**Award-Winning Film Student Doubles as Game Show Host in Ecuador**

BY KRISTIN STERLING

Although he is not familiar to most New Yorkers, Columbia film student Galo Recalde is well-known in his native Ecuador, where he stared in, wrote and co-directed the television show named “best student.” In 2001, he was named the “ RaisePropertyChanged of the Year” in Ecuador in the television show named “best student.”

Galo Recalde is well-versed in New Yorkers, Columbia film School of the Arts has enabled him to expand from television into film. The film will begin as a two-hour show, where he invades the lives of the contestants in cabs, on the street, even in their homes.

Recalde says his work at the School of the Arts has enabled him to expand from television into film. Last fall, his 15-minute short film, Primer Dia, which stemmed from one of his first class exercises, won the 2001 Showtime Networks Latino Filmmaker Showcase and aired on Showtime throughout September as part of Hispanic Heritage Month. The award also provided Recalde with $30,000, which he is putting toward a film that he is working on here in the United States.

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Recalde also appreciates that “real-world” lessons are incorporated in the classes. “In other schools, theory often, but in practice, things are not ‘by the book’ every time,” he says. “Producing is so complex, and producers like Iras Demchuck, who have spent many years in the field, will say this is how it is supposed to be, but in reality it is otherwise. Columbia professors give you both sides.”

Through other classes, Recalde has viewed films from the 1920s, 30s and 40s, which are not available in Ecuador. There is a lot of art in the films of the 30s and 40s, he says. In the spring of 2001, Recalde worked as a production and research intern for the Latin American Children’s Television Forum in 1995. That year he was also named best student. The talents of the year by the Ecuadorian Association of Advertising Agencies.

**Students Meet with Government Officials in Nation’s Capitol**

**BY ELLEN S. SMITH**

During the summer of 2002, 30 undergraduates from Columbia College, Barnard College, and the School of General Studies were placed in congressional internships in Washington, D.C. or district offices by the Government Relations Office of Public Affairs. Joining the college’s 2002 interns were four Columbia Law School students who are there for the summer.

The summer placements, coordinated by the Congressional Internship Coordinator Liz Nunez, SIPA ’03, included 15 representatives offices and 12 senatorial offices. Students began the application process in December and were notified of their placements in April.

**Kenneth Koch, 77, Founding Member of the New York School**

**BY JAMES DEVITT**

English Professor Kenneth Koch, who taught at Columbia since 1959, died on July 6 in New York City at the age of 77. The cause was lung cancer.

Koch, MA ’53, Ph.D. ’59, published at least 30 volumes of poetry and drama and was considered a founding member of the New York School, a poetic movement started in the 1940s that blended anti-establishment and classic European approaches.

In November 2001, Koch won the inaugural Phi Beta Kappa Poetry Award competition for his entry, New Addresses (Knopf 2000). The 50-poem work employed the poetic device of anonymous, discuss topics ranging from World War II to the “Unknown Addresses.” In the New York Times Book Review, the New York Times Book Review wrote that the book’s best poems “bolster the bold belief that understanding of much Koch’s career—namely, that to be a continually gracious and grateful writer is not to be a precious or deduced one.”


Koch enjoyed teaching poetry to children, taking his expertise to students in New York City public schools.

Describing his approach to teaching poetry to children, Koch told the New York Times, “You have them talk their poems until they get so excited about what they’re saying that they can’t wait to write it. And I always tell them to be crazy and silly because they have such a tendency to be conventional in school.”

But Koch often found his young pupils helped him to write his own verses.

“They have the spontaneity and energy that inspire me,” Koch told the Columbia Spectator in 1970. “It makes me want to write poetry.”

Koch also a playwright, wrote the libretto for composer Marcello Parni’s, The Banquet. He also received awards from the American Academy of Arts and Letters as well as the Fulbright, Guggenheim and Ingram Merrill Foundations. In 1996, he won the Rebekah Johnson Bobbitt National Medal for Poet, awarded by the Library of Congress.

Two of Koch’s books will be used in a new anthology that fall. One will contain many of his unpublished poems from the 1950s and the other will include new works.

Koch was born in Cincinnati on Feb. 27, 1925. During World War II, Koch served in the Army and was stationed in the Philippines. He obtained his bachelor’s degree from Harvard in 1945.

Koch is survived by his wife, Karen; his daughter, Katherine; and grandson, Jesse Stutman.