

# Scholarship Recipients – Now Alumni

How they benefited from your contributions.



**Hector Pardo '05  
and Anna Urpi '05**

## *Professors made his RIC education memorable*

Alumni scholarship aid came just in time for Hector Pardo '05, motivating him to complete his undergraduate degree on schedule, with double majors in chemistry and biology.

Professors Lloyd Matsumoto and John Williams were just two of the many educators who made his undergraduate experience very personal, with one-on-one guidance.

He earned his master's degree in public

health from New York University in May 2007 and works full time as contract manager at Public Health Solutions in the HIV Care Services department.

Hector married Anna Ballesteros Urpi '05, a Rhode Island College graduate who earned her master's degree in agency counseling. She currently works as Youth and Family Counselor for Esperanza, Inc. They enjoy living in New York City.

## *This young teacher values hard work*

Ashley teaches 5th grade at Iber Holmes Gove Middle School in Raymond, New Hampshire. Being a new teacher is challenging, but the variety of teaching experiences Ashley learned at Rhode Island College made for a smooth, quick transition into becoming a classroom teacher.

Alumni scholarships not only provided Ashley with financial support, but also reinforced

a core concept around which she focuses her teaching ... *rewarding hard work will encourage more hard work*. Having the Alumni Association recognize her accomplishments and school involvement encouraged her to excel.

Ashley worked part-time in the Development Office while she was a student. She spent a summer in the College's Study Abroad Program in Australia.



**Ashley Foster '05**



**Jason Coggeshall '04**

## *A fantastic quality of education at Rhode Island College*

Jason Coggeshall, the first in his family to attend college, earned a BA degree in communications from Rhode Island College. He went on to earn his MEd in higher education from UMass, Amherst.

Jason works at Bentley College, in Waltham, Massachusetts, as a residence director. This

summer, he is managing a student exchange program with the Middle Eastern country of Bahrain. He hopes to advance within the student affairs division.

He knows now, from seeing other colleges, what a great education he received from RIC at such a reasonable cost. Eventually, he would like to work back at his alma mater ... *my roots are at Rhode Island College*.

## The Annual Fund ... a steady source of support from alumni and friends

Charitable gifts from alumni and friends provide the funds necessary to help the Rhode Island College community flourish. Such gifts to the Annual Fund are the only significant source of unrestricted money that supports the Alumni Association's scholarship aid program, alumni activities and publications, in addition to funding initiatives not covered by the state or tuition fees. This year \$110,000 in scholarship aid will be awarded.

The Alumni Association is always grateful to receive gifts made in memory or in honor of your family, loved ones, friends, or professors.

For more information please call (401) 456-8827 or email [nhoogasian@ric.edu](mailto:nhoogasian@ric.edu). Give conveniently online at [www.ric.edu/givenow](http://www.ric.edu/givenow).

# Former Scholarship Recipients... where are they now?

From time to time we would like you to hear how the alumni scholarship program has benefited students. Now alumni, our scholarship recipients are successful professionals.



**Beth Rupert Nelson '99**  
*“My goal was to graduate from college with almost no student loan debt.”*

Beth qualified for Alumni scholarships all four years at the College. Scholarship aid plus working a number of jobs helped Beth to achieve her goal.

She has a degree in nursing. Beth has worked at Children's Hospital Boston and is currently employed at the emergency room department at Hasbro Children's Hospital where she has started trauma training.

Beth met her husband, Michael Nelson '99, at RIC. Their son Riley is two years old and Beth is expecting another baby in April. Four of Beth's siblings are also RIC graduates.



**Amanda Hartley Urteaga '02**  
*“Always, my heart lies in the theatre.”*

Amanda told us that RIC Alumni scholarships were incredibly helpful in financing her education. Her degree is in theatre.

After graduation, Amanda relocated to Chicago. Upon moving to the windy city, she sang in jazz clubs like the renowned Andy's Jazz Club & Restaurant. But Amanda told us, “I want to tell stories ... my heart truly lies in the theatre.” She appeared in the ensemble of *A Jacques Brel Review: Songs of Love and War* which was nominated for a number of JEFF Awards, honoring excellence in the Chicago theatre community.

She is finishing up a master of fine arts degree in acting at The Theatre School of DePaul University. Amanda was married last summer to Bryan Urteaga.

**Gregory Jamiel '01**  
*“I design new media. It is very exciting work.”*

RIC alumni scholarships helped Greg spend more time concentrating on his studies. He received a bachelor of fine arts degree.

Upon graduation, he went to work at NBC10 in Providence, then to Channel 3 in Hartford, Connecticut. The next stop was CBS in Phoenix for four years, where he won three Emmy Awards. He also won three prestigious awards in the Broadcast Design Association's international awards competition, where he represented North America.

Now Gregory works as design director of the new cable division of Meredith Video Solutions. Meredith Corporation publishes *Better Homes & Gardens* and *Ladies' Home Journal*. He designs new media such as pod casts, websites, and graphics.

Gregory loves living in Portland, Oregon, with his two dogs.

