



Harvesting Grapes: Gabriella Macari has been working at her family-run vineyard on the North Fork of Long Island since she was a girl. *Photo by Caroline Rocchetta*

Gabriella Macari, GABELLI '09

Gabriella Macari's love of wine runs as deep as her family's New York roots—a legacy that dates back to the 1930s, when her grandfather crushed grapes with his father in the basement of their Corona, Queens, home. Three decades later, Joseph Macari Sr. purchased a farm on Long Island with the dream of transforming it into a vineyard bearing his family's name. "To my grandfather, it has always been family first," Macari says, "and it still is."

A certified sommelier, Macari spent her childhood riding horses and tractors on the farm after her parents left Queens for Mattituck to plant vines and breathe life back into the 500 fallow acres perched above the Long Island Sound. Thanks to the family's dedication and an ecological and holistic approach to growing grapes, Macari Vineyards is thriving today.

"My father created a composting program, and we have our own herd of longhorn cattle," Macari explains, adding that the farm is also home to horses, ducks, pigs, chickens, and one peacock. This biodiversity ensures rich soil in which healthy fruit has grown abundantly and yielded bountiful harvests every year since the mid-1990s—with only one exception: In 2009, the results fell short of the family's expectations.

That August, the family received a visit from Joseph M. McShane, S.J., president of Fordham. "Father McShane came out and blessed our vineyards," Macari recalls, "and wouldn't you know, the following year we had the most spectacular harvest ever."

To carry out his father's vision of establishing a successful family winery, Joseph Macari Jr. (Gabriella's dad) studied biodynamic viticulture with the late Alan York from California and Alvaro Espinoza of Chile. Now he and his wife, Alexandra, along with Gabriella and her younger brothers—Joseph, Thomas, and Edward—operate the business together full time.

Gabriella heads up the vineyard's marketing and distribution efforts, promotes the Macari brand, assists in the cellar, and hosts tours and tastings for corporate groups. In September, she was accepted into the Institute of Masters of Wine study program, a highly selective and rigorous program that accepted only 88 candidates this year. "I want to help make learning about wine more approachable and less intimidating," says Macari, who is pleased that consumers are embracing wines made locally and domestically. "As long as the quality remains high and producers keep pushing forward, local and domestic wines will be finding more homes on retail shelves and wine lists."

—Claire Curry

1993

GSE: **Kathleen F. Malu, Ph.D.**, a professor at William Paterson University, has earned her second Fulbright award. She is currently a Fulbright Scholar at the School for Oriental and African Studies at the University of London. In 2009–2010, she worked as a Fulbright Scholar in Rwanda, where she had previously served as a Peace Corps Volunteer.

1994

FCRH: **Christopher Mari** has signed a two-book deal with 47North/Amazon Publishing. *Ocean of Storms*, a novel he wrote with Jeremy K. Brown, was published in November, and his novel *The Beachhead* is scheduled for publication in March 2017. "My Life, Unstuffed," his essay about the discoveries he made when going through his late mother's belongings, was published in the July 4–11, 2016, issue of *America* magazine.

1995

GRE: **Maryann Tyrer** has accepted a position as pastoral associate at the Church of St. Monica on East 79th Street in Manhattan.

GSE: **Monique J. Fortuné** is the director of student success at the College of New Rochelle.

1997

LAW: **Joseph E. Strauss** recently joined the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority as senior counsel in the corporation's enforcement department.

1998

FCRH: **Michelle Cotter Richards** is the author of the book *Originate: Business Development for Lawyers* (Difference Press, 2016).

1999

FCRH: **Charles R. Walsh**, a trial attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice's public integrity section, recently became the resident legal adviser at the U.S. Embassy in El Salvador. In this new role, he provides capacity-building and technical assistance to the local government in prosecuting public corruption matters.

GSE: **Terence Peavy** has been named assistant vice president for enrollment management at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City.

2001

FCLC: **Nicole Polletta** recently co-founded the Art of Change, an

audience development firm focused on fundraising, marketing, and VIP relations for the art world and beyond. The firm is based in Boston and has an international client base.

FCRH: **Jean Marie (McCormick) Warncke**, senior director of market research at 360 Market Research, is the author of "Survey Says ... Show Me the MROC! Tips for Using a Market Research Online Community (MROC) to Meet Your Qualitative and Quantitative Needs." Her article was published in the May 2016 issue of *Online MR Magazine*.

2002

FCLC: **Jeffrey James Keyes** collaborated with bestselling author James Patterson on *Killer Chef* (Little, Brown, 2016), part of Patterson's BookShots series of short, plot-driven novels.

2003

FCRH: **Gail Mulligan** (also GSAS '06) and her husband, **Matthew Clement** (GABELLI '03), celebrated the birth of their first child, Andrew George Clement, on April 12, 2016.

George Petrakopoulos and his wife, Kathleen Miller Petrakopoulos, celebrated the birth of their son, Andrew Miller Petrakopoulos, on July 16, 2015.

2004

FCLC: **Dmitriy Chelnitsky** (also LAW '07) has been promoted to counsel at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom. He specializes in executive compensation and benefits in the law firm's New York office.

FCRH: **Kimberly Morgan** (also GABELLI '11) joined Deloitte's advisory practice as the new manager for quality and risk management in Santiago, Chile. Prior to relocating to South America, she worked as a consultant in Deloitte's federal government services sector, and also served as a board member for the Washington, D.C., Fordham alumni chapter.

GABELLI: **Joseph Wehbe** is a co-founder of the tech startup Tipping Tree, an app and web platform designed to let customers tip customer-service employees and provide direct feedback to companies on their experience at hotels and events.

GSE: **Jeffrey H. Konis** is the author of *The Conversations We Never Had* (Outskirts Press, 2016), a book