

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

MICHAEL M. BICHREST is a member of the 2010 cohort in the Doctorate of Education in Leadership and Learning program at Rivier University. He is currently assisting with research at the National Center for Veterans' Studies at the University of Utah and completing specialization courses in Veterans' Services at Empire State College. He has recently published an article on a proposed veteran health registry associated with Fort McClellan.

JENNIFER M. BOWERS is a senior commuter student majoring in psychology with a minor in public health. After finishing her B.A., she intends to research public health issues from a social psychological perspective in graduate school, and her dream job is to work for the CDC. Outside of school, Jennifer enjoys traveling and photography.

Sr. THERESA COUTURE is an artist in digital and combined media. She received her M.F.A. from Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, Rhode Island; D.Min. in Theology and the Arts from Graduate Theological Foundation, South Bend, Indiana (partially coordinated with studies at the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, California and the Andover Newton Theological School, Newton, MA); and M.A. and B.A. in English from Rivier College. Theresa Couture combines an active studio life with a full professorship in art at Rivier University, a Catholic liberal arts institution sponsored by the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary of which she is a member. She has served as Co-chair of the Department of Art and Music and Director of the Design Program. She is currently Director of the Rivier College Art Gallery. Her work on paper has been exhibited throughout the United States. Many of her pieces are in private and university collections as well as in the collections of the Armand Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, California, and the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C. Her work has appeared in *Art New England*, *Christianity and the Arts*, *Insight*, *Face of the Deep*, and publications of *Christians in the Visual Arts (CIVA)*.

PATRICIA GARRITY is the Director of Marketing and Communications at Rivier University.

SOUJANYA KATIKALA is currently pursuing the Master's degree in Computer Information Systems at Rivier University. She holds the Master's degree in Bio-Chemistry from Acharya Nagarjuna University, India. She worked as a Research Data Analyst with GVK-Bio Sciences, Ltd, Hyderabad, India from 2009 to 2011. Soujanya also has the certification in Protein Modeling & Rational Drug Design. Her interests in computer science include big data analysis, computer networks, and software design.

ALECSANDRA LINDSAY is a Rivier family member. She received the Third Prize and Honorable Mention Award at the Rivier Community Photo Contest-2009.

MICHELLE MARRONE is a writer for the *Rivier Today* magazine.

LAUREN M. MARSDEN is a doctoral student at Rivier University. Her research interests focus on the transition of First Generation college students to college and the role that orientation programs plays in that transition. She was a high-school Spanish teacher for five years and served her school community in a multitude of roles. She chose to move out of the classroom to focus solely on her doctorate in Educational Leadership and Learning but maintains her finger on the pulse of education. Lauren resides in southern Vermont with her husband and near her parents and brother.

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DANIEL WEEKS is the Executive Director of the Open Democracy, a nonpartisan nonprofit organization working to expand political voice and participation in his home state of New Hampshire.

MARCY A. WINER has been in education for 10 years as a paraprofessional and since last fall has been enrolled in the Early Childhood Master's degree program at Rivier University seeking her teaching certification. Marcy enjoys working with young children and has been teaching in Kindergarten for many years. She enjoys leading reading groups. Marcy has written a yet unpublished children's book about a little boy who befriends a bumble bee. She hopes to publish that book soon. Most recently, she has begun a campaign to aid homeless children and began Project DEAR (Donate, Educate, Amaze and Read!). This program collects new and gently used books for children in need. In her free time, Marcy enjoys writing, making jewelry, sewing, cooking, exercising and lots of crafting.

Photography by **JODIE ANDRUSKEVICH, GRANT KLENE, JEREMY EARL MAYHEW,** and **JILL WHITENECK**