



News from Simon's Rock

MARCH 2020

Simon's Rock to Welcome New Vice President and Provost

On July 1, Dr. John Weinstein will become the Vice President and Provost of Bard College at Simon's Rock, succeeding Dr. Ian Bickford, who has been on leave this year. Dr. Weinstein was a founding member of the first Bard High School Early College and served on the faculty in languages and literature at Simon's Rock. He spent five years as principal of BHSEC Newark and is currently Dean of the Bard Early Colleges. In his February 28 announcement to families, students, alumni, and community members, Dr. Bickford thanked Acting Provost Dimitri Papadimitriou and Vice Provost Sue Lyon for their leadership on campus during the current academic year.



> [Read more](#)

Rockers Rank High in Prestigious Math Competition

Every year undergraduates across North America take the William Lowell Putnam Exam, the most prestigious Mathematics competition exam in the United States and Canada. This past December, 4,229 students from 488 different institutions took the very challenging exam, attempting to answer 12 questions across two 3-hour exam sessions. The median score was 2 out of 120, and the most common score was 0, both results being typical for the exam. Six Simon's Rock students participated, and each scored at least 1 point; in fact, five of the six students scored 9 points or better! Rocker Daniel Cui led the team, scoring 24 points, ranking 384th in the country! Congratulations to all of them!



> [View these outstanding results](#)



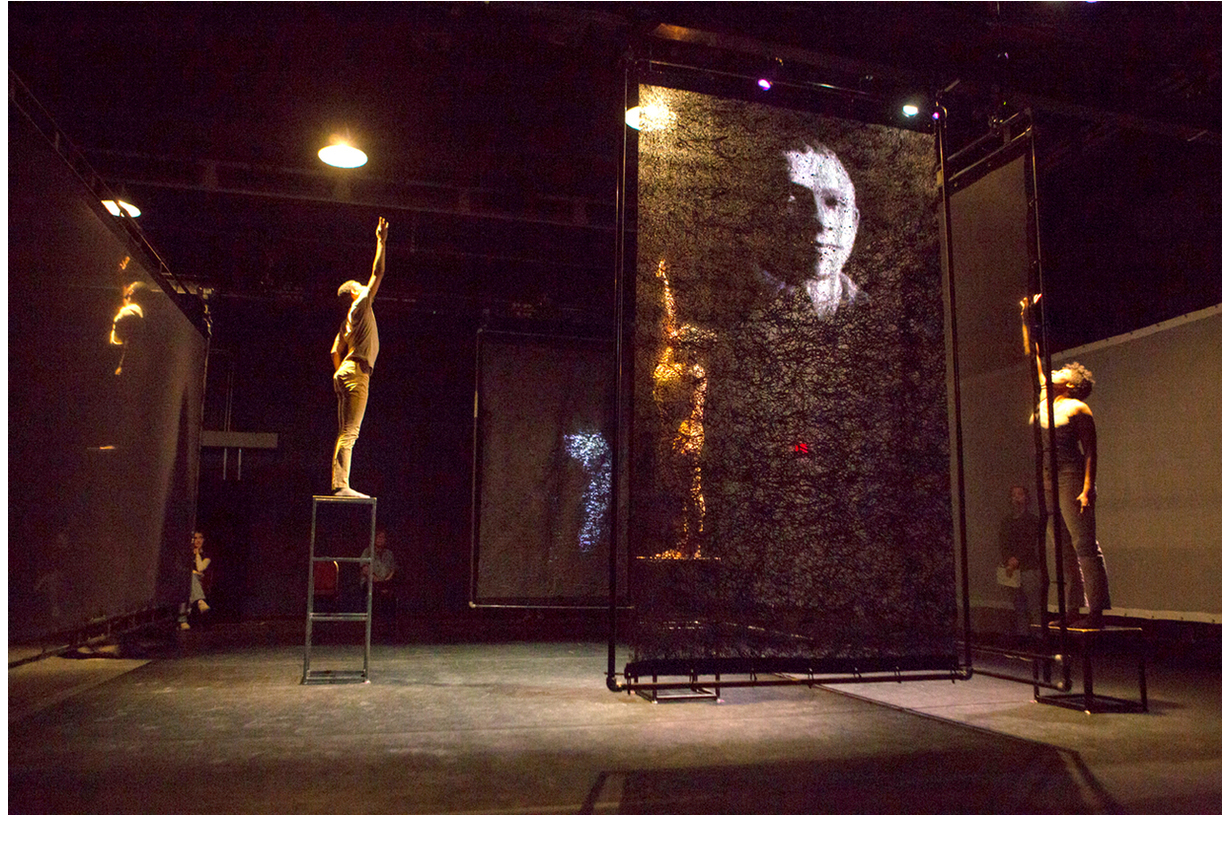
May 15-17, 2020

Commencement/Reunion Weekend



Registration now open! Join the entire Simon's Rock community during Commencement/Alumni Reunion Weekend. Alumni are invited to march in Commencement on Saturday morning, May 16, and to share their oral histories with College Archivist Erin Donahue over the weekend. Social gatherings include Supper Under the Stars and a Black Box Disco.

> [View the complete schedule and information about discounted hotel lodging](#)



Simon's Rock and Jacob's Pillow partnered to bring San Francisco-based Zaccho Dance Theatre to the Daniel Arts Center on Feb. 22 to perform Joanna Haigood's *Between me and the other world*, part of Great Barrington's annual W.E.B. Du Bois birthday celebration. *Photo by Greg Nesbit.*

Commemorate Your Student — or Your Years at Simon's Rock

In time for Commencement and Alumni Reunion, we invite you to commemorate your student's or your own experience at Simon's Rock with an engraved brick. Early ordering encouraged! Please contact Rebecca Wehry, Assistant Director, Annual Fund at rwehry@simons-rock.edu for sizes and pricing.



And please remember Simon's Rock in your 2020 charitable giving. Visit our website to set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift.

> [Give to Simon's Rock](#)

Early College Research Institute Shaping Up at Simon's Rock

Simon's Rock has held a singular place among early colleges for more than 50 years, with more recent models springing from Elizabeth Blodgett Hall's vision, most notably the Bard High School Early Colleges. Simon's Rock is uniquely positioned to preserve and promote the early college idea, become the primary repository of materials related to early college, facilitate research into the early college movement, and leverage and expand upon the Simon's Rock Archives. Recognizing this, the Alumni Library and Simon's Rock Archives are preparing to launch the Early College Research Institute. Contact Brian Mikesell (bmikesell@simons-rock.edu) for more information.

First Simon's Rock Student Admitted in New BA/MD Program

Do you know a student planning a career in medicine? Our new [BA/MD program with SUNY Upstate Medical University](#) can give them a significant start. Students apply to medical school at roughly the time they would typically be moderating at Simon's Rock. If granted an interview and if successful, they remain here to complete the BA, and then proceed to medical school without further application or even an MCAT score. Marcea Bond '18 is the first student to be admitted to the BA/MD program. Marcea studies women's health and is active in supporting Women in STEM on campus. If you encounter a young person hinting at a medical career, please [send them along to the Office of Admission](#) for a conversation!



In Memoriam

Our community mourns the loss of beloved former professor Ed Misch, who died on Tuesday, January 28. One of the earliest educators at Simon's Rock, he taught classes in American History, Philosophy, and Environmental Studies for thirty-one years. His niece, Alison Bechdel '77, remembered him in this eulogy.



> [Read more](#)



Bard Academy and Bard College at Simon's Rock
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