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# Emory College

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## College Student named 2000 Reporter of the Year



Emory junior Barney Gimbel has been named the 2000 Reporter of the Year by the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA) and the Associated Collegiate Press (ACP). Gimbel, who is from Los Angeles, is news editor of [The Emory Wheel](#). He received the award in November at the National Collegiate Media Convention in Washington, D.C. In addition to his work at Emory, Gimbel worked as a full-time news reporter last summer in the DeKalb County bureau of The Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

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## Arts and Sciences Awards of Distinction



The 2000 Arts and Sciences Awards of Distinction dinner was held on October 27, 2000. Alumni Recipients were Miles Alexander ('52C), Ruth Gershon ('67C-'70L), Linda Ray Pratt ('66G-'71G), and Jane Gershon Weitzman ('64C). Also honored were professors emeriti William B. Dillingham ('55C-'56G) and Floyd C. Watkins ('47G, posthumous), both from the English department.

Pictured here from left to right are William Dillingham, Linda Ray Pratt, Anna Watkins (wife of Floyd Watkins), Kirk Watkins (son of Floyd Watkins), Jane Gershon Weitzman, Miles Alexander, and Ruth Gershon.

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## Emory Arts Center breaks ground



More than 80 years of anticipation are slowly but surely coming to an end, as the Oct. 19 groundbreaking ceremony for the Schwartz Center for the Performing Arts closed another chapter in the University's quest for such a facility. Virtually since Emory moved to Atlanta in 1919, there has been a campus constituency calling for the construction of a performing arts center. Judging by the turnout and exuberance of the crowd gathered next to Fishburne Parking Deck for the groundbreaking, that passion for the arts has not yielded an inch. "We have a standing-room only crowd--isn't that a nice sign for this occasion?" said Brad Currey, chairman of the Board of Trustees. Currey went on to say the event was a "celebration of art and beauty in our daily lives" and gave Emory a chance to "pay a richly deserved tribute to Donna and Marvin Schwartz."

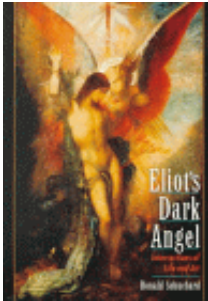
Donna Schwartz, a 1962 graduate of Emory College, and her husband Marvin donated \$8 million for the \$36 million facility, which is scheduled for completion in the summer of 2002. Residents of New York, the Schwartzes have a daughter, Elizabeth, who graduated from Emory in 1997.

For more, see the [Emory Report](#).

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## Ron Schuchard recipient of SAML A award



Ron Schuchard, professor of [English](#), has been awarded the South Atlantic Modern Language Association's annual SAML A Studies Award for literary criticism for his 1999 book *Eliot's Dark Angel: Intersections of Life and Art* (Oxford UP). The SAML A Studies Award is presented annually to the best scholarly book published in English by a member of SAML A and carries with it a \$1,000 honorarium.

Earlier this year, Schuchard was named by the Center for Robert Penn Warren Studies at Western Kentucky University as the recipient of the Robert Penn Warren/Cleanth Brooks Award for *Eliot's Dark Angel*.

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## Mikhail Epstein awarded Liberty Prize

Mikhail Epstein, Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Cultural Theory and Russian Literature, has just been awarded the Liberty Prize for his contributions to Russian-American Culture. This is the second year of the Prize, which will be presented annually to two outstanding Russian cultural figures living in America. Epstein will be going to New York in December for the award ceremony and related events, which will include a number of radio and TV interviews. Epstein is a professor in the [Department of Russian and East Asian Languages and Cultures](#).

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## Emory College Language Center offers new concepts to teaching

Foreign language instruction has never been a high priority in American education. But with globalization becoming more of a buzzword, that is changing. Emory is playing its part with an increased emphasis on internationalization, and that is most apparent with this fall's creation of the Emory College Language Center (ECLC). "What we hope to do is to improve the quality of foreign language instruction on our campus on many different fronts," said Mahmoud Al-Batal, associate professor of [Middle Eastern studies](#) and ECLC director. Al-Batal said the center has two primary focuses, one of which is pedagogy. "[The other] front is the technology area of our classrooms," Al-Batal said. "We want to provide more opportunities for students to be immersed in the language, to be exposed to the language, the sounds, the images." ECLC's technological jewels are a pair of identical "smart" classrooms on the eighth and ninth floors of the Woodruff Library. A total of 10 language classes share the rooms, which keeps them filled from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. most days. And anyone taking one of those classes is in for a treat.

For more, see the [Emory Report](#).

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## Two graduates awarded Rotary Scholarships

Two recent College graduates, Alex Gillies ('00) and Camillia Lui ('00), were awarded Rotary Scholarships. Gillies, who majored in International Studies at Emory, hopes to pursue a master's degree in International Affairs at the University of Ghana. An anthropology/human biology major, Lui plans to use her Chinese minor when she travels to Taiwan in Fall 2001.

The purpose of the Ambassadorial Scholarships program is to further international understanding and friendly relations among people of different countries. Today, the program sponsors several types of scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students as well as qualified professionals pursuing vocational studies. While abroad, scholars serve as ambassadors of goodwill to the people of the host country and give presentations about their homelands to Rotary clubs and other groups. Upon returning home, scholars share with local Rotarians and others the experiences that led to greater understanding of their host countries.

More than 1,200 scholarships were awarded for study in 2000-01. Through grants totaling approximately US\$26 million, recipients from some 69 countries will study in more than 64 different nations.

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