

# The Columbus Dispatch

## Recent grads hope to make life easier for refugees

By Encarnacion Pyle  
The Columbus Dispatch

Follow

Posted Jul 24, 2017 at 12:01 AM

Updated Jul 24, 2017 at 6:19 AM

A small team of college students and recent graduates hope to help ease one of the biggest challenges facing newly resettled refugees in Columbus: limited transportation options.

The group has been looking since early this year for ways to help newcomers to the United States feel more welcome and integrate more quickly into the community.

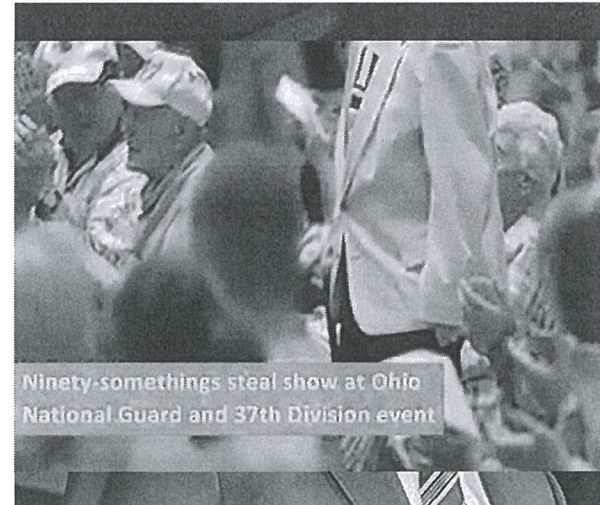
Although they've chosen initially to tackle the problems new refugees and immigrants face in getting to and from work and other appointments, their ultimate goal is even bigger:

"We want to empower refugees to see their value, despite their limited English skills and other struggles," said Sruthi Rao, 23, of Chicago, who graduated from Kenyon College in 2016 with majors in economics and international studies.

Four Kenyon students — <sup>'12</sup> Maheer Latif, Jae June Lee, Sewar Quran and Rao — originally started with an idea for an app called DOXA, after the Greek word for common belief or popular opinion. Much like LinkedIn, it would be a place where refugees could share their professional skills and learn about the skills sought by employers.

The group submitted their idea to the Hult Prize, the world's largest student competition for social good, and were one of 300 teams chosen from nearly 50,000 worldwide to present their work at the regional semifinals in March.

Though not selected to be among the final six teams to compete over the summer, the students wanted to move ahead with the project. But they wanted to make sure they were focusing on a problem where they could have a big impact.



**Dispatch - Daily Highlight**

“We want to come up with a solution that will change lives,” said Lee, 24, who graduated in May with a philosophy degree from Kenyon, a private liberal arts college in Gambier, about 55 miles northeast of Columbus.

So, they’ve spent much of the summer talking to the clients and case managers and employment specialists at Community Refugee and Immigration Services (CRIS), one of two refugee resettlement agencies in Columbus.

From those conversations, they’ve learned about problems refugees have with things such as accessing services and transportation, securing housing and good jobs, and raising their children and helping them in school.

Initially, the team members hope to come up with a way to create a shuttle service that could take refugees from where many of them live to common work sites, Lee said. They also hope to find a local business willing to sponsor the service and to raise the money to cover the initial costs.

“As the consequence of a lack of convenient, reliable and affordable transportation, newly resettled refugees are forced to forgo a number of economic opportunities,” Lee said.

“When you hear these stories from the refugees you get a glimpse into how hard life can be for them,” said Latif, 22, of Upper Arlington, who graduated from Kenyon in May with economics and modern languages and literature degrees.

They were equally impressed by the dedication and passion of the resettlement case managers.

“Just to see these caseworkers work around the clock, using their own cars, going above and beyond, to help these refugees is amazing,” said Bomani McClendon, 22, a Tennessee native who recently graduated with a computer science degree from Northwestern University. The Kenyon students asked McClendon to join their team this summer because of his unique technical skills.

Many of the group members have their own global experiences.

Latif has extended family members who immigrated to Columbus from Palestine. He also co-founded the nonprofit group, Reinstalling Hope, an educational program created to help support the public schools in Kirtipur, Nepal. He will soon leave to teach English in Taichung, Taiwan, for a year as a Fulbright Scholar.

Lee, who is from Cape Town, South Africa, participated in a Davis Project for Peace in Calais, France, last year, volunteering in a refugee camp. McClendon’s mother sought political asylum in the United States from Nigeria, and he did video documentaries as a kid on the genocide in Sudan, interviewing refugees in Nashville.

Quran, 22, an international studies and sociology graduate from Kenyon, has worked for refugees in the Zaatari refugee camp in her native Jordan. And Rao, the daughter of Indian immigrants, spent a year abroad working with rural women participating in Argan oil cooperatives in Morocco.



Angie Plummer, CRIS' executive director, is happy that the group of current college students and recent graduates has undertaken such an effort.

"To have such smart, innovative people interested in helping us and our refugees is a beautiful thing," she said.

# The Columbus Dispatch

## MadLab festival nurtures high-school playwrights

By Michael Grossberg / For The Columbus Dispatch

Posted Jul 13, 2017 at 5:00 AM

Young playwrights hope to lead audiences through a range of emotions during the sixth Young Writers Short Play Festival 2017.

MadLab Theatre's annual festival, featuring 10 short plays written by 14 area high-school students and performed by adult actors, will open Friday at the troupe's Downtown space.

"We have a wider array this year, with really good quality," festival coordinator Kyle Jepson said.

The plays were selected in December, giving the young writers a chance to polish their works.

"Through the six months our team of mentors and directors work with them in workshops, readings and rehearsals, the student make revisions and get a better idea of their writing style."

The festival, selected from 45 scripts, is divided into two programs of five shorts each, alternating Fridays and Saturdays.

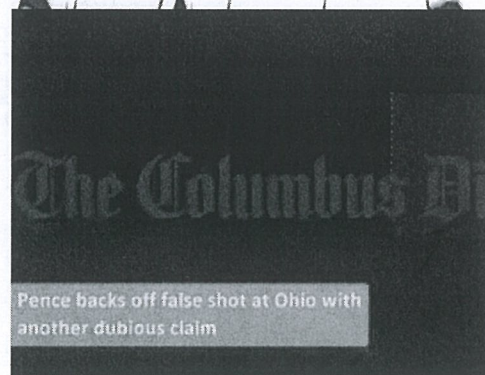
The bill for Fridays and 3 p.m. Sunday includes "Because I Could Not Stop for Death," a futuristic drama by Dublin Coffman senior Alyssa Shulman; "Death, Discovering Your Role," a comedy by Hilliard Bradley senior Jenny Morrison; "Hope," a drama by Columbus Academy senior Taylor McGowan; "Offensive Penalty," a comedy by Hilliard Bradley graduate Emily Henderson; and "Quite Possibly the Worst Play Ever Written," a farcical comedy by Bexley senior Liam Flanigan.

"We try to balance each night so it's not too heavy on drama or on comedy," Jepson said.

Rachel Phillips, a graduate of Eastland-Fairfield Career Center and Reynoldsburg High School, wrote "Sarajevo, 1914," directed by Randi Morgan for the Saturday bill.

"It's a speculative historical fiction ... about the tensions between people caught up in the conflict between the Austro-Hungarian empire and Serbian nationalists," said Phillips, 18.

The bill for Saturdays and 3 p.m. July 23 includes "Guardian Matchmaker," a supernatural comedy by Columbus Academy graduate Kami Tibbles; "Hideaway Bay," a tragic drama by Jonathan Alder senior Maddie Conley; "Ovaries River and Through the Woods," a farcical comedy by Dublin Coffman seniors Kasey Belding, Haley Fournier, Elliot Marrocco and Joelle Odoguardi; and "The Void," a comedy by Hilliard Bradley graduates Andrea Gapsch and Zoe Thomas.



**Dispatch - Daily Highlight**



“Sarajevo, 1914” — the festival’s first historical drama — is set on the day when Archduke Franz Ferdinand was assassinated in Sarajevo, Bosnia. The killing triggered World War I.

“It’s less about the actual shooting and more about four people around the shooting that day,” Phillips said. “They each have a different perspective.”

Erik, a young Bosnian man, and his half-Serbian wife, Hajna, who own a cafe, have conflicts that reflect the tensions of the time, Phillips said.

The other characters: Serbian nationalist Gavrilo Princip, who later that day shot the archduke; and an anti-Serbian college student.

“That day led to one of the greatest calamities in modern history,” Phillips said. “My play is steeped in the irony of believing something to be right but doing wrong.”

Carl Burgason, a student playwright in the first festival in 2012, has returned as a mentor and director.

“The festival has come such a long way,” said Burgason, 23, a graduate of Hilliard Davidson and Wittenberg University.

“Six years ago, it was a great program that felt like an experiment, but they’ve built it up into one of the biggest things that MadLab does every year.”

Burgason directs “The Void,” a surreal comedy about a young woman undergoing the college-interview process.

“It’s an interesting play about what personal sacrifices you’re willing to make to achieve your own happiness,” Burgason said.

“The play does a good job of bringing in the anxiety a lot of students are going through in applying for college.”

In mentoring Gapsch and Thomas as he directs their play, Burgason felt their early draft explained too much.

“I told them to trust their instincts as writers,” he said, “and to trust the audience.”



**NEW HIRE** JULY 11, 2017

## Michael Corey '01

**Executive Director at Human Service Chamber of Franklin County**

EDUCATION: Duke University (Durham, NC)

The Human Service Chamber of Franklin County is an association of social service organizations dedicated to improving the quality of human services through collaboration, advocating for client needs, and impacting public policy.

### **Military note**

- U.S. Air Force Air National Guard Airman 1st Class William King, son of George and Diane King of Westerville, recently graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland in San Antonio.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness and basic warfare principles and skills. Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

King is a 2016 graduate of the Columbus Academy.



## THEATER

# Review: Celebrating a ‘Golden Land’ With a Lot of Song and a Little Mugging

**Amerike: The Golden Land** | Off Broadway, Museum, Play | Closing Date: August 20, 2017 | Museum of Jewish Heritage - A Living Memorial to the Holocaust, 36 Battery Place | 212-945-0039

By MAYA PHILLIPS AUG. 3, 2017

Emma Lazarus’s words inscribed on the base of the Statue of Liberty — “Give me your tired, your poor, / Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,” set to song by Irving Berlin — announce the ending of “Amerike — The Golden Land,” playing at the Museum of Jewish Heritage within earshot of Lady Liberty herself.

A reimagining of Zalmen Mlotek and Moishe Rosenfeld’s 1984 musical, here presented entirely in Yiddish with Russian and English supertitles by the National Yiddish Theater Folksbiene, “Amerike” tells the story of Jewish people’s emigration from Europe to America in 1897 and their adjustment through the 1940s.

Something between a revue and a textbook chronology of Jewish history in New York, “Amerike,” directed by Bryna Wasserman, toggles between friendly gibes at American culture and somber accounts of past hardships. Revues typically invite more playfulness than “Amerike” allows, though it finds its heart in moments of self-aware mugging, whether it’s an unhelpful Jewish radio weatherman shrugging off the forecast as “neither here nor there,” or witches toiling, troubling and kvetching in an early Yiddish theater’s take on “Macbeth.”

However, with a sprint through more than 40 musical numbers, the musical’s attempts to encapsulate such horrors as the Triangle factory fire in three-minute songs feel rushed and didactic, one melody bleeding into another.

The 12-member company’s harmonies stand out in “Bread and Roses,” a poem-turned-anthem for women’s labor rights, as does the lively choreography in “Mir Arbetn.” Among the individual performers, Stephanie Lynne Mason <sup>(Iannarino) '05</sup> is in full-bodied voice in “A Brivele der Mamen” and “Vi Nemt Men Parnuse?” Daniel Kahn has a trumpeting vocal style, while David Perlman’s grinning enthusiasm is infectious.



Framed by scaffolding and moving set pieces resembling brick walls, the staging recalls the landscape of old New York — until the focus shifts to projections on the backdrop, where flat images and graphics detract rather than add.

Ending with Lazarus’s words (this week a subject of social media debate) may be too neat for a show that addresses — both sincerely and ironically — the complications of the American dream. But “Amerike” mostly aims to educate museum-goers and share in nostalgia for Jewish-American culture of yore — and at that it succeeds.

Above all, in this xenophobic moment the show dares to celebrate a cultural history in which America might help shape a people, and, more important, in which a people might help shape America.

### **Amerike: The Golden Land**

**Museum of Jewish Heritage - A Living Memorial to the Holocaust** 36 Battery Place Lower Manhattan | 212-945-0039  
mjhny.org/: <http://www.mjhny.org/>

**Category** Off Broadway, Museum, Play

**Credits** Written by Moishe Rosenfeld and Zalmen Mlotek; Directed by Bryna Wasserman

**Cast** Glenn Seven Allen, Alexandra Frohlinger, Jessica Rose Futran, Daniel Kahn, Dani Marcus, Stephanie Lynne Mason, David Perlman, Christopher Tefft, Maya Jacobson, Alexander Kosmowski, Isabel Nesti, Raquel Nobile, Grant Richards and Bobby Underwood



From left: Alexandra Frohlinger, David Perlman, Daniel Kahn and Stephanie Lynne Mason in the historical revue “Amerike.” Victor Nechay/Properpix.com



# Allurion raises \$27M to commercialize gastric balloon device in the U.S. and beyond

By JOSH BAXT



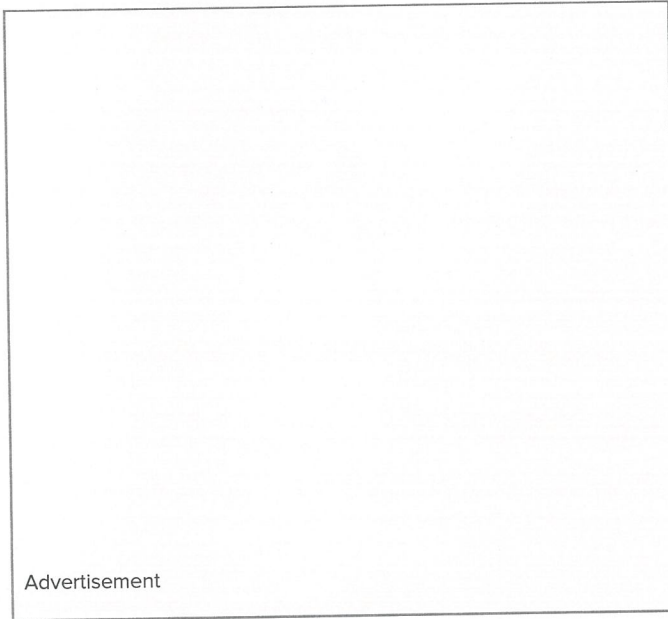
*Eclipse Balloon from Allurion Technologies*

Boston-based [Allurion Technologies](#) has raised \$27 million in Series C funding to commercialize its intragastric balloon device. Contributors included current investor Romulus Capital, along with Cogepa Investments and IDO Investments.

“The funding will support our FDA pivotal study, which will start next year; build the sales and marketing team to increase sales outside the U.S. and improve manufacturing,” said chief scientific officer Shantanu Gaur in a phone interview. “We have enough demand that we are investing a lot of time and energy to scale our manufacturing process, which is a great problem to have.”

The company was founded in 2009 by Gaur and company president Samuel Levy in response to the worldwide obesity epidemic. The two were second-year Harvard medical students when a nutrition class showed them the large gap in the obesity market.

“If we could deliver a product that was more effective than diet and exercise and



less invasive, less costly and less permanent than weight loss surgery, we could have a very disruptive product in a very large market,” said Gaur.

The two were fascinated by gastric balloons, which occupy stomach space to increase satiety. The literature told them the technology could be effective, but existing

products were only helping thousands of people, while the obesity epidemic may affect as many as 2 billion.

The barrier, as they saw it, was the associated procedures. Existing devices had to be implanted and removed endoscopically, requiring sedation or general anesthesia. The process was expensive, invasive and relied on specialists to perform the procedure.

“These products were never going to scale,” said Gaur. “They needed to be delivered in a variety of healthcare settings and be more affordable.”

Their solution is the Eclipse Balloon, which is encased in a capsule and swallowed. A narrow catheter fills the balloon with fluid. Patients receive monthly follow-ups to help them adjust their lifestyles, as well as a Bluetooth scale and tracking app. After four months, the valve degrades, and the empty balloon is excreted.



The swallowable balloon eliminates the need for endoscopy and anesthesia, reducing costs for patients – who are generally paying out of pocket. Because the device is designed for people with body mass indexes at 27 or above – compared to 35 or above for traditional weight loss surgery – it could potentially help a much larger population.

The Elipse received the European CE mark in late 2015, is currently available in nine countries in the Europe and Middle East and has been used with 2,000 patients.

“Data suggests people will lose about 14 percent of their body weight,” said Gaur. “That equates to 33 pounds over a four month period.”

The verdict is still out on how well people keep the pounds/kilos off. A [small study](#) in Greece showed patients regained about half the weight after eight months. However, Gaur points out that this group received no counseling after the balloon deflated.

“We are developing data that indicates that even if you have just one touch point per month after the balloon has left the body, that’s enough to cause a significant increase in weight maintenance,” said Gaur. “We don’t have a magic solution for obesity, but we do have something that’s safe and effective enough for people to use in a variety of ways.”



## IN CHRISTY'S SHOES SOLE CELEBRATION

The 2017 Sole Celebration Ohio Event, held on May 18th, was the 9th Annual Fundraiser for In Christy's Shoes. Stepping Up For Women was the theme of the evening and the inspiration behind a campaign that continues to bring awareness to the work of the mission, as well as challenges that women face today. The event was held at St. Charles Preparatory School in the Walter Commons Area, with more than 500 guests registered for the evening and over \$133,000 raised for local programs. The evening consisted of inspiring and personal stories from Jason Goldberg, the CEO of America's Floor Source, to women who shared how they are currently working to overcome their own challenges. Performances by both the Kids In Harmony, led by director Jen Robinson, and a special performance by women from the Harmony Project along with their ORW Sisters (via video), were led by director David Brown, brought the audience to their feet. The evening ended with a fashion show which highlighted the latest DSW trends and featured Columbus Blue Jackets Alumni players.



1) Kristan Sock and Sabra Kershaw 2) Thomas McClure and Esther Weisman 3) Hugh Showe, Heidi Koch, Dominique Reighard Brooks and Brian Brooks  
4) Jenny Weiss, Shannon Sauer, and Holly Susi 5) Eric Wasserstrom, Jennifer Wasserstrom, and Eric Zidel 6) Becky Sweeney, Jason Goldberg, Katrina Levy Zidel, Jackie Barnett  
7) Jill Levy, Babette T Gorman, Sally Levy 8) Audrey Tuckerman and Jennifer Cammeyer 9) Anna Sokol and Randy Sokol 10) Sydney Peters, Katrina Levy Zidel, Jackie Barnett and Becky Sweeney  
11) Keeri Hinz-Dovaya, Jenni Goldsmith Goldson, Dinah Baxter O'Dell, Tracy Schaeffer Gilbert, Leslie Lantz McBride, and Heather Poland Edwards



# Rockbridge sets biggest goal yet for Pelotonia fundraiser, featuring Bill Walton

Jul 18, 2017, 1:39pm EDT Updated: Jul 18, 2017, 2:02pm EDT

Rockbridge is going bigger than ever this year in its support for Pelotonia.

The Columbus hospitality investor has set its highest fundraising goal yet – \$1 million – and has lined up basketball legend and Hall-of-Famer Bill Walton as keynote speaker for its Aug. 3-6 Rock the Road event ( [website here](#)). It's the sixth year for the leadership training and networking event.

So far Rockbridge has raised more than \$2.8 million for Pelotonia and cancer research through Rock the Road sponsorships, tickets and individual rider fundraising.

Rockbridge spokesman Paul Kesman told me the company now ranks No. 4 in terms of dollars raised for Pelotonia behind corporate stalwarts **L Brands** Inc. and Huntington Bank and Ohio State University.

Also lined up to speak this year is humanitarian activist Dan Pallotta, Columbus Partnership CEO Alex Fischer and Ohio State mobility researcher Carla Bailo ( [you can read more about her here](#)), who will talk about the Smart Columbus effort.

Rockbridge is one of *Columbus Business First's* past Corporate Caring award winners. Our profile of the company at the time said: "Leaders at Rockbridge acknowledge the company is small, but they

don't see it as a reason not to make mighty contributions to good causes."

"The value of this leadership and innovation event is built around our triple-bottom-line: good business, personal fulfillment and giving back," Rockbridge CEO Jim Merkel<sup>92</sup> said in a press release. "RTRX is a passion for us. We put significant effort into creating an incredible experience for our guests. Attendees come away thinking differently and feeling inspired."



The sixth annual Rock the Road in support of Pelotonia is on tap for Aug. 3-6.





**RED JACKET BALL**  
 City Year Columbus' annual Red Jacket Ball pays tribute to the hard work of our City Year AmeriCorps members, and their efforts to transform the students of Columbus City Schools with passion, energy and idealism. The event unites business and community leaders, citizen supporters, and service champions for an evening of celebration to support and honor their service. This year's event, held on Saturday, April 8 at the Hilton Downtown Columbus, brought together 400 guests for an evening of celebration to support and honor the AmeriCorps members' service. Keynote Speaker Liz Murray told her inspiring story of going from a homeless teen on the streets of New York City to a Harvard grad on a full-ride scholarship. COTA was also recognized for their longstanding commitment as City Year's transportation partner.

1) Kevin Reeves, Kathrynne Reeves, Tanisha Brown, Donald Brown 2) Employees and guests of NiSource 3) Cory Pisano, Chandler Thomas, Kieran Ryan, Sarah Oleisky, and Willa Handy 4) Eric Rutkowski, Morgan Russell, Columbus City Schools Superintendent Dr. Dan Good, Patrick Antenucci, Olivia Horner 5) City Year Columbus Board Member James Gaddy of Nationwide Insurance 6) City Year Columbus Executive Director Tasha Booker, Author Liz Murray 7) Lisa and Tom Courtrice 8) Columbus City Councilmember Liz Brown 9) AmeriCorps member Imari Lloyd and student Sontaw 10) Theresa Saelim and Maurice Henderson 11) Brian Majkowski, City Year Columbus Board Chair Tanya Crawford, AmeriCorps Member Bri Sinden



# The Columbus Dispatch

## Luxury electric-car maker Tesla faces hurdles on way to mass-market goals

By **Dan Gearino**

**The Columbus Dispatch**

Follow

Posted Jul 16, 2017 at 5:51 AM

Updated Jul 16, 2017 at 5:51 AM

Within the walls of the Tesla store at Easton, customers will tell you that the maker of all-electric vehicles can do just about anything.

“It’s the best thing I’ve ever driven,” said Don Johnson, 59, who owns a Tesla Model S sedan and was looking at the Model X crossover.

This kind of confidence is about to get a major test. California-based Tesla is introducing the Model 3, its first car aimed at the middle of the market, with pricing that the company says will start at about \$35,000.

The new model, like other Tesla vehicles, will be sold through a network of Tesla-owned stores, an approach that has been fought by traditional auto dealers across the country. As a result, Tesla stores are banned in six states and severely restricted in others, including Ohio.

Despite such limits, the company is hoping that the Model 3 will be the kind of car that nudges all-electric transportation into the mainstream.

Tesla produced the first few units of the model this month in Fremont, California, the beginning of a ramp-up toward a goal of making 20,000 Model 3 vehicles per month. The company has said that more than 370,000 customers are on a waiting list for the model, which means that other prospective buyers probably are in for a long wait.

“The whole thing is something we have never seen before,” said Jessica Caldwell, senior analyst for Edmunds.com, of Tesla’s move from a boutique maker of luxury electric vehicles to one that mass-produces them. Considering the complexity of such a transition, she would not be surprised if there are delays in Model 3 production.



It is difficult to understate the challenge Tesla faces, said Peter Ward, a management professor and associate dean at the Fisher College of Business at Ohio State University.

“Since the (Ford) Model T, cars have always been produced in volume at about one per minute, so Tesla will have to ramp from a leisurely pace to something like two shifts with two lines running simultaneously if they produce in a single plant,” he said.

“Because of the complexity and number of parts that go into auto assembly, getting all of that right is about the hardest thing there is to do in manufacturing,” Ward said.

The closest analogy for Tesla’s situation might not be in the automotive world. Ward points to advancements in personal computers that resulted in some companies being unable to make the transition to a low-cost, mass-market model.

The shift toward the mass market has always been part of Tesla’s plan. Founded in 2008, the company has aspired to make all-electric vehicles widely available. The Model S made its debut in 2012 to rave reviews, followed by the Model X in 2015. Their base prices are \$68,000 and \$82,500, respectively.

But Tesla’s sales remain tiny compared with those of other automakers. Last year, the company delivered 76,230 new vehicles to customers, a U.S. market share of 0.23 percent, according to WardsAuto.

That was fewer than luxury brands such as Porsche, which had a market share of 0.3 percent, and far behind the big leagues of companies; the leader, General Motors, was at 17.03 percent.

Despite such a small share for Tesla, investors are betting that the company will be huge. Its market capitalization is \$53.8 billion, just below GM’s \$54.3 billion.

## **Clearing challenges**

Tesla was founded by Elon Musk, an entrepreneur who previously started the company that became PayPal.

The automaker opened its first Ohio store in 2013 at Easton. The store, plus ones now open in the Cleveland and Cincinnati areas, led to a backlash from the Ohio Automobile Dealers Association.

Other automakers sell through a network of independent franchises. Dealer groups saw Tesla’s rise as a challenge to that system, raising concerns that other manufacturers would open their own stores to compete with franchises.

The Ohio debate led to a compromise in the General Assembly. The auto dealers and Tesla gave their blessing to a plan that would allow Tesla to open the three stores it now has, but no more.



It was a better deal than Tesla got in some other places. Arizona, Connecticut, Michigan, Texas, Utah and West Virginia have laws that forbid company-owned dealerships, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures.

In some cases, the company has complied with restrictions by calling its outlet a “gallery” and directing customers to make the purchase online. Tesla has more than 90 stores or galleries in the United States.

Three years after the Ohio legislature imposed the three-store limit, Tesla and the dealers are in a period of relative peace. “All parties, including Tesla, have agreed to the parameters established, and I think that’s why you haven’t seen or heard anything,” said Zach Doran,<sup>’00</sup> president of the Ohio Auto Dealers Association.

Tesla’s corporate office did not respond to a request for an interview. Employees at the Easton store referred questions to the corporate office.

Brady Berlin of Westerville, 36, leader of the Ohio Tesla owners’ club, said the limits imposed by some states, including in Ohio, might end up helping Tesla.

“The best way to get an American to buy something is to tell him he can’t buy it,” Berlin said.

But the limits on where Tesla can sell its products are an impediment for a brand that wants to dramatically increase sales.

Berlin, an information-technology consultant, thinks Tesla’s approach is going to succeed in the long run because of the strength of the brand. For him, an essential part of the brand is the idea that the adoption of all-electric vehicles is a step toward helping the environment.

Such a motivation is complicated by the fact that most electricity comes from power plants that run on fossil fuels. However, a small but growing share of power is coming from renewable sources such as solar and wind, which changes the equation entirely.

“I want things better for my kids,” Berlin said. “I want things better for my grandkids.”

### **Customer support**

Back at the Easton store, Johnson, the Model S owner, likes what he sees in the Model X, a crossover with three rows of seating.

Johnson lives in the Rochester, New York, area and was in Columbus with his wife to take their son on a campus visit to Ohio State.



The store's staff has become used to people who stop by while traveling through town, as if the store is a tourist attraction for people who already drive Tesla vehicles.

Sometimes, the current drivers are almost like the sales staff, striking up conversations with potential converts. This indicates a strength in the brand that Tesla will need as it releases the Model 3.

"Go do it," Johnson said, summing up his advice for anyone considering a Tesla. "It's a wonderful thing to do."

51

**Thomas Bonnell(1933 - 2017)**

Bonnell, Thomas  
1933 - 2017

Thomas Howard Bonnell, 83, of Canton and formerly of Bolivar, Ohio, passed away under the care of Aultman Hospice on July 15, 2017 following a two year battle with Pancreatic Cancer. Born in Columbus, Ohio on October 16, 1933, he was the son of the late Dr. Rollo Wyrick and Nina Grace (Figley) Bonnell.

Tom's early education began at the Columbus Academy where he graduated in 1951. He obtained his first college degree, a Bachelor of Arts, from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1956. Tom then completed a Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture, cum laude, from The Ohio State University in 1961 and a Master of Landscape Architecture from the Harvard University Graduate School of Design in 1965. Tom's exemplary career began with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources completing site planning and design at state parks. He then shared his talent with the Minneapolis Board of Park Commissioners in Municipal Park design. He worked for three years in the Boston area on projects at university campuses, corporate headquarters and industrial parks, achieving notoriety in on-site lighting. From 1966 to 1986, Tom was a partner with Bircher-Bonnell & Associates in North Canton, before starting his own firm, Bonnell & Associates. Later in 1986, he merged with E.G. & G. in Akron. He enjoyed 32 years of challenging and rewarding landscape architecture in the private sector prior to his retirement in late 1998. During that time, Tom also was a part-time faculty member at The Ohio State University in architecture and landscape architecture, a visiting lecturer at Penn State, Virginia Tech and West Virginia Universities, a visiting evaluator to university programs for the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board, a member of the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board and the Ohio Board of Landscape Architect Examiners, as well as numerous review boards and advisory committees. Tom was a lifetime Emeritus Member and Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects. He served on the Executive Committee of the Ohio Chapter of the ASLA for several years holding many offices on the board. He was adorned with numerous local, state, national and international awards for design, preservation, and economic development. Notably, he was recognized by former First Lady Nancy Reagan at The White House for a design he completed for The Timken Co. Tom is survived by his family including his wife, Georgia A. (Cummings) Bonnell of Zoar; his children, Kathleen (Stephen) Lyman of Rockville, MD, and Tom (Peggy) Bonnell of Pittsburgh; his grandchildren, Dr. Matthew (fiancée, Jay Jay Schenbeck) Lyman of Denver, Nathan Lyman of San Francisco, Michelle Lyman of Rockville, MD, Jacob Bonnell of Woodberry Forest, VA, Ali Bonnell of Philadelphia, and Sam Bonnell of Pittsburgh. In addition to his parents, Tom was preceded in death by his sister Rebecca S. Bonnell. A memorial service celebrating Tom's life will be held in the LINN-HERT-GEIB FUNERAL HOME, 116 Second Street NE, New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663, on September 3, 2017 1 p.m. A reception will follow in the Geib Family Center, located adjacent to the funeral home. Memorial contributions in Tom's memory may be directed to American Cancer Society. Those wishing to do so may send the family a personal condolence and light a candle in remembrance of Tom by visiting the funeral home website at [www.GeibCares.com](http://www.GeibCares.com).

**Funeral Home****Linn-Hert-Geib Funeral Home & Crematory**

116 Second Street NE New Philadelphia, OH 44663  
330-343-5506

**Published in The Columbus Dispatch on July 27, 2017**