

Germantown, Maryland, and received the prestigious Washington Post Agnes Meyer Award in 1999.

Part of what made Mr. Betts such an exceptional educator was his unique style of teaching that stressed self-improvement and personal goal-setting over more traditional teaching methods. Mr. Betts put his innovative teaching methods into wider use at the Loiederman Middle School in Silver Spring, Maryland, where he developed a magnet program that drew in students from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds regardless of their academic achievement. As with most of Mr. Betts' efforts, the program became a rapid success. Under his guidance, the percentage of students with passing reading and math scores jumped by double digits within a two-year period.

Eager to take on new challenges, Mr. Betts accepted a position as principal of Shaw Middle School at Garnet-Patterson in Washington, DC, and worked tirelessly each and every day to bring positive change to a school that had been plagued with difficulties.

With the death of Mr. Betts, our nation has lost a rising star in the field of education. Yet, even in the face of this tragedy, we can take solace in knowing that his legacy and memory will be carried on in the lives of the countless students he touched and inspired.

Mr. Betts is survived by his parents, sister, and nieces, whom we hope find comfort in knowing how much Brian was loved by so many people.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the remarkable life of Brian K. Betts.

KATHRYN MURRAY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 3, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kathryn Murray who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Kathryn Murray is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kathryn Murray is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Kathryn Murray for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

HONORING DR. RICK GROSBERG OF
UC DAVIS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 3, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Rich

Grosberg of University of California, Davis. Dr. Rich Grosberg is the 2010 recipient of the UC Davis Prize for Undergraduate Teaching and Scholarly Achievement. This \$40,000 prize, first awarded in 1987, is believed to be the largest undergraduate teaching award in the nation. The prize is awarded to recognize scholars who are successful not only in their research, but convey their excitement and love of scholarship to students they teach.

Over time, many UC Davis donors—including members of the Davis Chancellor's Club, alumni and trustees and trustees emeriti of the UC Davis Foundation—have made philanthropic contributions to support the prize. The winner is selected based on the recommendations of other professors, research peers, representatives from the UC Davis Foundation Board of Trustees and students.

As a Professor of Evolution and Ecology, questions matter to Rick Grosberg—and he carries out his research on evolution and family conflict in a manner that seeks to show his students that science is not just about mastering a body of knowledge, but also about asking the right questions and challenging authority.

Upon learning he was this year's recipient, Grosberg said he was "deeply honored" to be receiving the award, adding, "I owe a huge debt to my teachers and mentors, who challenged and inspired me throughout my education, my family and my students—all of them—who continue to challenge, inspire and teach me every day."

Having to explain scientific concepts to a hall full of students also helps him ask better questions in his research, Grosberg said. "I'm a much more incisive researcher as a result of teaching."

As an undergraduate at UC Santa Cruz, Grosberg did not initially consider biology as a profession. He considered majoring in English. "I just assumed that being a scientist reflected the way I'd been taught science: It was received knowledge, a fact-finding mission."

Then he took Cowell Biology, an eclectic course on the history of biology and the personalities who created the field.

"It showed me that biology is about people who step outside their culture and society and ask novel questions, and the best example is Charles Darwin," Grosberg said. "That turned me on to biology."

His research deals with conflict and cooperation between living things, usually marine invertebrates. "Sometimes we help each other and sometimes we kill each other, and there are good evolutionary reasons for both," he said. The evolution of altruism is an old problem in evolutionary biology. Why should one animal expend effort and energy to help another, instead of conserving resources so they can leave the most descendants? The answer, in most cases, is that animals share many of their genes with close relatives. By helping a sibling who shares half your genes, you can still have a genetic impact on the next generation.

On the other hand, relatives can also come into conflict. Those conflicts might be between individuals, between the sexes, between siblings, between generations and sometimes all those at once.

Grosberg earned his Ph.D. from Yale University in 1982 and spent a year at the University of Padua, Italy, as a NATO postdoctoral fellow. He joined UC Davis as an assistant

professor in what was then the Department of Zoology in 1983.

"Professor Grosberg understands the value to our undergraduates of the hands-on research experience and, as a mentor, he is deeply committed to ensuring our students' success," said Chancellor Linda Katehi. "That mindset is one that we place a very high value on at UC Davis and it is at the very heart of the UC Davis Prize for Undergraduate Teaching and Scholarly Achievement."

Ken Burtis, Dean of the College of Biological Sciences, said, "Professor Grosberg has a truly extraordinary passion and talent for teaching, whether mentoring small groups of students exploring the interface between math and biology or delivering the fundamentals of biology to hundreds of students through his highly-praised lectures. He exemplifies the best that UC Davis has to offer."

"Enthusiastic" is the term that comes up again and again in student evaluations of Grosberg's classes, along with "energetic" and "entertaining." His teaching ranges from the team-taught "Introduction to Biology: Principles of Ecology and Evolution," which teaches about 2,000 students a year, to the CLIMB, Collaborative Learning at the Interface of Mathematics and Biology, training program, which includes just seven or eight students.

"He made me want to learn more," one student wrote of Grosberg's introductory evolution class last year. "The best instructor I have had so far at UCD," wrote another.

Among professional honors, Grosberg was awarded the Division of Biological Sciences Teaching Award in 2000 and the UC Davis Academic Senate's Distinguished Teaching Award in 2002. In 2004, he was president of the American Society of Naturalists. He has served as an adviser to The Nature Conservancy, the American Farmland Trust and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He is an elected fellow of the California Academy of Sciences and former director of the UC Davis Center for Population Biology.

At this time, it is appropriate to recognize and acknowledge Dr. Grosberg for his years of exemplary work as a scholar and educator, and congratulate him on receiving this well deserved award. His commitment to inspiring and educating students has been unwavering, and he deserves our collective recognition and thanks.

KAYLA RHOADES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 3, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kayla Rhoades who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Kayla Rhoades is a 12th grader at Warren Tech North and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kayla Rhoades is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Kayla Rhoades for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

A TRIBUTE TO NICHOLAS H.
BURLAK

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 3, 2010

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I recently was informed by a group of citizens who live in my district of a remarkable story about one of their neighbors. I admire their spirit in making sure that the inspiring story of their friend and neighbor, Nicholas H. Burlak, is more widely known. And I ask that my remarks here be printed to call attention to Mr. Burlak's remarkable achievements, so that they may serve as an example to others.

Nicholas Burlak was born in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, in 1924, and when the Depression came, his father moved the family to Ukraine in search of work. When World War II broke out in 1941, when the Hitler-Stalin pact fell apart and Germany then attacked its erstwhile ally, the Soviet Union, Nicholas Burlak tried to return to the United States, the home of his birth, to enlist in the Marine Corps. But this was physically impossible. He then did the next-best thing—determined to fight the Nazis, and to defend his country of birth as best he could, Mr. Burlak became an American volunteer in the Soviet Army. Subsequently he was wounded four times in battle, twice suffered shell shock and received several medals for bravery as he participated in the terrible battles between the Soviet and Nazi armies, ultimately fighting his way with other Russians to Berlin. Among the signatures left by Russian soldiers on the walls of the Reichstag in 1945 was one in English—"Bethlehem, PA, USA—Donbass, Ukraine, Aktyubinsk, Kazakhstan, Berlin, Germany May 1945—Nicholas." That was the heroic and patriotic American, Nicholas Burlak, who did not allow his separation from our country to prevent his allegiance to it.

With the sixty-fifth anniversary of the end of World War II, the Russian government awarded Mr. Burlak a medal. I believe it is appropriate for his fellow countrymen in the United States, now that he has returned to live among us as he always wanted to do, to join in commemorating the extraordinary dedication of this brave young man who has become a very valued member of our country today.

Madam Speaker, Nicholas Burlak's commitment to his fellow and sister citizens did not end with his joining in the war against the Nazis. In 2007, for example, he received the Eloise K. Houghton Award in recognition of community spirit and outstanding volunteer service from the Newton Community Development Foundation, a very important organization in my hometown, which provides help to others.

Madam Speaker, Nicholas Burlak understood how important his story was and how many people could learn from and be inspired by it, so he wrote a book—under the pseudonym of the time of M.J. Nicholas, entitled

"Love and War: An American Volunteer in the Soviet Red Army." It is not just an inspiring book, but a gripping one, and I welcome the chance, Madam Speaker, to mention it here, as part of the tribute that our country should be paying to Mr. Burlak. It is a tribute to him and to his neighbors that they are so inspired by his story that they took the initiative in writing to me and calling this to my attention, and I am very pleased to have the chance to express my admiration of Mr. Burlak and my appreciation to his neighbors for giving me the chance to do this.

KENDRA RODRIGUEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 3, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kendra Rodriguez who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Kendra Rodriguez is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kendra Rodriguez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Kendra Rodriguez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

COMMEMORATING THE FOUNDING
OF TURKEY'S FIRST JAZZ DE-
PARTMENT

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 3, 2010

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the establishment of Turkey's first Jazz Department within Hacettepe University's prestigious Ankara State Conservatory. In the words of H. Res. 57 introduced by the Hon. JOHN CONYERS of Michigan during the 100th Congress, Jazz is "a unifying force, bridging cultural, religious, ethnic and age differences in our diverse society." This introduction of jazz education in Turkey further demonstrates the sweeping influence of this national treasure and its power to build bridges extending beyond our shores.

I am honored to have been in attendance, along with my colleagues the Hon. ED WHITFIELD of Kentucky and the Hon. JAMES P. MORAN of Virginia, at a gala reception on April 2, 2010 celebrating this department's inception. There could not have been a more fitting time to recognize the launch of the Ankara State Conservatory's Jazz Department than at the beginning of Jazz Appreciation Month. Without the insight and collaborative efforts of

Hacettepe University's American Studies Department, the U.S. Embassy in Ankara, and the Turkish Coalition of America this momentous occasion would not have become a reality.

As a member of the Congressional Black Caucus, I am proud to have had the opportunity to witness first-hand another culture's deep appreciation for this over a century old African-American tradition. With its origins in the American south, Jazz is a musical genre that marks a confluence of African and European music traditions. Its melodic union of styles, sounds, and improvisation has inspired musicians around the world. At the gala reception held in Ankara on April 2, my colleagues Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. MORAN, and I were treated to a musical set by the Melis Sökmén Quartet. In addition to being a renowned Turkish jazz singer, Ms. Sökmén is the personification of her country's famed bridging of cultures. Born to a Guinean mother and Turkish father, Ms. Sökmén's pride in her roots beamed in particular during her jazz rendition of traditional West African lullaby "Malaika."

One cannot mention jazz without referring to the invaluable contributions of Atlantic Records founder Ahmet Ertegun. The son of a Turkish Ambassador father and a mother who filled their house with music, Ahmet and his brother Nesruhi became fans of blues and jazz at an early age while residing in Washington DC. The first ever integrated concert in Washington DC featuring jazz greats Duke Ellington and Lena Horne came about due to the efforts of the Ertegun brothers. Atlantic Records was established in 1947 and over the next several decades produced albums by jazz legends including John Coltrane, Charles Mingus, Dizzy Gillespie, and Wilbur de Paris. The Turkish fascination with jazz is attributable not only to the genius of the music itself but Ahmet Ertegun's success in helping it evolve into an internationally renowned art form.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating all parties involved in the development of the inaugural Jazz Department at Hacettepe University. Hacettepe University and the U.S. Embassy's Public Affairs section have commenced a faculty exchange program in which jazz specialists from both countries will work and learn from one another. The joint effort of American and Turkish individuals and organizations in its establishment is a testament to over sixty years of enduring friendship between the United States and Turkey. Through shared appreciation of the arts these two great nations have formed yet another vital and resilient bond.

KSENIA BACHKINA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 3, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ksenia Bachkina, who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Ksenia Bachkina is a 7th grader at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ksenia Bachkina is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and