

Colby College Students, Faculty, and Staff of Color: 1845-1972

Melvin Ladera ('03) and Mark Tappan (Education)

- 1813 Founding of Colby College
- 1845 Jonas Holland Townsend attends Colby College
- 1857 Jonas Townsend helps establish *The Mirror of the Times* in San Francisco
- 1858 Townsend writes for the *Anglo-African Magazine* and the *Frederick Douglass Papers*
- 1865 Samuel Osborne is brought to Waterville
- 1866 Sam becomes the new janitor of Colby College
- 1887 Adam Simpson Green becomes the first African-American and person of color to graduate from Colby College
- 1890 Joshua Baker Simpson graduates from Colby College
- 1898 Hezekiah Walden graduates from Colby College
- 1900 Marion Osborne, daughter of Sam the janitor becomes the first African American woman to graduate from Colby College
- 1904 Samuel Osborne dies
- 1913 Aaron MacGhee graduates from Colby College
- 1916 Theodore Fieldbrave becomes the first Indian-born and person of South Asian descent to graduate from Colby College
- 1920 Vi Tsu Sun becomes the first Chinese-born and person of East Asian descent to graduate from Colby College
- 1921 Antonios Savides, Turkish born, becomes the first person of color to become a professor at Colby College. Edward Coburn Niles graduates from Colby College. Chin Foh Song graduates from Colby College.
- 1924 Su Jan Lee graduates from Colby College. Herbert Crawford Jenkins graduates from Colby College. Joseph Washington graduates from Colby College
- 1930 Horace Lincoln Heath graduates from Colby College
- 1937 Kenneth Algernon Johnson graduates from Colby College
- 1938 Gladys Julia Rodriguez becomes the first Hispanic-American to graduate from Colby College
- 1939 John Chacamaty attends Colby College, he might be Native American.
- 1941 Nassur Abdo 'Turk' Hassan graduates from Colby College
- 1942 Ramon Fernando Rodriguez graduates from Colby College
- 1943 Ormon Brown Rodriguez graduates from Colby College
Millicent Bolling Lecombs the second African-American woman to graduate from Colby College
- 1944 Peter Igarashi becomes the first Asian-American to graduate from Colby College
- 1945 Helen Fieldbrave, daughter of alumnus Theodore, graduates from Colby College
Jerome Theodolph Lewis graduates from Colby College
- 1951 Hiroshi Yamauchi becomes the first professor of East Asian descent at Colby College
- 1954 Rahim R. Mojallali becomes the first professor of Middle Eastern descent at Colby College
- 1957 Ben Lin Horn graduates from Colby College
Capt. Paul Jonathan Limm teaches at Colby College.
Francisco Antonio Cauz becomes the first professor of Hispanic descent at Colby College
- 1960 Gladys Inez Forde becomes the first black professor at Colby College
- 1961 Amar Nath Pandeya teaches at Colby College
- 1962 Mohit K. Haldar teaches at Colby College
- 1963 Vishwanath S. Naravane and David Fong teach at Colby College
- 1964 Leonard P. Fletcher becomes the first male black professor at Colby College
- 1965 Yun-Tong Pan teaches at Colby College
- 1966 Francisco Perez teaches at Colby College
- 1968 Kenneth H. Mukai graduates from Colby College
- 1970 Hanumant G. Mannur teaches at Colby College
- 1972 Raouf S. Hanna teaches at Colby College

Jonas Holland Townsend 1849

Jonas Townsend became the first African-American to attend Colby College as part of the class of 1849. He was enrolled at Colby from 1845-1848. Townsend had a dauntless passion for black civil rights. With his intense activist mind, Townsend became so anxious to take action that he withdrew from Colby before he could complete his final year.

Before Townsend came to Colby, which was called Waterville College at the time, he was a prominent figure in the black community in Albany, New York. He represented his city's local blacks at the 1843 black national convention in Buffalo, which took place during the summer of that year. At this convention Townsend supported Henry Highland Garnet's controversial "Address to the Slaves of the United States" where Garnet made many inflammatory remarks. Garnet supported a very aggressive and confrontational approach against slavery as he called for a violent revolution:

"Brethren, arise, arise! Strike for your lives and liberties. Now is the day and the hour. Let every slave throughout the land do this and the days of slavery are numbered. You cannot be more oppressed than you have been -- you cannot suffer greater cruelties than you have already. Rather die freemen than live to be slaves. Remember that you are Four Millions! Garnet

Garnet's militant speech developed into a debate between those who believed in the power of moral persuasion to influence abolition like Frederick Douglass and those who believed that violence was the better way to resolve the issue like Garnet and Townsend. After the majority at the convention rejected Garnet's call to rebellion, Townsend reevaluated his views on abolition.

Townsend then became focused on presenting education as the key to gaining and attaining black civil rights. He enrolled at Colby College in 1845 to expand his own education but his determination to spread his views to the world cut his college career short as he withdrew from the college before his senior year to start the *Hyperion* newspaper in New York City in 1849. His limited Colby education did not go to waste as his paper was regarded with prestige as a "gratifying exception to the mass of papers started in this country by persons of color, both as regards its size, and the ability which it is conducted." The *Hyperion* was a short-lived publication since it was abandoned when Townsend moved to California to participate in the California gold rush.

The California gold rush was the first voluntary movement of a considerable size by blacks in 1849. The gold rush attracted men of all social groups and races to the Northern California region. Townsend joined the many Blacks in their quest for success and fortune. He settled in San Francisco where he also established himself as a key figure in the black community. There he helped found the San Francisco Athenaeum, which was a local black cultural and intellectual society. He represented the San Francisco Company in the state executive committee, in

which he was involved in several state conventions between 1855 and 1857 that protested issues about education of colored students and the restrictions on black testimony in the courts. In 1855 he was instrumental in the creation of the first black newspaper in the state of California, the *Mirror of the Times*. He was the head editor of this publication from 1856 to 1858. The *Mirror of the Times* spread Townsend's views as well as the views of many of the leading abolitionists in the state of California. It reported the happenings of the various conventions that took place.

In 1857 at the Athenaeum, Townsend was appointed to a committee of three, along with E. J. Johnson and G.W. Gordon, who were assigned the drafting of a Constitution and by-laws for the association. Townsend offered several resolutions that were adopted in this Constitution.

Townsend returned to New York in 1859 where he continued his career in journalism. He wrote several articles for the *Anglo-African Magazine* and he edited *Frederick Douglass' Paper* while Douglass was in Europe in 1859. Many of the articles he wrote for the *Anglo-African Magazine* were focused on discussing the importance of education.

"Intellectual culture harnesses the elements of steam and lightning to the car of her conquests, crosses the lines, doubles the capes, throws the harpoon in the snows of the North gathers the corals in the Isles of the South, guides us over the hoarse surges of the ocean-billows, and mingles them with the flakes of fire." -Townsend

Townsend later went on to write a series of articles that presented his views on the unfair common school system in the nation. Townsend critiqued the discrimination that colored students received when enrolling in schools dominated by whites. He stated, "The idea that the presence of our children in the common schools of this country, is degrading to those of fairer complexion, is so preposterous, that it scarcely needs a serious consideration." Townsend then supported his argument by presenting instances with the unfair treatment for blacks enrolling in schools in Canterbury, Connecticut and Canaan, New Hampshire. Townsend defended the right for blacks to receive the same education as everyone else as he stated, "We should remember that old and sublime maxim that 'knowledge is power,' hence its importance to us as an oppressed people." A lack of education was the largest disadvantage for colored people. Without equal education they could never reach an equal level with the white citizens of the nation. In October 1859, Townsend's article "The Policy that We Should Pursue," argued the importance of education as he believed, "we can have the mental training of the common schools for our children in their youth, the culture and the discipline of the academies and colleges for those of maturer years, where they may acquire vast stores of knowledge, which will be more effectual in overturning the system of injustice and wrong than

the physical right arm." He developed a sensational vision of the black civil rights movement succeeding through the power of education:

"Let us have the light, give the spirit of genius and opportunity to develop the powers of our young men in the various branches of the mechanical arts; make industry honorable in every relation of life, and with a fair field before us, we will cut down the mountains which stand up before us, like the great shadow of God. Educate men and you melt chains from their limbs; liberty becomes a fire in their bones, that all the penal enactments in the world can never effectually put out; a partial judiciary may attempt to strike it down; a hireling press may seek to bring it into ridicule and contempt; party strife and contention may rage for a season and trample it in the dust; but like its noble Author, it will rise again in the majesty of its greatness, to send forth its benignant rays, while the earth beats round her orbit and fulfils the measures of her stupendous years."-
Townsend

Townsend also became a member of the New York State Suffrage Association and served as the secretary in the 1858 black suffrage convention. After the Civil War Townsend worked at the New York Customs House. He later moved to Brazoria, Texas in the early 1870s. There he was involved in Republican Party politics and was selected as a Republican presidential elector in 1872. The date of his death and his whereabouts afterward are unknown.

Samuel Osborne

Samuel Osborne was the first person of color to work at the institution of Colby College. Colby alum Colonel Stephen Fletcher, class of 1859, brought the former slave to Maine in 1865. Osborne would later take the position as Colby College's janitor, which he held for 37 years.

Sam was born into slavery on October 20, 1833 on Dr. William Welford's plantation in Virginia. Sam was a second generation slave. His father was an original African who had crossed the sea on a slave ship. Sam was fortunate enough to be raised in a compassionate household. Mrs. Welford always disagreed with her husband about the ethics of slavery. While her husband was all about making sure the work got done, Mrs. Welford, with her kind Christian heart, made sure that the slaves were treated with respect and great dignity.

Sam was an intelligent child who easily took to learning. At the age of five, he was described as "one of the smartest, brightest darkey lads of the plantation." Sam was very dedicated to his education. He tried to teach himself by staying up late at night with a newspaper and a spelling book, studying really hard until he understood every word in the paper.

When Sam was fifteen years old, he moved with the Welfords to Fredricksburg where he became a cook. He proved to be a fabulous cook as he once received a prize for his results. When the Welfords moved to Culpepper, Sam was separated from his mother, who he did not see until 1865 shortly before she passed away. After being separated from one of the most important women in his life, he began a new relationship with another important woman. Sam married Maria Iveson, another slave who was raised with Sam on the Welford plantation.

In 1862, Sam lived in Danville, Virginia with the Welfords during the Civil War. William Welford was slain in battle that same year and two years later Mrs. Welford passed away. Mrs. Welford demanded in her will that Sam and his family should not be sold to anyone and that he should be given money to pursue a decent education.

With the aftermath of the war, Sam and his family were freed from slavery. During this time, Sam showed up looking for work at the tent of Col. Stephen Copeland Fletcher asking him if he needed a "body servant." Fletcher took him in and brought him to Waterville, where Sam easily won the hearts of the members of the community with his kindness. The president of Colby, James Champlin helped Sam in obtaining a temporary job with the Maine Central Railroad.

In 1867, shortly after his father died, Sam took the position as Colby's janitor which Champlin graciously offered. As the janitor, Sam was loved by all, the faculty, administration, students, and the Waterville community. He played a role in everyone's lives:

"The old college bell which has sounded so many hundreds of times by the strength of his brave arm will never sound the same to the old Colby student.

He was trusty and stout-hearted. A college secret was as safe with him as with any of the faculty. A student's prank was only known to him when he came to clear up the debris left by the prank."

Sam let a lot of the students' mischief slide, as he humbly cleaned after them every day. He never wanted any trouble. Sam referred to the students at Colby as his boys and girls. He always wanted them to refer to him as "Sam" instead of "Samuel" or "Mr. Osborne" in return. If they called him otherwise, he gave them a hard time about it. Sam was always present at their commencement, offering them his own informal farewell address, which the students often revered as much as the rest of the speeches of the day.

Sam and Maria had seven children, six girls and one son. Their only son Edward Samuel attended Colby with the class of 1897, but instead dropped out after a year to work at Maine Central Railroad where his father worked before becoming a janitor. It was not until 1900, did Sam truly have a child from Colby when his daughter Marion graduated from the institution.

A few years after seeing his daughter graduate, illness struck Sam and he died on Friday, July 1, 1904. That day was described as an incredibly sorrowful day for Colby. The love for the janitor was fondly illustrated as "President and Mrs. White went to his bedside early in the morning and the president remained until the last." Colby demonstrated the respect the institution had for Sam as it honored him by having the college bell ring seventy one times, representing the age of the amiable janitor.

Adam Simpson Green 1887

Adam Simpson Green was the first African-American man to graduate from Colby College in 1887. He was also the fourth person of color to graduate from a Maine college. He was born on December 19, 1857 in Aberdeen, Mississippi. Green became an ordained minister and had a long career in higher education.

Green was the oldest person in his class when he attended Colby. He was almost 30 when he graduated. At Colby, Green was a very opinionated man. He expressed many of his opinions about the state of the nation after the civil war in several of his articles that he wrote for the *Colby Echo*. He commented mostly on the social, moral, and political statuses of the Negro man from the south.

In Green's *Echo* articles, he critiqued all the citizens of the South. He scolded the former slave owners' superiority complexes, while he was disgusted at the former slaves' inferiority complexes. Green recognized that these complexes were "the present social evils of the South" which were resultants from the inhuman custom of slavery. But Green continuously argued for progress in the South and he tried to search for answers for this widespread problem. Though the war was over, the mentality still resonated. Green stated, "indeed, it used to be a common saying, and it can now be heard in many places of the South: 'Naught's a naught, and five's a figure; all for the account, and none for the nigger.'" To Green, very little seemed to have changed since slavery.

Green wrote articles that provoked people to think about civil rights and equality. For some people, the articles were not very pleasant. A writer for the *Vanderbilt Observer* in Tennessee took offense to Green's articles and his view of the South. The reporter wrote to Green mockingly stating, "now, my dear author, whoever you may be, permit me to say that your knowledge of the negro question in the South can only be equalled by that of the tattooed New Zealander of the delectable dish, 'tooty-fruity.'" This statement basically poked fun at Green's position and criticized Green for not having full knowledge of what it was really like experiencing the South since the article was coming from a newspaper in Maine. What the writer did not know was that Green was in fact born and bred in the South in a state that contained more blacks than in Tennessee.

After receiving his B.A. in 1887, Green traveled to Kasse, Texas where he accepted a teaching position in the spring of 1888. He later became a teacher at various public schools in Houston. In October of 1888, Green received his license to be able to preach at the Waterville Baptist Church. In 1889, Green wrote a poem for the 24th anniversary of the Emancipation of the American Negro at Houston, Texas. The poem was a vibrant twenty-four page critique on the position of blacks titled "The Negro's Past, Present and Future."

Green later traveled back to Waterville to work to receive his masters, which he obtained on July 2, 1890 with twelve of his fellow classmates. During the fall of that same year, Green entered the Newton Theological Institute to continue his studies in religion.

Green graduated from Newton in 1893. In October of that same year, the newly ordained Reverend Green answered a call to become a pastor of the Bethesda Baptist colored church in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He served as the pastor for that church until 1895. Green later took a position as an instructor at the Bible Institute in Lawrence, Kansas from January to October of 1895.

Reverend Green later became an assistant instructor in the Divinity department of the Western Baptist College in Macon, Missouri, where he primarily taught students about the New Testament. He also taught math, Greek, and Hebrew. In 1902, Green briefly became a teacher in Hopkinsville, Kentucky. Later that year, Green moved to Nova Scotia where he became a pastor at the Zion Baptist Church. He resigned from that position in October of 1904. Green moved to New Orleans, Louisiana, and nothing has been heard from him since.

Joshua Baker Simpson 1890

It may be unclear whether Joshua Baker Simpson was African-American or not, but there is plenty of evidence that lead us to the conclusion that Simpson was part of a minority. He was often described as mulatto and after Simpson's graduation from Colby, he went on to become a prominent educator and administrator for Black students. Simpson was also supposedly the son of a former slave.

Simpson was born on July 23, 1861 in Washington, Kentucky. He was born to George Washington Simpson and Julia Ann Gray, both Baptists. Simpson attended Wayland Seminary in Washington D.C. and graduated in 1886. With the influence of Wayland president, George Mellen Prentiss King, a former graduate of Colby with the class of 1857, Simpson enrolled at Colby College. According to the accounts in the 1939 Colby Alumnus, King and Wayland Seminary "whetted his desire for further knowledge that he was content with nothing less than a drink at one of the original Pierian springs." So of course he needed to expand his horizons at Colby.

Like many other minority college students of the time, Simpson was the only student of his class that was not part of a fraternity. It seemed that he had trouble fitting in with the college atmosphere. He was not only the only person with mulatto skin, he was also the oldest person in his class, graduating at age 28.

At Colby, he remained true to his faith as he joined the Young Men's Christian Association YMCA. He also mentioned in the Oracle's class statistics that he wished to pursue a career in the ministry. Simpson also received good marks in many of his classes. He listed rhetoric as his favorite course of study.

After graduating from Colby in 1890, Simpson decided to continue his education by taking graduate courses at Colby during his spare time while teaching down at his alma mater Wayland Seminary. He eventually received his Master of Arts degree in 1893. Simpson also took a few courses at the Newton Theological Seminary between 1890 and 1891. He later received an honorary Ph.D. from the Virginia Union University in 1902.

In 1893, just after receiving his masters, Simpson began a family life marrying Mary Elizabeth Garrett of Springfield, Massachusetts in 1893. While trying to find a time to raise a family, Simpson served as a professor at Wayland from 1892 until it merged with the Richmond Theological Institute in 1899 to become the Virginia Union University in Richmond. Simpson served as a professor on the staff of Virginia Union University until the day of his death.

At Virginia Union University, Simpson was a Professor of Ancient Language and Literature. Simpson traveled to Italy and Greece for one summer each to develop his knowledge of the material he taught. Simpson was a much-revered teacher. He cared deeply for all of his pupils:

"A sort of missionary zeal characterized his concern for the Youth who came under charge. He was not unlike the Great Teacher of Nazareth who showed as

much anxiety for the one sheep which strayed from the fold as he showed joy for the ninety and nine which came home safely."

Simpson developed an intimate understanding of each of his students. Many of his students felt that he was genuine and sincere with his concern over their education and personal lives. He was as much a counselor and friend to them as he was a teacher.

Simpson died on June 1, 1943 at his home on the university's campus after being ill for two months. His wife died six months before him. He left no surviving children.

Hezekiah Walden 1898

Hezekiah Walden was the third African-American to graduate from Colby College. Not unlike his predecessors, Walden discovered and enrolled at Colby because of his strong affiliations with the Baptist Church.

Walden was born on March 15, 1866 in Markham, Virginia. He attended the public rural schools of Markham where he walked seven miles each way to and from his school and home. Walden also joined the Baptist Church in his youth. While attending school, Walden also took on the job working as a house servant for a wealthy family. When Walden reached the age of 20, he moved to Washington and enrolled at Wayland Academy. The President of Wayland was George Mellen Prentiss King, who was a Colby College graduate, class of 1857. King was very much impressed by Walden's earnestness and willingness to learn. King, always eager to promote his alma mater, then urged Walden to move to Waterville, Maine where he can feed his thirst for knowledge. King believed that institutions like the Coburn Classical Institute and Colby College would really benefit the youngster.

Walden followed King's advice and traveled to Waterville where he took a job with Professor William Elder's family. Maine Governor Abner Colby Coburn, who was an important benefactor of Wayland, became genuinely interested in Walden and his dedication. Coburn aided Walden in his endeavors to receive an adequate education. Coburn helped him enroll at the Coburn Classical Institute from which he graduated in 1893. From there Walden enrolled at Colby in 1894 and graduated with the class of 1898.

Walden was highly regarded at Colby. One of his classmates remarked, "No man in our class was more highly respected, by both men and women, than Walden. He was cheerful, friendly, unselfish and a hard worker." Walden was also seen as dedicated to prove to the dominant white society that his race deserved equal treatment. His classmate stated, "He was the cleanest minded man I ever came in close contact with. He was proud of his race in its efforts to rise above its former lowly condition." His main weapon in combating prejudice is through education. He believed that blacks receiving a good education would help bring about a more organized society for blacks and whites alike.

After graduating from Colby, Walden's passion for education led him to a career in teaching. In 1899, he took a position at Roger Williams University in Nashville, Tennessee until 1905 when the school burned down. While at Roger Williams, he married Mary L. Williams on September 24, 1900. A couple years later Walden's involvement with the Baptist Church became stronger when he became ordained to preach in April of 1903.

Walden then transferred to Bishop College in Marshall Texas, which, like Roger Williams, were both associated with the Baptist Home Missions Society. Walden later began teaching at Lincoln High School in Kansas City, Missouri until 1917. In Kansas City, Walden stayed in a nice neighborhood until hostile and racist members

of the community dynamited his house twice. The second time, his house was destroyed and he and his family barely escaped.

After Walden was scared off from Kansas City, he took a teaching position at the Bluefield Institute in West Virginia, where he taught for two years. Walden later took the position of president of the West Virginia Normal School in Hilltop, West Virginia. This job was rather strenuous for Walden. He resigned from the administrative position because of the strain and decided to go back to teaching in the simple high school atmosphere. Walden became a teacher at the DuBois High School in Mt. Hope, West Virginia.

Walden and his wife had three children, a son and two daughters, Coburn Elder, Edmonia Louise, and Marie Virginia. All three of his children became college graduates. The eldest, Coburn Elder, became a doctor after he received degrees from Lincoln University and Howard University Medical School. Coburn was also named after the man who mentored him, Governor Abner Colby Coburn, back in his days in Maine. Edmonia Louise also made a name for herself as she followed in her father's footsteps and became a teacher. Walden passed away on July 26, 1931 at Institute, West Virginia.

Marion Osborne Matheson 1900

Marion Osborne was the first African-American woman to graduate from Colby College in 1900, 25 years after the first woman and 13 years after the first African-American man. Marion was the daughter of Sam Osborne, the janitor of Colby for 37 years who was also a very prominent figure in Colby College's history.

Marion was born on September 24, 1878. She was pretty much born and raised in Waterville, Maine in a little house at 5 Ash Street, which is now a parking lot. She enrolled at Colby in 1896, with probable influence from her father, after graduating from Waterville High School. She was the second person in her family to attend Colby College, her older brother Edward Samuel being the first with the class of 1897, but he never graduated.

At Colby, Marion struggled in some of her classes but overall received decent marks, excelling in Greek, elocution, and gymnastics. Marion was also the secretary of the women of her class during her senior year. She also joined the Ode Committee during her junior year and served as its treasurer during her senior year.

After graduating from Colby, Marion found love and married Duncan G. Matheson on April 8, 1917. She later moved to Brooklyn, New York with him where she became a teacher and bookkeeper. In New York, she was a member of the Bridge Street Methodist Episcopal Church. She also became a matron of the Eastern Star in Brooklyn.

When her husband died, Marion returned to Waterville to live with her brother and sisters. There she joined the Pleasant Street Methodist Church on December 7, 1930 where she became very active. She sang in the church's choir and became deeply involved with the Women's Society of Christian Service of the Methodist Church. She served as the organization's president of the Central District.

Marion passed away on June 6, 1954. She left no children, only her brother and sisters.

Aaron Lawson MacGhee 1913

Aaron Lawson MacGhee, a graduate from Colby's class of 1913, went on to become a well-known medical practitioner. As the only African-American in his class, he struggled to gain acceptance among his peers, but with a kind heart and an assertive mind, he was able to win lots of admiration from his classmates.

MacGhee was born on March 20, 1884 in Knoxville, Tennessee. He attended Austin High School, also in Knoxville, where he graduated in 1902. MacGhee later enrolled at the Coburn Classical Institute in Waterville, Maine for his college preparatory work. MacGhee graduated from the institute in 1909. MacGhee then attended Colby College where he was one of the students that founded the Colby Commons Club.

The Colby Commons Club was an inclusive, fraternity-like club that was formed because MacGhee and some other students were not pleased with the fraternities' exclusion of people of color. The club was meant to give students not involved in one of the other fraternities, privileges that they were previously denied.

MacGhee was also very involved at Colby as he was a member of the Class Executive Committee, the Debating Society, and served as a proctor of North College. MacGhee's debating skills showed when he reached the finals of the Hallowell Prize Speaking Contest. MacGhee also served as the secretary and treasurer of the Coburn club. MacGhee was also an accomplished athlete as he played baseball for three years of his College career, while also running for the track team. MacGhee also took on the role of a College Physician during his senior year.

After graduating from Colby, MacGhee enrolled at Harvard University Medical School and graduated in 1917. MacGhee later married on November 23, 1923 to Martha E. Cabaniss who was a registered nurse at Freedmen's Hospital in Washington DC.

MacGhee became an accomplished surgeon in Harlem as he maintained several medical offices in New York City for 29 years. He was a community leader that was deeply involved in a movement to help make Harlem more business conscious. MacGhee died on November 29, 1949.

Theodore Fieldbrave 1916

Theodore Fieldbrave was the first international student of South Asian descent to attend Colby College in 1916. He is a native of India. Fieldbrave traveled across the seas to bring his brilliance and polished manner to the little State of Maine.

Fieldbrave was born on October 17, 1882 in Lucknow, India, but his family later made their hometown in Allahabad, India. He was born a Brahmin into high caste parentage. Fieldbrave attended Government High School. He is a third generation Christian and he is deeply affiliated with the Baptist church as he enrolled at Christian College in Allahabad. He later moved to the United States and enrolled at Gordon School in 1912 and Newton Theological Seminary in 1913. From there, Fieldbrave transferred to Colby College where he was granted Sophomore standing upon entrance due to the credits he received in India and other schools.

At Colby, Fieldbrave made a name for himself in public speaking and debate. He was described to have a "polished manner and versatile conversational powers." Fieldbrave competed in various prize-speaking contests. He participated in the Freshman Prize Reading, the Murray Prize Debate, Peace Prize Speaking, and the Temperance Prize Speaking contests. His high moment was when he won first place at the Hallowell Prize Speaking contest.

Fieldbrave was a born leader. He was a member of the Chess Club, which he became the president during his sophomore and junior years, and the Tennis team, which he captained his senior year. Fieldbrave was the first person of color to captain or head a Colby sport or club. He also served as the Proctor for Roberts Hall during his junior year. Fieldbrave was also a member of the Colby Commons Club, a sort of anti-fraternity fraternity that Aaron MacGhee helped found.

When Fieldbrave graduated from Colby, he decided to follow in the footsteps of his father, who was a reverend, and pursue graduate studies in theology. He studied at the Crozer Theological Seminary in Philadelphia from 1916 to 1918 while also studying at the University of Pennsylvania where he received his master's in Theology in 1918. Fieldbrave fell in love with the American School system and desired to obtain a job teaching Theology. Fieldbrave naturalized in Philadelphia to help make his job search easier. He eventually was accepted for a teaching position with the University of California at Berkeley.

He traveled to India for a visit and, in 1920, married a young Arabian Jew. He later returned to Berkeley where he also served as a translator for two years. Life seemed perfect for Fieldbrave as he had a lovely wife, a daughter on the way, and a steady job in sunny California. One discriminatory event disrupted all of this. In 1923 the United States proclaimed that all Hindus were not eligible for naturalization. Though Fieldbrave had already been

naturalized, the government had called for actions to cancel the citizenships of various Hindus. Fieldbrave was among these citizens. On August 9, 1924, an unaware Fieldbrave was confronted by a Federal officer who collected his naturalization papers and informed him that he was no longer an American citizen. This incident cost Fieldbrave his job at the university. Since his wife only attained citizenship through being married to Theodore, she lost her citizenship as well.

Fieldbrave fought to regain his citizenship with the help of a congressional bill signed by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The Hindu Baptist preacher appeared before the District Court of Northern California with the support of his friends and family. The California Church Council provided Fieldbrave with any assistance they could offer in his battle for justice. The church council appreciated everything that he had done for them and the religious community as one of the prominent and most highly regarded Christian figures in Northern California.

Dr. Fieldbrave was a deacon of the First Baptist Church at Berkeley and participated in relief work for the church council. He and his wife were appointed as missionaries to the Asians in California. Their assignment was to "endeavor through friendliness and personal witness to bring Christ to these people from across the Pacific." It is no wonder that the California Church Council would support the Fieldbraves in their court hearings since they worked very hard for the Northern California religious community.

Dr. Fieldbrave had two children, Helen and Theodore Jr. His daughter followed in his footsteps and graduated from Colby College in 1945. Dr. Theodore Fieldbrave died on April 5, 1949 in Berkeley, California.

Chin Foh Song 1921

Chin Foh Song was the second Chinese student to graduate from Colby College, Vi Tsu Sun being the first in 1920. Song was born on March 9, 1897 in Hangchow, China. Before he came to Colby, he graduated from Wayland Academy in 1916 also in Hangchow and later graduated from Colby Academy in 1917.

At Colby, Song was very active. He joined many clubs and was a devout Baptist. He was a member of the Northfield Delegation, the YMCA Financial and Deputation Committees, the Class Basketball team, and the Colby band. Song, along with Sun, was also a member of the Pi Delta Phi fraternity. At the time, Pi Delta Phi was the only fraternity that had people of color as members.

Pi Delta Phi was much like a misfit fraternity that was founded at Colby in 1917. The establishment was meant to give the large number of non-fraternity men at the time the privileges of fraternity life. Song and Sun were easily accepted into the newly founded fraternity.

After graduating from Colby, Song attended Springfield YMCA college and then returned to Hangchow in the mid-1920s. At Hangchow, he returned to his alma mater, taking a teaching position at Wayland Academy. Song was the resident physical education expert of the school. There he was known as "Carl" Song. He became one of the most trusted advisors and assistant to the missionary Edward Hyers Clayton, who wrote an autobiography of his experiences, which includes many interactions with Song, in *Heaven Below*

Song was greatly devoted to the Academy. He even defended it with his life. On October of 1926, during a time of civil war, Song armed with a rifle protected the gates of the Academy from the possible looters who were retreating from the battlefields.

Clayton regarded Song with great respect as he saw him as a man of great character and integrity. Clayton described one instance, when an angry mob tortured a prisoner of war and prepped him for execution; Song bravely faced the mob and rescued the man from the unjust treatment, taking him to the hospital. According to Clayton, "Carl Song, like many other young men of his generation, had learned what it means to be a Christian."

Also, according to Clayton, Song was a member of China's Olympic team four times. Song's whereabouts from after Clayton's accounts are unknown.

Su Jan Lee 1924

Su Jan Lee was one of the many Chinese students to attend Colby College through the influence of missionary presence in China. He was loved by all at Colby and was once regarded as a "Christmas present" to Colby upon his arrival in November. He later became very a successful banker and educator in both his native country and in the United States. Throughout his lifetime, Lee served as an unofficial diplomat between the two nations.

Lee was born on March 6, 1900 in Peiping, China, but later settled in his hometown of Tientsin, China. He was the son of a very wealthy industrialist and his uncle, Yuan Shih-k'ai was a former president in China. Lee married at the age of 13, which was not uncommon. He was a former aristocrat, born with plenty of advantages like the ability to attend the best of schools in China. Lee was a very dedicated student. He attended Tientsin Angle-China College, Peking College of Commerce and Finance, the Tientsin Private Middle School, and the Principal Tientsin Social Middle School before traveling to the United States.

Lee traveled to Colby College with another Chinese student from Tientsin, Li Fu Chi. Lee and Chi were both influenced by a Colby alumnus to make the journey over the seas to the cold state of Maine. When they arrived at the steps of Colby College in 1923, their arrival was unannounced but they were welcomed warmly by President Arthur Roberts. According to an account in the *Alumnus*:

"No letters had been written and the first thing that President Roberts knew they had arrived clad in Chinese costume with cloth sandals and white stockings. They arrived in Waterville in November, when the snow was on the ground. The president did just what he always does in such cases; took it upon himself to provide the boys with suitable clothing; found them a place to stay, got them started on the road and finding that they were low in cash he had to provide that."

President Roberts took Lee and Chi in and he treated them like his own children. Tragically, Li Fu Chi later developed tuberculosis and was sent to the Sanitorium in Fairfield where President Roberts paid for the medical expenses. The college's efforts to aid Chi in his fight against the illness failed as he passed away in 1925. President Roberts also made the arrangements for Chi to be buried at the Colby College lot in the Waterville Cemetery.

Su Jan Lee, on the other hand, survived his stay in Maine, where he took three semesters at Colby. Credit for his first five semesters was granted to him for his work done in home schools. Lee was able to complete his Colby College education in less than two years. He proved his worth as he excelled in Economics, Sociology, and German.

Lee was a personality that was missed by many at Colby after his graduation in 1924. He had many friends. The Oracle stated that "Su is the personification of courteous politeness--something we should do well to copy--and conscientious industry."

After graduating from Colby, Lee attended Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts to receive his masters in 1925. He then returned to China where he joined the faculty of one of his alma maters, the Peking College of Commerce and Finance. There he served as both a Dean and Professor from 1926 to 1928, while serving as a director of the Peking YMCA. In 1928 Lee became the Dean and Professor at the National Customs College until 1930.

Lee took a break from teaching to become a banker. In 1930, he served as the assistant accountant and comptroller of the Salt Industrial Bank for ten years. In 1940, he became the Chief manager and later a vice-president of the prestigious Bank of Great China until 1942. He later became the president of the Ta Tung Banking Corporation from 1942 to 1944. After leaving Ta Tung, Lee became the president of both the Six Provincial Development Corporation and the Union Trust of Four Banks concurrently from 1944 to 1947.

While managing two corporations, Lee received a LL. D. Degree at Sinkiang University in 1946. In 1947, Lee returned to his passion for teaching becoming a professor at Kuo Mm University in Canton. A year before taking the position at the University, Lee opened a match factory in Indonesia, which he managed from China. During one of his trips to Indonesia to check on the factory in 1949, Lee's first wife died of a heart attack.

Lee moved to the United States after the death of his wife, where he lectured at his alma maters of Colby College and Clark University. On February 15' 1954 Clark University awarded Lee with an honorary degree. He later briefly joined the staff of the Evening College at the University while serving as co-instructor at the Day School of the institution. Lee taught courses on Sociology, Chinese culture, and Asian politics.

Lee spoke throughout the country at various conferences about a diverse assortment of topics like banking, finance, foreign relations with China, and Chinese culture. Lee lent Colby College his collection of valuable Chinese antiquities so the Colby community would have the opportunity to experience the culture that he adored. In his many efforts to smooth over relations between the two nations, Lee declared, "both peoples have the great respect for the natural dignity of man and for his inalienable rights. Both fundamentally desire the preservation of justice, peace, and social orders." He also served as an official at the Bank of China in New York City in the early 1950s. Lee wrote extensively on the financial history of both the China Republic and Communist China. He also wrote the popular book, *The Essentials of Chinese Drama*, which was published in both Chinese and English.

Lee remarried in 1957 in Seattle to his childhood friend from Peiping, May Loo Su Hwa. He fell in love with her artistic sense. May Loo Su Hwa was a passionate ceramist and painter. She had opened an arts studio before marrying Lee. With the influence of his wife, Lee soon became interested in spreading Chinese art and culture to American society. In 1959, Lee and his wife established the Academy of Oriental Arts in Seattle. The Lees believed that through art, Americans would be a step closer to understanding Asian culture.

"A strong link should exist between the Orient and America. This has been possible in some measure between Japan and the United States, but it is not so in the case of China. Americans do not understand the Chinese and Chinese philosophy, and that is not their fault. Our case has never been stated clearly. We, as Chinese, owe much to the United States. By contributing to that understanding that is so necessary, we feel we are helping repay the favors of the past."

For Lee, "Art is simply philosophy in material form. Philosophy should be an art without form." Dr. Lee believed that Chinese philosophy is something that American culture should understand during a time of confusion and uneasiness for relations between the United States and China.

In Seattle, Dr. Lee taught at the University of Washington. Upon the completion of his book, *Human Problems*, Lee was awarded another doctorate in June of 1958. By now he had received two doctorates, one in law and the other in philosophy. Lee remained very active in the Seattle community. He served on the board of deacons of the Baptist Church. Lee later received certificates to serve as a sociologist and a psychiatric sociologist in Washington. He used these certificates to obtain a position as a classification counselor at the state reformatory at Monroe. Though it seemed like a step down from his decorated achievements, Lee very much enjoyed his new job. He believed it to be a "mission" for himself.

"Confucianism has taught me fatalism. Taoism has taught me that everything worthy is perishable. Only one thing remains in you -- the ability to do service for your fellow man. This is my belief. The more you do for others, the happier you become."

Lee demonstrated his dedication not by simply only doing his job as a counselor. He gave his job a creative twist. Lee not only counseled his 152 inmates. He also enlightened them. Lee taught classes about creative thinking, philosophy, religion, and world politics. Though attendance was voluntary for the inmates, more than 150 of them were eager to enlist in his classes.

The release of Lee's book, *The Fine Art of Chinese Cooking*, in 1962, demonstrated Lee's broad view of philosophy while tackling a new art. The philosophies that he teaches in this book are what he teaches his students and inmates. In this book, he relates Chinese philosophy with the art of Chinese cooking. It was an interesting way to view cooking.

Lee was a very humble man, who valued his culture and found it important to spread his culture's ideas.

The date of his death is uncertain. He was last located in Taipei, Taiwan Rep of China in early 1970s.

Joseph Leonard Washington 1927

Joseph Washington had a very interesting story of success. He was probably one of the most distinguished and decorated persons of color to graduate Colby College, but his success did not come without struggle. After he graduated from Colby, he could not find anyone that would give him a chance until he moved overseas where he would prove to the American institutions that rejected him that his talents would have been very useful to them.

Washington was born on March 19, 1902 in Jacksonville, Florida. His family later moved to Brooklyn, New York where he attended Erasmus Hall High School. There he was an athletic star as he captained the baseball and football teams. His excellence in sports earned him the John R. McGlue All-Round Athletic Award and an athletic scholarship with New York University, where he majored in military science and premedical studies and studied for two years before transferring to Colby.

At Colby, Washington was a member of the varsity football and baseball teams as well as the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity. He continued his pre-medical studies that he started at NYU while majoring in Chemistry.

After graduating from Colby College, Washington was asked by the Grand Central Station in New York to play for their football team, the Red Caps. He took them up on their offer as he worked and played as a Red Cap while searching for graduate programs to continue his education.

Colby aided him in his search for a medical school that would accept him. Though he had great marks, an appealing personality, and nice recommendations, no American medical school would admit him. Many schools did not look past his race. He finally got a bite, which came from across the Atlantic, when he was able to gain admittance at the prestigious medical college of Edinburgh University in Scotland.

At Edinburgh, Washington continued to juggle his studies with athletics, as he became the star player of their newly formed school baseball team helping in making baseball popular in the British Isles. He later became captain of the team leading them to many victories. He coached the Salford Reds of Lancashire to the English title in baseball. Washington also played rugby in which he earned All-Star recognition.

During his final year at Edinburgh, war broke out in Europe. Washington wanted to get involved but the British Army would not allow him to join because of his American citizenship. So that year Washington continued his studies and became the first African-American to receive a medical degree at Edinburgh University.

Washington's patriotism was still running high once he graduated so he attempted to join the British Military as a surgeon. This time they told him that he could not join unless he gained experience at a hospital for six months. As a result, Washington became an orthopedic surgeon in a hospital in Lancashire. At that hospital,

Washington gained plenty of experience since they were almost always busy because of the bombings that plagued the area during the war. There was no shortage of patients.

Six months later, Washington applied to join the army once more, and eventually Washington was sent to Leeds for his basic training. After Leeds he went to Aldershot to receive a course in field hygiene and later took a course at the School of Tropical Medicine and Paracitology in Liverpool. After his studies, Washington was assigned to the 44' British General Hospital in Nigeria where he was appointed Malarial Officer with the Royal West African Frontier Force. Washington was later promoted to captain.

Soon afterward, Washington was sent to France in the front line as a medic. He was posted at Amiens, at a hospital that was once occupied by the Germans. He then worked for the Ambulance train heading for Brussels until he was transferred to the 101 British General Hospital in Belgium. Washington was later appointed as the medical officer to the troops at Edinburgh castle.

After the war, Washington returned to the United States where he spent two and a half years as an admitting surgeon at Cumberland St. Hospital. He later joined the American Army. He went on two tours with the NATO fleet and was promoted to the rank of major.

Washington then moved back to Britain where he began to become acclimatized with the National Health Service. He later accepted a post at Liberia's Public Health Service where he was appointed Director of the Government Hospital at Bassa.

Washington moved back to Britain at Rosyth in 1965. There he became the only American in the Royal Fleet Auxiliary. He served in the Far East Fleet for 10 years until he retired in 1973. In 1978 he was rewarded an honorary doctor of science degree from Colby College.

Washington died on April 22, 1986.

Kenneth Algernon Johnson 1937

One of the brightest and most active students to graduate from Colby College, Kenneth Johnson had a long list of accomplishments from when he was a student, in his profession, and as a Colby College trustee. He possessed excellent leadership qualities and an assertive personality that made him a premier role model for those who would follow in his footsteps.

Johnson was born on March 7, 1914 in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He attended Newton High School in Newtonville, MA. There he had already been demonstrating his natural leadership qualities by becoming the president of the Debating Society. He also played for the Junior Varsity Basketball team.

At Colby, Johnson's list of activities was almost endless. He continued his debating in the Debating club. He served as a secretary and treasurer of the Young Men's Christian Association. He was president of the International Relations Club during his senior year. He was the treasurer of the Student Forum during his junior year. He was an active member of the Cosmopolitan Club, the Colby Council on Religion, the Peace Action Committee, the Maine Intercollegiate Peace Panel, and the Musical Comedy club.

Judging by the many prestigious and socially active clubs that Johnson joined, it would be easy to conclude that Johnson was a very passionate advocate for peace. He also served as a delegate to the Wellesley Institute of International Relations, the Northfield Conference, and the International Relations Conference at Clark University. He also was a speaker at the Faculty-Student Peace Assembly.

Johnson was one of Colby's most shining students. He made the Dean's List in his freshman year. Johnson was a member of Pi Gamma Mu, a national social science honor society, during his third and fourth years at Colby due to his excellence as a History major. He received very strong marks in all of his courses but especially in History and English. Johnson intended to use his strengths in leadership, public speaking, and social sciences to pursue careers in either teaching or law.

After graduating from Colby, Johnson eventually went on to pursue a career in education. Colby faculty regarded Johnson as a superior student and they were eager to support his endeavors. He was the first African-American student to be regarded among the top of his class to go through Colby. In many of the recommendations given by his professors, they seemed surprised that a black student was such a great success. Many of his professors described Johnson's teaching ability as "unusually good."

William J. Wilkinson, the head of the history department at the time believed that nothing would likely interfere with his success except, "of course there is the racial problem." Otherwise, Wilkinson described Johnson as a "strong character" with a pleasing personality, excellent mental alertness, and a superior use of English. He

thought that Johnson had an "unusual grasp of international problems. On the campus he was essentially a leader and highly respected by all with whom he was associated."

E.J. Colgan, the head of the department of Education and Psychology at the time, described Johnson as "an outstanding negro student, with marked interest and ability in the social studies. He has necessary qualities for success as a teacher, being possessed of native ability, initiative, self-dependence, and good sense."

Norman D. Palmer, one of his history instructors commented that he is "a negro of unusual character and ability... In nearly every essential respect he seems to be well qualified for teaching."

Johnson received a master's degree in history from Harvard University in 1942. He studied at the University of Minnesota as well as teaching at several schools in the south. He became a history teacher at English High School in 1958. In 1962, Johnson was named a John Hay Fellow in Humanities at the University of Oregon. He also served on the board of directors of the John Hay Alumni foundation. In 1964, he became a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Nigeria. A year later he went back to teaching history at the Boston Latin School.

At Boston Latin School, Johnson became the co-head of the history department until he retired in 1983. Some of his papers were published in educational journals. He was a member of the Advanced Placement Examining Committee in European History between 1968 and 1972. Between 1969 and 1970, Johnson served as a lecturer on AfroAmerican history at Boston State College during his free time. He was cited in "Outstanding Secondary Educators of America" in 1975. Johnson's commitment and dedication to the school was rewarded with a scholarship established in his name in 1978. The scholarship was meant for students who demonstrated the traits that Johnson possessed. The student to receive the scholarship "must be a leader, must be sensitive to the needs of others, be kind, humane, just and fair."

In 1972, Johnson was appointed to the Colby Board of Trustees. As a trustee, Johnson served as a role model for students of color attending Colby in the 1970s. He was dedicated to Colby's improvement and progression. Johnson was especially interested in improving the integration of minority students at Colby. He carefully listened to the unhappy members of the Students Organized for Black Unity (SOBU), and presented their concerns to the rest of the board during a speech at a Faculty-Trustee dinner on May 31, 1975. He was reelected as a trustee in 1978.

Johnson died on October 14, 1987, at age 73.

**The Fernandez Brothers:
Ramon Fernando Fernandez 1942
Orman Brown Fernandez Jr. 1943**

The Fernandez brothers, Ramon and Orman attended Colby College in consecutive years. They were the second and third Hispanic-Americans, respectively, to attend Colby College, the first being Gladys Rodriguez in 1938. They were the sons of Orman Brown Fernandez Sr. and Ethel Alice Mann who were both residents of 76 South Main Street in Old Town, Maine. Orman Sr. was a Theater Proprietor in Old Town and neither he nor Ethel attended college. Orman Sr. and Ethel desired so much for their sons to receive a college education.

The elder brother Ramon Fernando Fernandez was born on March 10, 1918 in Old Town. He graduated from Old Town High School and attended the Hebron Academy preparatory school. Ramon later became an English major at Colby. He struggled at Colby, failing several classes, and he eventually withdrew because of scholastic difficulties on December 6, 1938.

After realizing that college was not for him, Ramon enlisted with the U.S. Marine Corps in the South Pacific during World War II. After returning from the war, Ramon regretted never finishing his education at Colby so he returned in 1946 to attempt to receive his degree. Unfortunately, Ramon was unable to complete his degree because a year later he had to withdraw from Colby yet again, this time for health reasons. Ramon then went back to working for the federal government, only now it was with the State Department and the Naval Technical Libraries. Ramon died on January 21, 1984 in Arlington, Virginia, at age 65.

Since Ramon could not complete his college education at Colby, it was now up to younger brother Orman Brown Fernandez Jr. to fulfill his parents' dreams of having a college boy for a son. Orman Jr. was born on June 16, 1921 in Bangor, Maine. There he also attended Old Town public schools until he was accepted and enrolled at the Maine Central Institute preparatory school. Orman Jr. followed in his brother's footsteps with enrolling at Colby College.

Orman Jr. had absolutely no desire to go to college. He only did it to please his parents. He never really seemed to enjoy being at Colby. Orman Jr. was already prepared to begin a life with his family. He had already married and had two children before enrolling at Colby. Orman Jr. had to put his family life on hold so he could complete his college education. Orman Jr.'s time at Colby was definitely not a blessing for his family life as his time apart from his wife created strain on their relationship causing them to divorce in 1943, the same year of Orman Jr.'s graduation from Colby.

After making his parents proud with his graduation, Orman Jr. served with the U.S. Navy in the Pacific during World War II, just like his brother. Following the war, Orman Jr. followed in his father's footsteps with his

brief involvement in the moving picture theater business. Orman Jr. then made the decision to go to law school at George Washington University. There he took advantage of the GI Bill like many other war veterans. Orman Jr. became weary of the crowded classrooms at the law school so he later decided to take courses in business.

After completing his studies, Orman Jr. started a career with Columbia Broadcasting Corporation as an office manager of the Washington bureau. He did liaison work with the corporation headquarters in New York City. Orman Jr. also remarried on July 5, 1947 to Virginia Louise Sbarbaro. They met one another in Washington, DC. Orman Jr. retired early and moved to Florida where he proclaimed that "he got into my boat and sailed off into the blue." Orman Jr. remarried a third time.

Orman Jr. died on May 12, 1996 in Naples, Florida.

Millicent T. Bolling Smith 1943

Millicent Bolling Smith was the second African-American woman to graduate from Colby College, 43 years after the first, Marion Osborne, in 1900. Smith was a very independent and strong-willed person who was dedicated to the education of her pupils.

Smith was born on November 13, 1921 in Hartford, Connecticut. She attended high school in Connecticut and enrolled in Hartford Junior College for her undergraduate studies, she later transferred to Colby.

At Colby, Smith majored in English and received great marks. The Oracle described her as "one of the real intelligentsia in our little community." Her voice was also as well regarded as her intelligence. Smith sang for the Colby Glee Club, where she was termed as "the girl with the lovely voice."

After Smith graduated from Colby College, she enrolled at Middlebury College in Vermont for graduate school. She received her Master of Arts degree in 1949. While Smith was studying for her masters, she was also a member of the Northeast Junior High School faculty in Hartford. She taught English and Social Studies.

In 1950, Smith moved to New Haven and later ended up teaching English at Milford High School from 1959 to 1961. She then transferred to Jonathan Law High School where she also taught English until 1972 when she was promoted to the position of the school's assistant principal. As an administrator Smith had been evaluated as being "superior" in all of her teaching and administrative assignments." When Jonathan Law's principal, Robert Libby, resigned in 1977, Smith took over his esteemed position until her retirement in 1987. Smith was the first woman and first black person to head one of Milford's three high schools.

While Smith was teaching in Milford, she received a diploma for Advanced Study in Administration and Supervision from the University of Bridgeport, Connecticut in 1966. Smith also was a member of many educational committees. She was a member of the Connecticut's committee on Teacher Certification, Connecticut's NASA Teacher in Space Selection Committee, and the Milford Board of Education Committee on Promotion and Diploma Requirements. She was also a trustee of the College Entrance Examination Board and New Haven's first female Democratic alderwoman.

Smith was a very busy woman throughout her career. She balanced her duties as an administrator with various roles in several community activities. As an administrator maintaining the schools, Smith also did her part in maintaining the whole Milford community. She served on the board of directors for various organizations such as the Milford Mental Health Clinic, American Red Cross, Chamber of Commerce, The Links Inc. (an organization

that was designed to promote intercultural, civic, and social activities), and the Bank of Boston Connecticut. Smith was also a deacon, lay reader, and choir member of various Congregational Churches in Connecticut and the DC area. She was a very dedicated member of the Dixwell Avenue Congregational Church.

The National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs rewarded Smith with the Woman of the Year Award for her many achievements throughout her lifetime. Smith also received Sacred Heart University's Distinguished Medallion of Honor for Service to Education and the Community.

Smith remained very active even after her retirement. She moved to Washington in 1989 where she became a docent in the Native American discipline at the Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution.

Smith died on December 25, Christmas day at the Williamsburg Community Hospital in Williamsburg, Virginia in 1998.

Peter H. Igarashi 1944

Peter Igarashi was the first American-born person of Japanese descent to attend Colby College. Before him there were two Japanese-born students previously enrolled at Colby, Junjun John Saigo 1928, a Harvard graduate who studied at Colby for one semester only in his Junior year, and Shingoro Marumoto 1931 who later transferred to Kalamazoo College. Igarashi was the first person of Japanese descent to graduate from Colby College and his attendance at Colby came during interesting times.

Igarashi was born on January 11, 1923 in Sacramento, California. He graduated from Sacramento High School in 1940. He later enrolled at Sacramento Junior College in the fall of that year. Sacramento Junior College was a tuition-free college level institution provided by the Sacramento Education Department. Life continued normally for Igarashi up until an earth-shaking event that happened on December 7, 1941.

The bombings of Pearl Harbor caused a devastating backlash for many of the Japanese-Americans residing in the United States. Anyone of Japanese descent in the West Coast was forced into internment camps. Many Japanese Americans lost their jobs, homes, and their civil rights. Igarashi was among these many Japanese sent to internment centers. He resided in them from April to October in 1942. Late in 1942 he enrolled at Colby College where he received full credit for the time he spent at the internment camps.

At Colby College, Igarashi remembers that he was graciously welcomed as most of the students and faculty accepted his presence. Some students were hostile, but they did not do much to make him feel unwelcome. Overall, Igarashi was surprised at how warm the Colby community was to him. He mentioned, "On several occasions, students invited me to their homes for visits, an experience new to me at that time." Igarashi majored in Religion and Philosophy during his time at Colby and received high marks.

Igarashi went on to attend Crozer Theological Seminary from 1944-1946. He received a Th. D. from Harvard Divinity School in 1950. From 1950-1955 he was hard at work on a Critical Greek New Testament Project. He was also a Fulbright Scholar at Queen's College in Oxford, England from 1952-1953.

In 1955 he became the Associate Professor of the New Testament at Virginia Union University in Richmond. He worked at the Virginia Theological Seminary in 1959. In the early 1960s he worked at various parishes in Pennsylvania. Igarashi returned to his passion for teaching in 1966 as the Professor of New Testament at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee until 1981. In the 1980s he was the pastor of several parishes in Pennsylvania and Maine, one of which was St. Marks Episcopal Church in Waterville, Maine. He retired in the spring of 1988. In 1997 he moved to Cathedral Village, a retirement community in Philadelphia where he still resides.