# THE SAYBROOK SPIRIT

THE OFFICIAL ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OF SAYBROOK UNIVERSITY

## **HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

#### Celebrating a fruitful year

Dear Alumni,

Holly has traditionally been representative of the Christmas season, and in 2020, it seems even more fitting. Although the dark leaves are spiked and painful to the touch, it also harbors bright red berries that make this holiday decoration so appealing. So, while we deck our boughs, let us remember that our suffering can bear fruit. At Saybrook, we hope to help foster this kind of mentality for decades to come. As Alumni, you further our mission and make the humanistic dream come true for many. Thank you for all the work you do.

We wish you the happiest of holiday seasons!

-The Saybrook Alumni Association-

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<u>Contact us:</u> alumni-saybrook@saybrook.edu





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### **ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**

#### Renee Levi, Ph.D

Renee Levi, Ph.D. is an organization systems consultant with thirty years of experience working with executives in the corporate, public and not-for-profit sectors. Her firm, Resonance Consulting, provides organizational research, strategic planning, change management, organizational structure and executive coaching services to individuals and management teams. Her clients include corporate, public sector and not-for-profit organizations, education systems, and governing boards.

Prior to consulting, Dr. Levi was a sales and marketing professional with the IBM Corporation where she held various sales and management positions and is the recipient of many professional awards.

Dr. Levi's funded research projects include Group Magic: An Inquiry Into Experiences of Collective Resonance, an exploration of flow experiences in groups and The Powers of Place: An Inquiry Into the Influence of Place, Space and Environment on Collective Transformation, an understanding of the importance of surroundings – where people meet – on how they work together to achieve desired goals. Dr. Levi is an alumna of Saybrook University in Organization Systems (2003). She has served as a Saybrook trustee for eleven years and as Board Chair for seven. She also serves on the board of the TCS Education System. Additional boards on which she serves are the Rangeley Lakes Heritage Trust, a land trust in Maine and Jhpiego a global maternal health organization affiliated with Johns Hopkins University. She has also served on the Advisory Board of Johns Hopkins University's Krieger School of Arts and Sciences.

Renee and her husband Alan live in Boston and have four grown children and four grandchildren. She enjoys walking, reading, yoga and meditation, and good conversations.

## **Co-Chair's Corner**

### Arielle Dance, Ph.D Kelly Wadsworth, Ph.D Jeremiah Pearcey, Ph.D



Our newest co-chair member, Dr. Jeremiah Pearcy, shares an excerpt from his children's book, *How to Save Your Ancestors from a Martian Colony*:

Division cuts so deeply, it hurts and breaks our hearts. We've fought and cried for centuries to simply be a part,of the America we helped to build, sacrificed in wars come and gone. Still they forced us to segregate, stole our culture and our calm.They trigger us in the streets, to provoke so we'll react, and then say "look at them, they can't behave and that's a fact." They don't understand how the statues reverberate all our pain, from generation to generation, yet very little's changed. They say "hey get over slavery, it happened so long ago." Still they fail to see oppression, but for Blacks it's status quo. The statues are a monument to a time when they wielded unfettered power, and made America great on the backs of slaves and the cotton flower.The monuments are not old, as many want you to believe, they were built during civil rights movements in opposition to equality.Now we've garnered momentum, a force for societal change. We only need to stand together, fight for each other and embrace their pain.

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## FIVE HOLIDAY MUST-READS FROM SAYBROOK ALUMNI



## Shitty Bosses & Asshole Employees

By Crystal Ishihara, Ph.D

Full of hilarious anectdoes, this book on self-reflective leadership is sure to delight while it teaches important lessons on self-reflective leadership. Available here: https://www.amazon.com/Shitty-Bosses-Asshole-Employees-Dont-ebook/dp/B07PQHHHSD

## "Working Through the Death of a Colleague"

By Arielle Dance, Ph.D

This poignant article touches on a topic few are willing to discuss. Read here: https://hbr.org/2020/11/working-through-the-death-of-a-colleague

## The Female Factor: A Confidence Guide for Women

#### By Gloria Chance, Ph.D, Co-Author

A powerful anthology written by 25 international coaches, consultants, and self-confidence counselors . Available here: https://www.amazon.com/Female-Factor-Confidence-Guide-Women/dp/0998577383

## The Light Inside the Dark: Zen, Soul, and the Spiritual life

By John Tarrant, Ph.D

Using real-life stories, Zen tales, and Greek myths, The Light Inside the Dark shows how our darkest experiences can be the gates to wisdom and joy. Available here: https://www.indiebound.org/book/9780060931117

## The Lie-Catcher in the Primate House

By Linda Riebel, Ph.D; pen name Lindsay Crane

A thriller about stopping the smuggling of endangered species, this action-packed book involves true-life crime, exotic locations, and a unique supporting character. Available here: https://www.amazon.com/Lie-Catcher-Primate-House-Lindsay-Crane/dp/0983305196

## SCHOLARSHIP FUND PAYING-IT -FORWARD...



BIG OR SMALL, EVERY DONATION HELPS US REACH OUR GOAL

# ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Scholarship fund

THANK YOU INITIAL ALUMNI DONORS!

PAY-IT-FORWARD AND HELP US REACH OUR INITIAL GOAL OF \$10,000 TO BEGIN ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS.

LET'S SHOW OUR SUPPORT TO HELP STUDENTS IN NEED!

**Click Here to Give** 

donate

www.saybrook.edu/giving









#### <u>January 10, 2021</u> 2nd Alumni Homecoming Event

We had so much fun at our last Homecoming, we're making it a biannual event! Our next event focuses on the achievements of our Alumni.

Register Here: Alumni Homecoming

#### January 15th, 2021 Alumni Professional Development: Curriculum Vitae Workshop

Presented by Dr. Nathan Long, this workshop will give you all the tools you need to create a personalized and useful CV. <u>Register Here: Curriculum Vitae Workshop</u>

#### May 5-7, 2021 Mind, Body and Wellness Fair

Virtual on Remo Register here: <u>MBW Fair</u>

### July 19-23, 2021 Film, Book, and Poetry Festival

The Saybrook University Film, Book, and Poetry Festival provides the Saybrook community an opportunity to honor its commitment to holism, humanism, and person-centeredness through the creation of art by its faculty, staff, students, and alumni. Registration link coming soon!

