

STARS OF STONY BROOK

GALA 



TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2023



Welcome to the 24th Annual Stars of Stony Brook Gala, an evening of pride and celebration of Stony Brook's remarkable students, faculty and staff, and our generous friends.

Because of your support, our students can realize their ambitions, our researchers and clinicians can solve the world's critical challenges, and our entire university community can reach a new level of excellence.

Please enjoy this special evening.



A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Maurie McInnis".

Maurie McInnis
President

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Richard L. Gelfond".

Richard L. Gelfond '76, Hon. '04
Chair, Stony Brook Foundation



Please welcome —

MAURIE MCINNIS, PHD

President

Stony Brook University



Please welcome _____

RICHARD L. GELFOND '76, HON. '04

Chair, Stony Brook Foundation

CEO, IMAX Corporation



Please welcome _____

JAMES H. SIMONS, PHD, HON '92

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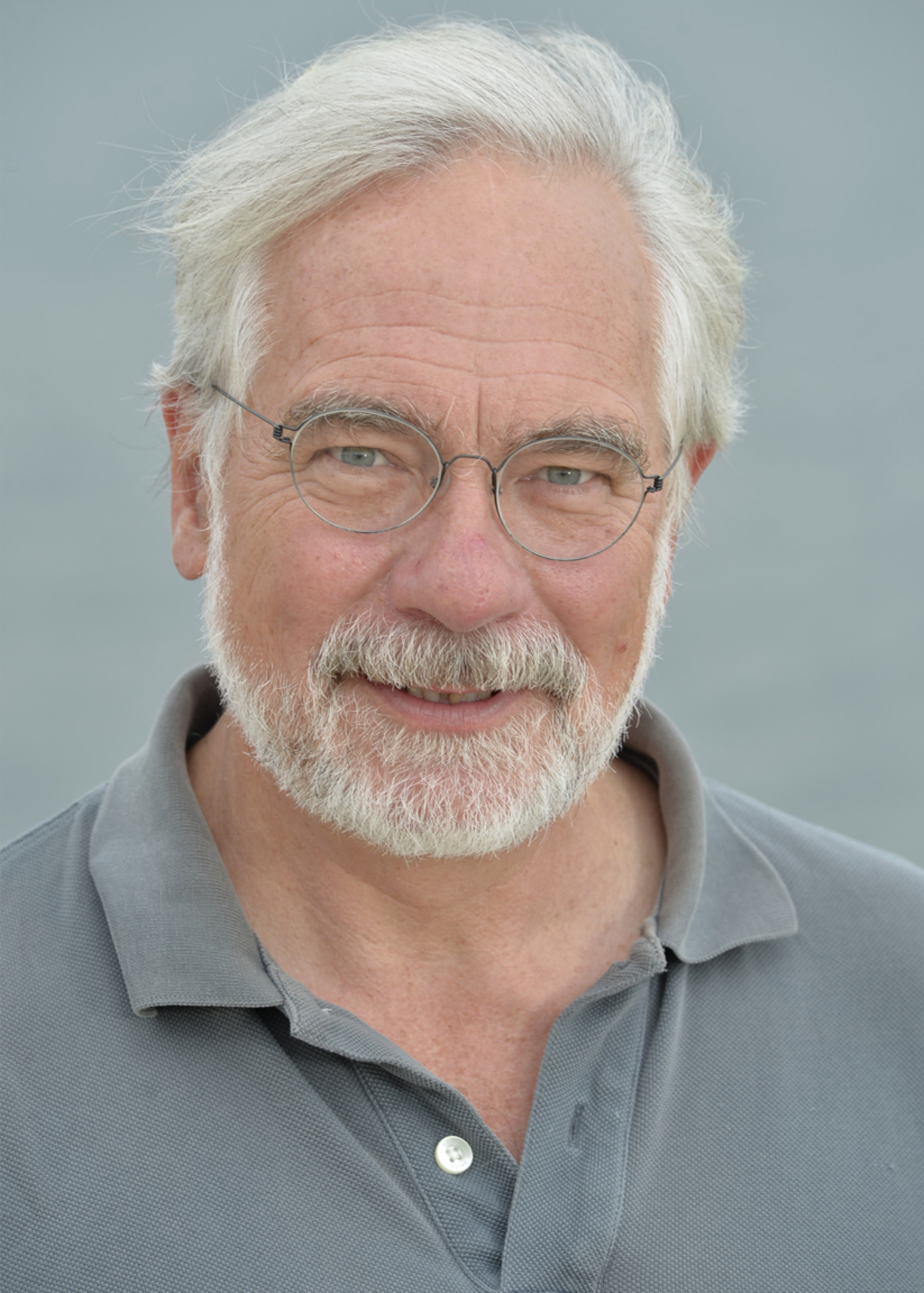
Honoree

LAURIE LANDEAU, VMD, MBA

President and Director, Laurie Landeau Foundation LLC

President and Director, Ralph Landau Foundation

Vice Chair, Stony Brook Foundation Board of Trustees



Honoree

ROBERT J. MAZE, PHD

Vice President and Director, Laurie Landeau Foundation LLC

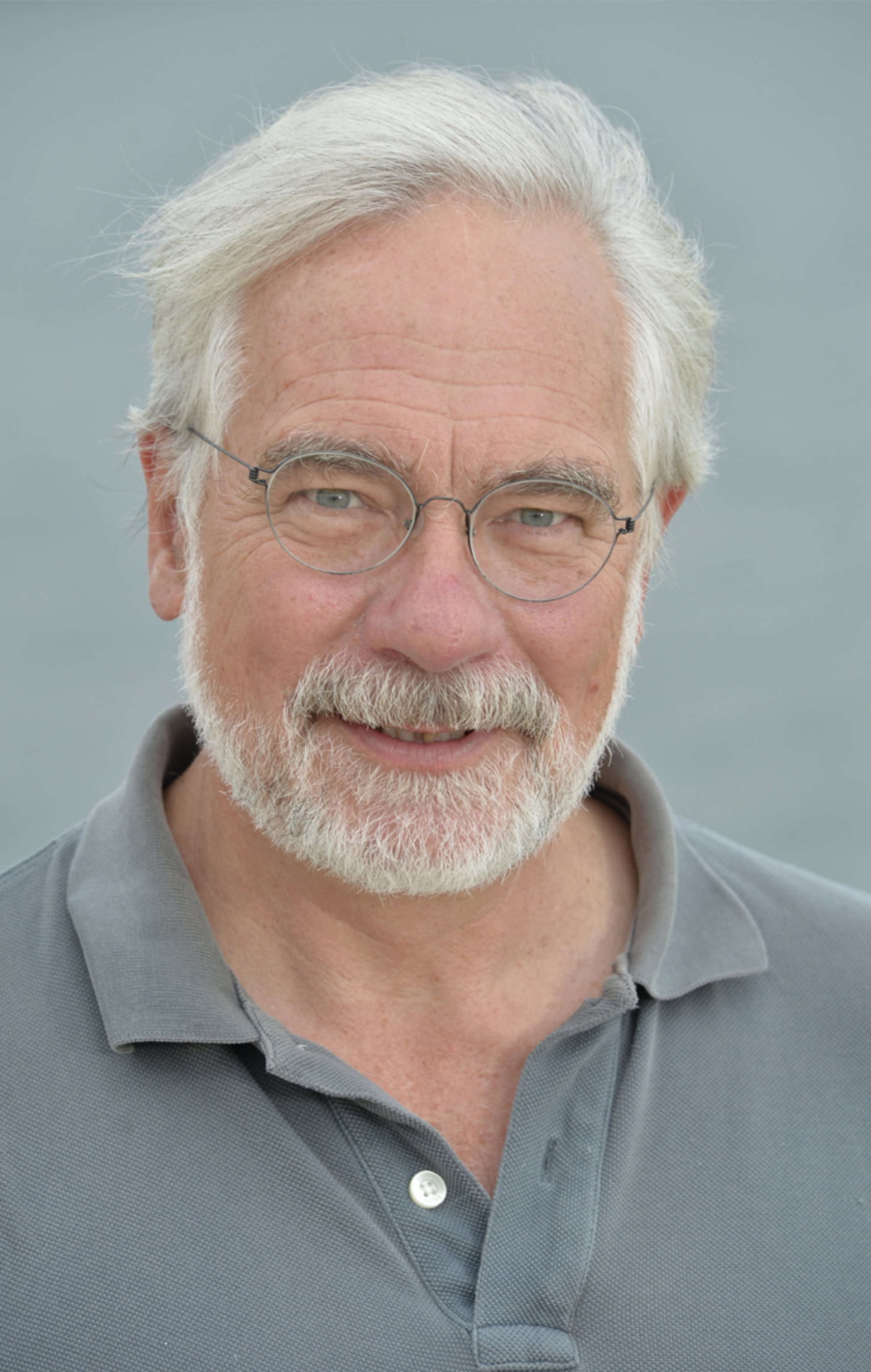
Vice President and Director, Ralph Landau Foundation

Chair, SoMAS Dean's Advisory Council



LAURIE LANDEAU, VMD, MBA

Laurie Landeau grew up on Long Island's North Shore, developing a love for the water and marine environments. After graduating from Princeton, she attended the University of Pennsylvania, where she became the first person in the United States to receive a combined MBA/veterinary degree. Seeking a way to apply her veterinary skills to contribute to the welfare of the inhabitants of the aquatic world, Landeau attended AQUAVET® ("A Program in Aquatic Animal Medicine" and the first of its kind in the world) in 1981, becoming the assistant director in 1988 and then associate director in 1993.



ROBERT J. MAZE, PHD

Bob Maze grew up with a great interest in all things aquatic, so it was natural for him to study marine biology at Texas A&M. There, he worked as a scuba diver to help put himself through school and co-founded the Galveston-based Texas Marine Mammal Stranding Network, which is still in operation. While an undergraduate, Maze began studying ctenophores, a phylum of invertebrate animals that live in marine waters worldwide, and the parasites that infect them. Maze then went on to earn a master's degree and a doctorate in parasitology from the University of Pennsylvania.



LANDEAU & MAZE TOGETHER

Laurie and Bob met, fittingly enough, at a research station in Maine, where Landeau was studying migratory bird patterns and Maze was involved in a harbor porpoise census. Their interests in marine science continued to converge as Maze joined Landeau and became involved with AQUAVET® in 1994. In 1996, the pair co-founded Marinetics Inc., an oyster farm doing business as Choptank Oyster Company. Through Marinetics, Maze sought to apply his studies to a real-world problem: the decimation of East Coast oyster stocks because of parasitic infection. Marinetics is now the largest oyster farm on the eastern shore of Maryland, selling more than 1 million oysters a year from New England to the Middle Atlantic states.



LANDEAU & MAZE SUPPORT

Together, Laurie and Bob support Stony Brook in tremendous ways. Their generosity to the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences (SoMAS) graduate students and their faculty research projects help elevate the school's position as a national and global leader in discovery and innovation. These programs include the Maze-Landean Fellows Program, the Minghua Zhang Early Career Faculty Innovation Fund, the Dean's Fund for Success, the Shinnecock Bay Restoration Program and the Marinetics Endowed Professorship. Their interests also extend to Centre ValBio and its community health team on the island nation of Madagascar.

Laurie and Bob's deep commitment continues with leadership roles they hold at Stony Brook, where Maze is the chair of the SoMAS Dean's Council, and Landean serves as vice chair of the Stony Brook Foundation Board of Trustees, a founding member of the Stony Brook University Women's Leadership Council and a member of the SoMAS Dean's Council.



————— *Student Trustee Scholar* —————

LACI BURTON

Major: English

Class of 2025

“Your generosity has allowed me to pursue an in-depth exploration in areas of study that I’m truly passionate about. Not only has it allowed me to study within the English department’s honors program, but it has allowed me various opportunities outside of the classroom that continue to enrich my educational experience.”

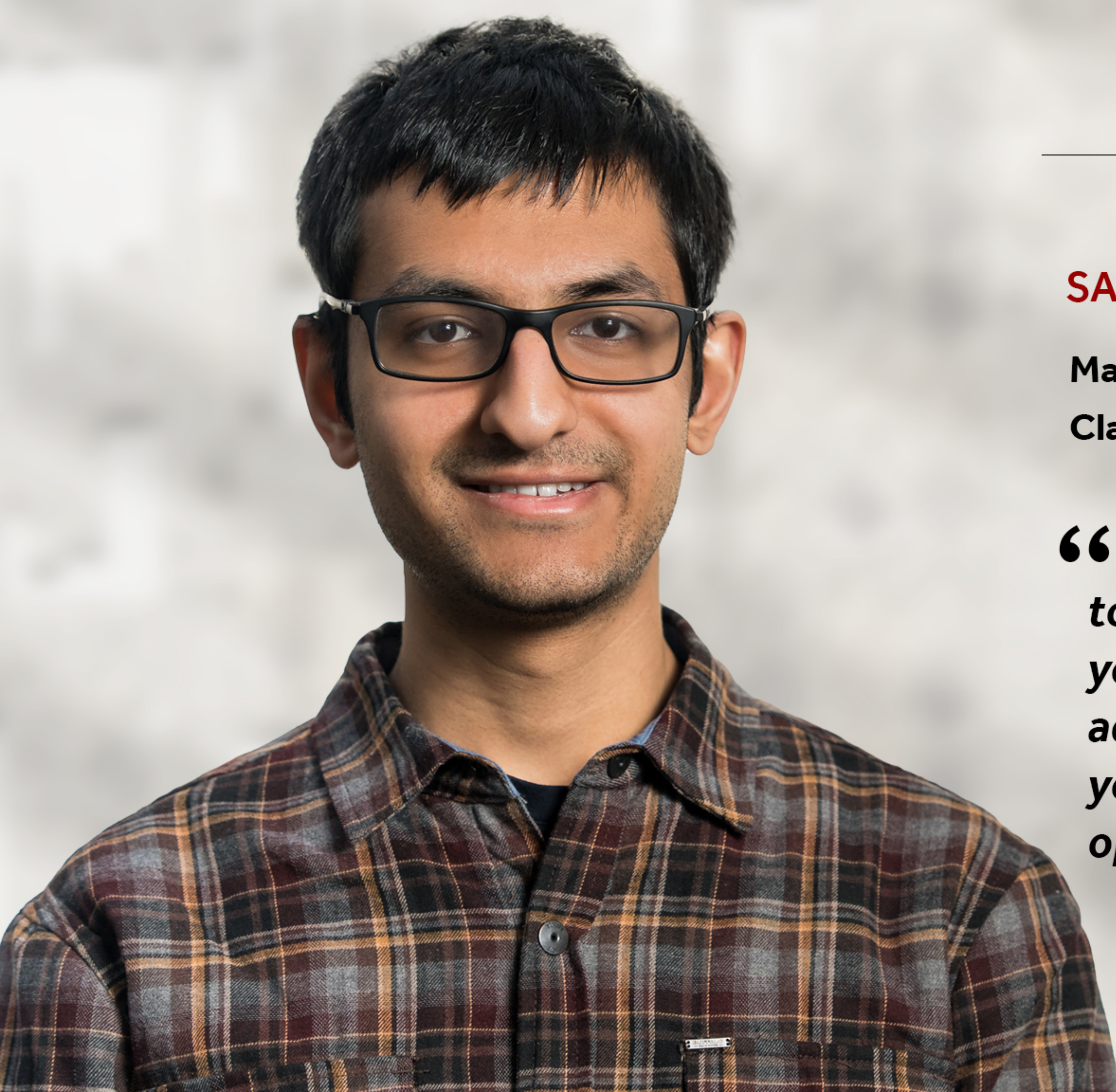


————— *Student Trustee Scholar* —————

BRIANNA CHAVEZ

**Major: Mass Communication & Sociology
Class of 2025**

“Your contribution to my education has been life-changing. Thank you so much for your financial support and investment in my success! Without your support, I would not be able to be part of as many organizations as I am now, thus not being able to get the full college experience.”



— Student Trustee Scholar —

SAAJID CHOWDHURY

Major: Physics

Class of 2023

“ This is perhaps my last opportunity to demonstrate my appreciation for your generosity. I promise to take advantage of the opportunities that you have given me and every opportunity that life throws at me.”



————— *Student Trustee Scholar* —————

PETER DIPIETRO

Major: Biomedical Engineering

Class of 2024

“ Thank you very much for your support! This award has allowed me to push myself to get the best education without having to limit my options for law school. Your generosity has allowed me to get the best start that I could possibly have!”



— *Student Trustee Scholar* —

DEMIAH NICOLAS

Major: Mass Communication

Class of 2025

“ From the bottom of my heart, I would like to thank you for being such a blessing to me and my family. Without this scholarship, I probably wouldn’t be living the college life I had always dreamed of having!”



————— *Student Trustee Scholar* —————

HALEY SIM

**Major: Creative Writing & Literature
Class of 2024**

“ Thank you so much for the support that you’ve provided to me! With your contributions, I’ve been able to pursue opportunities that previously felt out of reach. This spring, I’m interning at ‘The Tonight Show’ for the general production and writing department, which was made possible by you!”



Previous Gala Honorees

2022

John L. Hennessy MS '75, PhD '77

President Emeritus, Stanford
University

HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco

Sovereign Prince of Monaco

2020

Barry S. Coller, MD, Hon. '03

David Rockefeller Professor of
Medicine, Physician in Chief,
Vice President for Medical Affairs
The Rockefeller University

Bobbi Coller, PhD

Advisory Board Chairperson of the
Stony Brook Foundation's
Pollock-Krasner House and
Study Center

2019

**Marilyn H. Simons '74, PhD '84,
Hon. '08**

President, Simons Foundation

2018

Dorothy Lichtenstein, Hon. '14

President, Roy Lichtenstein
Foundation

2017

Joseph R. Biden

Former Vice President
United States of America

2016

Glenn Dubin '78, Hon. '12

Founder, Dubin & Co. LP

Eva Andersson-Dubin, MD

Founder, Dubin Breast Center
Mount Sinai Medical Center

Joe Nathan '97

Major League Baseball Pitcher

2015

Jane Fonda

Actor

2014

Patricia C. Wright, PhD

Professor, Anthropology
Founder, Centre ValBio



Previous Gala Honorees

2013

Alan Alda

Actor, Director, Writer
Visiting Professor
Stony Brook University

2012

Pollock-Krasner Foundation

Ed Harris

Actor

2011

Julie Andrews

Actor

Emma Walton Hamilton

Author and Professor
Stony Brook Southampton

2010

C.N. Yang, PhD, Hon. '99

Nobel Laureate, Physics, 1957
Professor Emeritus

2009

Shirley Strum Kenny, PhD

President, Stony Brook University

2008

Nancy Rauch Douzinas, PhD

President, Rauch Foundation

2007

Richard Leakey, Hon. '98

Paleoanthropologist and
Conservationist

2006

Erwin P. Staller, Hon. '01

CEO, Staller Associates Inc.

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2005

James H. Simons, PhD, Hon '92

Founder

Renaissance Technologies

2004

Henry B. Laufer, PhD

Chief Scientist

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Marsha Zlatin Laufer, PhD

Speech-Language Pathologist (Ret.)



Previous Gala Honorees

2003

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Matthew J. Cody

General Partner (Ret.)
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2002

Charles B. Wang

Co-Founder, CA Technologies Inc.
Owner, New York Islanders

2000

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Department of Surgery
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