



1998 Class Notes Archives



TOP: Gabriella Kessler ('98);
BOTTOM: Abrima Erwiah ('98)

----- From December 2012 AALFNY Newsletter -----

● **Benjamin Kummer** wrote: "I'm now in my second year of Neurology residency at Columbia Medical Center in Washington Heights. Email me to get in touch."

● **Jean-Nicolas Pestieau** wrote: "I'd like to inform the group that my wife, Christina Pestieau, is pregnant. We are expecting our baby in early June."

● **Julia (Lutzke) Evans** shared this with us: "I am now living in Boston with my husband who got a new job. So far it has been wonderful. We are also expecting our first child in March!"

● **Gabriella Kessler** "is a French-American documentary filmmaker based between New York and Paris. Her films vary from a short documentary on a baked bean factory in Maine to the importance of video for an NGO in India. Gabriella has made films for Etsy, Dowser, and Video Volunteers, among others; and assisted on documentaries for Pennebaker-Hegedus Films, Link TV, Les Films d'Ici, Arte, France 5 and the Sundance Channel, as well as major feature films. She has taught editing at the Lee Strasberg Theatre & Film Institute in New York and has worked on film and video workshops at the Maine International Film and Television Workshops, Video Volunteers, and Barefoot Workshops. Since 2008, Gabriella has been a member of TN2020, the British Council's network for emerging leaders. Gabriella obtained a BA in Comparative Literature from NYU and an MA in Screen Documentary from Goldsmiths College in London. Her thesis film debuted at the Sheffield DocFest and was nominated for an RTS Student Award."

<http://www.gabriellakessler.com/about.html>

● **Marina Kawagishi** is an event specialist in San Francisco. Earlier in her career, she was bartender in S.F., and you can read an interview with her in 2007 by [clicking here](#).



TOP: Guillaume Chatain ('98);
BOTTOM: Marina Kawagishi ('98)

----- From December 2011 AALFNY Newsletter -----



● **Constance (Gounod) Hartig** wrote: "After six years of living in London, studying for my MA and working at publishers and art institutions (Phaidon, Hayward Gallery and Saatchi Gallery), I moved back to Paris in September 2010 after 24 years abroad. I now work as an international press officer at Claudine Colin Communication, the leading PR agency in France specialized in the cultural sector, for clients such as the François Pinault Fondation and the Rencontres d'Arles photography festival. My husband and I are also the proud parents of a little girl called Sixtine, born on 11/11/2011. I would be delighted to keep in touch with any Lycée alumni and look forward to seeing them in Paris."

● **Julie Milliet Crochet** wrote that she "and her husband Thibaut Crochet were thrilled to welcome a little girl, Cerise, on september 7, 2011. Their son, Basile, 3, is a happy big brother!"

● **Patrick McGrath** is the Principal of Saint Stanislaus College, "a Catholic day and residency school for boys seven through twelve and post graduate" located in Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi.

● **Melinda Faylor** "a native of Queens, New York, began piano at the age of four at the School for Strings in NY. She received her undergraduate diploma from the Oberlin Conservatory in Ohio where she was the recipient of the Dean's Talent Award, and her Masters degree in piano performance at the Manhattan School of Music..... [She] has experience as an accompanist, chamber musician, orchestral pianist and solo pianist.....and has participated in the Mannes College of Music IFCP Festival, as well as the Orford, Las Vegas, Tibor Vargas, and Ecole Normale de Musique Paris summer festivals.....She is currently freelancing, teaching privately, is staff accompanist for the Children's Aid Society Choral programs, and for the Rose Academy of Ballet.....Melinda is currently collaborating with fire dancer Rachel Ersof as a founding member of Dames en Feu, a multimedia electronic feminist cabaret/fire dancing ensemble for whom she also composes electronic and instrumental music." (*culturesinharmony.org*)

----- From November 2010 AALFNY Newsletter -----

● **Vanessa Wildenstein-Marinopoulos** nous écrit: "J'habite en Grèce depuis 2004, me suis mariée en 2005 et suis la maman de deux enfants adorables, un petit garçon de trois ans et une fille d'un an. Depuis que mon fils a commencé l'école, je pense souvent à mes années au Lycée, à mes vieux camarades de classe et à mes profs, avec nostalgie. J'espère que tout le monde va bien et que nos chemins se croiseront à nouveau un jour."

● **Ghislaine Ouedraogo** wrote that she "is currently a Program Consultant for a network of international and local organizations working to create adolescent girl programs in Haiti and Francophone West Africa. In her



TOP: Laura El Sidaoui ('98);
BOTTOM: Diana Sow ('98)



TOP: Patrick McGrath ('98);
BOTTOM: Melinda Faylor ('98)

role, she leads training sessions and provides technical advise and coordination to facilitate program implementation. Ghislaine currently resides in New York City. In her free time, she works for the AfroCarib Marketing Group, which promotes African and Caribbean social and business endeavors in and outside Africa. She is co-editor of the guide *A Taste of Africa and the Caribbean*, which is a New York City guide. Ghislaine loves to write, dance and design."

----- From December 2009 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- **Benjamin Kummer** wrote: "I am currently a medical student in Philadelphia, after working in financial software for three years, after college. Feel free to drop me a line."
- **Julia Lutzke** shared this with us: "I wanted to let you all know that I just got married three months ago in NYC! My husband and I live on the upper east side, not too far from the Lycée."
- **Laura El Sidaoui** nous écrit: "J'habite toujours à Paris et suis en train de chercher un nouveau travail. Je me marie en avril 2010 à Paris avec Erik. J'espère que tout le monde se porte bien. "

----- From January 2009 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- **Pierre-Alain Parfond** wrote: "Former classmates! Here's a little update on my whereabouts. After spending exactly ten years in the lovely city of Montreal I've decided to move to a warmer country. I am now based in Rabat, Morocco where I work as a translator in the exciting fields of cooperation and development with an array of organizations and agencies including USAID and The World Bank. Si vous passez faire un tour au Maroc, je vous montrerai de chouettes endroits!"
- **Laura El Sidaoui** wrote: "After living in Canada and Spain, I came back to Paris in 2003 and had many different jobs. I did a Master in Management and Sustainable Development and am now in charge of fundraising in a French NGO dedicated to promoting volunteer work for young people. I am still in touch with **Jonathan Alpeyrie**, **Bérénice de Beaucé**, **Jonathan Gomez Trochez** and **Caroline Peudupin**. I hope everyone is doing great!"

----- From July 2008 AALFNY Newsletter -----

- **Paul de Montmorin** told us that he "is now living in Dubai, UAE with his wife and daughter" and that his classmates can reach him at [email address available upon request].
- **Julie Milliet** wrote that she "is a freelance writer who just got married to Thibaut Crochet. They live in Paris and will soon welcome a little boy. Feel free to contact her if you too are in Paris!"



TOP: Claire Vinchon ('98);
BOTTOM: Arno Kourula ('98)



TOP: Mukesh Gurnani ('98);
BOTTOM: Constance Perrot ('98)

----- From December 2007 AALFNY Newsletter -----

● **Paul de Montmorin** wrote: "Since April, Paul de Montmorin lives in Dubai (UAE) with his wife, Paula, and his daughter, Sofia (nine months old), where he works in Capital Markets for NBD Investment Bank. Get in touch with me if you come through the Middle East!"



----- From June 2007 AALFNY Newsletter -----

● **Julia Lutzke** wrote: "Hey! 2006 was an amazing year for me as far as my career is concerned. I just got on the sub list for the Broadway show "Hairspray" and I am also a new member of a small orchestra that plays only on period instruments (Baroque) called the American Classical Orchestra. They play in New York and in Connecticut. The Orchestra of St Lukes got to play a concert at Carnegie Hall which was organized by Paul McCartney. I was lucky to be part of that because we played his new classical orchestral pieces and we got to work with him extensively. This concert was to promote his new Classical album which came out recently. I have been in contact with **Nermine El Sissi** this year. She just got the job as a math professor at a college in Washington D.C. Hope all is well with everyone and keep me posted."

● News of [Jonathan Alpeyrie](#).

● **Jean Nicolas Pestieau** wrote that he recently obtained his PhD in mathematics, having graduated this past May from Stony Brook University, in Long Island.

----- From December 2006 AALFNY Newsletter -----

● Le 25 février 2006, une quinzaine d'anciens élèves de la promo 1998 se sont retrouvés autour d'un petit diner suivi d'une sortie dans une bar à Paris. ([Click here](#))

● **BIRTHS/NAISSANCES**: Christelle Ferris ('98) informed us that her classmate and good friend **Marie Piganeau** ('98) gave birth to a lovely little girl, named Margaux, four months ago.

● **Massa Anoh** nous écrit: "J'ai enfin retrouve les noms d'amis que j'ai perdus de vue. Je suis actuellement ingenieur en commerce international. Mes felicitations a **Daphne Haddock** pour son mariage."

● **Grégoire de Monicault** wrote: "After long years of studying (too many), I have now graduated as an architect in Paris. I find myself in the no man's land of no longer being a student and having to identify myself as part of the working class now. It's a hard world out there. Looking to renew contacts with lost friends -- contact me."



TOP: Guilhem Avenas ('98);
BOTTOM: Caroline Perez
Muller ('98)



TOP: Morgane Bitan ('98);
BOTTOM: Greg Habay ('98)

- "Jonathan Alpeyrie is a renowned free-lance photojournalist who has covered social movements throughout Central America, Africa, the Caucasus, and the Middle East. Mr. Alpeyrie is presently concentrating on the South Caucasus, where he has developed an expertise in understanding the various separatist movements in its various regions." (http://www.anca.org/press_releases/press_releases.php?prid=641)

-----From February 2006 AALFY Newsletter-----



- WEDDINGS/MARIAGES: **Daphné Haddock** wrote: "I very recently got married, on September 10, 2005 to Vincent Ronsil from France. We are still happily living in New York City!"
- **Laura El Sidaoui** nous écrit: "I'm currently in Paris studying for a Master in Sustainable Development. After 10 years, I am still in contact with Bérénice de Beaucé, Jonathan Gomez, Alex Xavier-Bender, Cécilia Blaustein and quite a few other people from my promotion."
- **Diane Pinarel-Rajaona** wrote: "I am now studying at the IAE of Nice Sophia Antipolis. I'm preparing a Master entitled 'Audit informationnel et stratégique' (fifth year)."
- **Paul de Montmorin** wrote: "I now work in London for Merrill Lynch. I meet up regularly with Constance Gounod ('98) and Gaby Kessler ('98) and can be reached by email at [email address available upon request from AALFNY]"



TOP: Mathieu Austry ('98);
BOTTOM: Ghislaine Ouedraogo ('98)

-----From June 2005 AALFY Newsletter-----

- DECÉS: **Bertrand Fournier('98)** (Click on [In Memoriam link](#) for further details.)
- **Julia Lutzke** wrote: "I just recently graduated from NYU graduate school in music performance in May, 2004. I am still teaching at the Lycée and three other schools (one of which is a music school in the suburbs of NYC). Furthermore, I am now a member of the Orchestra of St Lukes. I just found out I was on the list of players a month ago." Later, she wrote: "I just wanted to add a little more to what has been going on in my life. This year I became a member (a sub) of the Orchestra of St. Lukes in NYC. I also just started teaching violin at the Hoff-Barthelson Music School in Scarsdale."
- From **Paul de Montmorin**: "As of September [2004], I have started working for Merrill Lynch in London."
- **Bertrand Mulliez** nous écrit: "Je travaille actuellement pour Total en Angola et serai de retour à Paris en octobre prochain (2005)."



TOP: Constance (Gounod) Hartig ('98);
BOTTOM: Julie Milliet-Crochet ('98) and family

-----From November 2004 AALFNY Newsletter-----



● **Alex Potier** writes: "Graduated from UC-Berkeley with a MS in mechanical engineering. Currently living in Oakland and working for an aviation company in Sunnyvale as an aviation systems analyst. Loving the West Coast, this place rawks!! =)"

● **Julia Lutzke** wrote: "I graduated from NYU grad school as a music performance major in May, 2004. I have also been teaching violin at the Lycée Français in the afterschool program since the beginning of the year of 2004. Aside from this, I play concerts, teach privately, and teach in 3 other music programs located in different parts of NYC."

-----From Winter 2003-2004 AALFNY Newsletter-----



● **Alexandre Potier** writes: "Hi guys. I thought I might send out a little hello to all of you. I just graduated from MIT in June '02 with a BS in mechanical engineering and just started grad school at UC-Berkeley right now. Currently doing automated vehicle control, pretty spacey stuff. California is really something else, especially after having spent the last 22 years in the Northeast (NYC-Boston), this place will blow your mind away, I'm having a blast... A great big hi to Gaby (hard to get in touch with you these days though), Jonathan Gomez (get in touch with me buddy, been a long time), Celine, Abrima, and JNP. Anybody else who wants to say hi, feel free: [email address available upon request from AALFNY]"

● **Laura El Sidaoui** writes: "Hi. After graduating from McGill University in 2002 and obtaining a Bachelor of Arts in International Development Studies, I spent a year in Spain, in Cadiz (Andalusia) working in hotel management. After a summer working in Club Med as a G.O in a Village next to Barcelona, I am back in Paris where I am doing an internship in Public Relations at Clinique Cosmetics. I would love to get in touch with alumni from my year who are in Paris, in France or anywhere else in the world! Hope everyone is doing well."

● **Mathieu Dubus** is finishing his studies in Product and Industrial Design this year, in France.

● **Julia Lutzke** is currently teaching while attending NYU Graduate School, studying for her Masters in Music Performance. She wrote: "I will be getting my Masters degree in music performance in May, 2004 at NYU. Also, this year I started teaching violin lessons at the Lycée as well as in two other after school music programs in New York City. A couple of months ago, I saw Nermine El Sisi and Ghislaine Damdami for the first time in seven years. Nermine is in Texas getting her Masters in Mathematics and Ghislaine is in New York."

● **Christelle Ferris** nous ecrit: "Bonjour à tous!! J'espère que tout le monde va bien. Je suis actuellement en

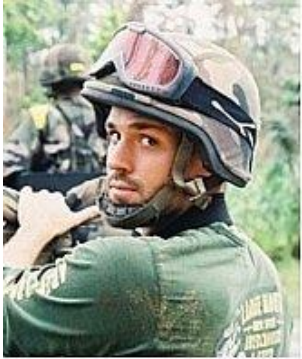
TOP: Alix Donhossou ('98);
BOTTOM: Laurent Willm ('98)



TOP: Marie Piganeau ('98);
MIDDLE: Driss Chaouni ('98);
BOTTOM: Alix Donhossou ('98)

école de commerce à Paris en marketing et je finis mes études dans 1 an. J'ai gardé contact avec Laura El Sidaoui, Marie Piganeau et Mukesh Gurnani. Mais beaucoup d'entre vous me manquent!! surtout Gaby, Marie Touré, Sophie Hottlet, Dara Darguste, Naimeh, Jonathan Alpeyrie, Vanessa Wildenstein, Ghizlane Damdami, Teresa Schmidt, et encore beaucoup d'autres!! J'aimerais vraiment avoir de vos nouvelles à tous!!! Gros bisous"

-----From Winter 2002/2003 AALFNY Newsletter-----



● **Julia Lutzke** writes: "I graduated from the Mannes College of Music with a Bachelor of Music in May of 2002. I am now a first year graduate student at NYU (Steinhardt School of Education) as a music performance major. It's a year and a half Masters degree program that just got started. I also just started to teach violin in two music schools this year."

-----From March/April 2002 AALFNY Newsletter-----



● **Laura El Sidaoui** writes: «I am currently in my last year at McGill University, in Montreal, Canada. I have majored in International Development Studies and minored in Political Science and Spanish. I am still in contact with Abrima Erwiah '98, Jonathan Gomez Trochez '98 and Bérénice de Beauce '98. I can't believe it's been almost 4 years since we passed the Bac and we're still great friends! I am hoping to go on an internship after I graduate in a developing country in South America to do some development work.»

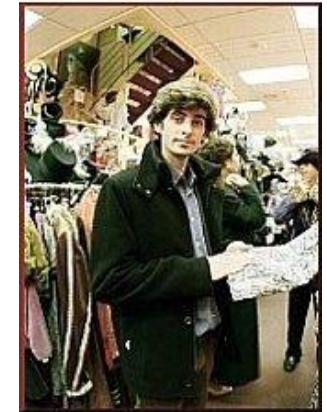
● **Abrima Erwiah** writes: «The Lycee was my entire life for most of my life (12 out of 21 years), so it holds a very deep and profound place in my heart. I am in my last year at Stern Business School/NYU, majoring in Finance and International Business, and did a study abroad in Florence for my sophomore year. Currently, I work in Public Relations for an Italian fashion company called Cesare Paciotti, on 70th and Madison.»

● **Charles Langlois** nous écrit : « En ce qui concerne mes études je termine un business school à Paris.»

-----From July/August 2001 AALFNY Newsletter-----

● **Jean Nicolas Pestieau** est un junior à Cooper Union- université qui se spécialise en ingénierie, architecture et art, et qui accepte tous ses élèves en leur offrant des bourses, c'est à dire qu'aucun élève ne doit payer de "tuition". Jean Nicolas étudie l'ingénierie mécanique. Il habite a Geenwich Village dans un studio. Il ira en Irlande cet été passer deux mois en faisant de la recherche plutôt tournée vers les mathématiques appliquées. Jean Nicolas joue dans les équipes de tennis et de foot de Cooper Union.

● **Paul de Montmorin** recently graduated from Brown and will be moving to Paris this September to attend an école de commerce, equivalent to a business school



Pierre-Alain Parfond ('98) & Natalie Agueros ('98)

TOP: Jonathan Alpeyrie ('98) a war photographer;
BOTTOM: Laura El Sidaoui ('98) (left) and Caroline Peudupin ('98)

- **Laura El Sidaoui** is at McGill University majoring in International Development Studies.



Top to bottom: Julia Lutzke ('98); Gregoire De Monicault ('98); Dara Darguste ('98)



TOP: Christelle Ferris ('98); MIDDLE: Juan Carlos Losada ('98); BOTTOM: Sushanti Campana ('98)

