to leave the world a better place than we found it," Walsh said. In addition to his dedication to B/FSNA, Parthum served on the board of the Massachusetts Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus.

While his bout with brain cancer lasted eight years, Parthum continued to work and continue his volunteer activities with remarkable energy until the last year or so of his life.

He entered hospice care in the fall, briefly entering a hospice facility but eventually coming home under the loving care of his partner. His last restaurant meal was lunch with friends at Orinoco in November, which Leonard recalled as a happy outing.

Parthum is survived by partner Bill Leonard, a professor of history at Emmanuel College; his mother, Marjorie Parthum of Chestnut Hill; siblings, John Parthum (Holly Popowski) of Greenwood Lake, New York and Elizabeth McCarthy (Paul) of Furlong, Pennsylvania; nephews Sean and Colin McCarthy, of whom he was very fond and proud; cousins, and a close-knit family of friends. "He was a wonderful love and an incredible person whom so many people will miss terribly. I know I do," Leonard said.

A memorial service will be announced at a future date after COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. Anyone wanting to honor Parthum's memory and his work may contribute to the Blackstone/Franklin Square Neighborhood Association Scholarship Fund, B/FSNA Scholarship Committee P.O. Box 180940 Boston, MA 02118, www.blackstonefranklin.org/scholarship or to Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Neuro-Oncology Division, 450 Brookline Avenue, Boston, MA 02215, www.danafarber.org.



2019 scholarship recipient Fatima Barrie, Andrew Parthum. Photo by Michelle Maniscalco

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