



Help Shimer Find Your Classmates

Do you know where your former classmates are? You may, but Shimer may not. Over the years, Shimer has lost contact with hundreds of our alumni. These alumni are currently not receiving alumni mailings or e-mails.

Can you help us find them? We have compiled a [list of lost alumni](#), and we would appreciate your help in locating them. Please search through the list, which is organized by class year and last name. If you know of a way to contact someone on the list, please let us know by filling out the [lost alumni contact form](#).



We greatly appreciate your help and thank you for all the ways you support Shimer College. Feel free to contact us at alumni@shimer.edu if there are any questions.

Alumni Spotlight

Colby Somerville ('06)

Inspired by Eliot and his "encounters" with books at Shimer, Colby Somerville ('06) begins the University of Iowa Writers' Workshop.

This fall, Shimer alumnus Colby Somerville will begin work in the [University of Iowa's Writers' Workshop](#). The Workshop is a two-year residency program which culminates in the submission of a creative thesis (novel, collection of stories, or book of poetry) and the awarding of a Master of Fine Arts degree. The Writers' Workshop was the first creative writing degree program in the United States and for more than 70 years has been a place for writers to work on their writing, celebrate American literature, and exchange ideas with each other and faculty. Workshop alumni have gone on to publish award winning work, including sixteen Pulitzer Prizes and numerous National Book Awards. Alumni of the Workshop include poet, professor, and fellow Shimer alumnus Peter Cooley ('62).

Colby says that after some "fruitless years" following his graduation he decided to apply for a Masters of Fine Arts degree, and as he points out, whenever a writer thinks about

Upcoming Events

Welcome Back Ice Cream Social

8/24/2009 4:30 PM

All the Shimer community is invited to welcome back Shimer students and welcome the Class of 2013 into the community.

Fall Lecture Series - Dr. Gary Glenn

9/24/2009 7:00 PM

Dr. Glenn, Distinguished Teaching Professor Emeritus of Political Science at Northern Illinois University, will be giving a lecture entitled *On the Future Possibility of Liberal Education*.

News from Shimer

Share Advice & Stories with the Class of 2013

What did you find important about Shimer? Do you have a memorable moment from your time at Shimer? Share it with the Class of 2013.

A Beautiful Evening With Yo-Yo Ma

On Friday, August 14th, members of the Shimer Community enjoyed a beautiful evening of great weather and great classical music from Yo-Yo Ma and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra at Ravinia.

Updated Members

These alumni have created or updated their profiles recently.

[Akin, Gib \(1961\)](#)

[Ashcraft, Christine \(1981\)](#)

[Bentley, Philip \(1966\)](#)

[Copeland, Alan \(1966\)](#)

[Cosbey, Stephen \(1970\)](#)

an MFA they can't help but consider Iowa. Colby will be writing poetry during his time in the Workshop, but he admits that like



a lot of people in this country, he didn't really think of poetry much until he read T.S. Eliot. Colby says, "Some will tell you he was a cold individual, but his work is very physical, even to the point of jarring the body." Colby encourages people to investigate contemporary poetry, saying "if modern city living has you feeling frail, Eliot may be a good body to turn to, he doesn't have much to say about the derivatives market or the Mission Accomplished

banner." Colby also recommends the anthology [*American Hybrid: A Norton Anthology of New Poetry*](#) and the periodical [*Octopus Magazine*](#) as two good places to explore contemporary poetry.

When asked about his time at Shimer College, Colby fondly remembers his Shimer days as a bit like the Island of Misfit Toys from Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. Recently, as he was packing up his books into boxes for the move to Iowa, he noticed there were a lot of boxes. "Each book has constituted an encounter with a darling opponent. Part of what Shimer teaches is this, the encounter." Colby adds, "some of my best friends in the world are from Shimer, and I couldn't write without friends." Colby is days away from the start of the program and is wondering what Iowa holds for him. He admits when he thinks of Iowa, he thinks of "mostly corn...and maybe some soy." Colby says that thoughts of the future don't occur to him with much clarity or meaningfulness, though he says it seems reasonable that he should try out a teaching career. For those of us at Shimer who know Colby, we sense a bright future ahead

[Crellin, Mark \(1970\)](#)
[Cwik, Michael \(1975\)](#)
[DeHeer, Ryan \(2006\)](#)
[Fonvielle, William \(1963\)](#)
[Griffith, Barbara \(1975\)](#)
[Groth, Bobbie \(1974\)](#)
[Harris, Michael \(1965\)](#)
[Hether, Steven \(1970\)](#)
[Hetzner, Donald \(1961\)](#)
[Heyman, Michael \(1961\)](#)
[Juracek, Edward \(1970\)](#)
[Keele, Edward \(1963\)](#)
[Khalsa, Devi \(1969\)](#)
[Kim, Young \(1973\)](#)
[Klauber, Gordon \(1971\)](#)
[Koper, Phillip \(1969\)](#)
[Moshenberg, Sammie \(1972\)](#)
[Nixon, Suzanne \(1960\)](#)
[Park, Stephen \(1969\)](#)
[Partridge, Ronald \(1964\)](#)
[Phillips, Michael \(1958\)](#)
[Polley, Eve \(2000\)](#)
[Powers, Arthur \(1967\)](#)
[Roberson, Francine \(1965\)](#)
[Rose, Bruce \(1972\)](#)
[Rosengard, Charles \(1971\)](#)
[Sejbl, Margie-Kay \(1987\)](#)
[Sherman, James \(1963\)](#)
[Strauss, Cita \(1974\)](#)
[Tanty, George \(1970\)](#)
[Tourtlot, Joseph \(1965\)](#)
[Visher, Stephen \(1967\)](#)
[Whitney, Dedaimia \(1971\)](#)