



Award-winning designer Maria Causey ('84) recently founded her own interior design firm, Maria Causey Interior Design.

71 Karen Whetzel ('74M) was elected chairman of the Shenandoah County, Virginia, school board in January 2016. Whetzel, who retired from Shenandoah County Public Schools in 2009 after 38 years as a librarian and high-school principal, was first elected to the school board in 2009.

80 Joan Marie Crump, the softball coach at Virginia's Powhatan High School, holds the Virginia High School League's softball record for career wins. She has won five state championships and was inducted into the VHSL Hall of Fame in 2014.

81 Charlie H. "Chuck" Martin III has been promoted to assistant vice president of Carter Bank & Trust.

84 G.J. Hart, executive chairman and CEO of California Pizza Kitchen, was a finalist for the 2016 EY Entrepreneur Of The Year Award for Greater Los Angeles. The awards program recognizes entrepreneurs in more than 145 cities in 60 coun-

tries who demonstrate excellence and extraordinary success in such areas as innovation, financial performance and personal commitment to their businesses and communities. * **Michael D. Seabrook**, general manager



Charlie H. "Chuck" Martin III ('81)

of Belle Meade Country Club in Nashville, Tennessee, was elected to the board of directors of Club Managers Association of America at its 89th World Conference on Club Management and Club Business Expo, held in San Diego, California. Seabrook will serve on the board for a three-year term. The CMAA is the largest professional association for managers of membership clubs with 6,500 members throughout the U.S. and internationally.



Judge Joseph R. Slight III ('85)

85 Former Superior Court Judge Joseph R. Slight III was unanimously confirmed by the Delaware Senate to serve as vice chancellor of the Delaware Court of Chancery.

93 Erin Galvin Scranton raises service dogs for Canine Companions for Independence, the country's largest and

It's all about how you rebound

Alums captivate audiences, raise awareness about adaptive sport BY CATHY MCKAY ('98)

The *Rebound* is an award-winning documentary that follows the players of the Miami Heat Wheels, the city's only wheelchair basketball team. Directed by Shaina Koren ('11) and produced by Mike Esposito ('10), *The Rebound* sparks important conversations about disability and equal opportunity. Since its international debut, *The Rebound* has won acclaim as an official selection at nine prestigious film festivals and awards, including the Kaiser Thrive Award (Cinequest Film Festival) and the Audience Award for Best Documentary at the Brooklyn Film Festival.

The Rebound crew is actively partnering with like-minded organizations around the country to raise awareness, foster important conversations and stimulate support for adapted athletic programs.

I connected to *The Rebound* thanks to a shared desire to change attitudes and perspectives about inclusion and adapted sport. Professor Joshua Pate of hospitality, sport and recreation management and I arranged to meet with Shaina and Mike to explore potential

partnerships and to lay the foundation for screening the film on the JMU campus.

'We figured out a way to take our skill sets and use them to make an impact on the world – to Be the Change.'

— SHAINA KOREN ('11)

When asked how their JMU experience contributed to their current success, the filmmakers noted how being a Duke helped them view life through a different lens: "JMU [offers] opportunities to be exposed to new people, perspectives and experiences. Shaina and I actually met [on] a JMU study abroad program to the Philippines. ... [and] we emerged as transformed individuals on a common path," says Mike.

Shaina says, "My JMU experience (SMAD, anthropology, FroG, ASB, Study Abroad, Students Helping Honduras) allowed me to ... take a stand for what I believed in. These skills served me well with our impact-driven approach to documentary filmmaking. We believed that this unfamiliar world we had stumbled into – of competitive adapted sports, and of people who may look a little different than us but became our best friends – was a story worth telling."

About the author: Professor Cathy McKay teaches in kinesiology, physical and health education's teacher education concentration.



(Above): *The Rebound* documentary film producer Mike Esposito ('10) and director Shaina Koren ('11) with a Miami Heat Wheels basketball team member. (Left): Two players fight to steal the ball.