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[The Lane Turns 50](#)



UVM's Lane Series is celebrating a half-century of bringing music and performance to Burlington. (Detail from brochure cover courtesy of the Lane Series.)

In 1954, the University's George Bishop Lane Series burst onto the Burlington entertainment scene to almost instant success. "It took off like gangbusters," says series manager Natalie Neuert. The organization is still going strong, and will celebrate with a 50th birthday bash at the ECHO Leahy Center for Lake Champlain on Sept. 14 at 6 p.m.

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[Sustaining Staff](#)

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[Writing Friendship](#)

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THE WEEK IN VIEW

Sept. 9, 6:30 p.m.
Auditions: The theater department will hold open auditions for the Neil Simon comedy "Rumors." Sign up at Royall Tyler Theatre call board.
Information: 656-2095

Sept. 9, 3:30 p.m.
Event: The university will mark the start of its 203rd academic year with a convocation ceremony at Ira Allen Chapel. A reception will follow in Billings Student Center. Information: 656-1266

Sept. 10, 8:15 a.m.
Trustees: The Committee of the Whole of the Board of Trustees will meet to begin two days of trustee meetings. Memorial Lounge, 338 Waterman. Information: 656-7898

Sept. 11, 8 p.m. Film: "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind," starring Jim Carrey. CC Theater. Information: 656-2060

Sept. 14, 12:30 p.m.
Lecture: "Privacy, Power, and Politics: Abortion, Fetal Protection, and Gay Rights Law in an Election Year," with Lisa Holmes, assistant professor of political science. John Dewey Lounge. Information: 656-4282

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Convocation Celebration Set For Thursday

The university will mark the start of its 203rd academic year with a convocation ceremony to be held Sept. 9 at 3:30 p.m. in Ira Allen Chapel. A reception will follow in Billings Student Center.

In an invitation to the UVM community, President Daniel Mark Fogel called this new academic year "one of the most significant in the University's history" and shared his belief that the institution "has embarked on a course that over the next decade will position it as the nation's premier small public research university."

Both Fogel and John Bramley, provost and senior vice president, will speak to students, faculty and staff to begin what they hope will be an ongoing campus-wide dialogue, addressing how the university can commit to and build key areas of emphasis and how it can function as both a liberal arts university and a research institution. The dialogue is also aimed at revealing "how we can ensure that students at the University of Vermont have an outstanding educational experience here," Fogel wrote.

The ceremony will include welcome remarks by UVM Board of Trustees chair James Pizzagalli, Gov. James Douglas and Burlington Mayor Peter Clavelle; an opening reflection by Phyllis Bronstein, professor emerita of psychology; and a closing reflection by Dr. Mildred Reardon, associate dean for primary care and clinical professor in the College of Medicine.

An academic procession, led by university marshal Michael Gurdon, professor of business, will begin the ceremony. The procession will form at Royall Tyler Theater at 3:00 p.m. In the event of rain, the procession will form at Martin Luther King, Jr., Lounge in the Billings Student Center.

Information: 656-1266

Staff Council Discusses Smoking, Trustees, Tower Paint

Michael Gower, vice president for finance and administration, spoke to Staff Council on Sept. 7 at its first meeting of the 2004-2005 academic year. Gower spent about 45 minutes discussing the following topics:

- The Board of Trustees, which meets Sept. 10-12, will vote on final approval of University Commons, which Gower described as more than a student commons, but also a place where faculty,

College of Medicine's Schweitzer Fellows Spark Lecture Series, Other Projects

Second-year medical students Amanjit "Amy" Sekhon and Anjali Mahoney are sponsoring a Cultural Awareness Lecture Series through Project RESCUE (Refugee Education, Support, Care, Understanding and Empowerment). The group provides health education materials translated into the language of Burlington's Somali Bantu refugee population.

The first lecture in the series, "Improving Access to Health Care: Moving from Rhetoric to Action," will be presented by Judy Ashley-McLaughlin of the Vermont Department of Health, on Sept. 16 at 6 p.m. in Carpenter Auditorium, Given Building. In her talk, Ashley-McLaughlin will discuss 50 years of documented disparities in health care access and consider such issues as racial and ethnic disparities and the community's role in addressing this problem.

The series is part of Sekhon and Mahoney's project for their Albert Schweitzer Fellowship, a program intended to develop "leaders in service," individuals who are dedicated and skilled in addressing the health needs of underserved communities, and whose example influences and inspires others. There are ten 2004-05 Schweitzer Fellows at the UVM College of Medicine.

The other fellows and their respective projects are:

- Audrey Collins and Kate Weingartner, who are investigating the health beliefs, practices and experience with the medical system of the Congolese immigrant community in partnership with local health providers and the Vermont Department of Health.
- Mia Hockett, who is implementing components of a chronic care management program for patients with diabetes at Burlington's Pine Street Clinic, a facility serving low-income Vermonters.
- Monica Kwan, Lara Hilton and Meredith Mowitz, who are coordinating the Expand Project AHed (Adolescent Health Education) program, which provides health education and outreach to adolescents in underserved communities, in order to help teens make healthy decisions and decrease high-risk behaviors.
- Thai Lan Tran and Kelly Huynh, whose project involves translating and conducting a healthcare needs assessment aimed at the Vietnamese

staff, students and members of the community can do business, play and interact. He also stressed the importance of the development of the research facility in Colchester for the Medical College.

- Gower will lead the "UVM Step Out at Lunch Day" walk on Sept. 17 to help kick off the UVM Step-by-Step Challenge sponsored by the UVM Lifetime Wellness Program and Employee Assistance Program. The walk, starting at noon at the fountain on the green, will include a tour of new construction on campus. The walk kicks off of an eight-week Pedometer Walking Program and is part of what Gower said is tentatively called "a year of wellness." The goal of the program is to make university employees more aware of what the university offers in the areas of health and wellness.
- Ted Winfield, associate vice president for budget and resource management, is reviewing the current policies regarding the size of smoking zones on campus and employee vacation time. The smoking zone inquiry was prompted by employees complaining of having to walk through the smoking areas on their way to work. The vacation policy inquiry focused on the length of time employees have to work at the university before they are eligible for more vacation time.
- A demonstration windmill is being considered for an undetermined location on campus as an alternative source of energy.
- The university is in discussions with the city to paint the main water tower on campus to make it more aesthetically pleasing.

The next Staff Council meeting is scheduled for Sept. 21 at 12 p.m. in Memorial Lounge, Waterman Building.

population in Burlington, then utilizing the information gathered to develop appropriate health education materials and classes at the Community Health Center.

UVM to Host ACE Fellow

Judy Beckman, an associate professor of accounting at the University of Rhode Island, will spend this academic year at UVM as a fellow of the American Council on Education. During her fellowship, Beckman will work with President Daniel Mark Fogel and Provost John Bramley on UVM's strategic plan. Beckman, who is a former chair of URI's Faculty Senate, is particularly interested in using her fellowship time to study how faculty and academic unit goals fit within UVM's strategic financial plan.

ACE is the nation's largest higher education association, representing more than 1,600 college and university presidents, and its fellowship program is a competitive award intended to prepare promising senior faculty and administrators for more responsible positions in college and university administration. Beckman is one of 34 ACE Fellows chosen from a national pool of candidates, and she is the first fellow to work at UVM in many years.

"When I walked in here to interview for the fellowship, the trustees had just approved the strategic plan," Beckman says. "I knew from the excitement in Dan Fogel's and John Bramley's voices that this would be a dynamic place to be."

Beckman earned her Ph.D. from Texas Tech University in 1991 and has spent 12 years at URI's College of Business Administration. Beckman's research concerns financial reporting and domestic and international capital markets. Her most recent publications have been in the areas of consolidated financial reporting and keiretsu affiliations in Japan.

Beckman is currently working on a learning plan to direct her efforts during her time at UVM. At the end of her fellowship, Beckman will return to URI and present some of her findings to that university's leadership. But, while the fellowship is primarily a learning experience, Beckman hopes that some of her expertise will prove useful to UVM's administration as they implement their plans.

"I can help out here with some expertise as I bring some things back to Rhode Island," Beckman says. "That's what this program is about."

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Fleming Museum Hosts Benefit Garden Tour

The Fleming Museum will host a tour of the gardens designed by landscape artist Ken Mills on Sept. 18 at 1141 Clay Point Road in Colchester.

The gardens feature lush spaces and hidden rooms that combine native and exotic plantings, ponds, sculpture, seating and found objects, as well as an exhibition of sculpture by regional artists.

The benefit event runs in conjunction with the Fleming exhibit, An Eye Toward Nature, and also includes live performances by Vermont choreographer Sarah McMahon and local musicians.

Tours of the gardens run from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. with musical performances from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Admission is \$15 per person. Register by Sept. 14 and receive \$3.00 off.

Information: 656-0750 or fleming@uvm.edu

Hort Farm Apple Sales Start Friday

Apple sales will begin at the Horticultural Research Center on Sept. 10 at 10 a.m. The varieties build as the weeks go on — Macs, Empires, Vermont Golds, Liberties, Northern Spys, Cortlands, Mutsus and numerous experimental varieties known only by a code.

In addition to finding great apples at bargain prices, join the ongoing scientific dialogue about what apples make the best pie or applesauce. Farm sources report that the apples are plentiful and delicious this year.

The sales continue every Friday until the end of October, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

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September 8, 2004

Publications and Presentations

Alice Fothergill, assistant professor of sociology, was interviewed for and quoted in a *Washington Post Express* article, "Risk Analysis: The D.C. Transit System is a Possible Terrorist Target" in July on the issue of panic in disasters.

Wolfgang Mieder, professor and chair of German and Russian, is the author of three articles recently published in Germany, Russia, and the United States. His essay "Viele Wege führen nach Europa: Sprichwörtliche Stereotypen und interkultureller Ausgleich" appeared in the volume *Erzählen zwischen den Kulturen* and deals with proverbial stereotypes in Europe and the attempt to overcome them. His article, "'Man soll nicht alle Eier in einen Korb legen': Zur deutschsprachigen Entlehnung eines angloamerikanischen Sprichwortes," was published in the Russian journal *Nauchnyi vestnik* and explains how the Anglo-American proverb "Don't put all of your eggs into one basket" has become current in translation in the German-speaking countries. The third essay, "'The Faultiest Expressions Have the Greatest Attraction': Elias Canetti's Proverbial Aphorisms," was included in *A Companion to the Works of Elias Canetti*.

Alexander Stewart, assistant professor of music, published an article, "Contemporary New York City Big Bands: Composition, Arranging, and Individuality in Orchestral Jazz" in the spring/summer issue of *Ethnomusicology*, the journal of the Society for Ethnomusicology.

Appointments

Professor **William "Breck" Bowden**, Patrick Chair of Watershed Science and Planning, was named director of the Vermont Water Resources and Lake Studies Center that operates from The Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources.

Lisa Chase is the new director of the Vermont Tourism Data Center, which is also based at the Rubenstein school. The center coordinates research, special projects, data collection, industry monitoring and dissemination of reports. Chase is an Extension assistant professor.

Richard "Skip" Fanus has been promoted to assistant dean for business operations in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. He will oversee the general business operations of the college and play an important role in strategic and financial planning for the College and the Vermont Agricultural Experiment Station. Fanus had been senior administrative professional in the college for the past five years.

Sept. 1, 2004

Awards and Honors

Ana Barndollar, a senior in animal science, was awarded first place in the National Undergraduate Original Research competition at the annual meeting of the American Dairy Science Association held in St. Louis. Graduate student **Diana Martinez** received second place in the northeast division of the graduate paper competition, while **Emma Wall** was awarded third place in the same division. **Russell Hovey**, assistant professor in animal science, presented an invited paper and was Barndollar's advisor, while **Thomas McFadden**, associate professor in animal sciences, served as advisor for Martinez and Wall.

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The Lane Turns 50

By Lynda Majarian

Article published Sep 07, 2004

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UVM's Lane Series is celebrating a half-century of bringing music and performance to Burlington.
(Detail from brochure cover courtesy of the Lane Series.)

In 1954, the University's George Bishop Lane Series burst onto the Burlington entertainment scene to almost instant success. "It took off like gangbusters," says series manager Natalie Neuert. The organization is still going strong, and will celebrate with a 50th birthday bash at the ECHO Leahy Center for Lake Champlain on Sept. 14 at 6 p.m.

Before the Lane Series began, Vermonters had few opportunities to see the caliber of artists the Lane Series brought to the community — the London Philharmonic Orchestra and Vienna Boys Choir were highlights of the first season. There were no huge entertainment agencies coordinating complex world tours for performing artists, as there are today, and little competition for audiences within the state. Getting artists to Vermont wasn't easy, but Lane's early promoters persevered and soon Burlington became a regular detour for performers making stops in Boston, New York, or Montreal. The UVM venture quickly became one of the first cultural series to thrive outside a major urban area in the United States.

The series grew from a \$300,000 endowment established as a memorial to George Bishop Lane (Class of 1883 and founder of the *Vermont Cynic*) by his widow, Nellie Lane, and daughter-in-law, Florence Barbour. Its purpose was to enrich the cultural life of the University and the wider community by sponsoring performances of the highest merit by artists in the worlds of music, dance, and theater — something UVM's Student Association had been attempting on a smaller scale since 1951 through the Lane Series' forerunner, the UVM Program Series.

In 1954, a working committee of six students and five faculty members set about creating the first Lane Series season. Their advisor and executive secretary, English professor Jack Trevithick, soon became the Series' first director. During his 21-year tenure, "Dr. T" nurtured the fledgling Lane, including initiating a summer concert series that evolved into the Vermont Mozart Festival. Terrance Demas '73, a former UVM theater major, succeeded Trevithick as director. Demas would help keep artists' fees affordable by working with other New England promoters to put together tours through the region. Jane Ambrose, a former chair of the Music Department, has been Lane Series director since 1989. Firm in her belief that "the environment of the mind is an unthinkably bleak landscape in the absence of art," Ambrose has nurtured events that bring students and performers together, such as master classes, workshops, residencies and lectures. Each director has campaigned for a dedicated performance space, with current hopes resting on a proposed 500- to 600-seat theater in the planned University Commons.

Change and continuity

The business of presenting artists has changed dramatically over five decades. Imagine 1963 and being able to present a young folk singer named Joan Baez

Sustaining Staff

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Writing Friendship

The complexities of friendship tug at Emily Bernard, assistant professor of English, and the desire to grapple with them led her to edit *Some of My Best Friends*, a collection of 15 essays on interracial friendship published this month by HarperCollins.

for a 50-cent ticket. Contemporary artists' fees are much higher, and rise about 20 percent each year. Production costs escalate almost as quickly. And there are unforeseeable challenges. Since the 9/11 terrorist attacks, it has become more difficult to present international artists, who have been the hallmark of every Lane season. Burlington, of course, has changed dramatically. There's often more than one show in town and competition can be stiff. The Lane Series has kept its niche with a signature roster of opera, chamber music, folk music and classical theater. The series offers intimate venues, such as the UVM Recital Hall on Redstone Campus, and opportunities to get close to the artists — not only while they are on stage but also at post-concert receptions. Ambrose, Neuert, and the Lane staff also often partner with the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts and St. Michael's College to bring in top performers at more manageable costs, and several Lane events each year are presented on the Flynn stage.

"We've changed with the times," says Neuert, "without insisting on being one thing."

Changed, yes, but the Lane Series has retained its tradition as a primary cultural resource on campus and in the community. Since its beginning, the series has hosted renowned performers, from Van Cliburn and Mahalia Jackson to the Metropolitan Opera and the Moody Blues, as well as featuring performers just establishing their reputations, such as Yo-Yo Ma (1984) and Wynton Marsalis (1987). Students remain important participants, serving as volunteers at concerts, representatives on the board of directors, and audience members. For six dollars — not much more than the price of a cup of coffee and a muffin on Church Street — students can purchase rush tickets to series events.

"To me, what sets the Lane Series apart more than anything is its focus on the people involved," says Roxanne Vought '02, who recently signed on as the organization's special events and logistics coordinator. "Of everyone — artists, staff, volunteers, board of directors, students and the community at large — none is seen as a cog in the consumption of culture, but rather as a person seeking a rich experience."

Vought, who is also manager of the Vermont Contemporary Music Ensemble, says her courtship with the Lane Series, both as a student and an employee, has been whole-hearted and rewarding. "The Lane Series was an integral part of my undergraduate experience, both in performance (voice) studies and arts management," she says.

As the Lane Series has weathered various cultural and economic trends, its original endowment has grown to more than \$4.3 million, and the performance roster has increased from about 13 events each season to 25. Single ticket sales are surging, and subscriptions are steadily growing among an audience base of community members and university affiliates. Neuert attributes some of that growth to a renewed focus on programming diversity that appeals to the growing ethnically diverse population in Chittenden County.

Season of celebration

This year, the Lane Series will present its usual lineup of celebrated artists, audience favorites and budding talent, along with special 50th anniversary events. The 2004/2005 season opens September 22 with pianist Peter Serkin, a critically praised performer and son of keyboard virtuoso Rudolf Serkin, whom the series presented in 1956. Appearing for the first time, on April 15, will be Audra McDonald, fresh from her Tony Award-winning turn on Broadway in "A Raisin in the Sun." (McDonald's mother, incidentally, is a UVM administrator.) The expanded season features 28 performances, including the return of the popular baroque ensemble Red Priest and pianist Frederic Chiu, "Twelfth Night" and "The Invisible Man" by the Aquila Theatre Company and the Burlington debut of the Leipzig String Quartet. Also slated are five special events.

Information: [UVM Lane Series](#) or 656-4455

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Sustaining Staff

Meet the four university employees who have been here 40 years or more

By Jon Reidel

Article published Sep 08, 2004



Clay Warren, who started working at UVM in 1961, works on a piece of equipment in his office in the basement of Given. (Photo: Bill DiLillo)

Clay Warren's office, located in the basement of the Given Medical Building, isn't much bigger than a closet and has no sunlight. The supervisor senior mechanic has spent the last 42 years working there or in similarly grim locales on campus, fielding calls at all hours of the day and night from faculty and staff who need something fixed.

He greets visitors to his cell-like space with a smile, immediately

eliminating any thoughts that he might be a disgruntled, burned-out lifer riding out his last few years of employment. Quite the contrary. In fact, Warren has been living life to the fullest since he started working at UVM for \$1 an hour in the summer of 1961. He figures he's taken more than 100 classes at UVM in subjects ranging from geology to religion to thermodynamics to philosophy. He uses university facilities to play racquetball and exercise when he's not riding his bike, trail running or tracking rattlesnakes in southern Vermont.

But what really gets him through those tough winter workdays in the bowels of Given are thoughts of the two months he spends each summer at Katmai National Park in Alaska as a supporter of a research team for the National Park Service. During his time there he has lived in a volcano; witnessed 57 bears eating together; had a grizzly bear enter his tent while he was sleeping; been surrounded by 40 Beluga whales while sea kayaking; and had to endure three emergency airplane landings.

"What can I say — life is good," says Warren, who figures he makes more today in one hour of overtime than he did in a week when he first started at UVM. "When I come back from Alaska the room seems very small," he says. "But I love it here. It's a great place with a lot of dedicated people who work extremely hard. I'm just so impressed with students today and how hard they work."

The two-score club

Warren, along with Delmar Janes, Jerold Lucey, and Phillip Ambrose, are members of an exclusive club. The foursome have spent a combined 188 years at UVM and are the only employees to start the 2004-05 academic year having worked here more than four decades, according to human resources.

Janes, 87, is quite possibly the longest serving staff employee in the university's 213-year history. He already had a dozen years under his belt by the time Warren started working and still hauls more than 200 pounds of supplies a day as a stockroom/shipping clerk at Bailey/Howe Library — the same job he was hired for in 1949.



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"He's a legend around here, sort of a library mascot," says Janes's boss, Peter Blackmer. "He handles the flow of everything physical that comes in and out of this building. As far as I know he has no plans to retire."

Born in 1917, Janes started working at UVM the same year Harry Truman was sworn in for his second term in office. Just 22 years of age at the time, he began work in Billings Library in the last year of UVM President John Schoff Millis' eight-year presidency. Janes, who outlasted the next 11 UVM presidents, is entering his 55th consecutive year of employment.

Time tells

For his part, Clay Warren says that one of the most satisfying aspects of spending decades in the same place is the opportunity to trace continuity and change in one particular community.

"A lot has changed over the years," Warren says. "We used to push our tools around in a wheel barrel and fix everything. If the university owned it, we fixed it. But to me the most interesting thing to see is the different values of students. The Vietnam era students, the conservation era, and today's students are all different. But they have all been so impressive to me. I still hear from students after they graduate and start working in hospitals. Community is important to me and this has been a good community of people to work with over the years."

Two Professors and 90 Years

Dr. Jerold Lucey, a professor of pediatrics who arrived in the summer of 1956, holds the longevity crown among faculty. The Harry Wallace Professor of Neonatology, is chief of Newborn Services at Fletcher Allen Health Care and has been editor-in-chief of *Pediatrics* since 1974. Lucey's research has helped pioneer two treatments for newborn children — phototherapy to prevent jaundice, and artificial surfactant to assist the breathing of premature infants.

Classics Professor Phillip Ambrose came next among faculty, arriving here in 1962. A distinguished scholar of the languages, culture and history of the classical era in Greek and Rome, Ambrose is chair of the Classics Department. He has published in the field of Greek drama and Greek and Latin epic and the classical tradition. He initiated UVM's annual Latin Day 26 years ago, a popular event that draws high school and middle school students throughout Vermont to the university to celebrate Greek and Roman culture.

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Essay Collection Explores the Complexities of Interracial Friendship

By Kevin Foley

Article published Sep 08, 2004



Some of her best friends: Assistant Professor Emily Bernard asked some of her favorite writers to probe their interracial friendships in her new book. (Photo: Hilary Neroni)

The complexities of friendship fascinate Emily Bernard, assistant professor of English, and the desire to grapple with them led her to edit *Some of My Best Friends*, a collection of 15 essays on interracial friendship published this month by HarperCollins.

Bernard treasures her close and sustaining friendships, but she's also familiar with the partings — the "friend divorces," as she calls them. While the book

celebrates a particularly complex kind of friendship, it is also about friendships that fail, because of both racial and more personal reasons. Those failures fascinate Bernard. "Breaks in friendships carry an aura of shame," she says. "People understand divorce. But when it comes to friendships ending, people look askance — there's no vocabulary, no institutions. We're making it up as we go along in private."

For that reason, she says, the book is in some ways happier than she wanted it to be. But the book, as a collection of essays, had something of a will of its own. Bernard thought hard about the stories she wanted to tell and whom she wanted to tell them, then commissioned the essays, pursuing writers she admired and pushing them through draft after draft. "I imagined a kind of dinner party gathering people who might not meet in real life," she says, "with lots of conversation, laughter, disagreement and changing of seats."

Though her budget was small and her expectations high, Bernard found a host of celebrated writers — Susan Straight, Luis Rodriguez, Trey Ellis, Pam Houston, David Mura and Darryl Pinckney among others — willing, even eager, to risk some of their most important friendships by exploring the relationships in print. "I asked writers to open a vein," Bernard says. "I was looking for honesty."

Where we live

Bernard says she has so far created the books that she'd like to teach. Her first, *Remember Me to Harlem*, gathered the poet Langston Hughes's correspondence with his patron, friend and sometimes antagonist Carl van Vechten. The personal essays in *Some of My Best Friends*, Bernard hopes, will help students plumb their own relationships and attitudes about race. She says that sometimes the most mundane questions yield the most resonant responses in the classroom.

"I ask students, 'Where do you live? Who do you sit next to at lunch?' " Bernard says. "Usually you sit with people who look like you. Which people really look like us is complicated, it's not just skin tone, but we all do it, we all gravitate toward people who are not going to judge us."

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One of Bernard's writers describes a litany of bitter experiences with white people, and says they have made the kind of trust that sustains a friendship almost impossible. Another essayist also describes a brutal past, but moves toward the opposite conclusion, that his lasting friendship with a white man transcends racial categories and ideologies. This is risky stuff, and exactly what Bernard wanted when she conceived the book. She says she hopes that the commonalities and tensions inside and among the essays will reach people where they live, and perhaps offer some succor to those who don't often see their personal relationships and conflicts reflected in print.

"Good writing is life-saving," Bernard says. "I'm the person I am today because of what I have read."

theview

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