On the Cover: Blair encourages students to consider their place in the global community and to understand the increasing importance of becoming citizens of the world and astute curators of information. This issue’s cover story delves into venerable School traditions and new opportunities for engagement that are connecting today’s students to alumni, parents and other professionals whose perspectives and expertise add new depth and dimension to the Blair experience. Read the story in full on page 04.

Geometry & Manufacturing
October 2-November 3, 2018, in The Romano Gallery

Geometry, generative algorithms and top-down engineering drive Blake Courter’s sculpture, interactive media and apparel. The sculptor, product designer and maker space artist constructs simple sets of rules that synthesize results through manual problem-solving and programmed automation. Recurring themes include mapping abstract concepts into tangible objects and confronting engineering orthodoxy. Most of his work is documented via open-source software and CAD models.
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04 Bringing the World to Blair

From longstanding Blair traditions such as Society of Skeptics lectures and the Bartow Series to a host of more recently introduced roundtables, academic partnerships, seminars, residencies, guest speakers and student-driven programs, today’s Blair students are more connected than ever to the world outside of Blairstown.

04 Another Op’nin’, Another Show

Over his 24-year career as an English and performing arts teacher, Craig Evans has seen his share of behind-the-scenes action. In this guest essay, he shares some of his favorite moments in Blair theatre.

38 Vice Adm. Colin Kilrain ’77: 34-Year Navy SEAL

Vice Admiral Colin Kilrain ’77 has devoted his entire 34-year naval career to service in the SEALs, one of our nation’s most elite and clandestine fighting forces.

56 The State of Admission

It was another record-breaking year for Blair’s admission office, with more than 1,180 applications received, 143 new students enrolled and the lowest selective acceptance rate in School history (19 percent).
Kate Setteducate ’19

Senior Kate Setteducate ’19 submitted a concentration portfolio for Blair’s AP photography class comprising this photo and others from a 2017 trip to Costa Rica. Throughout her adventures in the Central American country, she enjoyed documenting the beauty of the native culture, some of which is captured in this photo, her favorite from the collection. “I love all of the colors in the sunset and the way they contrast the silhouette of the person riding the bike,” Kate explained. View more of her work at www.blair.edu/kate-setteducate.
When Blair’s 171st year opened in September, 469 students enthusiastically entered our classrooms to embark on new academic journeys across an array of disciplines from history, languages and English to science, technology, visual and performing arts and much more. However, well before the academic year began, an intrepid group of students launched their studies this summer by beginning work on a yearlong, collaborative research project, the first of many such projects that will more deeply connect Blair’s curricular experience to the world and help students become the impactful global citizens they aspire to be.

These 10 students are Blair’s first research fellows, a dedicated cadre of sophomores, juniors and seniors who were selected from among 30 competitive applicants last spring. Throughout the year, they will partner with me, Blair faculty members, medical experts from the Lehigh Valley Pocono Medical Center in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, and Boston University School of Public Health professor Michael Siegel to investigate the influence and impact of e-cigarettes and vaporizers on the health and well-being of high school students and young adults. This is a timely topic with implications here at Blair and around the world, particularly given the Food and Drug Administration’s declaration that e-cigarette use among teenagers is “an epidemic.”

I have often told our students that Blair needs to stand for what is right and good. We must demonstrate our commitment through dialogue and actions and serve as a beacon of courage, intellectual achievement and care for others well beyond our hilltop campus. I am thus excited to embark upon this project in which scholarship and action come together. Our partnership and sustained engagement with leading professionals represent a unique opportunity for Blair students to go above and beyond in their learning. The exposure students will gain into research methods, public policy issues and more will inspire them as they move through Blair and into college and their careers. Every time we bring speakers, practitioners and experts to Blair (and we bring many, as this issue’s cover story details) our goal is to inspire our students to discover their passions and act upon them to best serve the world. In that regard, this research project presents an outstanding opportunity.

The import of our students’ research and analysis is heightened by the growing global implications of vaping for adolescent health and wellness, and our students will be delving deeply into understanding the marketing and influence of these products on teen behavior; the impact on social, emotional and physical wellness; and the evolving rules and policies for schools and communities. Our research fellows will share their findings throughout the year in School Meetings, through podcasts and other presentations, and we hope to educate students in a very meaningful way about the implications of vaping or any substance use. All of this dovetails exceptionally well with our expanded, evidence-based health and wellness initiatives that Erin Fortunato is spearheading this year.

Through this research project and in a growing number of opportunities, Blair is empowering students to become not just consumers of content but also generators of knowledge and to create “action tanks” of thoughtful young leaders willing to make a difference around topics that matter to them. Our research fellows’ work will culminate in a year-end presentation that encapsulates their findings and will be shared broadly within and beyond the Blair community with the hope of influencing and educating peers and policymakers. From my own perspective as a parent and educator, this goal of empowering our students to be teachers and owners of the future evinces our shared commitment to and deep care for our students, our alumni and future generations of Blair students. I am heartened by our students’ enthusiasm to leverage the privilege of a Blair education to serve others.

This issue of the Bulletin contains our Annual Report, and I thank each and every donor who supported the School during our 2017-2018 fiscal year. Your generosity makes programs such as the student research fellowship possible and provides educational opportunities that resonate with our students today and throughout their lives. We change the world every day by modeling the goodness and the greatness experienced on Blair’s campus and bringing the best of our culture, learning and commitment to the world. My deepest appreciation for helping to fulfill the mission and the promise of our great School.

Christopher Fortunato
Head of School
BRINGING THE WORLD

Generations of Bucs remember discussing current events with veteran history teacher Martin Miller, PhD (pictured here in an undated photo distributing copies of a news article to history students in Clinton Hall).
Even though it has been nearly 20 years since my own Blair graduation, the sight of a crisp copy of The New York Times—whether at a coffee shop, newsstand or on my own doorstep—transports me right back to Dr. Martin Miller’s AP European history class in Clinton Hall.

It doesn’t matter that I have read the paper countless times in the years since I sat at that Harkness table in Clinton 206, dissecting the major events of the day with Dr. Miller, who in his deeply thoughtful and analytical way, helped us place it all in context. The experience of reading and discussing world news as adolescents with such a knowledgeable Blair faculty member profoundly impacted me and my classmates; it broadened our horizons and inspired us to look beyond ourselves and beyond Blairstown. And that continues to be the case at Blair today, even if history teachers now project online news articles instead of distributing hundreds of printed copies under the Arch and throughout Clinton Hall (as they did in the old days).

The change in newspaper format aside, encouraging generations of Bucs to be intelligent consumers of journalism is just one of the ways teachers continue to “bring the world to Blair,” urging students to consider their place in the global community and to understand the increasing importance of becoming citizens of the world and astute curators of information.

Some venerable School traditions, such as the Society of Skeptics and the Bartow Series, have long been cornerstones of Blair’s commitment to inviting speakers and performers from all over the world to campus to share their ideas, expertise and talent with the Blair community. Other less formal opportunities to engage with industry legends, including Blair’s most generous benefactor and Chairman Emeritus of the Board of
Trustees John C. Bogle ’47, are a highlight of every school-year calendar. Add in a mix of more recently introduced roundtables, academic partnerships, seminars, residencies, guest lecturers and student-driven programs, and today’s Blair students are more connected than ever to alumni, parents and other professionals whose perspectives and expertise are adding new depth and dimension to the Blair experience.

Deeply Rooted Blair Traditions

EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT WITHOUT EXCEPTION:

Perhaps best known for highlighting diverse points of view and controversial issues, Skeptics dates back to the late 1970s when former history department chair Elliott Trommald, PhD, Hon. ’65, established a regular forum for student discussion and debate. Dr. Miller took over in the mid-1980s and molded the program into a weekly lecture series, one that has since continued without interruption.

At Skeptics, students learn to listen critically to different perspectives; they are encouraged to engage in provocative question-and-answer sessions, and discussions about Tuesday evening presentations often extend into Wednesday as students and teachers continue to debate salient issues in classrooms and dormitories.

“At Skeptics, students engage with the world beyond Blair and have the chance to place what they are learning in the classroom into a larger global context,” explained Dr. Miller. “My goal throughout all of these years has been to expose students to as many ideas as possible by inviting an eclectic group of speakers to campus, and this has helped to deepen the intellectual curiosity of our community and often dovetails nicely with the work we are doing in classes across departments.”

Last year alone, Skeptics brought to Blairstown a 1984 Paralympics medal winner, candidates for New Jersey’s 24th District Assembly, a design manager for the New York Department
of Environmental Protection, a Syrian refugee, an archaeologist working on a State Department-funded project and a Harvard PhD student studying high-energy astrophysics, as well as a mix of historians, authors, musicians, high school teachers, college professors, lecturers, entrepreneurs, investors and business executives representing a wide range of industries.

Dr. Miller was also pleased to welcome back a number of alumni as Skeptics speakers in 2017-2018, including recent Lafayette College graduate Kelvin Serem ’13 and Blair history teacher Quint Clarke ’87 (who talked about the independent nonprofit “Blair in Kenya,” as well as the establishment of the Blair-Serem School in Iten); archaeologist and anthropologist Emily Boak ’13 (who spoke of her love of research and contributions to the Afghan Heritage Mapping Partnership); and renowned academic, investor and author Vikram Mansharamani ’92 (who explained how connecting seeming irrelevant dots leads to a better understanding of the world’s uncertainty).

CELEBRATING THE ARTS: Likewise, Blair’s Bartow Series has expanded the artistic experience of today’s students by bringing music, dance and theatre professionals from far and wide to Blair’s stage. Recent presenters have included Yale University’s a cappella group, the Whiffenpoofs; Quartet San Francisco; violinist Mikhail Simonyan; and the Gallim Dance Group. The series, which honors the late former Blair faculty member Nevett Bartow, a dedicated music teacher and talented composer who shaped the School’s music program, has also helped to support the Symphony Orchestra and Singers on performance tours across the United States and abroad, most recently to California, Italy, Austria and the United Kingdom.

“The Bartow Series has provided some really exceptional opportunities for our students to see professionals in action in our own DuBois Theatre, and then to actually be those performers on stages around the world,” said Blair’s performing arts department.
chair Jennifer Pagotto. “This has no doubt deepened their love of the arts and inspired them to keep working hard to become better musicians and actors.”

A BELOVED INDUSTRY TITAN:
And, of course, Blair is fortunate that visits from Mr. Bogle, an investment industry icon who founded The Vanguard Group, have also become a regular part of community life. For many years, the founder of the world’s largest mutual fund organization has come to campus at least once a year to address students and faculty and enjoy lunch with current Bogle Brothers Scholars.

During his latest visit in 2018, members of the Investment Club were ecstatic that Mr. Bogle set aside time to personally meet with them and discuss banking, investment and finance, which club leaders called “a seriously once-in-a-lifetime experience.”

“Meeting an individual as influential as Mr. Bogle was incredibly exciting,” said Investment Club member Dylan Benson ’20, who enjoyed hearing Mr. Bogle’s personal views of the market and hopes to study investment in college and enter the industry himself one day. “His most important piece of advice was that we can always be reading and learning more about the financial industry. No matter how much information you have, there is always more.” The Blair Investment Club concluded that its focus next year should be studying the market and different investment strategies.

“We realized how much we have yet to learn,” Dylan concluded.

Jai Bakshi ’20 called the meeting with Mr. Bogle a “fascinating opportunity” to meet a legend in the field, learn about his unique life story and understand his core principle of trading stocks infrequently. Noting that Mr. Bogle gave the Club some strategic advice about its organization and ability to work together, Jai says he and his fellow members have created a more consistent routine to educate themselves about the basics of finance this school year. “Mr. Bogle told us to find companies we truly believe in and watch them grow,” Jai explained. “On an individual level, I learned how important it is to trust the process and not rush. Mr. Bogle said he never intended for Vanguard to become such a preeminent company, but, through patience and working to his full potential, Vanguard has thrived.”
Doubling Down on Engagement & Connection

As the world becomes increasingly global and interconnected, Blair has deepened its commitment to creating opportunities for students to build relationships and engage with peers, parents, alumni and other working professionals who are leaders in their fields. Toward that end, the School has launched several new programs, is piloting industry partnerships with specific classes, and continues to welcome renowned guest lecturers to courses and seminars across disciplines.

HEAD OF SCHOOL ROUNDTABLES:
Three years ago, Chris Fortunato introduced Head of School Roundtable discussions, at which students have explored a variety of topics ranging from bitcoin and politics to school safety and human rights. “It is important to come together as a community to ask questions, share our perspectives on a variety of topics, and remind our students that they are global citizens whose opinions matter,” said Mr. Fortunato. “Such dialogue helps us to collectively consider how we experience and respond to the issues and national and international happenings of our time as students, teachers, staff members and, ultimately, human beings.”

ALUMNI ROUNDTABLES:
Last year, Blair students benefited from the wisdom and experience of communications expert and social justice advocate Timothy Patrick McCarthy during a seminar on human rights. Based in Massachusetts, where he is a professor at Harvard Kennedy School, Dr. McCarthy engaged with students via videoconference in the Chiang Center, as well as during in-person campus visits.

In 2018, the School launched its Alumni Roundtable series, which connects today’s students to prominent alumni across industries, giving soon-to-be graduates the opportunity to learn about different fields from experienced professionals during informal presentations and Q & As in the Chiang Center for Innovation and Collaboration.

To date, alumni speakers have included business, corporate and real estate lawyer and philanthropist William Cramer ’64, who talked about different aspects of the legal profession and his responsibilities as president of the eight-attorney Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, firm Cramer, Swetz, McManus & Jordan, P.C.; marketing-and-business-development executive Scott Jones ’80, who spoke about the ins and outs of technology startups and his role as vice president at Hylion Inc., a company that is bringing hybrid electric technology to tractor-trailers with an environmentally friendly system that saves fuel; vice
president and men’s brand manager at Steve Madden Joshua George ‘89, who detailed his work in brand management and merchandising; Goldman Sachs managing director Akhil Garg ‘02, whose talk centered on investment banking and his position in Goldman’s Structured Finance Group; and Matthew Maillet ‘06, who serves as vice president at Goldman and reviewed for students the different roles within the asset management industry.

“The building of new traditions is a constant experience at Blair, and I am excited to see what the future will bring as students, faculty, parents and alumni continue to delve deeply into the issues, ideas and opportunities that matter most to them,” Mr. Fortunato said.

PARTNERSHIPS WITH HIGHER EDUCATION & INDUSTRY:

Going forward, Blair faculty members plan to forge additional partnerships with alumni and industry experts, creating opportunities for these outside professionals to become involved in students’ academic work in an ongoing capacity, especially in the discipline of science as work to expand the Bogle Science Center continues (see story on page 67).

“Our goal is to more fulsomely connect Blair to the world as part of the curricular experience and to inspire students’ interest in science and its intersection with public policy, leading them to greater opportunities in college and their careers,” Mr. Fortunato concluded.

One such collaboration is already yielding results, as 10 student research fellows work with Blair’s Head of...
School and faculty members, as well as Boston University School of Public Health professor Michael Siegel and lung cancer experts from Pocono Medical Center in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, to investigate the influence and impact of e-cigarettes and vaporizers on the health and well-being of high school students. A highly respected researcher in the area of tobacco control, Dr. Siegel is sharing his expertise with students and teachers, and Blair’s research fellows are reporting to the School community periodically as they prepare a written document that outlines their findings. With the goal of empowering students to act not only as learners but also generators of knowledge, faculty members hope that this collaboration will serve as a model for similar programs based in the expanded Bogle Science Center.

**Student-Driven Programs**

A number of events that have brought peers, teachers and alumni from other schools to Blair were in large part planned and executed by students, such as the winter TEDxBlairAcademy conference and the spring Mid-Atlantic Prep League (MAPL) Women’s Conference.

**A WORLD OF IDEAS:** In February, more than 100 students and teachers gathered in the Chiang Center for a third-annual TEDx collaboration with Gill St. Bernard’s School. In the spirit of events sponsored by TED—a nonprofit devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks—Blair hosted its second conference (with the “x” denoting an independently organized event) that featured
presentations by seven juniors and seniors from the two schools. The event also included prerecorded TED talks and a guest lecture on experiencing and bouncing back from failure by Sam Tarantino, a businessman, musician and entrepreneur who has founded two startups.

“The point of the TEDx is to give kids the opportunity to engage in the world of ideas, apart from their day-to-day experience inside the classroom,” said history department chair Jason Beck. “Students generated presentations, and students were the audience. It really is about students talking with their peers about the things about which they’re passionate.”

Blair presenters included Linda Tong ’19, who focused on neurodiversity; Fernando Doddoli ’19, who talked about goal-setting, self-confidence and achievement; and Onome Akinbode-James ’18, who shared her passion for fighting misconceptions and stereotypes about African countries.

SPARKING CHANGE & CONFIDENCE:
In April, Savannah Doelfel ’18 (pictured above) invited the six MAPL schools to the Chiang Center for a daylong event that emphasized education and empowerment. Attended by 25 female students and alumnae from the Lawrenceville School, Blair and the Hun School of Princeton, participants convened for an afternoon panel discussion, Q & A session and conversation in small breakout groups. Alumnae represented a wide range of ages and industries, with some still enrolled in college and others having worked professionally for more than 20 years.

“The theme of our event was ‘Sparking Change and Confidence’ because I want girls to feel confident and know they have the power to make change in our society, both while they are at Blair and after they leave for college,” Savannah said. “To have the opportunity to learn from strong female role models who went through the same experiences—attending boarding school and taking advantage of the same resources we enjoy today—is truly incredible.”
Lessons from Higher Education & Practicing Professionals

BLAIR’S SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE: Since 2013, Harvard Kennedy School professor and human rights activist Timothy Patrick McCarthy, PhD, has regularly visited campus to engage with Blair students on a range of issues, including lectures and workshops on the art of persuasion, the power of storytelling, the importance of values and integrity, and the vital relationship between authentic communication and public leadership. He has also led seminars on presidential politics and human rights, both in person and via videoconference.

“I am incredibly impressed with the young folks at Blair, which is a school that I like to think of as a vital incubator for moral leaders and global citizens,” said Dr. McCarthy, who directs culture change and social justice initiatives at the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School, and has long served as an advocate for public service and social justice.

“The students here are some of the most thoughtful, generous, respectful, brave, funny, smart, self-aware, interesting and optimistic kids I’ve ever met. Their parents and teachers should be proud.”

Cleary Waldo ’19 came away from Dr. McCarthy’s human rights seminar deeply impressed by his breadth of knowledge and expertise in all things communications. “I learned so much from Dr. McCarthy, and I found his seminar to be extremely rewarding,” she said. “It is exciting to know I am becoming more informed about the problems in the world around me.”

WRITERS-IN-RESIDENCE: In 2018, the English department instituted a program that brought three authors to campus: Weike Wang, who wrote the acclaimed book Chemistry; poet Dan Kraines ’06, a PhD candidate at the University of Rochester who teaches at the Fashion Institute of Technology and City Tech in New York City; and Kelly Sokol ’96, the author of The Unprotected and teacher of creative nonfiction and fiction writing at The Muse Writers Center in Norfolk, Virginia. Each offered Blair students individual feedback on their writing, as well as tips for pursuing the discipline as undergraduates and professionals.

“Ms. Sokol allowed us to have so much freedom with our writing, and she responded to every one of our stories with kind words and encouragement,” said Audrey Sacks ’20. “I learned that, when writing fiction, you don’t have to start out with a broad idea—rather, it is more helpful to begin with a specific point in a character’s life, and then build off that inspiration.”
Get Involved!

Because students learn best when they can apply in-class lessons to real-world experiences, faculty members will continue to regularly incorporate into the curriculum hands-on opportunities to make learning at Blair increasingly interdisciplinary and experiential. If you would like to learn more about how you can connect with today’s Blair students and take part in this applied and cross-disciplinary work, please return the tear-out included in this story to Blair’s advancement and alumni offices, which will connect you to the appropriate department for your area of interest.

- Copies of *The New York Times* Blair used to order each day, pre-Internet
- Professional artists exhibiting in The Romano Gallery each year
- Annual visit from mutual fund titan & Chairman Emeritus of Blair’s Board of Trustees John C. Bogle ’47
- Skeptics lecturer on *Forbes’s* “Power 100” list: Vikram Mansharamani ’92
- Head of School Roundtables have focused on: bitcoin, human rights, school safety & presidential politics
- Student research fellows investigating impact of e-cigarettes & vaporizers
- Investment Club members who met with Mr. Bogle in 2018
- Alumni Roundtable speakers have hailed from: PA NY TX
- Writers in residence who visited Blair in 2018 to work with students
- Society of Skeptics lecturers to address audiences in Collaboration Forum
- 23/year Society of Skeptics lecturers to address audiences in Collaboration Forum
- 25+ 2018 MAPL Women’s Conference participants
- 10
- The Power 100
- 23/year
- 25+
- 10
- 3 Writers in residence who visited Blair in 2018 to work with students
- 10
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- 10
This fall, Blair launched an online networking directory for alumni, making it easier than ever for alumni across industries and disciplines to connect with fellow graduates. The directory, which is searchable by profession, aims to aid alums looking to establish professional relationships, pursue internship opportunities and offer mentorships within the Blair community.

“At Blair, where strong relationships are at the forefront of every interaction and opportunity, it makes perfect sense that those connections are leveraged in the professional world,” said Shaunna Murphy, director of alumni relations. “The Blair community is unique—no matter what year you graduated, you have the Blair connection to every alum,” she said. “The networking directory is a resource for those seeking a job or just looking for guidance in their field. We have alums who work in many different professions, and they are eager to offer help.”

Though Blair’s networking program was established five years ago, the new online directory opens the door for alumni to connect directly, without needing Mrs. Murphy to make introductions. In addition to the searchable directory, Blair maintains online discussion boards, called Group Spaces, where alumni can pose questions about graduate programs, solicit advice about switching careers, post job opportunities and so much more.

Going forward, Mrs. Murphy encourages alumni to reach out to one another through the directory and engage in open dialogue within the Group Spaces to share their ideas and wisdom. As the program grows, alums will have opportunities to share resumes, post job openings and more.

“The benefits of Blair’s networking program are twofold: Creating relationships within your industry can positively impact your career trajectory, and making these connections deepens alums’ relationship with Blair,” Mrs. Murphy continued. “Relationships truly matter at Blair, even after graduation. Our hope is for alumni across generations to make use of this technology, as well as our loyal alumni base, when seeking help in the professional realm.”

**ACCESSING THE NETWORKING DIRECTORY**

1. Visit [www.blair.edu/networking](http://www.blair.edu/networking).
2. Submit the online form on that page to be given access to the directory.
3. Once access is granted, return to Blair’s website at [www.blair.edu/networking-directory](http://www.blair.edu/networking-directory) and log in.
4. Search the directory by name, location or industry.
5. Connect with fellow alums!

**CONTACT US**

Alumni relations & networking questions: Shaunna Murphy, director of alumni relations, murphs@blair.edu or (908) 362-6121, ext. 5655

Log-in issues: Jane Marvin, director of advancement information services, marvij@blair.edu or (908) 362-6121, ext. 5699
Blair’s 170th Commencement celebrates Class of 2018
Blair Academy marked its 170th commencement on May 24 as the members of class of 2018 received their diplomas before an enthusiastic and appreciative audience of Trustees, faculty, students and family members. Assembled on the sun-dappled lawn in front of Sharpe House, seniors celebrated their accomplishments and promising futures as they enjoyed their final class gathering before joining Blair’s alumni ranks.

Following the traditional opening procession by faculty, Trustees and seniors, Head of School Chris Fortunato and Senior Class Council members Helen Mercedes ’18 and Ronan Smarth ’18 welcomed guests, thanked all those who made students’ Blair experience possible and reflected briefly on the momentous occasion.

Presentation of faculty awards and appointments to United States service academies followed, after which three top student prizes were accorded (please see list of awardees on page 18-19).

Rebecca Xi ’18 offered perspective on her Blair experience as the class speaker, sprinkling in a few quotes from Marvel and DC Comics, which she discovered during her junior year and has grown to love. Noting that the superpower she secretly longs for is the ability to fly, she described graduation day as a day on which the entire class is flying together. Looking to the future, Rebecca advised her classmates, “We have so much ahead of us, in college and beyond. We will fly, and we will certainly fall. But, like we have during our brief time at Blair, we will become all the better for it.”

The moment that many in the audience were waiting for arrived as Mr. Fortunato conferred diplomas onstage, where handshakes and hugs were shared. Mr. Fortunato then took the opportunity to advise Blair’s newest alumni to make their mark on the world. Noting that each of us is an unending work in progress, he affirmed that the members of the class of 2018 are all becoming exactly what the world needs to make it a better place.

Finally, Richard Rubin ’68, a longtime class representative of this year’s 50th-reunion class, presented the class of 2018 pennant to Timothy Johns ’18, who triumphantly led his peers from Sharpe House lawn, through the Arch and into the waiting arms of their cheering families and friends.

Congratulations, class of 2018!

@ View a video of graduation at www.blair.edu/graduation-2018.
AWARDS PRESENTED AT COMMENCEMENT:

HEADMASTER’S PRIZE:  
*Kenza Fernandez ’18 & Emma Mohlmann ’18*

BLAIR ACADEMY TROPHY:  
*William Kaiser ’18*

GEORGE P. JENKINS ’32 PRIZE:  
*Rebecca Xi ’18*

APGAR AWARD FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE:  
English teacher Douglass Compton

RIETHER RESIDENTIAL LIFE AWARD:  
Associate Dean of Admission *Teddy Wenner ’96*

JOHN C. & EVE S. BOGLE TEACHING PRIZE:  
Performing arts department chair Jennifer Pagotto

HEADMASTER’S FACULTY PRIZE:  
Fine arts teacher Tyson Trish

TEDLOW TEACHING PRIZE:  
Associate Dean of Admission Leucretia Shaw
On the eve of graduation, Blair's departing seniors offered advice to underclassmen.

“Go out and do something. Go make new friends. What makes Blair a special place year after year is its unique blend of athletes and scholars, artists and jokesters. It’s such a tight-knit community, and it would be a shame if you weren’t able to take full advantage of it throughout your time here.”
—Luke Corrado ’18

“Appreciate every single moment at Blair, whether it’s good or bad. Take advantage of every opportunity, and never be afraid of the growing pains of life.”
—Helen Mercedes ’18

“There is not a perfect piece of advice that would apply to everyone, for Blair is unique and special to everyone in a different way. With that being said, follow your heart, and allow yourself to be involved in everything this School has to offer. Blair is so amazing in so many ways, and the more involved you are, the more special your experience will be.”
—Willy Kaiser ’18

“Don’t take your work too seriously freshman year; that’s a really special time to build friendships. During sophomore year, use the library as much as possible—it’s a beautiful building, full of friendly and kind people. In your last two years, find a way to make your time here really meaningful. It goes by too fast!”
—Katie Peacock ’18
### Congratulations, Class of 2018!

As Blair's most recent graduates embark on the next chapter of their lives at these colleges and universities, we wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

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In the NEWS

Blair Academy was chosen as the most beautiful private high school in the state of New Jersey by Architectural Digest magazine. In a March 29 online article titled “The Most Beautiful Private High School in Every State in America,” the publication shares its “highly selective” list of 50 learning institutions, noting that some are “rich in history” and many offer “state-of-the-art performance centers and stunning sports fields.”

Blair is lauded for its Richardson Romanesque style and the fact that, as the School grew and more buildings were added, “each new structure retains elements of the original buildings within its design.” Blair Academy is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

www.blair.edu/architectural-digest

Architectural Digest Names Blair Among Most Beautiful Private High Schools in U.S.

Wrestling Coach Honored with National Award

Wrestling USA Magazine recognized the many contributions of Blair’s head wrestling coach Brian Antonelli ’93 to the sport by naming him its 2018 Coach of the Year. The magazine commended Coach Antonelli for his commitment and dedication to his athletes, as well as his efforts to prepare them for challenges and opportunities beyond Blair. During his tenure, he has led the team to four national prep team titles and coached five Walsh Ironman champions and 23 national prep champions. Coach Antonelli took the helm of Blair’s wrestling program in 2014, and the Bucs have been consecutively named the number-one team in the nation for the last three years.
Alumni Weekend 2018 was a glorious salute to Blair camaraderie and community as 500-plus alumni and guests gathered on campus from June 8 to 10. A full slate of events provided many opportunities for Blair graduates representing eight decades to celebrate the School’s history, glimpse student life today and, most of all, reconnect with the friends and faculty members who made their Blair experiences so meaningful.

The weekend got underway with a bang at the Friday night all-alumni Welcome Back party and fireworks display. While members of the Old Guard (50th reunion and above) reveled at their traditional dinner in the Romano Dining Hall, alumni from all other classes gathered under a tent on Hardwick Hall lawn to enjoy catering and beverages provided by Tom Kehoe ’83 (Yards Brewing Company), Mark McLean ’98 (Remarkable Cuisine LLC), Shaun Mehtani ’02 (Mehtani Restaurant Group), Matt Gallira ’08 (Big Mozz Inc.), Steve Abrams ’75 (Magnolia Bakery) and Marianne Lieberman ’79 (Maple Springs Vineyard). “The energy at the party was incredible,” said Director of Alumni Relations Shaunna Murphy, “and the entire community came together for the fireworks. It was the perfect way to start!”

Saturday’s Alumni Parade, Head of School Assembly, family picnic luncheon and dinner dance were as enjoyable as ever, while Dick Boak ’68’s “Skeptics” presentation offered an exclusive look at “Designing Guitars with Legendary Musicians.” In addition, many alumni toured the Chiang Center for Innovation and Collaboration, filmed their Blair leadership story, took a “View of the Blair Archives” with Director of Timken Library Ann Williams and enjoyed Ashley Thompson ’08’s MUSH Overnight Oats at Sunday’s buffet breakfast.

“Blair always celebrates its graduates at Alumni Weekend, and this year, we really tapped into the talents of our alumni, which made the weekend incredibly special,” Mrs. Murphy said. “On Sunday morning, there was a lot of ‘farewell’ and ‘I’ll see you soon!’ but no goodbyes. Everyone seemed to leave campus smiling and happy to have spent time with old and new friends.”
In the 55 years since John Alden’s Blair graduation, his love for the School has never wavered. He has demonstrated this deep and abiding dedication at every level, from his long-standing and exceptional service on the Board of Trustees to the caring, personal connections he maintains with his 1963 classmates. Thoughtfulness, intelligence, humility and warmth characterize all of John’s efforts on behalf of his alma mater, and his energetic work celebrates the traditions of relationships and learning at the core of our heritage, while propelling the School to the brightest possible future.

John’s Board tenure spans a remarkable 43 years of engaged and active service. As a Trustee from 1975 to 1990 and as Emeritus Trustee ever since, he has brought to the table invaluable business acumen and insight into boarding-school best practices, gleaned from successful careers in the hospitality industry and as an independent school CFO and treasurer. He has answered the call to leadership in Board endeavors time and again—not surprising for a former class officer, football and track captain, and Headmaster’s Prize winner—including, most recently, his enthusiastic commitment to serve on the Financial Sustainability and Capital Campaign Strategic Planning Committee. In this vital role, John will help chart the course of Blair’s future, ensuring its strength for generations of students.

The School’s future is something that John has considered personally and with his classmates as well. He and his wife, Sherry, a gracious supporter of all things Blair, are members of the John C. Sharpe Society of planned givers, and John is a champion fundraiser and advocate for the Class of 1963 Faculty Chair, a class legacy that will help Blair continue to attract and retain the finest teachers. John has also been instrumental in the establishment of Blair’s Planned Giving Advisory Council, through which he and his fellow Council members promote gift planning as a means of securing Blair’s ongoing financial stability.

Through the decades, as John has undertaken important initiatives on behalf of the School, he has also maintained close, lifelong friendships with his classmates by planning get-togethers, working on reunion committees and keeping in frequent touch. This is simply who he is and what he does—he is a man of great heart and character; he is good and kind; and, above all, he gets things done. Blair Academy is a better School for John Alden’s generous investment of time, talent and treasure over many years, and this 2018 Citation of Merit, the School’s highest honor, is well-deserved recognition for all he has contributed and accomplished.
Richard Rubin is a true-blue Blair enthusiast who shares his excitement about his alma mater with every member of the School community he has the pleasure of meeting.

He has done so as a two-term Alumni Board of Governors (BOG) member (1994-2000 and 2010-2016); as BOG vice president; as a dynamic class representative since 2008; and as a reunion committee volunteer for 1968’s 40th, 45th and 50th reunions.

Outside of his “official” roles, Richard is also happy to create and solidify Blair connections among parents, alumni, faculty and friends. He’ll make a call or send an email, orchestrate a get-together, or hop in the car to visit a classmate or attend a reception. His kindness, sincerity and sense of humor make him a consummate ambassador, while his inclusivity and passion for Blair inspire others to deepen their involvement with the School he holds in such high regard.

Richard’s dedicated service to the class of 1968 is especially noteworthy. He has worked hard over the years to keep his classmates united and informed about the School, and his thoroughness and attention to detail are legendary among all who have worked alongside him. In addition, Richard was a key facilitator in the conceptualization and realization of 1968’s 50th-reunion gift: the Class of 1968 Society of Skeptics Endowment Fund. The class raised more than $110,000 to underwrite a portion of the annual operating cost of the lecture series. Richard’s dream is that this class gift will motivate his classmates and others to contribute to this uniquely Blair program, someday creating an endowment large enough to fund Skeptics in its entirety. It is a big dream, but with Richard behind it, “someday” may soon be here.

A successful attorney and devoted husband and father, Richard has accomplished much on Blair’s behalf over the past 50 years. As he celebrates this milestone reunion with the classmates he knows so well and about whom he cares so deeply, Blair is proud to name him the 2018 Alumnus of the Year.
Congratulations to the 2018 Peachey Award Winners!

Alumni Volunteer of the Year Thomas McLean ’73.

Alumni Volunteer of the Year Samantha Tilney ’08.

Class Representatives of the Year Norm Beatty ’58 (stand-in) and Peter Cleary ’58.

Outstanding Class Correspondent Madeline Kling ’13.

Outstanding Reunion Committee Class of 1993.

Outstanding Reunion Committee Class of 1963.
The members of class of 1968 commemorated their 50th reunion with a distinctive and meaningful gift to the School, raising more than $110,000 to establish the Class of 1968 Society of Skeptics Endowment Fund. Monies from the fund will be used to support a portion of the annual operating cost of the Society of Skeptics, Blair’s signature weekly lecture series that brings distinguished speakers from all corners of the globe to campus. The classmates hope that the fund will continue to grow through their own gifts, as well as through contributions from the entire community, and eventually become large enough to fully fund this uniquely Blair program.

Explaining the genesis of 1968’s 50th-reunion gift, Blair’s Assistant Director of Advancement for Capital Giving Velma Lubliner said that many members of the class fondly remember Blair’s International Society,
the forum for discussion and debate that predates the Society of Skeptics. She also noted that classmates have come to appreciate the lecture series on different levels over the years. Some have actively mobilized efforts by inviting speakers to come to the School, by speaking themselves, or simply by attending and encouraging others to attend the lectures. Classmates whose children have matriculated at Blair (eight, to date) appreciate the richness the program adds to students’ Blair experiences. “Even though Skeptics did not exist in 1968, the class recognized the importance of such diverse and engaging presentations in students’ lives and wanted to ensure that Blair’s exceptional Society of Skeptics would endure for future generations,” Mrs. Lubliner said.

Thirty-four classmates and their guests came to campus from as far as Curacao and Washington state for Alumni Weekend, and, of course, the Society of Skeptics was part of their 50th-reunion celebration. Guests at 1968’s Friday night Old Guard induction dinner included former history department chair Elliott Trommald, PhD, Hon. ’65, founder of the modern Skeptics program, and veteran history teacher Martin Miller, PhD, who has overseen Skeptics since the mid-1980s. Former faculty members and mentors Dagne Trommald, Jon Frere and Barry Bates also returned to celebrate with the class. On Saturday afternoon, the 1968 classmates were among many alumni who gathered in the Chiang Center for Innovation and Collaboration for Dick Boak ’68, P’13’s special “Skeptics” presentation on his creative career at Martin Guitar titled “Designing Guitars with Legendary Musicians.”

Additional Alumni Weekend highlights for the class of 1968 included the induction of Craig Scott ’68, P’00 ’04 ’06 into Blair’s Athletic Hall of Fame and Head of School Chris Fortunato’s surprise presentation of the 2018 Alumnus of the Year award to longtime class representative Richard Rubin ’68 (see stories on pages 79 and 24, respectively). “The reunion committee did an outstanding job of reconnecting classmates, and it was wonderful to see so many of them back on campus,” Mrs. Lubliner said. “It was a great weekend for the entire class!”

1968 Reunion Committee

Arthur T. Ambrose  Ted P. Pearce
Charles M. Belmer  Edmund R. Pennock
Dennis N. Bertland  Jonathan W. Peters
Richard P. Boak  Richard A. Rubin
Mark W. Connar  Theodore B. Scherf
Stephen Dunn  Christopher Schimmel
Theodore L. Haff  Craig Scott
Charles H. Horn  Jonathan S. Slaff
Richard Marks  Henry A. van der Kwast
George T. Mehalko  Mark A. Wadmond
As they celebrated their quarter-century reunion, the members of the class of 1993 achieved two historic milestones: They raised nearly $84,000, the School’s largest 25th-reunion gift ever, and they became Blair’s first 25th-reunion class to establish a named, endowed scholarship. The Class of 1993 Scholarship will be awarded annually, ensuring that deserving students continue to benefit from a Blair education.

Director of Advancement Cara Mohlmann worked closely with Trustee Derek Peachey ’93 and the 25th-reunion committee to bring the scholarship to fruition. “Reunion committee members were enthusiastic about establishing a scholarship,” Mrs. Mohlmann said. “They contacted classmates and built a lot of excitement and engagement around this important reunion.”

Gifts of every size helped fund the Class of 1993 Scholarship, and nearly 25 classmates and their families celebrated their success at a Saturday afternoon Alumni Weekend gathering at the home of Blair’s Assistant Director of Athletics Brian Antonelli ’93. “Many members of the class have said they are looking forward to hearing from their scholarship recipient each year about his or her Blair experience,” Mrs. Mohlmann added. “The Class of 1993 Scholarship will be a wonderful way for classmates to stay connected to the School and to each other for years to come.”

1993 Reunion Committee

Constantine A. Chigounis
Bernadette M. Clifford
Mclane Goard
David E. Greenberg
John J. Inkeles
Mark W. Neilan
Derek M. Peachey
Marcos Rollan
Nicole Tipton

During 1993’s 25th reunion celebration, English department chair James Moore (right) became an honorary class member. Mr. Moore began his Blair career as director of college counseling in 1990 and worked closely with ’93ers during their college admission process. (’93 classmates, left to right: Nicole Tipton, Marcos Rollan, Mclane Goard and Trustee Derek Peachey.)
During an Alumni Weekend ceremony, the Dean’s Residence was dedicated the Peachey House in honor of Dennis Wm. Peachey ’62 and his wife, Lynn, Hon. ’65 ’74 ’77 (above, seated). As former Assistant Headmaster for Finance and Development and English teacher, respectively, parents of Trustee Derek ’93 (right) and Meghan ’96, and mentors and friends to countless Blair alumni, Mr. and Mrs. Peachey have been beloved members of the School community for decades. The naming of the faculty residence honors their dedication and many years of service to Blair.
Blair Cup golf scramble participants (above) enjoyed remarks by Michael Craig ’69 and math teacher Wayne Rasmussen (back row, fourth and fifth from right) commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Blair-Swifts Golf Exchange. Since 1968, the program has afforded select high school boys from the U.K. and U.S. the opportunity to experience the excitement and enrichment of international travel and sport. Dr. Craig was one of seven Blair golfers to participate in the first Exchange, and Mr. Rasmussen has coordinated the Blair end of the program since 2001.

Sports enthusiasts had their pick of activities throughout Alumni Weekend, including: 1) an alumni lacrosse game (Fletcher ’13 and Coray Kirby ’80 pictured); 2) a coed alumni soccer game in memory of Ryan Newton ’08; 3) a guided hike through the Siegel Property; and 4) the Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony honoring (left to right) Milton (Skip) Waddell ’73, Craig Scott ’68, Stacey (Gorski) Spring ’95, Charlie Villanueva ’03, Nicole (Armano) Weston ’98 and John Giacche ’98 (pictured with Director of Athletics Paul Clavel ’88; see story on page 79).
Blair Academy 2018-2019 Calendar of the Arts

Blair’s fine and performing artists will showcase their talent at a wide range of campus concerts, exhibits and theatrical productions this year, no doubt wowing audiences with eclectic repertoires and techniques. We invite you to join us at one of these events and celebrate the excellence—and, of course, the pride and poise—that have long characterized the arts at Blair!
Music

www.blair.edu/music
Blair on Stage
(entire performing arts department)
October 19, 8:15 p.m.
DuBois Theatre, Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts

Fall Concert
(vocal & instrumental ensembles)
November 16, 7 p.m.
DuBois Theatre, Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts

Christmas Vespers
(Blair Chamber Orchestra & Singers)
December 7, 4:30 & 7 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church in Blairstown

Grandparents’ Day Concert
(vocal & instrumental ensembles)
April 17, 10:30 a.m.
DuBois Theatre, Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts

Spring Concert
(vocal & instrumental ensembles)
May 3, 7:15 p.m.
DuBois Theatre, Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts

Theatre

www.blair.edu/theatre
The Fantasticks
October 25, 26 & 27; 7:30 p.m.
Wean Theatre, Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts

Book & lyrics by Tom Jones, music by Harvey Schmidt
There is a reason The Fantasticks is the longest-running musical in the world: It tells a simple story of two parents who try to keep a boy and girl apart in a tale about young love moving past disillusion and toward maturity and longevity. El Gallo narrates the timeless fable of romance by moonlight, heartbreak in the sunlight and eventual reconnection. “Try to Remember,” the show’s opening number, reminds us that “without a hurt, the heart is hollow.”

Godspell
February 14, 15 & 16; 7:30 p.m.
DuBois Theatre, Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts

Conceived & originally directed by John-Michael Tebelak; music & lyrics by Stephen Schwartz
Before Stephen Schwartz worked his magic on productions such as Wicked, Pippin and Children of Eden, he wrote eclectic music and lyrics for Godspell, a musical in which the cast joins Jesus Christ, acting out the Parables on the way to the Last Supper and the Crucifixion. With a mix of pop, rock and vaudeville, the production breathtakingly conveys Jesus’ message of peace, tolerance and love through songs such as “Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord,” “Learn Your Lessons Well,” “All for the Best,” “All Good Gifts,” “Turn Back, O Man” and “By My Side.”

The Mousetrap
May 9, 10 & 11; 7:30 p.m.
Wean Theatre, Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts

by Agatha Christie
This charming and suspenseful mystery will have audience members guessing who is responsible for the murders of fellow guests at an isolated, snowed-in estate. Delighting audiences since 1952, The Mousetrap is known for its plot twist. Over the production’s long run, theatre-goers have been traditionally silent about the story’s surprise ending after the curtains close. Whether you are a longtime Christie fan or a new admirer of her work, this classic whodunnit will keep you guessing and wondering...how will it end and will you be the one to solve the case?

The Crusaders
May 16, 17 & 18; 7:30 p.m.
Robert J. Evans Open Air Theatre

by Matthew Bottone ’19
Winner of Blair’s 2018 Underclass Drama Prize, Matthew Bottone ’19 has turned his attention from the stage to the page, and the Blair Academy Players will perform his original comedy under the lights of the Robert J. Evans Open Air Theatre. Blair audiences will remember Matthew for his performances in Noises Off (as Director Lloyd), Crazy for You (as Bela Zangler) and The Government Inspector (as the Mayor), and audiences fortunate enough to attend the world premiere of The Crusaders will no doubt enjoy a memorable theatrical experience.

Fine Arts

www.blair.edu/romano-gallery
The Romano Gallery, Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts

10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday
The gallery will close at noon on each show’s last day. Exhibit receptions take place at 7 p.m.

Anne-Marie Caruso
September 4-29; reception on September 20
Anne-Marie Caruso’s photographs represent concepts of aging,
nostalgia, domesticity, femininity and depictions of the self. Through the construction of tableaux in rural and neglected corners of New Jersey, she channels folklore, fairy tales and dreams to create solitary and macabre imagery using a large-format camera and film.

**Quick Draw**
*January 14-February 9; reception on January 17*
Tim Fite ‘95 will display a collection of large-scale, compositionally complex, allegorical, black-and-white drawings on paper, video and wood, some of which have a musical or performative component. The multimedia and print artist is passionate about his medium, and Mr. Fite’s work underscores his belief that creativity, communication, compassion and hard work are the keys to fostering a more benevolent and inclusive society—as well as his hope that his art contributes to that end.

**Geometry & Manufacturing**
*October 2-November 3; reception on October 11*
Geometry, generative algorithms and top-down engineering drive Blake Courter’s sculpture, interactive media and apparel. The sculptor, product designer and maker space artist constructs simple sets of rules that synthesize results through manual problem-solving and programmed automation. Recurring themes include mapping abstract concepts into tangible objects and confronting engineering orthodoxy. Most of his work is documented via open-source software and CAD models.

**Artist’s Journey**
*February 11-March 9; reception on February 28*
Photojournalist Tyson Trish and painter Gina Danesi Trish will display past and present work in a retrospective collection that reflects on events over the past two decades that have shaped them as people, artists and documenters of American life. The lifelong visual artists met as undergraduates at George Washington University. Mr. Trish is a fine arts faculty member at Blair.

**Simona Prives**
*March 25-April 20; reception on April 4*
Simona Prives creates physical and digital collages, both still and moving, that focus on the process of decomposition and reconstruction. All of the mixed-media artist’s components are site-specific, collected, shot and drawn from both permanent fixtures and areas in transition. In making collages, she draws, disassembles and reconfigures maps, geological patterns and industrial imagery to breed new worlds that are at once familiar and abstract. Every work combines multiple forms of printmaking, using fragments of screen-prints, monotype and found material.

**Raku & Stoneware**
*December 10-January 12; reception on December 13*
Deborah Slahta explores the vessel as a three-dimensional canvas, creating finely crafted Raku and stoneware ceramics with geometric constructions and patterned motifs on their surfaces. Known for her precise designs, the artist’s work underscores the spectacular nature of the Raku experience, where colors sometimes develop and disappear in a split second. Because the firing is extreme and, at times, uncontrollable, Ms. Slahta embraces the magic of smoke permeating the clay body, coloring it from gray to black, crackling lines on glossy glazes, and adding metallic lusters and a rainbow of colors in glazes formulated with copper, cobalt and iron oxides—each step constituting a moment flash-frozen in time.
For more than a decade, Blair students have participated in the Empty Bowls Project, an international initiative that asks artists to create, then donate, ceramic bowls to help bring awareness to those facing hunger in their local communities. Blair has been a longtime partner of NORWESCAP, a nonprofit organization committed to combating poverty in northwestern New Jersey, for its Empty Bowls Luncheon each spring. Attendees purchase a warm meal in a handcrafted bowl, which is theirs to keep at the end of the event, to raise funds and awareness about hunger and food insecurity in nearby communities.

The partnership between the School and NORWESCAP was initiated by fine arts department chair and ceramics teacher Kate Sykes, who challenges her students to make bowls for the event each year. “The Empty Bowls Project is an awesome initiative because it gives high school artists an opportunity to help a community while also doing something they love,” said Jake Mantegna ’19, who has taken ceramics classes with Mrs. Sykes since his first year at Blair. “It is an enjoyable way to do something to benefit people in need while also having a good time with fellow art students and teachers.”

Since 2014, the Empty Bowls Project has also been a key component of Blair’s annual Day of Service, during which a group of dedicated potters gather in the ceramics room for what Mrs. Sykes calls “a day of assembly-line pottery work.” Blair has become the top donor of bowls for the luncheon, which makes the ceramicists’ work all the more meaningful. This year was no different, and Blair contributed more than 100 bowls to the event. (To read more about Blair’s annual Day of Service, see page 58.)

“Our kids have this talent, and there’s a need for these objects to be made so that we can help others improve their lives,” said Mrs. Sykes. “It’s nice that people have come to rely on us because it’s a real-world problem we’re trying to help solve. And, as a teacher, it makes me happy that my students are cultivating a skill that can serve them, and also serve others.”

Jake added that he and his peers take a heightened sense of pride in creating this artwork that will help the local cause and benefit people in the greater community.

“Unlike many of the pieces we make in the ceramics room just to be put on a shelf or a table in our own home, the pieces made for the Empty Bowls Project will help feed a hungry person,” he said. “And, although the bowls made on this day may not be the most sophisticated pieces of art, the feeling of satisfaction I get after completing one of these bowls is incomparable to that of any other piece.”
In early April, acclaimed artist Bruce Dehnert hosted a master class for Blair’s ceramics students, during which he offered techniques for throwing successful pottery, as well as tips for pursuing art as a profession.

To close out the 2017-2018 theatre season, the Players presented the dark comedy *Mr. Burns: A Post-Electric Play*, which centers on a group of survivors in a postapocalyptic world who indulge in a nostalgic memory of *The Simpsons*.

The Blair community gathered in early spring to celebrate the yearlong work of Blair’s fine artists at the annual Student Art Exhibition, at which pottery, photographs, drawings, paintings and more were on display in The Romano Gallery.
In mid-May, the Blair Academy Players performed *Noises Off*, the award-winning and often-produced comedy by Michael Frayn. Director and former performing arts teacher Micki Kaplan McMillan described it best as “belly-bustingly hilarious!”

With a once-in-a-lifetime United Kingdom performance tour behind them, Blair’s instrumental and vocal ensembles showcased their technical knowledge of and passion for a mix of British and American pieces at the 2018 Spring Concert.
Another Op’nin’, Another Show

by Craig Evans
“Another op’nin’, another show…”
Kiss Me, Kate’s opening number sums it up: Each season of each year brings another production to the Blair stage. Cole Porter hits the stereotypes of life in the theatre—the hopes and fears embodied in every show, from first audition to opening night.

“In Philly, Boston or Baltimoe…”
Over my 24 years at Blair, I have directed shows in five different places around campus and Blairstown. The plays, casts and venues have changed, but the different locations offered completely different experiences for the Academy Players and for their audiences.

When [co-director and English teacher] Kaye [Evans] and I first came to Blair in 1994, the Academy Players performed in Memorial Hall, which is now the second floor of Timken Library. The 1920s stage was small, with no wing or upstage space, and actors had to make costume changes downstairs in the scene shop. Bathrooms were down there as well, so actors had to plan plenty of time to get ready for their entrances. Our first show was Ken Ludwig’s Lend Me a Tenor (1994), a terrific farce that saw Tim Sullivan ’95 and Gordon Hull ’95 lead a fine cast in mistaken identities and a lot of door slamming. The cast made the transition from their previous director, former Director of Publications Laurie Johnson (now Lambert, having married former Blair language teacher Tony Lambert), and the nonstop silliness set the tone for the Players to continue a tradition of quality high school theatre.

“Another pain where the ulcers grow…”
The Players mounted a transition production of Tom Stoppard’s Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead (1997) in Roy’s Hall in Blairstown while Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts was under construction. Roy’s Hall was undergoing renovations at that time, too, and its certificate of occupancy was granted at around 7:30 p.m. on opening night, with a curtain at 8 p.m. The cast, led by Diana Lawrence Mashia ’99, Marcel Wepper ’98, W. Alan Brown ’98 and Adam Sampieri ’99, stood on Main Street in Elizabethan costumes waiting for the fire marshal to say the show could go on. Plan B would have been somewhere back on campus, but, fortunately, the show did go on.
“Another job that you hope, at last,/Will make your future forget your past...”

With its main stage DuBois Theatre and its black box Wean Studio Theatre, Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts brought a new chapter to the Academy Players when it opened in 1997. The Players have since added the Robert J. Evans Open Air Theatre to their list of sites. The continuing success of the Players can be attributed in no small part to the contributions of technical director, now the School’s senior master, Wayne “Razz” Rasmussen. His dedication to producing sets, lights and sound equal to those of a Broadway show has made the Players’ productions shine, while his technical crews have been trusted to do their jobs as professionals. Building a pool in Wean Theatre for Mary Zimmerman’s adaptation of Ovid’s Metamorphoses (2008) certainly stands out as one of Razz’s greatest stagecraft triumphs.

“A chance for stage folks to say ‘Hello!’...”

The Players have continued to stage a musical every winter, starting in our time with Cabaret (1995), with Master of Ceremonies Jamal Howard ’97 and Sally Bowles played by Victoria Paige Bailey ’97. While every musical comes as a welcome respite from a New Jersey winter, some stand out as especially memorable. Playwright Greg Kotis’ and composer Mark Hollmann’s Urinetown (2007) won the Academy Players a Freddy Award for “best musical by a small school” in the annual tri-county high school competition run by the State Theatre in Easton, Pennsylvania. That memorable cast was led by Todd Lewis ’08, Tina Tozzi ’08, Dylan Evans ’08, Gabriella Zlocki ’07 (who also won an individual Freddy), Andrew Hutcheson ’08, Michael Richards ’08, Tyler Browse ’08 and Lotte Lijnzaad ’09.

“Four weeks, you rehearse and rehearse,/Three weeks and it couldn’t be worse...”

Looking back at more than 70 Academy Players’ shows, I find it hard to talk just about the big hits. Some shows were memorable for other reasons. Our Town (2004) by Thornton Wilder was a highlight for several reasons: We finished the Robert J. Evans Open Air Theatre in time for its opening, and it was our first show outside. The production was led by stage manager Michael Spadaccini ’04 and included Clair Baxter ’04 as Emily and Michael King ’04 as George Gibbs, and the audience was welcomed to the theatre by the granddaughter of the theatre’s namesake, Faith Evans McNeill ’05. Macbeth (1998), starring Adam Sampieri and Amy Glick ’99 as the royal couple, is a play that challenges the fates of any production that utters that name in a theatre (and our production did result in Macbeth’s being stabbed in the bottom accidentally). Speaking of Shakespeare, Julius Caesar (2006) in the Open Air Theatre, led by Jordy Liebowitz ’06 as Brutus, Meg Fry ’06 as Cassia, Joseph Benyam ’06 as Caesar and Anthony D’Amato ’06 as Marc Antony, was memorable for the battle through the audience for all of Act II and a jeep coming onstage for the finale.

“One week, will it ever be right?/Then out o’ the hat, it’s that big first night!”

Blair is not immune to that old cliche of a show going wrong (the plot of this spring’s Noises Off directed by former English and theatre teacher Micki McMillan). During my time at Blair, two shows were halted by power failures: Working (2012) was scheduled when Hurricane Sandy hit New Jersey, and Excursion Fare (2002) went on in the Wean Theatre by
candlelight. A set change went awry in *Grease* (2002) when the Burger Palace set descended a little too soon on the curled girls’ chorus of “Beauty School Dropout,” sung by Steve Benedetti ’02. The tub containing JoJo (Trevor Van Vliet ’16) and the Cat in the Hat (Chris Reilly ’13) almost rolled into the pit during “It’s Possible” of *Seussical the Musical* (2013), but it was halted with one hand by performing arts department chair Jennifer Pagotto while she continued to wave the baton and conduct the pit orchestra with her other hand.

All of the orchestral and choral directors over the years have contributed greatly to the Players’ musicals, but Blair is certainly fortunate to have the talents and personalities of its current Director of Instrumental Music Mrs. Pagotto and Director of Vocal Music Ryan Manni. Our current choreographer, Associate Dean of Students Andee Ryerson, is also compiling quite a list of triumphs, particularly this past year’s *Crazy For You*, featuring Ernesto Lippert ’18, Alex Kirby ’20, Matt Bottone ’19 and Audrey Sacks ’20, whose performances highlighted Mrs. Ryerson’s tap-dancing expertise.

“The overture is about to start,/You cross your fingers and hold your heart…”

Certainly many productions do the Players proud for their originality and fun. *Once Upon a Midnight Dreary* (2010) was a 10-playing-site extravaganza around Armstrong-Hipkins and the adjacent Weber Hall. This was a multimedia piece covering the life and several works of Edgar Allan Poe, which included “The Black Cat,” acted out in the basement by Matt Michaud ’12; “The Raven,” spoken in a small classroom upstairs by Jordon Arnold ’12; “The Pit and the Pendulum,” acted by Hayden Gill ’13; and several others. *Almost, Maine* (2015), *A Flea in Her Ear* (2014), *In The Heights* (2017), and this spring’s *Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play* proved the range and the talents of the Academy Players.

“It’s curtain time and away we go!”

Certainly the Players would have been nothing but an average high school drama group without the dedication, the talent, the personality and the multiple skills of co-director and English teacher Kaye Evans, who handles properties, costumes, photography, house reservations and any other job that needs handling to make the shows happen. The cliche of people in the theatre having enormous egos is not at all true of Mrs. Evans, who does her work quietly and at all times of the day, not just during rehearsals. So many of the final bits of pizazz and polish come from her steady and competent hand.

Every show strives to embody the Players’ motto “pride and poise,” and, after 20 years of Armstrong-Hipkins and more than 10 years of the Robert J. Evans Open Air Theatre, the lights will continue to shine on the talents of future generations of actors, singers and dancers at Blair.

*(Left) The pool constructed for *Metamorphoses* (2008) was a Blair Academy stagecraft triumph. *(Right) The Players showed their tap-dancing prowess in *Crazy for You* (2018).*
The Navy SEALs (Sea, Air, Land) represent one of our nation’s most elite—and clandestine—fighting forces. The highly skilled members of the Naval Special Warfare and special operations communities undergo intensive training, and they take on the dangerous and seemingly impossible missions that are of utmost importance to U.S. and worldwide security: gathering intelligence behind enemy lines; conducting special reconnaissance and rescue operations; fighting and capturing terrorists; securing military assets and positions; enhancing international security cooperation and relationships; and so much more that civilians will never know about and can only deeply appreciate.

Vice Admiral Colin Kilrain ’77 has devoted his entire 34-year naval career to service in the SEALs, and his official Navy biography chronicles a range of operational and staff assignments (see sidebar page 45) that have taken him to the highest levels of U.S. and international government and, at times, directly into harm’s way. Having deployed to five continents in support of contingency and named operations over three-plus decades, Vice Adm. Kilrain is currently stationed at Supreme Headquarters Allied Power Europe (SHAPE) in Mons, Belgium, where he serves as commander, NATO Special Operations Headquarters.

What has kept this Quincy, Massachusetts, native—who hadn’t traveled much until he came to Blair Academy for a postgraduate year and who never intended to make the military his career—in Navy special operations for so long?

“I’ve come to appreciate and love this lifestyle with the continual change of assignments, demands and locations—
Coming to Blair was an opportunity for me to step out on my own. It was an incredible experience, and I certainly benefited from it.

It suits my itinerant mindset,” Vice Adm. Kilrain reflected. It also helps that he is blessed with a supportive family that includes his wife, Susan, a former Navy test pilot and astronaut who flew the space shuttle Columbia twice, and their four children.

But beyond the incredibly diverse experiences that have kept life interesting—including what he wryly described as the “fun” of being on a SEAL team—it is the dedicated people with whom he has served that have made Vice Adm. Kilrain’s career so rewarding. “These are superb individuals—SEALs, as well as diplomats and those in the White House, State Department, intelligence agencies and from other countries,” he said, noting that he is proud to be part of organizations that are about selfless service to the nation and to those whom they serve alongside. “My becoming an admiral happened by the grace of God; there’s no way it would have been possible without a great number of people who supported me, protected me, shaped me, went to bat for me. I am so fortunate to have had so many decent people in my life and at key times, and that includes my parents and siblings, teachers, coaches, teammates and friends.”

From Blair to Lehigh

Among the people to whom Vice Adm. Kilrain remains grateful are those he encountered as a Blair postgraduate. An up-and-coming wrestler when he arrived at the School in 1976, he found outstanding mentors in former Blair wrestling head coach Tom Hutchinson and the coaching staff, and great friends in his teammates, all of whom were instrumental to his success as the 1977 national prep champion at 189 lbs. Beyond athletics though, Vice Adm. Kilrain also found Blair teachers who took a personal interest in his development and fellow students from all over the world and from many different backgrounds who opened his eyes to something new. “Although I hadn’t led a sheltered life by any means, coming to Blair was an opportunity for me to step out on my own,” he said. “It was an incredible experience, and I certainly benefited from it.”

From Blair, Vice Adm. Kilrain went to Lehigh University, a school with many of the same elements that attracted him to Blair, including a welcoming environment and a powerhouse wrestling program. He studied international relations and business and achieved legendary success on the mat as a four-year wrestler and two-year captain of the Engineers, winning over 90 percent of his matches, notching three third-place NCAA finishes and ranking among the top 10 wrestlers in Lehigh’s storied wrestling history. He was ranked and seeded No. 1 in the country during his last two years at Lehigh and had career wins over four Olympic gold medalists. His coaches—including Jerry Lehman, Thad Turner and Coach Hutchinson, who would join Lehigh’s coaching staff—were all “unbelievable” role models. “They were not just developing wrestlers, they were teaching young men to become leaders,” Vice Adm. Kilrain said. “That so many of my teammates have gone on to very successful careers demonstrates the importance of those leadership lessons.”

Vice Adm. Kilrain acknowledged that his wrestling experience has played a role in his special operations career—but perhaps not in the way one might think. “No single aspect of wrestling enabled me to excel as a SEAL,” he said with a bit of a smile, although he pointed out that wrestlers have among the highest rates of success when it comes to making it through grueling SEAL training. “Much of it has been about the mental training. Competition develops an inner desire to succeed; wrestling taught me to set goals and follow through and to bounce back when I suffered a setback. I learned how to work within a team and was inspired when I saw my teammates excel and thrive, as well as go through bad stretches and come back. I learned a lot about life and resiliency from my teammates and coaches.”
We call ourselves SEAL teams because we operate as teams. Our mindset is to make informed decisions—which, in our case, can mean life or death—based on our collective understanding.

Service to Country

Vice Adm. Kilrain accepted a job on Wall Street following his 1982 Lehigh graduation, but a serendipitous conversation with an investment firm mentor—who happened to be a Korean War veteran—opened his eyes to an entirely different line of work. “He asked me what I wanted to do with my life, to which I obviously didn’t have a compelling response. He advised me to go out and see the world, assuring me that Wall Street would always be there,” Vice Adm. Kilrain recounted. “He recommended I consider serving my country, and I really took that to heart.”

The advice led him to the Navy’s Officer Candidate School in 1984, where he became intrigued by the professionalism of the SEAL teams he encountered in the course of his training. Looking for a challenge, he decided to give the SEALs a try, even though at that time it was not recognized as a great career path—but, as he put it, “I never joined the Navy to make it a career.”

Thirty-four years and a full Navy career later, Vice Adm. Kilrain is proud of his military service that has included “extreme highs and lows, and lots of in-betweens,” as well as extraordinarily diverse opportunities around the globe, both inside and outside the military. One such opportunity even took him to the White House, where, during the early 2010s, he served on the National Security Council as Director of Strategy and Policy for the Office of Combating Terrorism. Vice Adm. Kilrain found this “unique experience” especially rewarding because of the dedicated individuals with whom he worked. “There were certainly Democrats and Republicans in our branch, but politics never played a role in whatever issue we were dealing with,” he said. “There was a real sense of commitment among all of us that I wish the American people could have seen. We simply got down to business.”

Today, Vice Adm. Kilrain is heading into his third year as commander, NATO Special Operations Headquarters. In this “dream job,” he heads a team that helps build special operations capability within NATO. The headquarters engages in war planning and operates a “schoolhouse,” where NATO allies’ special forces teams train to build commonality in tactics, communication, aviation and more. Vice Adm. Kilrain also provides NATO with special operations advice in times of conflict. “I’m a fan of Europe and a fan of the NATO alliance,” he noted. “For all its imperfections, it is still an incredibly powerful alliance when all its nations support an initiative.”

On Leadership & Service

Leadership ability is key in a successful military career, and Vice Adm. Kilrain’s experience has taught him that a true leader must be absolutely competent in his or her job and skilled at exercising good judgment. In the SEALs, this means making decisions based upon personal experience as well as input from your team, a practice that allows the leader, the ultimate decision-maker, to acknowledge that he or she does not have all the answers and gives team members a stake in the solution. “We call ourselves SEAL teams because we operate as teams,” he said. “Our mindset is to make informed decisions—which, in our case, can mean life or death—based on our collective understanding.”

As for leadership education in high school, Vice Adm. Kilrain is all for it. “So much of life and success is built around interpersonal relationships and the ability to face challenges,” he said. “In order to be a good leader, you have to be able to face your fears. That’s what holds people back. I know it’s more easily said than done—I’ve had things I’ve had to face, too. Challenging students—to a point—is a good thing, but coaching and mentoring them through setbacks are invaluable. It’s important for young kids to learn about leadership and integrity at all levels, to make decisions and learn from their mistakes.”
Vice Adm. Kilrain offered practical career advice to students heading out into the world: Consider service to your country in some way, whether in the military or supporting an NGO or some type of charitable organization. “It doesn’t really matter how you serve, but I do think it’s important to find time in your busy schedule to serve others in need. Especially if you’ve attended a great school like Blair or Lehigh, it’s important to show gratitude for that experience,” he said. “I’ve lived and worked in parts of the world that, if most people saw them, they’d be eternally grateful for what we have in the U.S. I’d encourage everyone to try, in some way, to give back.”

He advised those who are considering military service to seek a career path that interests them, one that will build skills that will help propel them to where they ultimately want to be in life. “Don’t underestimate the benefit of starting out in the military,” he counseled. “You’ll gain leadership experience and valuable skills, not to mention the potential for extensive travel and the opportunity to meet people from all walks of life.”

Regarding his naval service, Vice Adm. Kilrain has certainly had his share of experiences, traveled the globe and met people who hail from every corner of it. “Being in the military is an affair of the heart—it gets in your blood whether you stay in or get out,” he reflected. “Almost every military veteran I’ve ever spoken to is proud of his or her service and has many positive things to say about it. Most even credit it for the success they’ve had outside the military. Yes, it can be a tough life, but you learn a great deal by doing it. For me, it hasn’t just been a military career, it’s been a life’s journey on many different levels.”

I do think it’s important to find time in your busy schedule to serve others in need. Especially if you’ve attended a great school like Blair or Lehigh, it’s important to show gratitude for that experience.

VICE ADM. COLIN KILRAIN ’77’S CAREER AS A NAVY SEAL HAS INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING ASSIGNMENTS:

- Personal Exchange Program with the German Navy Kampfschwimmer Kompanie (SEALs)
- Commander, Naval Special Warfare Unit Four in Puerto Rico
- Commander, SEAL Team Four
- Commander, Naval Special Warfare Group Two in Virginia
- Commander, Special Operations Command, Pacific (SOCPAC), in Hawaii
- Operations Officer for SOCSOUTH in Panama
- Operations Officer for the State Department’s Office of Counterterrorism
- National Security Council Director of Strategy and Policy for the Office of Combating Terrorism, serving in the Executive Office of the President at the White House
- Senior Defense Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City, Mexico
- Commander, NATO Special Operations Headquarters in Belgium (current)
Jennifer and Ryan Pagotto’s lives revolve around 473 kids: 469 teenage Blair students and four young Pagottos—Jack, 7, Will, 5, Ella, 2, and Addison, 1. To say that “the kiddos” (as Jennifer affectionately calls them) keep the Pagottos busy is an epic understatement, yet the couple handles their myriad responsibilities as teachers, advisors (to 10 students each), department chair (Jennifer), administrator (Ryan), colleagues and parents with grace and warmth that speak clearly to their love for each other, for all things family and for the Blair community they call home.

How did Ryan and Jennifer arrive at their wonderfully kid-centric lives as Blair faculty members? It all began in 1994, when Ryan, then a high school freshman from Bangor, Pennsylvania, attended a Blair open house because his mom thought he needed a challenge. “When I saw the campus, it was love at first sight,” Ryan reminisced. He was especially impressed by the fact that teachers knew his name before the end of the day. That sealed the deal for Blair, and, for the next three years, day-student Ryan enjoyed an educational experience that “opened the world” to him. He thought it might lead to law school, but his Blair experience was actually steering him in an entirely different direction.

Meanwhile, Jennifer was growing up in Honesdale, Pennsylvania, amid a music-loving family that included her music-teacher parents as well as her sister and cousins who were “always ready to put on a show.” She started flute and piano lessons early and opted to attend her local public high school so that she could continue to study with her very talented flute teacher. An afterschool job at an optometrist’s office opened her eyes to her love for medicine and patient care, and when she entered Indiana University of Pennsylvania, she was undecided as to whether to pursue a music or pre-med major.

Ryan’s and Jennifer’s career paths crystallized during college (see Q & A below for details), but their life paths didn’t cross until a few years later. In the early 2000s, Ryan was teaching history at Blair and Jennifer was working on her master’s in music performance at the University of Colorado at Boulder when they both took summer jobs at Wyoming Seminary, Ryan as summer school dean of students and Jennifer as Summer Music Festival flute counselor and summer school admission associate. They became friends and eventually started dating.

When Jennifer completed her master’s degree in 2005, “the stars aligned,” and she joined Ryan at Blair as the School’s director of instrumental music. They got engaged over Christmas break that year, were married in August 2006 and spent their first three years of married life as housemasters to 14 girls in South Cottage, an experience they absolutely loved.

Jennifer’s and Ryan’s dedication to Blair students and the entire community has only
deepened since then, even as their responsibilities and their own family have grown. Today, Jennifer serves as Blair’s performing arts department chair, overseeing the instrumental, choral and theatre programs, as well as director of instrumental music, a thriving program that she has built from the ground up during her tenure. Ryan moved from the history faculty to School administration after earning his master’s in educational leadership at Columbia University in 2008 and now serves as Blair’s associate head of school, a 24/7 job in which he manages the day-to-day operations of all matters related to student and residential life. He is also head coach of varsity boys’ tennis.

Questions for Ryan:

Q. At Blair, you were “known” as the editor of The Blair Breeze and the entrepreneur who managed his own landscaping service and drove to school with a trailer in tow. Describe what those two activities meant to you.

A. In many respects, my lawn service had as significant an impact on my life as any other experience (aside from marrying Jen). It solidified my work ethic, provided real-world experience in time management, and taught me the critical importance of flexibility and customer service. My reputation depended on that. I needed to get the job done (35 accounts per week at the company’s peak), and, on some level, my desired schedule took a backseat to that of the customer or the person I was serving. It was exciting to have something of my own that was successful and enabled me to be my own boss. As for The Breeze, it was fun to be part of a publication that was rather popular and well read at the time. This was in the pre-social media days, so everyone looked forward to reading the articles, following the cartoons of Tara Whitaker ’98 (who went on to work for Cartoon Network and Disney, among other places), and seeing our take on the issues of the day. I am forever grateful to English teacher Bob Brandwood for his commitment as our faculty advisor; I often think about him with his five kids, copy editing our paper after a long day of teaching, coaching and dorm duty so that we could meet our printer’s deadline.

Q. While studying political science at Dickinson College, you decided to refocus your career aspirations from law to education. How did that come about?

A. My interest in law probably stemmed from some combination of wanting to be a character in John Grisham’s legal thrillers and my experience growing up in a small
town where “successful” people were doctors and attorneys. In other words, I don’t think my interest in studying law was ever too strong. My progression away from law began with a conversation with one of my sophomore-year professors, a practicing attorney. He told me the best days of his week were those he spent in the classroom, and the seed was planted. I took a summer internship in Washington, D.C., following my sophomore year, in which I had the opportunity to develop curriculum for a Global Young Leaders Conference focused on international criminal organizations and terrorism. I remember well the experience of turning over the curriculum to the teachers and wishing I could be the one in the classroom. Following my junior year, I landed a teaching internship at the Taft Summer School, where I taught, coached, held dorm leadership responsibilities and mentored several advisees. I loved every minute of that summer! During my senior year, I took as many history classes as I could (I ended up one course shy of a history minor), talked to various professors about the teaching profession, reached out to some of my former Blair teachers for advice and counsel about the profession/lifestyle, and the rest is history, so to speak.

Q. Who are some of your mentors and how have they helped shape your career as an educator?

A. I am grateful to have had numerous influential mentors in my life. At Wyoming Seminary, Jack Eidam, who was also largely responsible for my meeting Jen, shaped my early years as a young dean and certainly took me under his expansive wings. As I moved through my years at Blair, former Assistant Headmaster Dave Low served as a pivotal role model while former Headmaster Chan Hardwick was a mentor who did not shy away from providing helpful and sometimes hard-tohear feedback when I needed it. Those two individuals have had a significant impact on my approach to working with adolescents, and I am hugely fortunate to now have thoughtful and trusting colleagues who offer support, feedback and good counsel almost every day.

Q. What do you like to do in your (admittedly very limited) spare time?

A. I love to read, exercise, cook, and spend time with family and friends. I’m not much of a hobby guy. As most people know, I’m rather “all-in” while school is in session, and my own children tend to take a bit of a backseat to Blair students. When Blair students are away, I try to be all-in with my family, with an occasional round of golf with friends or workout in the summer before (most of) the kids wake up. I’m happiest when I can read The New York Times on a Sunday while Jen is doing something that makes her happy (it is often reading another section of the Times) and our kids are playing. If that can be followed by a big home-cooked meal with extended family or friends (or even our advisees), then that’s a perfect day of rest.

Questions for Jennifer:

Q. How and why did you make the decision to focus on music rather than medicine in college?

A. I got to the point that I couldn’t imagine my life without music. I knew if I was going to continue with music, I would need to practice for hours a day to improve the way I wanted to, so that didn’t leave time for anything else. I was sad to close the door to a career in medicine, but I just knew music was something I needed to pursue.

Q. You lead Blair’s 60-member Symphony Orchestra and Jazz, Wind and Chamber Ensembles, and teach AP music theory and private lessons. What concepts and philosophies do you try to instill in Blair’s musicians over the course of their years at the School?

A. First and foremost, I try to foster a love of music that will stay with students after they leave Blair, regardless of whether they continue to play their instruments in their college ensembles, pursue a music major or minor, or just appreciate...
listening to music. Beyond that, I encourage students to focus on the process of learning music, from the first sight-read to the final stages of performance preparation. It is important for students to recognize that their first responsibility is learning their individual parts and that the ensemble is more important than any one person in it. They must also realize that they need to work just as hard or harder than the next person to make the ensemble the best that it can be. Finally, I try to create an atmosphere where it’s safe for students to take artistic risks and where students encourage one another to be their best artistic selves.

Q. Which Blair performances stand out to you as the most memorable and why?

A. Certainly the England performance tour this spring, as well as the previous performance tours we’ve taken to Italy and Salzburg, to California (San Francisco, San Diego and Los Angeles), and to Eastern Europe (Vienna, Prague and Budapest). There is something incredibly special about a group rehearsing in preparation for such a tour and then finally arriving at the destination. The performance itself is so meaningful, not only because of the history of the venue and the connection of the repertoire to that place, but also because of all of the work that went into making it happen. In addition to those trips, a few other stand-out performances include any time we get to play “Pirates of the Caribbean,” a piece that has become synonymous with our Orchestra; the first Blair Orchestra concert in 2009, which featured the “William Tell Overture,” Aaron Copland’s “Variations on a Shaker Melody” and the debut of Terrence Ting ’10 performed Ennio Morricone’s “Gabriel’s Oboe” with the Orchestra in honor of Dave Low’s retirement.

Q. Design and decorating are some of the things you like to do when you can carve out the time. What kinds of projects have you undertaken in this realm?

A. I’ve decorated each room in our Pennsylvania lake house, including the outdoor spaces. I’ve also worked on designs for remodeling those spaces if we ever decide to invest more time and energy in that type of project. Who knows what the future will bring, but it’s fun to imagine what a room could look like and how we could use it differently, based on the needs of our growing family. That house has been, and I hope will continue to be, a special place for our family to be together in our downtime away from Blair, so the design/decorating of it tends to hold special meaning for me.

Questions for Ryan & Jennifer:

Q. What role does music play in Pagotto family life?

A. We love to have music on in the background all the time. Dance parties are a regular occurrence, and our kids request favorite songs from our various playlists on car trips. We regularly attend concerts and performances, both at Blair, where Jen is conducting, and at other venues. The boys saw The King and I earlier this year with their grandparents, and they loved it. We hope to attend more such events in the future. Blair concerts and plays are special for our kids not only because their mom has a key role but also because they get to see some of their favorite Blair students performing. Finally, we try to get into New York City for a concert at the New York Philharmonic once a year, and, if Bruce Springsteen is touring, it’s a pretty safe bet we’ll be there.

Q. You share a passion for cooking and entertaining. What events and get-togethers do you most enjoy hosting at Blair and why are they important to you? What’s on the menu?

A. We enjoy hosting the dinner portion of the progressive dinner for new faculty in August and the annual housemasters’ dinner at the end of the year. Both events are important to us because we remember the positive impact they
had on us in our early years at Blair. We enjoy the process of preparing the meals (music in the background, of course) and appreciate seeing others have a nice time. The menus have not changed too much over the years because they seem to work. Jen’s mac n’ cheese and a summer salad are featured on both menus. We do grilled vegetables and pork tenderloin for the new faculty, and Jen makes a carrot souffle and mushrooms in a port wine reduction for the housemasters’ dinner. Perhaps the most popular part of the housemasters’ dinner is Jen’s homemade ice cream cake!

Q. What are some of the things you do to keep your busy lives balanced?

A. First and foremost, the summer and the school breaks are where we find balance and truly reconnect as a family. Our lake house has become our getaway and the place we make so many memories as an immediate family and with our extended family. It’s also a place where we work together on projects ranging from maintaining the lawn and landscaping to building a front porch, as we did with Ryan’s dad a few years ago. This is actually a form of relaxation for us since the work is different in many respects from our Blair work. Balance is harder to achieve when school is in session, since Blair commitments dictate so much of our days. Fortunately, we love our work, and we’re happy if our kids are healthy and happy, bathed, fed and we’re getting them where they need to be in the mornings. Exercise, an occasional date night and time with friends are other things we enjoy, but the bottom line is that we get a good deal of happiness and gratification out of our Blair responsibilities. We especially love connecting with students and being a presence in their lives as much as we can at games, buffet dinners, arts events or even breakfast sign-in, where our sons, Jack and Will, have now both done stints one day per week for a year!

Q. What is the best book you’ve ever read and why?

A. Ryan: To Kill a Mockingbird, because I wanted to be Atticus Finch.

A. Jennifer: To Kill a Mockingbird, because of the way it made me feel.

Q. What is the title of the current chapter of your life?

A. Ryan: Do They All Need a Bath Tonight?

A. Jennifer: Just Keep Swimming
Teachers’ Travels & Summer Adventures

After a busy school year, Blair faculty members enjoy the relatively relaxed pace of the summer months. While rest and rejuvenation are always on the docket once Alumni Weekend has come and gone, a number of teachers returned to the classroom to pursue professional development opportunities as they geared up for 2018-2019.

With support from Blair, more than 35 faculty members attended conferences, seminars and courses across the United States. Although their focus spanned a wide range of disciplines—the science of learning, computer science principles, Latin immersion, artistic residency and optimizing Blair’s own core curriculum—every Blair teacher had the same goal: acquiring new skills and approaches that will improve students’ classroom experience.

“We encourage faculty to pursue summer work that interests them, deepens their content knowledge and builds upon the pedagogies they use to engage students,” said Assistant Head of School and Dean of Faculty Lorry Perry. “We want our teachers to tackle professional development opportunities that immediately translate to their work in the classroom, and we are now seeing the results unfold as the fall semester hits its halfway point.”

Read on to learn about what individual faculty members did over summer break.

Classics teacher Kelsie Fralick attended a July North American Institute for Living Latin Studies (SALVI) immersion camp called Rusticatio Omnibus, a weeklong, immersive workshop she has attended twice. Participants lived and worked together for seven days in Charles Town, West Virginia, only communicating in Latin during their everyday exchanges and instructional sessions on teaching methodologies and practices. By the time the program concluded, Ms. Fralick felt much more comfortable speaking Latin and providing students with comprehensive input as they learn.

French teacher Sharon Merrifield studied how the adolescent brain learns during a July institute at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Having long been fascinated by the neuroscience of adolescent brain development—as well as its impact on and implications for teaching in the high school environment—Ms. Merrifield came away from the conference with a better understanding of how to best support students’ academic and social-emotional development, which has helped her in her role of advisor and ninth-grade monitor.

“As our students encounter social-emotional and academic challenges, we must garner the knowledge needed to develop, promote and implement effective strategies that will give them the best chance to become successful learners and self-advocates,” she explained. “This goes right to the core of knowing our students and helping them to know themselves as they navigate the adolescent years on their way to becoming responsible, independent, caring adults.”

Over the summer months, Spanish teacher Becky O’Neill made plans to travel to Costa Rica, returning in December to a small town where she lived for over a year during high school and college. During a three-week homestay, she will be immersed in the culture and language that inspired her to become a Latin American studies major at Bates College and later, a Spanish teacher at Blair. “It is critical for my students to not just learn grammar structures and vocabulary that enable them to speak a language, but to be exposed to the people and the cultures using it,” she said. “My ultimate goal is to fuel their love of language and to help them become global citizens. By returning to Blair and infusing my classes with culture, I hope to make the language less abstract and more applicable.”
Chinese teacher Lian Wang attended an AP Chinese Institute, a summer workshop at the Taft School in Watertown, Connecticut, that emphasized best teaching practices for Advanced Placement (AP) Chinese. The longtime Blair faculty member had the chance to network with teachers from other schools, consider how she would update the AP curriculum, and refresh how she approaches Chinese language and culture in the classroom. Because Ms. Wang and her husband, Dave Facciani, teach every Chinese course at Blair, including the AP class, they are using what she learned to retrofit AP elements into the curriculum earlier in Blair’s sequence of language classes, all of which build to the AP level and prepare students to take the exam.

English teacher Becca Litvin ’10 attended an AP Language New Teachers Institute, also at the Taft School. In addition to supporting the development of her new senior elective in dystopian fiction, the course enhanced Ms. Litvin’s understanding of course structure, teaching strategies and exam preparation. She also had the opportunity to meet and learn from colleagues at similar points in their careers, as well as form relationships with institute instructors, all of whom had many years of experience teaching AP courses.

Fine arts teacher Evan Thomas won a scholarship to participate in a Maine College of Art (MECA) art fellowship program in Portland. The late-June program gives participants the opportunity to develop their own practices as artists, rather than just artist-educators, and Mr. Thomas focused on enhancing his painting and drawing skills.

“I have been longing to dive back into my own art-making process, and I had heard so many wonderful things about the MECA program that I had to submit my application and see what the buzz is all about!” he said. The 2018 program focused on figure-drawing, and Mr. Thomas hopes to create more figure-drawing opportunities for Blair students. “This experience helped jump-start that process,” he concluded.

Photography teacher Tyson Trish traveled to Savannah, Georgia, for the Savannah College of Art and Design (SCAD) Educator Forum, a program designed to revitalize teachers’ artistic energies, provide opportunities for networking and teach them new skills. Coming away from the course with new ideas for projects and teaching techniques, Mr. Trish enjoyed sessions on art as a form of protest, cyanotype and enhancing his own professional creativity.

Computer science teacher Michael Garrant took an online computer science principles course from University of Texas at Austin’s UTeach Institute. The summer class introduced big ideas in the field of computer science through the lens of inquiry- and project-based learning. Over the course of six weeks, students learned to develop computational thinking through collaborative problem-solving, creative design of unique solutions, data representation through modeling and simulations, and algorithmic reasoning. Having spent more than 30 years in the field of engineering before starting his teaching career, Mr. Garrant felt the course balanced his professional experiences, and he is now incorporating what he learned into the curriculum of his programming and robotics courses.

History teacher Matt Thomas and psychology teacher Shelly Mantegna traveled to Mercersburg Academy’s Summer Faculty Institute, where they joined faculty from various boarding schools for five days of seminars focused on optimizing student learning.

With a particular emphasis on the “flipped classroom” style of teaching, Mr. Thomas found the coursework most helpful as he seeks to identify ways to engage students and allow them to explore subjects in greater depth, rather than spend large chunks of class time lecturing. “Next year, I will incorporate
new and innovative ways to deliver content outside of the classroom, leaving more time to take a deeper dive into the materials we are studying during class,” Mr. Thomas said. “My goal is to incorporate many different teaching techniques, keeping things fresh and fun in the classroom to keep students engaged, and promoting the analytical and critical thinking that are crucial to growth.”

Mrs. Mantegna got the most out of the institute’s session on brain research and enjoyed the opportunity to learn about effective teaching strategies from her peers. “I am a firm believer that great teachers help create great students,” said Mrs. Mantegna, who took her efforts to stay abreast of the latest trends a step further when she attended the American Psychological Association’s annual summer conference as one of a small number of teachers to be awarded registration. “Having taken a break from teaching for a few years, it is important to me to stay current with the latest scientific discoveries, as well as what other successful teachers are doing in the classroom.”

With funding from the Geller Family Fund for Faculty Enrichment, history department chair Jason Beck toured a number of Civil War and civil rights historical sites in Maryland, Virginia, South Carolina, Tennessee and Alabama. As he toured East Coast attractions, he paired historical literature with site visits to Manassas, Antietam, Appomattox, Richmond, Shiloh, Lookout Mountain, Fort Sumter, Selma, Birmingham and Montgomery. “Given recent conversations regarding the cultural and often ahistorical pull of the Civil War in America and the southern connection to the Lost Cause as exemplified in the Charlottesville protests, I embraced the opportunity to be on the ground in some of these places and to experience them and their modern invocations,” said Mr. Beck, who returned to Blair with a more visceral understanding of many places he covers in his AP U.S. history course.

History teachers Quint Clarke ’87 and Andrew Sykes partnered to revise Blair’s “textbook” for global issues, a freshman course that focuses on the world’s response to the challenges and opportunities of globalization. They first compiled the course materials into a comprehensive reader four years ago, producing a bound copy that has served as an anchor for the course and is tweaked annually.

This year’s revision included a more substantial update on topics that are constantly changing, such as terrorism, nuclear proliferation, global poverty, and energy and the environment. “We looked at all of our readings to make sure they are current, understandable and productive, researching various news sites and books to identify the best articles, opinion pieces and explanations of the topics the course covers,” said Mr. Clarke. “The final product mixes ideological backgrounds to give students as broad and varied a foundation as possible.”

History teacher Hannah Higgin, PhD, spent the summer planning Blair’s inclusivity work for the 2018-2019 school year and beyond. Dr. Higgin’s summer project will inform her work as the leader of the School’s inclusivity committee and helping to plan Blair’s annual Martin Luther King Jr. seminars.

Blair’s yearbook advisor Erika Clavel attended a July Herff Jones seminar in Kansas City, Missouri, focused on theme development, design fundamentals and graphic design. “I loved learning about the many facets involved with not only producing the book, but also about design options and how to get our staff to think about theme development, planning and organizing the workload,” she said. “A big takeaway was how many learning and leadership opportunities yearbook provides, and I will work to optimize those experiences for students in the coming year.”
Math teachers Tracy Klein and Danyelle Doldoorian attended the biannual Independent School Gender Project conference at The Hotchkiss School in Salisbury, Connecticut.

Accompanied by Daisy Kahn ‘19, Ms. Klein and Ms. Doldoorian, who is co-advisor of Blair’s Healthy Relationships Committee, focused on strategies for promoting diversity and inclusion on campus, as well as activities that promote empowerment, such as the Girl Up Club and Girls Who Code (campus chapters of national organizations that focus on supporting female students).

Assistant Head of School and Dean of Faculty Lorry Perry, Associate Dean of Admission Leucretia Shaw and Assistant Dean of College Counseling Britt Freitag attended the Carney Sandoe Women’s Institute in Boston, an annual conference that contributes to the overall development and empowerment of women in all stages of their careers in the field of education.

During the program, they connected with colleagues from other schools to discuss key issues that shape the experience of being female educators at an independent school. Ms. Perry was an honorary faculty member and panelist.

“I came away feeling inspired and energized to do better and do more in my different roles here at Blair,” said Ms. Shaw, who also teaches a section of Blair LEADS and advises eight students. “The portion of the institute’s focus on giving and receiving feedback will no doubt inform my work in admission, in the classroom, as a mentor teacher and as an advisor.”

“I found the institute to be valuable and enjoyable,” added Ms. Freitag. “It spoke to the value women bring to the workplace, but also took a realistic look at the challenges we face as working professionals. Conversations about mentorship and balancing the demands of work and life were quite thought-provoking, and I’m so grateful that my own mentor, [Blair’s Dean of College Counseling] Lew Stival, saw the value of the conference and made it possible for me to attend.”

Blair’s language department chair Joyce Lang, English department chair James Moore and mathematics department chair Caren Standfast ‘95 joined Dean of Academics Nathan Molteni and Dean of Teaching and Learning Gwyneth Connell at the Folio Summer Institute, a seminar focused on how to customize and use the professional growth and feedback platform to best serve Blair’s teachers. During the conference, Ms. Connell partnered with Ms. Lang and Mr. Moore to lead a workshop entitled “Department Chairs as the Linchpin to Folio Success,” in which they shared ideas and best practices with other schools that are members of the Folio Collaborative.

Director of Technology Sam Adams, Dean of Teaching and Learning Gwyneth Connell, Timken Library Director Ann Williams, science teacher Mike Sayers and computer science teacher Michael Garrant attended the edAccess Conference, which Blair hosted this summer for the first time since 1997. The June event drew more than 50 faculty members, administrators and technology office staffers from private secondary schools across the United States and included four days of focus groups, demonstrations, guest lectures, breakout sessions and networking events in the Chiang Center for Innovation and Collaboration.

Mr. Adams, who planned and oversaw the conference, which Blair will host again next year, called it an “excellent opportunity for Blair teachers and our technology team to learn about classroom solutions that best support teaching and learning, as well as explore ways to make our behind-the-scenes work in database management, vendor relations and network administration more efficient.”
While some professional development programs took faculty members far from Blairstown, members of the science and history departments convened on campus for the School’s second-annual Faculty Summer Institute during two weeklong sessions in June and August.

“We asked our department chairs to help us understand how the institute can support the work they are doing in our core curriculum, and the science and history departments jumped at the chance to look at what is being taught, consider the vision for particular courses and ensure they are accomplishing what they set out to do,” said Ms. Connell.

The science department tweaked the general chemistry curriculum to better support independent research (a project tackled by teachers Aly Dowey, Chris Thatcher and Mike Sayers) and created a research methods elective for sophomores that lays the groundwork for high-level science research during junior and senior years (work done by department chair Kelly Hadden and teachers Rod Gerdsen, Joe Wagner and Nadia Abascal).

The history department reviewed and considered restructuring the required Western civilizations course that serves as a foundation for other, more advanced history classes (a project led by teachers Ann Williams, Matt Thomas, Jay Jenkins, Joanne Brandwood and Dr. Hannah Higgin). Quint Clarke ’87 and Andrew Sykes joined colleagues for part of the August session to review the sequence and content of Western civilization in relation to the global issues course they teach.

Each session invited veteran independent school teachers and administrators to campus to offer their expertise. In June, April Burch, director of Berkshire School’s advanced math/science research program, and Donghong Sun, lecturer in chemistry at Columbia University and member of STEMteachersNYC’s board of directors, guest lectured to Blair’s science department. In August, Trip Powers, a veteran history teacher at Millbrook School, shared his own experience of developing and redeveloping a sophomore history course, along with his use of community mapping and oral history to help students build critical skills in the classroom.
I am excited to report that this year marked another record-breaking and successful admission cycle for Blair Academy. We received over 1,180 applications and enrolled 143 new students for the School’s 171st academic year, yielding a selective acceptance rate of 19 percent—the lowest in School history. We look forward to building on the positive momentum achieved this past year and to further sharing all that is best about Blair with families around the world in the months ahead.

Thanks in large part to you, Blair parents, alumni and friends, we continue to advance Blair’s name and reputation across the globe. No matter how far I travel from Blairstown, the warmth of our community and enthusiasm for being a Buccaneer are always nearby. You are our best ambassadors, and we greatly appreciate your efforts to share the value of a Blair education in locations both near and far.

As we embarked on the 2019-2020 cycle in August, Alexandrea Solms, a 2018 graduate of Bates College, and Blair language teacher Kelsie Fralick joined our team. In addition to welcoming families year-round when they visit our campus to experience Blair firsthand, our admission counselors will also travel to 16 states and 12 countries from September to December, attending more than 50 schools and fairs. We were also pleased to host more than 250 families in early October during our annual on-campus Open House, which offers a snapshot of a day in the life at Blair for many who are interested in taking a closer look at the School’s academic, athletic and artistic offerings.

Although many faces in our community change each year as students graduate and new ones arrive to begin their Blair careers, our faculty always maintains a steadfast commitment to the relationship-based learning and superior academic preparation that serve as the foundation of a Blair education. And, as we continue to make our way through another busy admission season, my team remains devoted to attracting the strongest candidates who will thrive in our close-knit community.

I personally look forward to the many conversations to come in which I can share stories about my colleagues and all of our incredible students with prospective families.

by Peter G. Curran, Associate Head of School & Dean of Admission
Where in the World is Blair Academy?

The School’s admission counselors travel to almost 30 states and countries each school year. Here’s a look at where you can find us this year.

- Feeder schools we visit: 61
- Languages spoken in the Blair Room: 29
- Miles traveled in admission year: 45,000+
- M&M’s consumed during admission committee meetings: Too many to count!

Two Decades of Selective Admission

Over the last 20 years, prospective families have realized the value of a Blair education, and admission has become more selective, as evidenced by decreasing acceptance rates.
Blair students, faculty and staff fanned out to assist nonprofits and neighbors across New Jersey and Pennsylvania as part of the School’s fifth-annual Day of Service in mid-May. With more than 500 volunteers tackling projects ranging from gardening and environmental conservation efforts to visiting with elderly nursing home residents and preparing food at a soup kitchen, Blair students and teachers did their best to give back to the local community, and it was a fulfilling day for all who participated.

“Service is fun, and stepping away from academics, the arts and athletics to focus on the needs of those around you exposes our students, some of whom may not have volunteer experience, to the many different kinds of opportunities that are available,” said Blair history teacher Joanne Brandwood, who organizes the Day of Service with English teacher Kaye Evans. “We have found that students who give service a try as part of this day find they want to do more and more of it, both at Blair and after they leave campus.”

The day kicked off with an all-school assembly, at which former Blair Leadership Stories Coordinator Gina Trish spoke to students about the importance of public service. “Though the changes that will happen from your projects today will be small, they will be impactful,” said Mrs. Trish, who also talked about her own experiences volunteering.

In addition to encouraging students to discover a love for helping others, the Day of Service aims to give back to Blair’s neighbors and organizations that can benefit from the combined efforts of hundreds of enthusiastic volunteers. “For the last five years, we have built the School’s relationship with our community, and being part of that has been fun and meaningful,” said Mrs. Evans. “Of course, we are proud to say our volunteers have been very well received because of the great work they do. We are unbelievably proud of all of them, and their dedication says a lot about Blair and the people in our community.”

Head of School Chris Fortunato honored five faculty and staff members for their many years of service to Blair and its students at the Opening of School Dinner in late August.

Dan Celli (not pictured) received a painting of campus in acknowledgment of his 25 years as a member of the School’s buildings and grounds crew. Four teachers and professional staff members were also recognized for reaching the 10-year milestone, including (from left to right) Dean of Academics Nathan Molteni, math teacher John Padden, Assistant Director of Advancement for Parent Relations Susan Long and security department staff member Chuck Warner.
BLAIR SAYS GOODBYE TO VETERAN TEACHER ROB MERRIFIELD

For three generations of Bucs, the mention of Blair biology and environmental science classes brings to mind Robert Merrifield, better known to students and colleagues as “Merf.” After 35 years at Blair, Merf retired at the end of the 2017-2018 school year and looked forward to embarking on a new chapter of life in Burlington, Vermont.

The veteran science teacher, who many alumni will remember as faculty advisor to Earthshine (Blair’s environmental club), leader of Outdoor Skills activities, co-chair of the School’s Sustainability Committee, dorm duty person in Mason and West Halls, and coach of the ski team, first came to Blairstown in 1981 from Savannah, Georgia, where he was working as a naturalist and leader of outdoor educational camping trips for a small school called Wilderness Southeast. He relished the opportunity to forge relationships with Blair students over the course of four years, instead of long-weekend trips, as he had in his previous position.

“I will miss living in this community, where I have spent half of my lifetime,” said Merf, who left Blair briefly in the late 1990s. “I formed strong professional connections and personal friendships with my science department colleagues that have meant a great deal to me over the years.”

Prior to coming to Blair, Merf graduated phi beta kappa from St. Lawrence University in 1977 with a bachelor’s degree in biology and a minor in environmental studies. He spent the following year at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill taking a variety of graduate courses in ecology and botany before he signed on with Wilderness Southeast and, ultimately, ended up in Blairstown.

When asked what he hopes his legacy will be for the thousands of students he has taught over the years, Merf simply said: “I hope students still think about the things I taught them and are making a difference somewhere. I also know that some of my Outdoor Skills kids are doing some really neat things in some really neat places.”

As his retirement approached, Merf called it “daunting and exciting” to consider leaving Blairstown to become part of the Burlington, Vermont, community. His plans for the future surprise no one who knows him: “I plan to keep skiing, paddling, cycling and hiking,” he said. “I also want to learn more about local environmental organizations that I can plug into, and, of course, I am eager to watch the career paths of [children] Becca ‘10 and Graham ‘14 as they unfold.”

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ACTA YEARBOOK DEDICATED TO DAVID FACCIANI

At School Meeting on May 17, yearbook editors Irene Choi ‘18 and Lauren Fountain ‘18 were eager to give the first yearbook to history and Chinese teacher David Facciani, to whom the 2018 ACTA was dedicated.

“From our move-in day freshman year, hearing ‘Hello, hello, hello!’ as we entered Locke Hall for the first time, to the rougher days of junior year, he’s been present to crack a few dad jokes or dole out some sarcastic comments just whenever we needed it,” said Lauren, adding that Mr. Facciani is “certainly beloved by our class.”

Mr. Facciani joined Blair’s language department in 2007 as a Chinese teacher. He also teaches AP microeconomics, is an international monitor and serves as housemaster of Kathryn Hall, where he lives with his wife, Lian, daughter, Angela, and their dog, Captain.
Eleven Blair students immersed themselves in an interdisciplinary study of Rome during a June trip to the Eternal City. Chaperoned by Blair’s classics teachers and self-described “classics nerds” Kelsie Fralick and Chris Sheppard, the itinerary gave young travelers many opportunities to connect abstract Latin literature to a modern city that had a lasting impact on not just the Mediterranean region but also the entire world.

The group’s travels focused on more than just sightseeing and had students literally walking the same streets ancient Romans traversed. “We took great care to emphasize connections and parallels between ancient Rome and the world today,” said Mr. Sheppard, who teaches various levels of Latin at Blair. “Students got to see firsthand that many cultural issues, such as immigration of refugees, debate about national identity, and the fact that extreme poverty exists alongside extreme wealth, are hardly new and continue to impact modern Rome.”

By analyzing the civilization that conquered the Mediterranean region and looking to current affairs as well as the past, students saw that classical study is multidimensional; in fact, the chaperones took advantage of every opportunity to encourage travelers to look at artifacts, art and architecture through more than one lens and using a wide range of sources, reinforcing skills that will help students succeed in today’s global society, both at and beyond Blair.

A trip highlight was a visit to an art restoration cooperative, where students met Matteo Doria, a professional who specializes in the restoration of paintings. Mr. Doria graciously welcomed the group into his lab for a look at the very detailed and highly technical process of restoration.

In planning the itinerary, Ms. Fralick and Mr. Sheppard focused on classical Rome, taking students to some of the city’s most well-known attractions, such as the Colosseum, the Forum, the Pantheon, the Vatican museums and a number of churches. They also planned a few excursions to destinations they felt would especially benefit students. These add-ons included Ostia Antica, a city right outside of Rome that was abandoned because of malaria and still has full surviving structures. While visiting the middle-class port town of Rome, students saw beautiful mosaic floors from which ancient Romans sold their goods. They also visited Tiber Island, the site of the modern world’s first-ever hospital, and Hadrian’s Villa in Tivoli, which served as an ancient emperor’s retreat.

During their travels, students took their knowledge of Latin beyond textbooks by reading works, in Latin and English, in the places where they were written. With the new school year well underway, Ms. Fralick and Mr. Sheppard are continuing to bring their latest Roman experiences back to their classrooms by focusing on the interdisciplinary nature of classical study.

Doing so, Ms. Fralick explained, adds complexity and nuance to students’ understanding of the ancient cultures that have shaped our own. “There is a tendency to think things were simplistic in the past, so we want to ensure students see the depth of one of the world’s earliest globalized societies, as well as the fact that the issues Romans were grappling with are similar to the ones we are facing today,” she said. To learn more about the students’ day-to-day experiences, visit www.blair.edu/rome-2018.
WELCOME NEW FACULTY & STAFF!

With the fall semester underway, Blair is pleased to introduce the faculty and staff members who joined our community at the start of the School’s 171st year.

ENGLISH

Molly Hoyer is a 2018 graduate of Wellesley College with a bachelor of arts degree in comparative literature. She was a staff editor of Wellesley’s campus magazine, a writing tutor, a residence hall house president and a four-year member of the crew team during her undergraduate years. Ms. Hoyer teaches English and serves as an assistant rowing coach at Blair. A Stillwater, New Jersey, native, she is delighted to return to her New Jersey roots.

A 2017 Bard College graduate, David Mamukelashvili teaches English and serves as head coach of the girls’ varsity soccer team at Blair. He joined Blair’s faculty following a year as an English teacher and social media coordinator at The Patrick School in Hillside, New Jersey. Mr. Mamukelashvili double-majored in philosophy and art history at Bard and played varsity soccer and tennis. He also served as a tutor in the Bard Prison Initiative program and helped run Bard’s soccer camp.

John Redos ’09 holds a bachelor of science in communication from Cornell University (2013) and a master in sociology from the University of Oxford (2014). He returns to his alma mater as a member of the English faculty and head girls’ rowing coach. Mr. Redos’ teaching career has taken him to Oxford, where he taught psychology and English at Greene’s Tutorial College, and to Montenegro, where he served as a Fulbright English teacher, teaching at the University of Montenegro and coordinating teacher education workshops and seminars. He also worked for a year as a research assistant at the Harvard Graduate School of Education investigating the social aspects of teacher and student interactions. Mr. Redos’ rowing experience includes four years on Cornell’s lightweight rowing team, as well as membership on the U23 national team in 2010 and 2012. In addition, he rowed open weight for Oxford University Boat Club and rowed for the winning Isis crew in the 2014 Boat Races, and served as head men’s rowing coach at the University of Oxford’s Keble College for three years. Mr. Redos is married to Blair science teacher Suzana Markolovic.

FINE ARTS

Fine arts teacher Robert Hanson earned a bachelor’s degree in art at Yale University (2002) and an MFA in film and TV production at the University of Southern California’s School of Cinematic Arts (2009). Prior to joining Blair’s faculty as instructor of digital media and video, he taught film production to undergraduate and graduate students at Missouri Western State University as an assistant professor of cinema. Mr. Hanson is the founder of a Los Angeles-based video production company, a filmmaker and photographer, as well as a former competitive archer and coach. He and his wife, Sonia, are the parents of two children, Audrey and Benjamin.

HISTORY

Theresa (Tessa) McEvoy joins Blair’s history faculty following a year of service with AmeriCorps, during which
she served on the staff of the PALS Children’s Program in Alamosa, Colorado. She holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Amherst College (2016) as well as an HX Harvard Business School credential of readiness for business analytics, economics for managers and financial accounting (2015). A four-year member of the Amherst College Rowing Association, Ms. McEvoy also coaches rowing at Blair.

A 2018 graduate of Bates College, Marianna Paone joined Blair’s faculty as a history teacher and rowing coach. She majored in history with a concentration in European history and minored in educational studies, gaining classroom experience as a teacher’s assistant at several Lewiston, Maine, elementary schools and as a fifth grade teacher at Oranjekloof Moravian Primary School in Cape Town, South Africa. Ms. Paone graduated as a member of Phi Beta Kappa and was a four-year member of Bates’ NCAA-champion varsity rowing team. She received the Bates athletic department’s Senior Scholar Award in 2018.

Spanish with a minor in Latin and Latino studies from Montclair State University (2000) and a master’s degree in teaching from the American College of Education (2016). She and her family, including her son Robert Castillo ‘22, live in Blairstown.

MATH

Keenan Friend joined Blair’s mathematics faculty as a teacher of geometry and algebra 2 honors AB. He received dual degrees (BA, MA) in mathematics from the University of Pennsylvania (2018), where he distinguished himself in the department as a teaching assistant for three years, as instructor of a calculus course and as the recipient of the departmental teaching award. Mr. Friend taught in Penn’s Pre-Freshman Program, mentoring incoming freshmen in courses designed to assist them in transitioning to college life. He is an avid runner and cyclist, and coaches track at Blair.

Math department chair Caren Standfast ‘95 comes to the School from Culver Academies in Culver, Indiana, where she was a math and computer science teacher for five years. During her tenure at Culver, she developed a successful leadership model to use in student-centered classrooms and created professional development opportunities focused on quantitative literacy and the Internet of Things. Mrs. Standfast earned her bachelor of science degree in oceanography at the U.S. Naval Academy (2000) and was a member of Navy’s women’s lacrosse team. She served as an adjutant in the U.S. Marine Corps and subsequently earned her MAEd at the University of Phoenix (2008) and taught math and physics at St. Paul’s School in Covington, Louisiana. In addition to her math department duties at Blair, Mrs. Standfast serves as housemaster of Mason Hall and coaches field hockey and lacrosse. She and her husband, Geoff, have five children: Annie, a junior at the U.S. Naval Academy, Jack, Brady, Geoff and Tommy.

LANGUAGE

Kate Lavalle holds a bachelor’s degree in French language and literature (2006) and master’s degree in French literature and culture (2008) from Boston College. She also earned an MAT from Regis College and taught for 10 years as a part of the French immersion program in the public schools of Milton, Massachusetts. Ms. Lavalle joined Blair’s language faculty as a French teacher and swimming coach. Her husband, Tom Pomeroy, is the School’s operations analyst.

Spanish teacher Cristina Sanchez Castillo brings seven years of teaching experience at local elementary schools to her role at Blair. Having grown up in Mexico, she earned a bachelor’s degree in
SCIENCE

Nadia Abascal joined Blair’s science faculty as a teacher of chemistry. A graduate of Barnard College (2011), she earned her master’s (2013) and PhD (2017) at Yale University. Dr. Abascal gained significant laboratory experience as a post-doctoral researcher in Yale’s molecular biophysics and biochemistry department, where her work focused on the assembly of a ricin biosensor. A crossfit enthusiast, she coaches softball at Blair.

Caroline Chamberlain earned her bachelor’s degree in biology at Bowdoin College (1999), where she was a four-year member of the varsity women’s soccer, ice hockey and track teams. She earned her master’s degree in science at Seton Hall University in 2005 and taught at Delbarton School in Morristown, New Jersey, for nine years. A teacher of biology and environmental science at Blair, Ms. Chamberlain also serves as the School’s assistant varsity girls’ soccer and track coach.

Chemistry teacher Suzana Markolovic holds a bachelor’s degree in chemistry and chemical biology from Cornell University (2013) and a PhD in organic chemistry from the University of Oxford (2017). Before coming to Blair, Dr. Markolovic worked as a postdoctoral research fellow at the National Institutes of Health’s (NIH) National Cancer Institute, where she studied the function of a transporter protein in prostate cancer. She gained teaching experience through the NIH, Oxford Royale Academy and Choate Summer Programs. Dr. Markolovic was a four-year member of Cornell’s cross country and track and field teams and served as women’s captain of Oxford University’s cross country club. She coaches cross country and outdoor track at Blair and plans to serve as a mentor to students undertaking independent science research projects. Dr. Markolovic is married to English teacher John Redos ’09.

ACADEMIC OFFICE

Allison Leddy joined Blair’s academic office as the director of academic support. A certified rehabilitation counselor (CRC), she holds a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Tulane University (1992) and a master’s degree in rehabilitation counseling from New York University (1996). Mrs. Leddy has supported the academic and personal growth of students of all ages over the course of her career, including as a disability specialist and tutoring coordinator at Drew University and in private practice as an academic and executive skills coach. Mrs. Leddy, her husband, Steve, and children, Jake ’19 and Mia, live in Allamuchy, New Jersey.

ADMISSION OFFICE

Admission associate Alexandrea (Allie) Solms graduated from Bates College in 2018 with a bachelor’s degree in sociology. She played varsity field hockey and lacrosse at Bates for two and four years, respectively, and she received the Bates athletic department’s Senior Scholar Award in 2018. Ms. Solms coaches girls’ lacrosse at Blair.

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

Communications specialist Brittany Rockenfeller brings several years of professional experience in communications, public relations and marketing to her role in Blair’s communications office. She earned her bachelor’s degree in public relations and journalism with honors at Seton Hall University, where she won the university’s 2016 Experiential Education Award.
for her work as an intern at the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation. Ms. Rockenfeller joins Blair from Pass It Along, a nonprofit dedicated to creating confident, compassionate and resilient teenagers. She resides in Branchville, New Jersey.

BUSINESS OFFICE
Tom Pomeroy joined Blair’s business office as the School’s operations analyst. He earned a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice (2009) and master’s degree in sports leadership (2017) at Northeastern University and previously worked as a compliance coordinator in Northeastern’s athletic office. Mr. Pomeroy also served as treasurer of Good Sports Young Professionals Board in Boston. He is married to Blair language teacher Kate Lavalle.

HEALTH CENTER
Tara Parker is Blair’s director of health services. She holds bachelor of science (1996) and master of science (2011) degrees in nursing from William Paterson University, where she was the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Jersey Nurse Scholar from 2009 to 2011. She is certified by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners and is a Forensic Nurse Examiner. Mrs. Parker’s 20-plus years in healthcare include clinical experience in the emergency department at several New Jersey hospitals and as a primary care provider at a family medical practice. She worked in the pharmaceutical industry as a medical information consultant and in pharmacovigilance at Roche Labs and Celgene Corporation. She is also experienced in college health, having served on Montclair State University’s sexual assault response team and, most recently, as Kean University’s associate director of student health services. Mrs. Parker is a member of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, American College Health Association and New Jersey College Health Association. Inducted into Sigma Theta Tau—the International Honor Society for Nurses, she serves on the board of the Mid-Atlantic College Health Association. Mrs. Parker, her husband and their teenage daughters reside in Warren County.

TECHNOLOGY OFFICE
Tyler Kemp joined Blair’s technology office as a user support specialist. He earned a BFA in studio art at Kutztown University in 2009 and gained technology experience as a family room specialist at Apple and a systems technician for the Southern Lehigh School District. Mr. Kemp holds Jamf certifications for Apple device management in CCA, CSE and CMA.

#GOBLAIR ON #PEDDIEDAY2018!

For those who cannot travel to Blairstown to watch the Bucs take on the Peddie Falcons on Peddie Day 2018, Blair will post all the action online on November 3. Follow Blair on Instagram (@blair_academy) and Twitter (@blairbucs), and visit peddieday.live for photos, real-time score updates and more. Blair will post photos of pre-Peddie Day festivities, from the bonfire and pep rally through Saturday’s athletic contests and Kelley-Potter Cup ceremony, using the hashtag #PeddieDay2018.

We will also be on the lookout for the best photos taken by alumni, parents and friends to retweet and share on the School’s Instagram throughout the day, so be sure to share your images using the Peddie Day hashtag. Don’t forget to use hashtags #goblair and #beatpeddie, too!
Texas native Pamela A. Kirby P’20 brings to Blair’s Board of Trustees a wealth of knowledge about nonprofit management, corporate operations and public service. After earning her bachelor’s degree in business administration and accounting from the University of Texas at Austin and a master’s degree in business administration from the University of Phoenix, Ms. Kirby held executive positions at Arthur Andersen LLP, Marriott Corporation and, most recently, Frito-Lay, where she served as finance director until 2006. She is also a certified public accountant in Texas.

Since then, the 16-year resident of Paradise Valley, Arizona, and proud mother of Brittany, Madison and Alexandra ’20 has served three years as a precinct and state committeeman, six years on the Paradise Valley Town Council and is currently in her eighth year as a Scottsdale Unified School District Governing Board member. Ms. Kirby is also active in local nonprofits, including serving as event co-chair for the 2010 Paradise Valley American Cancer Society Relay for Life, chair of the 2016 Valley Youth Theatre VYTal Fundraising, and former board member of both the Arizona Sports and Entertainment Commission and Greasepaint Youtheatre in Scottsdale. In 2018, she successfully completed the Dodie Londen Excellence in Public Service Leadership Series and won the Valley Youth Theatre’s Vitality Award for leadership impacting today’s youth. An avid runner who is pursuing a graduate certificate in educational policy from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, Ms. Kirby is an accomplished marathoner who has completed the Marine Corps Marathon, Anchorage Marathon and Las Vegas Marathon.

A 2001 graduate of Princeton University, Victoria P. Bailey ’97 is an executive director and private wealth advisor who works in Morgan Stanley’s Menlo Park, California, private wealth management division. The Blair Board of Trustees will benefit from her many years of experience in the finance industry developing customized wealth-management plans; strategies for investing, credit and lending, banking and liquidity management; and trust and estate planning for entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, private foundations, endowments, and privately controlled companies.

Prior to accepting her current role at Morgan Stanley in 2016, Ms. Bailey was a private banker at J.P. Morgan’s Palo Alto, California, office for almost seven years, providing clients with comprehensive guidance and adjusting their portfolios to help them achieve their financial goals. She first got her start at Morgan Stanley as a fixed-income trader, a position in which she sold investment-grade credit and credit derivative products for four years before moving to Goldman Sachs in the San Francisco Bay area, where she was vice president and a private wealth advisor.

Ms. Bailey lives in Woodside, California, with her husband, Peter, and their three sons, Andrew, Will and Christopher. When she is not working, she enjoys hiking, yoga, skiing and spending time at Lake Tahoe with her family.
Allen Gibson P’20 ’20 ’22 has shared with the Board his asset management expertise as an ex officio member of the Investment Committee since 2017, and he will deepen his commitment to securing the School’s financial future as a full Board member in the years ahead. In addition to being a proud Blair parent whose children Muriel ’20, Aaron ’20 and Ilyssa ’22 are benefiting from the Blair experience, Mr. Gibson is chief investment officer of Centaurus Capital LP, a private investment management firm with an emphasis on Europe, Asia and emerging markets. He also manages investments for the Laura and John Arnold Foundation and serves as a member of the advisory committee for TSSP Adjacent Opportunities Partners, Equity International V, OakHill Advisors European Strategic Credit Fund and Cerberus Investment Partners V. He also serves on the board of directors of Global Atlantic, Cell Site Solutions, Suntex and Albertsons.

Mr. Gibson graduated from Emory University with an undergraduate degree in political science in 1993 and from Boston University with a master’s degree in philosophy in 1995. Prior to joining Centaurus in 2011, he served as senior vice president in institutional asset management at the Royal Bank of Canada. A lifelong skateboarder, Mr. Gibson and his wife, Stacey, reside in Columbia, New Jersey, with their four children, Henry, Ilyssa, Muriel and Aaron. They have an indoor bowl where he hosts regular skateboarding sessions.

“Each of our new Trustees brings a different perspective and skill set to our Board, and we are extremely grateful for their dedication to moving Blair forward and making the Blair experience the best it can be,” said Chairman of the Board Doug Kimmelman P’12 ’13 ’15 ’22. “Pam is an experienced school board administrator and, as Parent Fund Group chair, she will be instrumental in our efforts to engage current parents. In addition to her financial expertise, Victoria represents a critical constituency as a young Blair alumna who remains engaged with many of her fellow graduates. And, in recent years, Allen has played a key role in determining how Blair manages and invests its funds. I look forward to the way in which he will build on that as a full Trustee.”

TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT

TAKE THE PLUNGE...

Please join the relay of generous Blair donors who, through the years, have taken their turn providing for Blair’s future. Estate gifts help Blair operate swimmingly in the pool of education and continue to make a positive splash in young peoples’ lives!

Adding a few words to your will or designating Blair as a beneficiary of your IRA or life insurance policy are simple ways to help guarantee Blair’s competitive advantages of a strong education, compassionate community, state-of-the-art facilities and our most beautiful campus.
Bogle Hall Project Underway

Bogle Hall, home of Blair’s science department since 1989, will be renovated and enlarged in a multiphase project that began in June. Work commenced just after the close of the academic year on a three-story addition that will boast new classrooms, labs for physics, AP biology and advanced chemistry, and dedicated research space, where students will have the opportunity to engage in sustained independent projects as well as collaborative work in partnership with outside experts.

Once the addition is complete in mid-2019, the renovation phase of the project will begin. This will involve gutting and rebuilding all of Bogle Hall’s existing labs, refurbishing every classroom, adding a prep space for chemistry labs and creating a third-floor office. Cowan Auditorium will also be upgraded with new lighting and mechanical systems. The finished building will offer students and faculty more and better-equipped labs and classrooms designed to provide optimal space for hands-on, inquiry-based scientific learning.

If you would like to support the Bogle Hall project, please contact Chief Advancement Officer Craig Hall at (908) 362-6121, ext. 5640, or email halc@blair.edu.
The School honored its most steadfast and generous supporters on April 27 at the Leadership Dinner, an annual event that recognizes alumni, parents and friends who have made Blair a philanthropic priority. The Friday evening celebration began with cocktails at Sharpe House and continued with dinner in the Romano Dining Hall, during which Head of School Chris Fortunato, Chairman of the Blair Board of Trustees Doug Kimmelman P’12 ’13 ’15 ’22 and scholarship recipient Onome Akinbode-James ’18 expressed gratitude for all that is made possible at Blair thanks to the contributions of loyal donors.

“Your dedication to Blair is incredibly special and makes a tremendous difference in our students’ and teachers’ lives,” Mr. Fortunato said. “I am deeply grateful for your support, for your keen interest in our programs and campus, and for your kindness and commitment to Blair students and faculty. Your leadership and vision are essential for our School’s future, and your generosity inspires each of us to continue to strive for excellence in all we do.”

During the evening, Mr. Fortunato presented a framed print of the Blair Arch to several special guests, thanking them for their stewardship of Blair and their support of capital projects, scholarship aid and other School initiatives. These honorees included Mr. and Mrs. John E. Alden Jr. ’63, Mr. and Mrs. Kurt A. Baker P’17 ’19, Mrs. Dorothy G. Battelle, Hon. ’60, Mr. and Mrs. Allen Gibson P’20 ’20 ’22, Ms. Dana Gibson P’17 ’17, Mr. Peter Gibson P’17 ’17, Mr. and Mrs. Robert N. Jenkins ‘69, Dr. Samuel S. Litvin and Ms. Robin J. Scheman P’10 ’14, Mr. and Mrs. David McGrath P’18, Ms. Jacqueline J. Montfort P’20, Mr. and Mrs. John R. Paul ’65, P’96 ’99 ’99, Mr. George F. Phelps ’65, P’93, Barry ’67 and Eileen Smith P’09, and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Stafford P’17.
Mr. Kimmelman had the privilege of recognizing Mr. Wm. Mitchell Jennings Jr. ’63 and his wife, Ms. Elizabeth Dater, as well as an anonymous donor, as the newest members of the John C. Bogle ’47 Circle of Benefactors. Named in honor of Board of Trustees Chairman Emeritus John C. Bogle ’47, this award acknowledges extraordinary dedication to Blair Academy. Mr. Jennings is an Emeritus Trustee who served as Vice Chairman of Finance (2001-2006), Chair of the Investment Committee (1992-2010), and Vice Chairman and Treasurer of the Board (2006-2013). Ms. Dater served on Blair’s Investment Committee for five years, and the couple is among the School’s strongest advocates and most generous benefactors.

The evening concluded with special recognition of language teacher Maria Bowditch, who retired last spring after 27 years of service to Blair Academy. Mr. Fortunato thanked Madame Bowditch for her outstanding work in the classroom, for the many hours she devoted to her role as director of faculty hiring, and for her dedication to her students and colleagues.

Among the Leadership Dinner guests were a number of donors who have established named, endowed scholarships at Blair, and they were seated with their scholarship recipients, giving them the opportunity to catch up on all that has happened this year. Attendees also enjoyed a cocktail-hour musical interlude by the String Ensemble and pianists Timothy Launders ’20, Yue Xu ’21 and Brandy Zhang ’18, and an evening of wonderful conversations with Trustees, administrators, faculty and friends.
Excitement was in the air—and on the water—for Blair’s crew program last spring. After returning from an exhilarating spring-training trip to Austin, Texas, the teams began the season with the dedication of two new shells.

**Integrity**, the gift of David H. Bugen ’66, his wife, Barbara, and their daughters, Sarah ’10 and Marta ’17, was christened during an April 14 ceremony in front of Hardwick Hall. The Hudson shell was given to the boys’ team, and Marta reflected on her impactful three-year stint as a boys’ team coxswain during the ceremony and offered words of encouragement.

“Boys, this boat is for all of you,” she said, as she and captains Zachary Kreider ’18 and Maxwell Cavallaro ’18 prepared to pour champagne over the hull. “Make every stroke better than the previous one, and make each other better people, both on and off the water. I hope that every time you step into a boat, specifically this boat, you prove to yourselves and your teammates what integrity means to you. Carry that meaning with you wherever you go, and always know that this family will be there to support you through it all. Here’s to the Integrity.”

Two weeks later, on April 26, the girls’ team celebrated the addition of their newest shell at the dedication of the William Vandersteel ’36. This shell, a Filippi, was given by Tina Vandersteel Cressotti ’86 and her husband, Matt. Mrs. Vandersteel Cressotti took up rowing in 1998 and continues to be involved in the sport to this day. She and Mr. Cressotti were joined by girls’ team captains Wai Sze Fong ’18, Cortney Klein ’18 and Nia Henry ’18 as they christened the vessel in her father’s name at the dedication.

Mrs. Vandersteel Cressotti spoke about the parallels between her father and his alma mater in terms of a shared commitment to cultural understanding, intellectual curiosity, physical fitness and fun. “Dad was born in the Netherlands and then lived in numerous countries. It is wonderful to see that representation in the Blair community,” she said. “He was a skeptic, a maverick and an optimist. His first instinct when he heard someone say ‘no’ was ‘why not?’ He would have fit right in with the Society of Skeptics.” Admiring Blair’s
expanding athletic facilities, she remarked, “Dad pursued physical fitness daily yet mostly for fun; he was more likely to have been a standout at the Headmaster’s Societies Games than on Peddie Day. But when I took up rowing, he was right there cheering me on.”

Head of School Chris Fortunato thanked the Bugen family and Mr. Cressotti and Mrs. Vandersteel Cressotti for their generous support of Blair’s crew program and for their commitment to the teams’ success.

“I hope that every time you step into a boat, specifically this boat, you prove to yourselves and your teammates what integrity means to you.”

—Marta Bugen ’17
Plaque Honors Alumni Service in Post-9/11 Conflicts

A plaque honoring Blair alumni who have served in Afghanistan, Iraq and the global war on terrorism now hangs in Timken Library—Blair’s former Memorial Hall—alongside tributes to alumni who served in World War I, World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. The plaque is the gift of Dr. Matthew Strobeck ’92 and his wife, Carey, who hope it will serve as a reminder to students and the entire Blair community of the sacrifices many have made to protect and defend our nation.

“Several friends and classmates have served in the military in recent years, and I have great respect for these brave men and women,” Dr. Strobeck said. “Remembering the Memorial Hall plaques that I passed often as a Blair student stimulated my interest in creating a plaque to honor the service of Blair alumni in Afghanistan, Iraq and the global war on terrorism.”

In addition to honoring those who served and who are currently serving, the plaque memorializes Marine Corps Major Ray Mendoza ’87. Maj. Mendoza was killed in action in Iraq in 2005 and was posthumously awarded a Bronze Star for his leadership, his love for his men and his dedication to the Marine Corps. “Maj. Mendoza made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country and in defense of our freedom,” Dr. Strobeck said. “He and all our Blair service members deserve our recognition and appreciation.” Dr. Strobeck and his family have generously supported the Ray Mendoza ’87 Wrestling Scholarship, which helps provide the gift of a Blair education to deserving students.

Record Number of Gifts Made on Blair’s Day of Giving

Blair’s third-annual Day of Giving on April 5, 2018, was a remarkable success, with 795 donors making more than $250,000 in gifts to the Blair Fund during the 24-hour period. Over the course of the day, Blair students joined alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends in celebrating 170 years of excellence with gifts of their own.

“That we far surpassed our goal of 680 gifts—one for every Blair student, teacher and staff member—in 24 hours is evidence of how deeply our constituents feel about our School’s mission and recognition of the fact that it is carried out by every member of our community,” said Blair’s Director of Annual Giving Colleen Smarth. Ms. Smarth was especially
Ryan Newton ’08 was known for his brilliant smile, delightful sense of humor, and his love for and appreciation of people around him. During his four years at Blair, he was an accomplished athlete, musician and student leader, and, following his graduation from Boston University in 2012, he served in Ghana as a program associate for a nonprofit that works with youngsters in developing countries.

Ryan had just returned to the U.S. from a seven-month teaching project in Ghana in March 2015 when he passed away following complications from malaria. In the aftermath of this devastating loss, Ryan’s family chose to honor his commitment to serving others by establishing the Ryan Andrews Newton ’08 Global Service Award at Blair. The award ensures that Ryan’s passionate spirit and legacy of service live on by providing funds for Blair students to experience service-related travel.

Ryan’s family, including his parents, Eddie and Angela, sister, Andowah, and brothers, Edward, Matthieu and Alex, as well as many classmates and friends, have contributed to and worked to grow the Ryan Andrews Newton ’08 Global Service Award over the past three years. Having raised more than $32,000 to date, they were delighted that the honor was presented for the first time last spring.

In recognition of his positive impact on the Blair community, sophomore Ryan Gomez ’20 received assistance toward his spring-break trip to England for the School’s musical performance tour. Ryan Gomez is the Singers’ tenor section leader (the same group in which Ryan Newton sang during his tenure at Blair), as well as a member of the elite Chamber Choir, the student-run a cappella group and the Blair Academy Players. He credits Director of Vocal Music Ryan Manni and his fellow students with helping him find and define his passion for the performing arts. As he looks forward to continued involvement with the Singers and Players in the coming years, Ryan Gomez, together with his family, is honored and thankful to be the first recipient of the Ryan Andrews Newton ’08 Global Service Award.

If you would like to contribute to the Ryan Andrews Newton ’08 Global Service Fund, please contact Assistant Director of Advancement for Capital Giving Velma Lubliner at (908) 362-6121, ext. 5634, or lubliv@blair.edu.
Blair to Create **Indoor Golf Training Center & Winter Sports Complex**

In recent years, Buccaneer teams have benefited from program and facility upgrades that have enriched students’ athletic experience in every season. These projects have included replacement of the turf field, where football, lacrosse, field hockey and soccer teams practice and play; the establishment of the Blair Squash Endowment, which provides enhancements such as new equipment, travel and training opportunities for the boys’ and girls’ teams; renovation of the boys’ and girls’ basketball locker rooms; construction of a lacrosse practice wall; resurfacing of the tennis courts; and the addition of two new shells (see story on page 70) and 17 new ergometers for the crew program.

This fall, students are eagerly anticipating the completion of the School’s latest athletic enhancements: a new indoor golf training center and a “bubble”-enclosed winter sports complex. Plans are in place and fundraising is underway for both of these exciting projects.

**Year-Round Golf**
The indoor golf training center, sited near the first tee, will house two hitting bays with simulators, a putting/chipping area, lockers and a restroom. Set to open in fall 2018, the center will benefit Blair’s championship-winning golf teams in many ways. Players will be able to hone their skills and maintain their swings year-round, and, if cold and snow keep them off the course at the start of the season, they will still be able to practice indoors, on campus—including full swings, chipping and putting. They will also have a place to warm up before a match or work one-on-one with a golf pro.

“The best part about the new indoor center is that it will be student-driven,” said history teacher and varsity boys’ golf coach Andrew Sykes. “We don’t hold off-season team practices, but the facility will be well used throughout the year by kids who love golf and just want to improve their games.” He explained that the School’s current indoor golf facility, housed in a basement locker room in Hardwick Hall and equipped by generous benefactors, has seen more and more use over the six years since it was set up. In fact, it was so popular last spring that “kids literally wore through the hitting nets.”

**Blair ‘Bubble’**
Golfers aren’t the only Blair athletes who will enjoy indoor practices when ice and snow blanket Blairstown: Work is also underway to create a winter sports complex by enclosing a portion of the tennis center under a “bubble” during the coldest months of the year. The complex will feature two tennis courts and a temporary turf field installed over the surface of three other courts. It will provide climate-controlled practice space for a host of teams, as well as a spacious venue for student life activities that will bring the whole community together.

Recognizing the tremendous impact the winter sports complex will have on Blair’s tennis, track, soccer, football, baseball, softball and lacrosse teams and the entire student body, Chairman of the Blair Board of Trustees Doug Kimmelman P’12 ’13 ’15 ’22 has catalyzed the project’s fundraising effort by matching every contribution 3-to-1. Thanks to this generous challenge gift, Blair is on its way to raising a total of $1.2 million to fund the new facility.

Athletic Director **Paul Clavel ’88** expressed his deep appreciation to Mr. Kimmelman and all those who have already supported the winter sports complex and indoor golf training center. Plans are also in the works for improvements to Blair’s golf course, including tree removal, bunker reconstruction and green enlargement; these enhancements will take place as funds are raised over the next several years.
01 Boys’ varsity lax defeated Peddie 6-5 in April (Cody Romano ’18 pictured).

02 Brian Li ’19 helped boys’ varsity golf win its second consecutive Mid-Atlantic Prep League (MAPL) championship.

03 4 x 200 relay runners Veronica Blair ’18 (pictured), Madison Jones ’19, Savannah Lee ’20 and Ashlyn Alles ’20 hold the School record for the event.

04 Anzel Tennis Trophy winner Ignacio Ybanez ’18 played for Blair’s MAPL-champion boys’ tennis team.

05 Girls’ varsity golf captured its fourth-consecutive MAPL and third-consecutive prep “A” state championships (Linda Tong ’19 pictured).

06 The girls’ crew team won the MAPL championship. (Pictured, front to back: Emily Maniscalco ’19, Sofia Kasparik ’21, Karla Lomastro ’20 and Elizabeth Montfort ’20).

07 Jess Van Valkenburg ’19 was a solid contributor during softball’s MAPL- and prep “A” state championship season.

08 Jacob Leddy ’19 and Aiden Abrahamsen ’19 rowed for boys’ crew.

09 Alec Valle ’18 received Blair’s 2018 Pender Track Award.

10 Essie Pasternak ’19 scored five goals in the girls’ varsity lax team’s 18-9 defeat of Pope John.
The Blair community takes great pride in its long and storied tradition of athletic excellence, and record-setting performances by the Buccaneers are a treasured part of School history. One such performance went beyond Blair record books to become national news: From November 19 to 23, 1971, the four-man team of John Greer ’74, David Borow ’72, Todd Ruppert ’74 and Andrew “Scott” MacLean ’74 (pictured left to right, above) set a world record for marathon swimming in the newly opened Wallace Pool, a feat that was reported in The New York Times and on CBS television.

The World-Record Swim

Distance: 179.26 miles (288.49 km)
Time: 96 hours
Date: November 19 (noon) to November 23 (noon), 1971
Location: Blairstown, New Jersey, USA
Record Holder: Blair Academy
David Borow ‘72
John Greer ‘74
Andrew “Scott” MacLean ‘74
Todd Ruppert ‘74

Blair’s World-Record Marathon Swim of 1971: Teamwork, Grit & Glory Remembered

With a plaque recently installed on the Wallace Pool record wall commemorating this extraordinary moment in Blair athletic history and three of the record-breakers set to celebrate their 45th reunion in June 2019, we take this opportunity to highlight the marathon swim in the Blair Bulletin once again. As the reflections of the teammates 47 years later attest, it’s a timeless tale of grit, guts and endurance, and it’s one that Bucs of every generation will appreciate.
‘And Now There Is a World Record’

(This account of the marathon swim by swim team coach Paul R. White appeared in the winter 1972 Bulletin):

“Certain things, because of their very existence, must be challenged. Mountains must be scaled, the depths of the oceans explored. When the Wallace Pool became a reality, it also became a challenge.

In one of the eternal bull sessions that characterize the young man’s school existence, there emerged an idea of fascinating possibility. An idea delineating a challenge wholly feasible within a schoolboy’s world.

Four young men came in smiling confidence and presented a wonderfully preposterous proposal. These four, Dave Borow ‘72, Andrew “Scott” MacLean ‘74, Todd Ruppert ‘74 and John Greer ‘74, would challenge a record of 147 miles covered in continuous swimming for 96 hours set by a team of eight California youngsters in 1967. I found myself caught up in their contagious enthusiasm, and, soon, I was equally involved. [Headmaster James] Howard gave permission for the venture, provided the boys completed in advance their academic requirements.

On November 19, shortly before noon, I fired the gun that sent off the first swimmer, Scott MacLean. Students filled the stands, and cheers echoed through the beautiful new Wallace Pool.

Hours passed into nights and days. Weariness and pain exacted their toll, but the will continued, and the marathoners refused offers of terminating the swim. By six o’clock on the evening of November 22, they passed the mark of 147 miles and began establishing their own record. The burden lightened as the end came in view. The following day at noon, with reporters, photographers and television technicians crowding around and an overflowing gallery of cheering students, the gun signaled the last lap, and team captain Dave Borow ‘touched home.’ The marathon had come to an end. The challenge had been accepted and met.”

‘A Wonderfully Preposterous Proposal’

Forty-seven years later, the teammates aren’t sure who originated the idea of a marathon swim. However, they all agree that they wanted to do something memorable to inaugurate Wallace Pool, something that would “make Blair as famous as possible throughout the country,” according to team captain Dr. Borow.

“You have to understand that after swimming a gazillion laps in the old bathtub, the new Wallace Pool was like heaven to us,” Mr. Greer said. “The Guinness Book of World Records was big back then, and breaking the marathon swimming record actually seemed doable. We were all very excited!”

“Somehow, we all got Coach White to support the idea and sell it to the administration,” Mr. MacLean added. “We wanted to put Blair swimming on the map and maybe even show the wrestling program what we had. Missing two days of class required executive approval, but after it was agreed upon, fall training began. We swam for hours, back and forth, waiting for the big day to begin our dream. I knew if we could make this thing happen, we might get some nice recognition and represent Blair Academy at the same time.”

“We Jersey boys were inspired to go after the Californians’ record,” Mr. Ruppert recalled, “but another reason for agreeing on the marathon was that even if we didn’t beat the record, we’d be in great shape for the upcoming swim season. But, mind you, failure never entered our psyche.”

Everybody in the Pool

Once the starting pistol was fired, the teammates swam for four solid days. They began with two-hour individual intervals, but, over time, exhaustion set in. “After day two, it became very clear this was never going to end,” Mr. Greer said. “Our joints and muscles were aching, but most of all, we were tired and very crabby.”

Lap after lap, Mr. MacLean thought about how much time he had left in the pool before he could devour some food and sleep for a couple of hours. Then he wondered if his muscles would ever loosen up before it was his turn to swim again. “The longer each of us swam, the more rest the others had, but if you burned too many calories, you started to turn blue. We cut back to 90- or 60-minute swims so we could survive.”
“I was almost the cause of disaster when I developed hypothermia on day three,” Dr. Borow recounted. “[Science teacher] Laurence Joline wanted me to get out of the pool. But I would have rather died in the pool! The nights were silent, cold and difficult—we all got about 10 hours of sleep over the 96 hours.”

Along with his teammates, Mr. Ruppert remembers being fueled by adrenaline, as well as the tremendous support of fellow students. Throughout the marathon, Mark Lieberman ’74, Sue Perna ’74, Mary Beth Lewis DiMarco ’74, Pam Olsyn ’74, Cathy Tucker Mulcahey ’76, Peter Sundstrom ’72 and others helped the swimmers emotionally, and they counted every single lap. Exuberant students filled the Wallace Pool stands, and the “deafening tone” of their cheering was Dr. Borow’s “engine and motivation” to continue on.

As day four dawned, the team found new energy. “Our goal was in sight,” Mr. Greer said, “and we knew we were going to do it. Our whole team stuck with the plan, and completing our task was the only option. We all knew it. We had to highlight what a great school Blair was and demonstrate that we were a school of winners and doers.”

Team of Champions

Finally, at the completion of 96 hours of continuous swimming, the teammates came together on the pool deck, exhausted but triumphant. They were interviewed by Rolland Smith of CBS-TV News Features (“WOW!” Mr. MacLean enthused. “That was a moment to savor!”), and a report of what Dr. Borow described as the team’s “astonishing achievement” appeared in The New York Times on November 28.

As they looked back through the watery lens of 47 years, the teammates considered the true meaning of their record-breaking swim, beyond the media accolades. Mr. Greer expressed gratitude to their friends and faculty mentors, including Coach White, Coach Richard Clarke, history teacher John Carhart, Assistant Headmaster Fernando Marcial and Headmaster Howard. “We achieved a big goal with their help,” he said, adding, “our dream had the unexpected result of energizing the whole school in a positive way.”

Dr. Borow describes the team’s achievement as a defining moment in his life, one that taught him an important lesson. “Anyone and everyone can obtain their dreams if passion, love, discipline, dedication and determination are instilled in your heart and soul,” he said. “If the desire to never give up prevails, there are no obstacles before you that you cannot overcome.”

“What was most special to me—and, I believe to each of us—was not the feat itself,” Mr. Ruppert reflected. “Rather, it was that four guys who had known each other for less than three months had the confidence in and respect for each other to undertake the challenge in the first place. That was more profound than what we actually accomplished. The accomplishment was a statement about what Blair Academy instilled in young individuals. We were all engaged. There was no leader. We were a team that decided to do this…friendship born of Blair’s special nature that brought us together in a special way. Quite frankly, we were a very, very special team, maybe one of the best the School has ever had.”

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![Team of Champions](Image)
Blair’s long-standing traditions of sportsmanship and athletic excellence were celebrated once again at the annual Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony during Alumni Weekend. Craig N. Scott ’68, Milton C. “Skip” Waddell ’73, Stacey (Gorski) Spring ’95, Nicole P. (Armano) Weston ’98, John Giacche ’98 and Charlie A. Villanueva ’03 comprise the Hall’s class of 2018, and Director of Athletics Paul Clavel ’88 praised these “phenomenal athletes” for their many accomplishments in sports and as members of the Blair community.

“It means a great deal to recognize these six alumni as members of Blair’s Athletic Hall of Fame,” Mr. Clavel said. “Their outstanding character and athletic achievements at Blair and beyond are part of the foundation of the School’s athletic tradition. The class of 2018 and all our Hall of Fame members continue to inspire the Bucs to excellence.”

Here is the Blair Athletic Hall of Fame class of 2018:

Craig N. Scott ’68
A three-sport varsity athlete at Blair, Mr. Scott served as co-captain of the basketball and baseball teams as a junior and captain of the football, basketball and baseball teams as a senior. He earned all-state accolades in basketball (second team) and baseball (first team) during his junior year and was named to the first team in all three sports as a senior, one of only three athletes in New Jersey to receive that distinction in 1967-1968. Mr. Scott lettered in golf at Cornell University and continues to play the links at a high level to the present day. A 2011 Lehigh Valley Golf Hall of Fame inductee, he has qualified for six career United States Golf Association (USGA) national championships and made two trips to the U.S. Senior Amateur. Among his many tournament wins are the 2004 Golf Association of Philadelphia Senior Amateur and the 2013 and 2014 Lehigh Valley Senior Inter-Club.

Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2018 Represents Tradition of Excellence

View the 2018 Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony at www.blair.edu/ahof-induction.
championships. Mr. Scott has remained connected to his alma mater as a parent volunteer during his children’s (Corey ’00, Lindsey ’04 and Lucas ’06) Blair years, as a class of 1968 reunion committee member, as a Blair-Swifts Golf Exchange volunteer and as a participant in the Alumni Weekend Blair Cup Golf Scramble, which his foursome has won several times.

**Milton C. “Skip” Waddell Jr. ’73**

Mr. Waddell earned 10 varsity letters during his Blair athletic career, four each in football and baseball, and two in basketball. A leader on the athletic fields, he co-captained the School’s undefeated 1972 football squad and was named to the first team all-state; he also served as captain of the baseball team. Mr. Waddell continued to play football and baseball at Bucknell University, earning a total of seven varsity letters. As a freshman, he led Bucknell’s baseball team in hitting with a .354 average, and he became the first African-American in school history to earn four varsity letters in the sport.

**Stacey (Gorski) Spring ’95**

Winner of 12 varsity letters and a starter in each season, Mrs. Spring played soccer, basketball and softball as a Buccaneer. Recipient of post-season honors in 11 of those seasons, she co-captained the soccer and softball teams as a senior and was a member of two prep “B” championship teams, including the School’s only girls’ soccer state title in 1993 and a girls’ basketball state title the following winter. Her Blair athletic awards include the Stowell Softball Prize, the Blair Soccer Prize and the William Zester Memorial Award, presented annually to the senior girl who has best represented Blair in athletic competition. A Blair Bogle Brothers Scholar, Mrs. Spring was also recognized for her many contributions to the School community with the David Avery-Jones Freshman Prize, the John Kinch Leach Merit Award and the Lee Rose Memorial Trophy. She matriculated at Middlebury College, where she earned six varsity letters (three in soccer, one in basketball and two in softball). Mrs. Spring and her club softball teammates, with the support of Title IX and the school’s administration, formed Middlebury’s first-ever varsity softball team in spring 1998, and she was a co-captain during the program’s first two years. From 2002 to 2013, Mrs. Spring served on Blair’s faculty as an English and history teacher, as well as a head varsity soccer coach and assistant varsity softball coach. She was recognized for exemplary teaching with the 2012 John C. and Eve S. Bogle Teaching Prize.

**Nicole P. (Armano) Weston ’98**

Captain of Blair’s girls’ soccer, basketball and lacrosse teams, Mrs. Weston was a force to be reckoned with in each of these sports. She was the leading scorer on the soccer team (1995, 1996 and 1997), the basketball team (1998), and the lacrosse team (1998), and she received all-state honors in soccer and lacrosse as a junior and senior and in basketball as a senior. Having earned 12 Blair varsity letters, Mrs. Weston was awarded the Brooks Basketball Prize, the Blair Lacrosse Prize and the William Zester Memorial Prize, presented to the senior female athlete who has best represented Blair in competition. She continued her athletic career at Barnard College, where she played soccer for the Columbia University Lions.

For more about the Athletic Hall of Fame selection process and the selection committee, visit [www.blair.edu/hall-of-fame](http://www.blair.edu/hall-of-fame).
John Giacche ’98

A standout wrestler at Blair, Mr. Giacche was the first Buc to win four national prep championships (1995 at 103 lbs., 1996 at 112 lbs., 1997 at 119 lbs. and 1998 at 125 lbs.) and the third four-time winner in national prep tournament history. He also claimed the 1997 Ironman title (125 lbs.) and competed as a freestyle wrestler at junior nationals, placing fifth in 1997 (123 lbs.) and fourth in 1998 (132 lbs.). He was awarded the Franklin Prize as a senior, an honor accorded to the student in the senior class who has shown the greatest development and improvement throughout the course of his Blair career. Mr. Giacche continued to achieve success as a four-year varsity wrestler and starter at Northwestern University. In 2002, he was an NCAA Division I national qualifier, and he placed first in freestyle wrestling at university nationals (66 kg.). He also received three Northwestern University accolades that year: the Lupton Award for net takedowns, the Jack Riley Award for total falls and the Stuteville Award for season points leader. The university honored Mr. Giacche in 2003 with a Billy McKinney Award, given to the male athlete “who has exhibited exemplary leadership qualities, constant (110-percent) effort and a positive attitude, that, in his coach’s estimation, make him a ‘coach’s dream.’” In addition, he earned multiple academic all-Big Ten honors during his college career.

Charlie A. Villanueva ’03

An NBA player with an illustrious professional basketball career, Mr. Villanueva was a varsity-letter winner in basketball and track at Blair and co-captain of the basketball team his senior year. In 2003, he was named a McDonald’s and Parade magazine All-American, and he received Blair’s Haskins Basketball Prize. A highly sought-after college recruit, Mr. Villanueva continued to play basketball at the University of Connecticut, where he earned Big East All-Rookie team honors as a freshman in 2004 playing for the national champion Huskies. As a sophomore, he led the team in scoring, was named most valuable player and made the second team all-Big East. Declaring for the NBA draft at the conclusion of his sophomore year, Mr. Villanueva began his professional basketball career in 2005 with the Toronto Raptors as the seventh overall draft pick. He has since played for the Milwaukee Bucks (2006-2009), Detroit Pistons (2009-2014) and Dallas Mavericks (2014-2016). Mr. Villanueva is a spokesperson for the National Alopecia Areata Foundation, and he was recognized with two Raptors Community MVP Awards and the February 2006 NBA Cares Community Assist Award for his work with children who have this autoimmune disease. His Blair jersey (number 31) was retired during a 2009 Alumni Weekend ceremony, along with those of fellow Blair NBA players Luol Deng ’03 and Royal Ivey ’00.

Suggest nominees for the Athletic Hall of Fame class of 2019 at www.blair.edu/ahof-nomination by December 31, 2018.
Dennis Wm. Peachey ’62’s Blair relationships run deep. Over the past six decades—since his arrival on campus as a new junior in 1960—he has befriended more Bucs than you can count in his roles as a passionate student, loyal classmate and prefect; a caring teacher, dorm parent and faculty colleague; an involved parent to now-Trustee Derek ’93 and Meghan ’96; and, finally, a dedicated, all-in administrator who helped lead the School through one of the most financially challenging periods in its history.

It should come as no surprise, then, that Dennis’ appreciation for the special quality of Blair relationships led to the creation of the School’s planned giving program. As Assistant Headmaster for Finance and Development in 2001, he drew up plans for the Heritage Society (now the John C. Sharpe Society) and led the effort among staff members and Trustees to rekindle and cement relationships with alumni, parents and friends that would encourage estate gifts to secure Blair’s future.

“Blair was a frontrunner among boarding schools when we established the planned giving program,” Dennis said, noting that people were “very receptive to it” from the beginning. “We had a long history with folks we visited, we knew them, and we knew their families. Planned gifts started to expand exponentially, and the School gained firmer financial footing.”

Of course, Dennis, with the blessing of his wife, Lynn, Hon. ’65 ’74 ’77, was among the first Blair alumni to include a bequest for the School in his will—it was simply something he “had to be upfront about.” He hopes that his gift will help preserve the School as a place where lifelong friendships flourish. “The relationships among students and teachers make Blair a friendlier place,” he said. “I’d like to keep it that way for future generations.”

Dennis retired from Blair in 2006, the year he was diagnosed with Parkinson’s disease, yet his friendships with classmates, alumni, colleagues and others throughout the Blair community remain strong through frequent get-togethers and phone calls. Although he visits campus less regularly now, his interest in his beloved alma mater hasn’t wavered: Assistant Director of Advancement for Capital and Planned Giving Velma Lubliner calls him often to touch base, and one of his first questions is usually, “How’s the enterprise?”

Dennis is pleased that the John C. Sharpe Society continues to grow each year, but, as the architect of planned giving at Blair, he is not surprised. “We have a lot of great programs at Blair, and when people see a successful program, they want to participate and be a part of it.”

“They relationships among students and teachers make Blair a friendlier place. I’d like to keep it that way for future generations.”
Following is a roster of members:

1935
Mrs. Sarah D. Calley

1938
Mrs. John T. Tuttle*

1939
Mrs. William T. Reilly*

1942
Mr. Archer N. Martin II
Mr. David K. Pansius
Mr. Jonathan E. Pansius
Mrs. Robert G. Rouse

1943
Mrs. M. Michael Lobsitz*

1944
Mrs. Nancy LaFountain

1945
Mr. Richard P. Rubenoff

1946
Mr. William R. Hilgendorff, Jr.
Mr. Herbert J. Siegel
Mrs. Beverly M. Weber-Fow

1947
Mr. John C. Bogle*
Mr. William N. Davies

1948
Mr. James K. Meneely, Jr.
Mr. David D. Wakefield

1949
Mr. E. Harrison Eucy, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Neff
Mr. John C. M. Wallace

1950
Ronald E. Philipp, USA Ret.

1951
Bob and Lynne Kiley

1952
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce M. Dayton
Mr. William R. Martens
Mr. Alan R. Mills

1953
Mr. William R. Timken

1954
Mr. Donald H. McCree, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Hobart D. Van Deusen

1955
Robert R. Burn

1956
Mr. Peter M. Black
Mr. Lars T. Carlson
Mr. Raleigh Chinn, Jr.
Mr. Nelson P. Cohen*
Mr. Stewart H. Cole
Mr. Courtney R. Fritts*
Mr. John D. Hatfield

1957
Mr. and Mrs. James H. G. Naishy
Dr. William G. Ovens, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Melvin A. Tabak

1958
Mr. Steven R. Losa
Mrs. Richard S. Ogden
Mrs. Zoe S. Pappas

1959
Mr. Peter K. Austin
Mr. James E. Burcham*
Mr. Theodore A. Doremus, Jr.
Mr. C. David Howell
Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius J. O’Kane

1960
Mr. and Mrs. Philip W. Koebig III

1961
Mr. Stephen E. Barr
Mr. Frank H. Briggs, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W. Everett
Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan E. Paul
Mr. Craig S. Sim
Mr. Howard E. Steilen, Jr.
Mr. Marc W. Suffern II*

1962
Dr. Samuel R. Barnett
Mr. Mark Gottesman
Mr. Willard H. Johnson, Jr.
Mr. Dennis Wm. Peachey*
Mr. Jon L. Ten Haagen

1963
John and Cheryl Alden
The Honorable John D. Case, Jr.
Mr. Brian N. Clayton
Mr. L. Carter Crewe III
Mr. Durfee L. Day, Jr.
Mr. Donald C. Hazard*
Mr. Douglas Henderson
Mrs. Sarah M. Seubel
Mr. Donald K. Uscher, Jr.
Mr. William Stanier and Jennifer Wildrick Family Trust

1964
Dr. Dennis E. Bradford
Arthur and Lori French
Mr. Andros B. Thomson*
Mr. Paul D. Vartanian
Mr. and Mrs. Frank D. Yuengling III

1965
Henry and Cheryl Clutsam
Mr. J. Jeff Corwin
Mr. William W. Durland*
Mr. Robert M. Lay
Mr. Robert S. Weiner*

1966
Mr. James P. Jenkins

1967
Mr. Gregory U. Auger II
Mr. J. Lawrence Snavely

1968
Mr. Arthur T. Ambrose

1969
Michael Cermak
Cleavenger
Mr. Donald B. Fedor
Keith and Debbi Patten
Mr. Jay W. Rubin
Robert Van Stone and
Marian Darlington

1970
Alexander and
Jeanne Sloane

1971
Mr. H. Craig Stem

1973
Ms. Rose Mary Herbst
Mr. James G. Houston
Mr. Stephen G. Kole
Mrs. Melinda M. Shumway

1974
Mr. Neil R. Archer
Mr. Alan H. Gardiner
Ms. Sandra L. Scannelli
Mrs. Denise Stocker Current
Mr. Warren L. Youngblood

1975
Mrs. Jennifer A. Woltjen

1976
Mr. John S. Marhefka
Mr. Keith H. Rauschenbach
and Dr. Joseph Cassidy, Jr.

1977
Mr. Harry D. Gates
Mr. Richard T. Luzzi

1979
Steven and Lin Jastrabek
Marianne Lieberman and
Carolyn Grant

1980
Mr. Scott D. Jones

1982
Mr. William H. Abbott
Roger D. Gershman

1984
Mrs. Kristine C. Lisi

1986
Ms. Linda M. Fellows

1990
Mr. and Mrs. Ned Decker
Mr. and Mrs. David C. Hull, Jr.
Mr. Douglas W. Kimmelman
Dr. and Mrs. Gilbert I. Martin
Mrs. Stacey Willits

1993
Mr. John E. Skvarla III
Ms. Colleen Smarth
Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Solar

* Charter Member

The John C. Sharpe Society Advisory Council is an important volunteer effort for the gift planning program that aims to grow Blair’s endowment, ensuring the future financial stability of the School. Blair is grateful for the service of the members of this committee who advise, advocate and advance planned giving at Blair Academy.

Mr. John E. Alden, Jr. ’63
Mrs. Victoria P. Bailey ’97
Mr. Roger D. Gershman ’82
Dear Members of the Blair Community,

As Chairman of the Board and a parent whose fourth child entered Blair this year as a freshman, I have the pleasure of visiting campus regularly. No matter how many times I drive up the front hill, the beauty of our historic campus never ceases to amaze me. I am proud that our commitment to vibrant community life and superior academic preparation led us to construct two modern and spacious dormitories overlooking Blair Lake, as well as the state-of-the-art Chiang Center for Innovation and Collaboration. Not only have these buildings greatly enhanced our academics, student life and, of course, the first impression Blair makes on prospective families as they arrive on campus, but they are also emblematic of our larger effort to build and maintain facilities and programs that make the Blair experience the best it can be.

None of that would be possible without the steadfast support of our students, parents, alumni, Trustees, faculty, staff and friends, and for that I am deeply grateful. Blair’s greatest asset is its people, and your generosity, financial and otherwise, has helped make our School an exceptional educational institution with a global reputation that grows stronger each year.

As we draft the strategic plan that will chart Blair’s course for the next five to seven years, we reaffirm our commitment to relationship-based learning and forward-thinking education, which continue to be the foundation of a Blair education and the driving force behind every decision we make. Toward this end, our work to enhance Blair facilities will continue in the coming years.

Following the repurposing of Weber Hall as home to the mathematics department and the construction of the technology- and arts-centric Chiang Center in 2017, we are now renovating and adding on to Bogle Hall. Plans for the science building include an 8,000-square-foot addition and refurbishment of every classroom. By the conclusion of the two-phase project in 2019, the building will boast better-equipped labs and optimal classroom spaces, which will no doubt propel our students to even higher levels of achievement.

We also continue to prioritize athletics, and many Buccaneer teams will benefit from a new winter sports complex that will also open in 2019. A portion of our tennis courts will be enclosed in a “bubble” during the coldest months of the year, and the facility will feature indoor courts and a temporary turf field. In addition to offering climate-controlled practice space for our tennis, track, football, field hockey, soccer, baseball, softball and lacrosse teams, the complex will provide a new venue for weekend activities and Headmasters’ Societies Games competitions. This latest addition follows a number of athletics-related upgrades, including opening a new indoor golf training center, replacing our permanent outdoor turf field, renovating basketball locker rooms, constructing a lacrosse practice wall and resurfacing the tennis courts.

All of this work requires firm financial footing, and I am pleased to report that, thanks to the expertise and stewardship of our Investment Committee, Blair’s endowment has reached a record $101 million, $3.9 million of which we drew in 2017-2018 to offset operating expenses and support the $6.7 million we offer in scholarship aid. Moving forward, our goal will continue to be steady, long-range investment returns to best secure Blair’s financial future.

That security also depends on strong fundraising, and our advancement office continues to connect and engage with alumni and parents around the world, underscoring the importance of such support and expressing our gratitude to those who make gifts. The fact that 27 percent of alumni and 85 percent of parents “paid it forward” by giving to Blair is quite a testament to the difference the School makes in the lives of its graduates and their families. In total, we raised more than $9 million: $2.6 million in Blair Fund gifts and $6.4 million in support of capital projects.

Finally, another record-breaking admission season is behind us, and our admission office has done an excellent job of advancing Blair’s name and reputation in new and existing markets. In 2017-2018, we received more than 2,100 inquiries, 1,180 applications and enrolled 140 new students. I look forward to getting to know our new students—and watching my own son, Scottie, grow and flourish as a member of the class of 2022—during my visits to campus in the coming year. I know he and his classmates will embrace life at Blair under the guidance of our dedicated administrators, faculty and staff, whose expertise, mentorship and care for students are so integral to the robust state of the School today.

Thank you again for your dedication to Blair. It is indeed a special, thriving place, in no small part because of your support and generosity.

With much gratitude,

Doug Kimmelman P’12 ’13 ’15 ’22
Board Chairman
### Scholarships

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<td>Lee Rose Memorial Trophy</td>
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<td>James R. Kelley Sabbatical</td>
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### Teaching

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### Other Endowment

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<td>Class of 1968 Society of Skeptics Endowment Fund</td>
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<td>Sallyann and Alfred S. Dally, Sr. '43 Library Fund</td>
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<td>Robert L. Marcalus, Jr. '65 Tree Fund</td>
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<td>Ryan Andrews Newton '08 Global Service Award</td>
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### Total Endowment

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### Capital Restricted

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<td>General Building Fund</td>
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<td>Golf Course Renovations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unrestricted 2015 Project Fund</td>
<td>$300,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted Project Fund</td>
<td>$434,104.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weber Math Renovations</td>
<td>$67,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter Sports Complex</td>
<td>$500,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Capital Restricted</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4,921,899.04</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total Realized Capital Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Realized Capital Development</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,474,847.84</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Capital gifts are allocated toward the endowment or the physical plant. These contributions enrich the lives of students and faculty through scholarships, faculty enrichment, travel programs and capital building projects.
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BLAIR BULLETIN 87
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Mr. and Mrs. Michael Darling
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Mr. and Mrs. Jytomirowy Dev
Ms. Raleigh F. Dierlamy ’09
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Mr. and Mrs. Edward Feldman ’52
Reverend and Mrs. William F. Feus ’84
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Mr. and Mrs. Herbert F. Fisher ’51
Mr. Dennis W. Flores ’07
Mr. Robert J. Foley and Mrs. Hollie S. Foley ’93
Mr. and Mrs. Jay C. Garrels ’01
Ms. Deirdre M. Garrett ’73 and Mr. David Weber
Mrs. Diane L. Gaul
Mr. Daniel B. Geller ’14
Dr. and Mrs. Jay D. Geller
Mr. Joseph S. Geller ’12
Mr. Michael F. Geller ’10
Ms. Shoshana M. Geller ’16
Mr. Harrison B. Gentry ’75
Mr. and Mrs. Roger D. Gershman ’82
Dr. and Mrs. Michael H. Gewitz ’66
Mr. and Mrs. John V. Kennard ’64
Dr. and Mrs. Peter W. McKinney ’52
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew H. Miller
Mr. and Mrs. Mark A. Jones, Sr.
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Mr. John H. Lewis, Jr. ’54
Mr. Jordan N. Liebowitz ’06
Dr. and Mrs. Robert M. Liegner ’74
Mr. and Mrs. Ernst Lippert
Mrs. Kristine C. Lisi ’84
Mr. David T. Low, Jr. ’89 and
Mrs. Elizabeth Linn Low
Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon R. Lubliner
Mr. and Mrs. Scott D. Madara
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald L. Manning ’62
Mrs. Lana K. Marks
Mr. and Mrs. Darin Martini
Mr. and Mrs. Roy T. Mattucci ’51
Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell J. Mayer
Mr. and Mrs. John M. McCaffry ’09
Mr. and Mrs. McKinley C. McCadoo
Mr. Graham N. McConnell ’10
Mr. and Mrs. Scott E. McKee ’77
Dr. and Mrs. Peter W. McKinney ’52
Ms. Jessica E. McShane ’03
Dr. and Mrs. Donald H. Mershon ’62
Mr. and Mrs. Andrew H. Miller
Mrs. Cara B. Mohlmann
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Morgan Stanley Employee Giving Programs
Mr. Alex S. Motiuk ’08
My Tribute Gift Foundation, Inc.
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Mr. and Mrs. Patrick A. Nolan
Dr. and Mrs. Paul D. O’Halloran
Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius J. O’Kane ’59
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ortiz ’74
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Pak ’89
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher M. Hall
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Mr. David R. Vachris
Mr. Joseph Wagner
Mrs. Lisa Wang
Mr. Edward T. Wenner ’96
Mrs. Judith W. Wenner
Mrs. Ann Williams
Ms. Caroline A. Wilson
Mr. Roy Wilson
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Class Representatives</th>
<th>Members</th>
<th>No. of Donors</th>
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<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>11</td>
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<td>23</td>
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<td>19</td>
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<td>1959</td>
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<td>25</td>
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<td>44</td>
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<td>1961</td>
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<td>59</td>
<td>21</td>
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<td>1962</td>
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<td>60</td>
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<td>28</td>
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<td>Christopher Barrington, David Sculnick</td>
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<td>18</td>
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<td>1967</td>
<td>Gregory Auger, Barry Smith, Larry Snively</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>$18,748.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Richard Rubin</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>$110,771.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>Trey Bohn, Bob Jenkins, Chris Leverich, Fred Mirbach, Keith Patten</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>$24,187.94</td>
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<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>Alex Sloane</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>$10,248.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>Mike Lieberman</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>$26,719.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>Greg Washburn, Pieter Woodcock</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>$3,348.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>Bonnie Nault, Thomas McLean</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>$16,754.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>Jo Iglesias, David Lieberman, John Rea</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>$102,405.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>Laura Morris, Rob Sigety, Jenny Woltjen</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>$10,616.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1976</td>
<td>Neal Sigety, David Waddell</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>$139,123.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>Harry Gates, Lee Horne, Richard Luzzi</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>$3,898.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>Doug Linton, Joey Waddell</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>$16,203.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Ken Deneau, Guy Saxton, Susan Ullmann</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>$92,449.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>Katherine Henry-Schill, Donna Haag</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>$11,537.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Holly Anderson-Bender, David Owen</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>$5,675.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Bill Abbott, Marivelle Clavel-Davis</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>$2,500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Liam Blume</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>$7,208.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Kris Lisi</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>$23,353.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>Amelia Wolfe, Chris Wolfe</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>$9,100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Linda Fellows, Jules Santella, Rada Starkey</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>$55,898.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Marnie Raines Almand</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>$4,585.00</td>
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</table>
### Alumni and Current Parent Giving:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Class Representatives</th>
<th>Members</th>
<th>No. of Donors</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Total Giving</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Chuck Inkeles</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>$24,324.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Chrysta Argue, David T. Low</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>$7,896.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>Heather Loeber, Ned Montenecourt, Todd Smith</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>$11,349.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Erin Cosgrave, Meredith Magrone-Wracek, Beth Webster</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>$6,818.00</td>
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<td>1992</td>
<td>Sarah Burke Mullins, Carrie Giddins Pergram, Sonig Schiller</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>$3,697.85</td>
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<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Bern Clifford, John Inkeles</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>$88,449.12</td>
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<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Bryan Kelly, JP Weesner, Jo Wrezinsky</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>$2,057.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Stephanie Marcial, E. Courtney Stanford</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>$3,690.18</td>
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<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Stef Kuhner, Summer Passannante, Craig Powell</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>$4,933.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Christy Burkart, Ryan Pagotto</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>$11,630.84</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>Brian Agresta, Charisse Manzi, Jamyl Peters</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>$3,169.98</td>
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<td>1999</td>
<td>Megan Apgar, Bridget Hodakowski, Amy Jablonski, Katie Piotrowski, Mark Rosenthal</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>$2,104.66</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Logan Garrels, Andy Peters, Ronnie Reo, Meredith Seidel Wells</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>$1,349.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Kristen Bogart, Maria Lieberman Smalley</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>$8,553.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Meredith Gal, Chelsea Grefe, Steph Leal-Garbutt</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>$5,084.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Jessica Hess, Brandon Lucien, Christine Nalty, Liz Ricca, Sarah Soden, Stephanie Tucker, Mike Wilson</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>$19,641.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Matt Dwyer, Kaitlin Maillet Matyasovsky, Phil Mauriello</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>$35,276.04</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Mollie Dawson, Chris Gatsch, Mary Hall, Kat Nelson, Julian Swayze</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>$8,886.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Anthony Eu, Alex Graber, Elizabeth Kasel, Anne Newall, Sarah Pearson White</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>$2,930.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Kymbia Ainsworth, Alison Crevi, Maggie Harding, Marisa Nedderman, Cooper Smith</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>$11,824.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Dylan Evans, Lexi Gilmartin, Maddy Hargis, Iris Johnson, Todd Lewis, Alex Motuk, Ashley Thompson, Samantha Tilney, Tina Tozzi</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>$9,991.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Melissa Collins, Margaret DeOliveira, Raleigh Dierlam, Janak Padhiar</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>$3,519.09</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Sarah Bugen, Jin Chung, Mike DeTogni, Dillon Hoffman, Becca Litvin, Brittany Small, Saul Sparber, Neil Zimmermann</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>$13,240.10</td>
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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Anu Akinbamidele, Emily Collins, Maggie Hoffman, Nicholas Hogan, Quinn McKay, Rebecca Smith</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>$1,855.44</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Meredith Berry-Toon, Olivia Davis, Tim Hettinger, Ali Johnson, Max Kaplan, Tim Kui, Phoebe O’Rourke, Casondra Peretore</td>
<td>132</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>$3,198.34</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Council Dawson, Rebecca Hargis, Tatiana Kalainoff, Danny Kim, Maddie Kling, Ben Meisel, Claire Ryder, Kyle Tierney</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>$1,466.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Demetrius Daltrius, Graham Merrifield, Sara Moran, Abby Troy</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>$7,509.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Bre Cavanaugh, Lucy Drinkwater, Sophia Elghanayan, Ethan Simon</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>$1,667.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Shoshana Geller</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>$4,218.48</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Catharine Berry-Toon, Christopher Berry-Toon, Lauren Tung</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>$16,289.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Max Cavallaro, Savannah Doelfel, Clara McGrath, Jason Pan</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>$902.44</td>
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### Total Giving:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>No. of Donors</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Total Giving</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual &amp; Capital Fund Total</td>
<td>1,706</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>$2,170,273.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni</td>
<td>1,706</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>$2,170,273.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Parent</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>$4,479,689.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past Parent</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>$1,824,569.37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friend</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>$1,673,000.45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matching Gift Company</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>$82,184.43</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundation</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>$2,410,914.93</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corporation</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>$1,414,982.88</td>
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</table>

*Total: $9,076,124.96*

*Alumni and current parent totals include matching gift company giving.
*Current parents who are also alumni are recognized in both categories.
*Foundation giving has also been credited to the category of the donor who directed the gift.
*Note: The numbers in this publication are not audited and are for recognition purposes only.
The Blair Honor Roll—Giving by Class

Listed below are all donors who contributed to either the Blair Fund or a Capital Fund during the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

1939
Class Giving: $1.00
Donors: 1
Participation: 33%
Mr. George T. Stern*

1940
Class Giving: $350.00
Donors: 2
Participation: 67%
Mr. James A. Browning
Mr. William C. Myers

1941
Class Giving: $1,000.00
Donors: 1
Participation: 33%
Mr. Robert C. McCarthy*

1942
Class Giving: $6,843.35
Donors: 4
Participation: 57%
Class Rep: Robert M. Fuller
Mr. Robert M. Fuller*
Mr. James C. Gorman*
Mr. Archer N. Martin II *
Mr. Kenneth W. Whitney, Sr.*

1943 - 75th Reunion
Class Giving: $1,948.00
Donors: 4
Participation: 33%
Class Rep: Hobart D. Van Deusen '54
Mr. Frank A. DiPaolo*
Mr. Charles T. Hall*

1944
Class Giving: $10,160.00
Donors: 7
Participation: 29%
Class Rep: Robert V. Metz
Mr. Robert Brinkerhoff*
Mrs. Nancy LaFountain*
Mr. William C. Lippincott*
Mr. Richard W. Rowe*

1945
Class Giving: $1,350.00
Donors: 7
Participation: 50%
Class Rep: William Y. Bogle III
Mr. William Y. Bogle III*
Mr. Robert M. Burger
Mr. Blair M. Davis*
Mr. Ronald A. Engelhardt*
Mr. John J. Fletcher*
Mr. Robert F. LeVine*
Mr. Jack A. MacNair*

1946
Class Giving: $312,050.00
Donors: 10
Participation: 63%
Mr. Andrew Davlin, Jr.*
Dr. David W. H. Harvey
Mr. Ralph E. Hersey, Jr.*
Mr. William R. Hilgendorff, Jr.*
Mr. Philip D. Jennison
Mr. George F. J. Mayrho* Mr. Charles J. Mosmann
Dr. John F. Rose, Jr.*
Mr. Herbert J. Siegel*
Mr. Frank J. Spitalny*

1947
Class Giving: $64,978.00
Donors: 16
Participation: 55%
Class Rep: Elmer A. Bannan
Arnold C. Schneider, Jr.
Mr. Elmer A. Bannan*
Mr. John C. Bogle*
Mr. Donald E. Carey
Rev. Dr. James H. Chesnutt*
Mr. Anthony E. DeFasi
Dr. Laurence W. Goodman*
Mr. Gordon Granger*
Mr. Gerald C. Kinne
Mr. Arthur D. Lane, Jr.*
Prof. Christian H. Moe
Mr. Richard B. Oughton*
Mr. J. Mitchell Reese, Jr.
Mr. Alfred M. Schmidt, Jr.
Mr. Arnold C. Schneider, Jr.*
Mr. James C. Welming, Sr.
Mr. J. Brooks West*

1948 - 70th Reunion
Class Giving: $35,535.50
Donors: 7
Participation: 23%
Class Rep: Thomas M. Behnfield
Martin S. Simon
David D. Wakefield
Mr. William J. Harvey, Jr.
Mr. James G. Ling
Mr. James K. Meeley, Jr.*
Dr. Wilfred M. Potter*
Dr. Alan A. Siegel
Mr. Martin S. Simon*
Mr. David D. Wakefield*

1949
Class Giving: $7,289.50
Donors: 11
Participation: 34%
Class Rep: Arnold T. Koch, Jr.
Robert A. Neff
Mr. James L. Aberle*
Mr. Ralph P. Balzac*
Mr. John B. Collins
Mr. Arnold T. Koch, Jr.*
Mr. Donald H. Leber*
Mr. Victor Meyers
Mr. Robert A. Neff*
Mr. Staats M. Pellett, Jr.*
Mr. Mark H. Schaul, Jr.
Mr. James R. Tompkins*
Mr. John C. M. Wallace*

1950
Class Giving: $16,650.00
Donors: 6
Participation: 17%
Mr. Howard A. Aranson*
Mr. William K. Doppstadt*
Mr. Donald E. Freudenheim*
Mr. Bruce R. Goddin
Mr. William P. McElwain
Col. Ronald E. Philipp, USA Ret.*

1951
Class Giving: $262,098.00
Donors: 23
Participation: 53%
Class Rep: Robert E. Kiley
Frederick W. Rose, Esq.
Mr. Charles A. Asselin*
Mr. Donald C. Beck
Mr. William A. Benton*
Mr. Allan J. Brodsky
Mr. Bruce K. Byers*
Mr. James W. Davison
Mr. Herbert F. Fisher
Mr. G. William Hamilton*
Mr. Roger W. Hatfield
Mr. Wesley C. Herbold
Mr. Eugene W. Holland*
Mr. Paul D. Jacobs*
Mr. James R. Kelley, Sr.*
Mr. Robert E. Kiley*
Mr. C. Thomas King, Jr.
Dr. William Krautz
Mr. Rodney W. Kruse*
Mr. Roy T. Mattucci
Mr. Irving C. Pettit, Jr.
Mr. Dominick V. Romano*
Mr. Frederick W. Rose, Esq.*
Mr. Robert H. Stark*
Mr. David R. Townley*

1952
Class Giving: $10,110.00
Donors: 10
Participation: 30%
Class Rep: Robert L. Merner
Mr. David A. Brands, Sr.
Rev. Charles L. Cureton III
Mr. Bruce M. Dayton*
Mr. Edward Feldman*
Mr. Edwin R. Janes
Mr. Richard A. Kahn*
Mr. Robert M. Lerner*
Mr. William R. Martens*
Dr. Peter W. McKinney
Mr. V. Robert Tedesco*

1953 - 65th Reunion
Class Giving: $30,149.17
Donors: 10
Participation: 30%
Class Rep: James Youngelson
Mr. Randall K. Beck*
Rev. Henry M. Bruen, Jr.
Mr. Anthony J. Cera*
Mr. Richard Frank*
Mr. Alan W. Noyes* Mr. Robert A. Spindler* Mr. Herbert D. Sturman* Mr. William R. Timken* Mrs. Gladys Van Brederode* Mr. James Youngelson*

1954
Class Giving: $47,242.00
Donors: 20
Participation: 53%
Class Rep: Hobart D. Van Deusen
Dr. Gerald A. Bruno* Dr. Albert R. Casazza*
Mr. H. Norman Davies, Jr.*
Dr. William S. Dudley*
Mr. M. Michael Gales*
Mr. Thomas N. Griffith* Mr. Bruce B. Haselman Mr. Robert M. Hawekotte, Jr.* Mr. Paul M. Heagy* Mr. Theodor H. Horstmann Mr. Robert N. Hunziker*
Mr. Louis T. Kuls* Mr. John H. Lewis, Jr.* Mr. William E. Marcus Mr. Donald H. McCreve, Jr.* Mr. Donald H. McKeown* Dr. Edwin I. Megargee* Mr. David P. Sleeper* Mr. Raymond E. Soriano Mr. Hobart D. Van Deusen*

1955
Class Giving: $28,226.00
Donors: 15
Participation: 30%
Class Rep: George H. Brooks
Robert R. Burn
Gene A. Losa
Mr. William F. Bash*
Dr. John A. Beisler
Mr. Robert R. Burn*
Dr. John R. Burton*
Mr. Robert H. Everson*
Mr. Richard V. Huebner, Jr.*
Col. Gene A. Losa, USA Ret.*
Mr. Anthony J. Maltese, Jr.*
Mr. Thomas S. Martin*
Mr. Lance G. Minnich*
Col. Robert M. Novogratz, USA Ret.*
Mr. John D. Oliver* Mr. Paul F. Paffendorf
Mr. Neil O. Reichard
Mr. Anthony C. Rohrs*

1956
Class Giving: $12,162.56
Donors: 35
Participation: 78%
Class Rep: Nelson P. Cohen
Courtney R. Fritts
Mr. A. Martin Ball*
Prof. Richard T. Barber*
Mr. Sidney J. Baumann

* Denotes five or more fiscal years of consecutive giving
**All-Time Reunion Class Gift Records**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reunion Year</th>
<th>Highest Participation Percentage</th>
<th>Highest Dollars Raised</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60th Reunion</td>
<td>Class of 1956 74%</td>
<td>Class of 1964 $98,770</td>
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<tr>
<td>55th Reunion</td>
<td>Class of 1956 91%</td>
<td>Class of 1953 $1,094,448</td>
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<tr>
<td>50th Reunion</td>
<td>Class of 1945 100%</td>
<td>Class of 1966 $385,656</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45th Reunion</td>
<td>Class of 1944 59%</td>
<td>Class of 1963 $248,260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40th Reunion</td>
<td>Class of 1961 60%</td>
<td>Class of 1976 $218,684</td>
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<tr>
<td>35th Reunion</td>
<td>Class of 1956 46%</td>
<td>Class of 1974 $80,040</td>
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<tr>
<td>30th Reunion</td>
<td>Class of 1977 55%</td>
<td>Class of 1974 $64,312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th Reunion</td>
<td>Class of 1990 58%</td>
<td>Class of 1993* $88,449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th Reunion</td>
<td>Class of 1974 35%</td>
<td>Class of 1984 $16,535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th Reunion</td>
<td>Class of 1981 39%</td>
<td>Class of 1993 $30,764</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th Reunion</td>
<td>Class of 2002 46%</td>
<td>Class of 2003 $14,798</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Reunion</td>
<td>Class of 2008 75%</td>
<td>Class of 2006 $12,482</td>
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*New record established this year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Highest Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Class of 1968 40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Class of 1942 43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>Class of 1956 35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Class of 1965 43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Class of 1964 32%</td>
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* Denotes five or more fiscal years of consecutive giving

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**Alumni Weekend Reunion Attendance Records**

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Highest Percentage</th>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>Class of 1968 40%</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>Class of 1942 43%</td>
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* Denotes five or more fiscal years of consecutive giving
| Year | Class Giving | Donors | Participation | Class Rep: 
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<td>Dr. Samuel R. Barnett*</td>
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<td>Dr. E. Scott Urdang</td>
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* Denotes five or more fiscal years of consecutive giving
2017-2018 Alumni Association Board of Governors

The Alumni Association Board of Governors promotes a continuing, meaningful and effective relationship between alumni and the School. The Board of Governors acts as an advisory body to the Head of School, with whom they meet regularly, and focuses on alumni relations, communications, reunion planning and fundraising.

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President
Ms. Katie M. Maillet
Matyasovsky ’04
Vice President
Mr. Derek M. Peachey ’93
Trustee Liaison
Dr. Bruce D. Holstein ’78
Secretary
Ms. Edwina O. Adrien ’06
Dr. Laura A. Covucci-Sacks ’84

Mr. Jack D. Silverstein
Mr. James H. Van Kirk
Mr. Milton C. Waddell, Jr.
Mrs. Barbara G. Walsh*

1974
Class Giving: $102,405.00
Donors: 25
Participation: 21%
Class Rep: Josefina I. Iglesias
David B. Lieberman
John D. Rea
Mr. William S. Ashton*
Mr. Russell F. Collins
Mr. James A. Dalis*
Mr. Peter A. Engelhardt*
Mr. James V. Ferrara
Mr. A. Jon Frere
Mr. John H. Greer, Jr.
Mr. Susan T. Howard*
Mrs. Joseph I. Iglesias*
Mr. David B. Lieberman*
Mr. Mark T. Lieberman*
Dr. Robert M. Liegner*
Ms. Debra Q. Markowitz*
Mr. Blair H. Mathies, Jr.
Ms. Pamela L. Olsyn*
Mr. Robert Ortiz
Mrs. Lynn M. Peachey*
Mr. John D. Rea*
Mr. Dominick J. Romano*
Mr. R. Todd Ruppert
Ms. Sandra L. Scannell*
Mr. Ronald W. Spain*
Mrs. Denise Stocker Current*
Mr. Gary R. Swartz
Mr. Stanton B. Woodcock

1975
Class Giving: $10,616.00
Donors: 13
Participation: 18%
Class Rep: Laura C. Morris
Robert G. Sigety
Jennifer A. Wolfjen
Mr. Steven B. Abrams
Ms. Anne E. Cramer, Esq.*
Mr. Harrison B. Gentry*
Mrs. Anne B. Gelich
Mr. Kim K. Lee
Dr. Jeffrey S. Liva
Mr. Mark McCluski
Mrs. Barbara J. Morgan
Mrs. Laura C. Morris
Ms. Linda Pettie
Mr. Robert G. Sigety*
Mrs. Jennifer A. Wolfjen*
Mr. Daniel E. Wyckoff

1976
Class Giving: $139,123.00
Donors: 212
Participation: 19%
Class Rep: Cornelius E. Sigety
David L. Waddell
Mr. Preston P. Davis*
Mr. Jeffrey A. Flannard
Mrs. Janet R. Harrington*
Dr. Jeffrey T. Liegner*
Mr. Randall B. Lloyd
Mr. Lester H. Oakes*
Mr. William D. Pinkham III*
Mr. Keith D. Rauschenbach*
Ms. Loretta C. Roberto
Mr. and Mrs. David P. Romano*
Mr. Cornelius E. Sigety*
Mr. David L. Waddell

1977
Class Giving: $3,898.00
Donors: 18
Participation: 21%
Class Rep: Harry D. Gates
Lee Home
Richard T. Luzzi
Mr. Calman J. Ambrosy III*
Ms. Catherine L. Blackburn
Dr. David A. Costa*
Mr. Carl D. Gandel*
Mr. Harry D. Gates*
Ms. Lee Home*
Mr. Richard T. Luzzi, Esq.*
Mrs. Patrice Maillet*
Mr. Eric T. Maine*
Mrs. Jenny S. Maine*
Mrs. Michelle C. Maloney*
Mr. Scott E. McKee*
Mr. John Neumann
Mr. Hugh M. Richardson*
Mr. Pasquale T. Romano, Jr.
Ms. Lisa J. Scheller*
Mr. Henry F. Schmidt IV*
Mr. David R. Stewart*

1978 - 40th Reunion
Class Giving: $16,203.00
Donors: 14
Participation: 19%
Class Rep: Douglas R. Linton III
Joseph E. Waddell
Mr. John A. Costa*
Mr. Richard S. Harrison*
Dr. Bruce D. Holstein*
Ms. Christine A. Kazal
Maj. Douglas R. Linton III*
Mr. W. Brandt Nako
Ms. Patience M. Osborn Chalmers
Mr. Barth E. Rubin
Mr. Christian C. Schneider
Mr. Dean G. Tanella
Mr. Joseph E. Waddell
Mr. D. Scott Woodcock
Mrs. Rita I. Worman
Mrs. Barbara F. Zellmer*

1979
Class Giving: $92,449.00
Donors: 12
Participation: 15%
Class Rep: Kenneth A. Deneau
Guy N. Saxton
Susanne E. Ullmann
Ms. Edythe D. Bertoldo
Mr. Edward L. Brown*
Ms. Carolyn M. Confotti-Browse*
Mrs. Bridget Davis
Mr. Steven J. Jastrabek*
Ms. Karen A. Kay*
Ms. Marianne Lieberman*
Mr. G. David MacEwen*
Mr. Guy N. Saxton*
Dr. Tamsen I. Thorpe
Ms. Susanne E. Ullmann*
Mr. Raymond J. Vass*

* Denotes five or more fiscal years of consecutive giving
1980
Class Giving: $11,537.00
Donors: 10
Participation: 13%
Class Rep: Katherine T. Henry-Schill
Donna S. Haag
Ms. Jennifer L. Anderson
Mr. Morgan D. Borger*
Mr. Daniel B. Griggs, Jr.
Mrs. Donna S. Haag*
Mrs. Katherine T. Henry-Schill*
Mr. Paul J. Holenstein*
Mr. Scott D. Jones*
Mr. Coray S. Kirby*
Mr. James P. Maguire, Jr.*
Mr. Jay C. Saunders*
Mr. Leon D. Greenberg
Mrs. Melissa J. Henderson Koenig*
Mrs. Jennifer G. Holenstein*
Mrs. Kristine C. Lisi*
Mr. Armando Matos*
Dr. Liza O'Dowd*
Dr. Darren K. Sacks*
Mr. Richard C. Wilt III

1981
Class Giving: $5,675.00
Donors: 10
Participation: 13%
Class Rep: Holly J. Anderson-Bender
David E. Owen IV
Mrs. Holly J. Anderson-Bender*
Ms. Tracy A. Asselin
Mr. Kevin W. Detrick
Mr. Thomas C. Fountain*
Mrs. Laura A. Irwin
Mr. Russell Irwin
Ms. Suzanne G. Joris
Dr. Martin S. Miller*
Mrs. Sandra L. Olsen Braun*
Mr. Christopher R. Orben*

1982
Class Giving: $2,500.00
Donors: 0
Participation: 10%
Class Rep: William H. Abbott
Marivelle S. Clavel-Davis
Mr. William H. Abbott*
Mrs. Kirsten T. Bushick*
Mrs. Marivelle S. Clavel-Davis*
Mr. Andrew S. Carpuet
Mr. Roger D. Gershman*
Mr. William G. Holenstein*
Mr. George F. Landegger, Jr.
Mr. David M. Lieberman*
Mr. Peter A. Metz

1983 - 35th Reunion
Class Giving: $7,208.00
Donors: 6
Participation: 8%
Class Rep: William F. Blume
Mr. Ronald G. Bowman*
Mr. Roger W. Clarke
Mr. David A. DiGioia*
Mr. Thomas L. Kehoe, Jr.
Mrs. Alyson L. Peacock*
Mr. Ramzi Y. Rishan*

1984
Class Giving: $23,353.00
Donors: 13
Participation: 13%
Class Rep: Kristine C. Lisi
Mrs. Noreen M. Britt*
Mrs. Elizabeth W. Carroll
Ms. Lai Yuen Chiang*
Dr. Laura A. Covucci-Sacks*
Rev. William F. Feus*

1985
Class Giving: $9,100.00
Donors: 13
Participation: 14%
Class Rep: Amelia C. Wolfe
Christian K. Wolfe
Mrs. Hilary V. Archibald
Mr. Kevin T. Callen
Mrs. Susan S. Cashin
Mr. Yan-Tong Chang
Mr. Craig R. Haddow*
Mr. Robert E. Hunt
Mr. Michael J. Lehman*
Mrs. Jessie E. Martin*
Mr. James F. Redfern, Jr.*
Mrs. Lisa M. Selesky-Nacino*
Mr. John P. Shipley*
Mrs. Amelia C. Wolfe*
Mr. Christian K. Wolfe*

1986
Class Giving: $55,898.00
Donors: 13
Participation: 13%
Class Rep: Linda M. Fellows
Julia K. Santella
Rada T. Starkey
Mr. Chi-Kin Chiang
Dr. Amy L. Covucci-Cornelius
Mrs. Carina C. Davidson
Ms. Linda M. Fellows*
Mr. William F. Karn*
Mr. Marshall J. Kiev
Mr. Erik M. Kindblom*
Ms. Caroline B. Manogue*
Mr. Thomas B. McClintock
Mr. Jeffrey J. Russell
Mr. Sean P. Smith*
Mrs. Rada T. Starkey*
Mrs. Tina Vandersteel Cressotti*

1987
Class Giving: $4,585.00
Donors: 10
Participation: 10%
Class Rep: Marnie S. Raines-Almand
Mrs. Marnie Raines-Almand
Mr. Quinten A. Clarke
Mr. Noel E. Clavel
Mr. Craig U. Dana, Jr.*
Mr. Philip M. Hestmetter
Mr. Nicolas E. P. Mosko*
Mr. John V. Rawson III
Mrs. Diana P. Schad*
Mr. Domingo P.Such III
Ms. Heather M. Wooding*

1988 - 30th Reunion
Class Giving: $24,324.00
Donors: 17
Participation: 18%
Class Rep: Charles H. A. Inkeles
Mr. Willard A. Anderson II*

1989
Class Giving: $7,896.00
Donors: 13
Participation: 13%
Class Rep: Chrysta A. Argue
David T. Low, Jr.
Mrs. Chrysta A. Argue*
Mrs. Jennifer J. Bear-Molnoff
Mr. Gary H. Cheng
Mrs. Tamara C. Duffy*
Mr. Joshua B. George*
Lt. Col. William S. Kohmuench
Mr. Stirling B. Levy*
Mr. David T. Low, Jr.*
Mr. Shindana B. Montague
Mr. Eugene Pak*
Mr. Geoffrey M. Shearing
Mrs. Christina H. Slimack
Ms. Lesley H. Underwood*

1990
Class Giving: $11,349.15
Donors: 17
Participation: 15%
Class Rep: Heather K. Loeber
Ed E. Montenecourt
Todd C. Smith
Dr. Danielle M. Buda
Mr. Jason K. Cashill
Ms. Singleton A. Cox*
Mrs. Andrea L. Fleming*
Mr. P. Seth Greer*
Dr. Barbara L. Inkeles*
Mrs. Heather K. Loeber*
Mr. Tyler P. Magnusson
Ms. Shari F. Markoff
Mr. Jun Nakagawa
Mrs. Jill A. Prehooda Coleman*
Ms. Anna Ring*
Mr. Steven M. Roethke
Mr. Todd C. Smith*
Mr. Douglas R. Sweeney*
Mr. Vincent A. Vesce*
Mr. James J. Waterer

1991
Class Giving: $6,618.00
Donors: 13
Participation: 12%
Class Rep: Erin M. Cosgrove
Meredith Magrone-Wiacek
Elizabeth W. Webster
Mrs. Erica E. Bromley*
Mr. David Leonardis*
Ms. Meredith Magrone-Wiacek
Mrs. Kim J. McMorrow
Mr. Jonathan B. Morgan
Mrs. Sarah H. O’Connor
Ms. Katherine L. Oxley*
Dr. Tiffany S. Russell
Mr. Alexander M. Scharnberg*
Mr. Brian R. Shumaker
Mr. Keith R. Walker
Mrs. Elizabeth W. Webster*
Ms. Elisabeth J. Wenner*

1992
Class Giving: $3,697.85
Donors: 15
Participation: 15%
Class Rep: Sarah E. Burke Mullins
Carrie Giddins Pergram
Sona D. Schiller
Ms. Susan A. Astheimer*
Mr. Drew N. Behmer*
Ms. Sarah E. Burke Mullins*
Dr. Darryl M. DeMarzio
Mr. Theodore J. Doremus
Mr. George J. Ernst, Jr.*
Mrs. Carrie Giddins Pergram*
Mrs. Eliza R. Gold*
Mr. Gregg L. Imperato
Mr. Jordan R. Kobert*
Dr. Vikram B. Mansharamani*
Mr. Daniel C. Millner*
Dr. Anup B. Modula
Mrs. Sona D. Schiller*
Mrs. Tasha R. Williams-Arroyo

1993 - 25th Reunion
Class Giving: $88,449.12
Donors: 26
Participation: 24%
Class Rep: Bernadette M. Clifford
John J. W. Inkeles
Capt. Brian Antonelli*
Ms. Bernadette M. Clifford*
Mrs. Molly A. Dunne*
Ms. Samantha D. Elliott
Lt. Cmdr. David W. Filanowicz, USN
Mrs. Melissa O. Fisher
Mrs. Hollie S. Foley
Mrs. Melane Goord*
Mrs. Lauren N. Haley*
Mr. Hyun Seok Hwang*
Mr. John J. W. Inkeles*
Mr. John D. Leonardis*
Ms. Melissa F. Matarazzo
Mr. James M. Moore*
Mr. Mark W. Neilian
Mrs. Katherine A. Palmer
Dr. Ian M. Paterson*
Mr. Derek M. Peachey*
Mr. Paul D. Resler
Ms. Karin E. Roethke-Kahn*
Ms. Nicole Y. Shumaker
Mrs. Nicole Tipton
Dr. Christopher R. Wawrzyniak
Mr. Chester C. Weber*
Mr. Richard W. Wiacek
Mr. Walter B. West II

* Denotes five or more fiscal years of consecutive giving
2017-2018 Reunion Committees

Reunion Committee volunteers help to ensure their classes have meaningful Alumni Weekend experiences. Committee members reconnect with classmates, encourage Alumni Weekend attendance and lead class gift efforts. Blair is grateful for the long tradition of generous donations to the School by reunion classes that commemorate these milestones to benefit current students and faculty.

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Mr. Dennis N. Bertland ’68
Mr. Richard V. Boak ’68
Mr. Mark W. Conner ’68
Mr. Stephen Dunn ’68
Mr. Theodore L. Haff III ’68
Mr. Charles H. Horn, Esq. ’68
Mr. Richard Mark’s ’68
Mr. George T. Mehalko, Jr. ’68
Mr. Ted P. Pearce ’68
Mr. Edmund R. Pennock ’68
Mr. Jonathan W. Peters ’68
Mr. Richard A. Rubin ’68
Mr. Theodore B. Scherf ’68
Mr. Christopher H. Schimmel ’68
Mr. Craig N. Scott ’68
Mr. Jonathan S. Slaff ’68
Mr. Henry A. van der Kwast ’68
Mr. Mark A. Wadmond ’68
Ms. Aileen M. Gaumond ’73
Ms. Emily M. Ferguson*
Mr. Andrew R. Heinze ’73
Ms. Aileen M. Gaumond ’73
Mr. Mark A. Wadmond ’68
Ms. Aileen M. Gaumond ’73
Dr. Andrew R. Heinze ’73
Mr. Darryl L. Jeffries ’73
Mr. Thomas E. McLean ’73
Ms. Leslie A. Drescher
Ms. Emily M. Ferguson*
Mrs. Alexandra F. Foresman Sifers
Ms. Jennifer B. Harper*
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Mr. Daisuke M. Nakamura
Mr. Brandon D. Nothstine
Mr. Guillermo Pineda-Bours*
Mrs. Liesel J. Schopper*
Mr. Andrew B. Solar*
Mrs. Stacey A. Spring*
Capt. Caren M. Standfast, USMC
Mrs. Tara L. Prezioso
Mrs. Courtney C. Rathweg*
Mr. Aaron J. Rettaliata*
Mrs. Jaclyn M. Roecker*
Ms. April M. Ruggiero
Ms. Kelly S. Sokol
Mr. Francis A. Volpe
Mr. Edward T. Wenner*
Mr. Ryan P. McCarthy
Mr. Gordon H. Hull
Mr. Richard R. Pearce
Mr. Theodore W. Lawrence II ’63
Mr. Rodrigo A. Menendez
Ms. Hannah D. Wildrick, USN
Mr. Arthur T. Ambrose ’68
1994

Class Giving: $2,057.00
Donors: 17
Participation: 16%
Class Rep: Bryan P. Kelly
John P. Weesner
Joanne L. Wrezinsky
Mr. Michael R. Bloch
Mr. Michael J. Brennan II
Mr. Devin S. Chodorow*
Mrs. Amy L. Del Turco
Dr. Jessica A. Flynn*
Mrs. MacKenzie A. Guyer*
Mr. Seth C. Low
Mrs. Lanisha D. Makle-Ridley
Mr. Richard E. Martin
Mr. Rodrigo A. Menendez
Mrs. Catherine B. Rosenthal*
Mr. John P. Weesner*
Ms. Joanne L. Wrzesinsky*
Mr. Norman E. Beatty ’58
Mr. Peter J. Cleary ’58
Mr. John E. Alden, Jr. ’63
Mr. Roger A. Blair ’63
Mr. Raymond F. Burghardt, Jr. ’63
The Honorable John D. Case,
Mr. Todd A. Bowie
Mr. Carlin R. Binder
Mr. Adam L. Berk
Mr. Anthony P. Abdalla*
Mr. Michael J. Brennan II
Mr. Michael R. Bloch
Mr. Alan B. Greenstein ’63
Mr. Kenneth L. Konner, Esq. ’63
Mr. Bradford W. Lawrence II ’63
Mr. William A. Leidesdorff ’63
Mr. Barry E. Parker ’63
Mr. Donald K. Piermont, Jr. ’63
Mr. Douglass J. Seaver ’63
Mr. Peter C. Taylor ’63
Mr. Seth C. Low
Mr. Donald K. Usher, Jr. ’63
Capt. William S. Wildrick, USN
Ret. ’63
Mr. Arthur T. Ambrose ’68
1995

Class Giving: $3,690.18
Donors: 23
Participation: 23%
Class Rep: Stephanie Marcial
C. Courtway Stanford
Mr. Anthony P. Abdalla*
Mr. Adam L. Berk
Mr. Carlin R. Binder
Mr. Todd A. Bowie
Maj. Carlos R. Cuevas
Ms. Leslie A. Drescher
Ms. Emily M. Ferguson*
Mrs. Alexandra F. Foresman Sifers
Ms. Jennifer B. Harper*
Mr. Thomas H. Hart*
Mr. Gordon H. Hui
Mrs. Stephanie J. Marcial
Mr. James C. Morris
Mr. Daisuke M. Nakamura
Mr. Brandon D. Nothstine
Mr. Guillermo Pineda-Bours*
Mrs. Liesel J. Schopper*
Mr. Andrew B. Solar*
Mrs. Stacey A. Spring*
Capt. Caren M. Standfast, USMC
Mrs. Tara L. Prezioso
Mrs. Courtney C. Rathweg*
Mr. Aaron J. Rettaliata*
Mrs. Jaclyn M. Roecker*
Ms. April M. Ruggiero
Ms. Kelly S. Sokol
Mr. Francis A. Volpe
Mr. Edward T. Wenner*
Mr. Ryan P. McCarthy
Mr. Gordon H. Hull
Mr. Richard R. Pearce
Mr. Theodore W. Lawrence II ’63
Mr. Rodrigo A. Menendez
Ms. Hannah D. Wildrick, USN
Mr. Arthur T. Ambrose ’68
1996

Class Giving: $4,933.00
Donors: 23
Participation: 21%
Class Rep: Stefanie R. Kuhner
Summer J. Passannante Anthony C. Powell
Mr. Raymond A. Bartolacci III
Mr. Matthew J. Bracken*
Ms. Megan H. Brodbeck*
Mrs. Christine M. Chapman*
Mrs. Melissa A. Erne*
Mr. Charles S. Evans*
Rev. Mashed A. Evans, Sr.
Mr. Francis C. Gaitiskill
Ms. Melissa L. Guyse
Mrs. Stefanie R. Kuhner*
Dr. Tamika M. Lasage*
Mr. Jeffrey M. McGinn
Ms. Summer J. Passannante*
Ms. Meghan C. Peachey*
Mr. Anthony C. Powell
Mrs. Tara L. Prezioso
Mrs. Courtney C. Rathweg*
Mr. Aaron J. Rettaliata*
Mrs. Jaclyn M. Roecker*
Ms. April M. Ruggiero
Ms. Kelly S. Sokol
Mr. Francis A. Volpe
Mr. Edward T. Wenner*
Mr. Ryan M. Pagotto*
Mr. Patrick I. Arangio*
Mrs. Victoria P. Bailey*
Mrs. Christy L. Burkart*
Ms. Tara S. Clarke*
Mr. James-Christian S. Davin*
Mr. Erin F. Dow*
Mr. David A. Goodman
Mr. Blake Haase
Mr. Thomas F. Horne, Jr.*
Mr. Blake Haase
Ms. Stefanie R. Kuhner*
Mr. Ryan M. Pagotto*
Mr. Patrick I. Arangio*
Mrs. Victoria P. Bailey*
Mrs. Christy L. Burkart*
Ms. Tara S. Clarke*
Mr. James-Christian S. Davin*
Mr. Erin F. Dow*
Mr. David A. Goodman
Mr. Blake Haase
Mr. Thomas F. Horne, Jr.*
Mr. Blake Haase
Ms. Stefanie R. Kuhner*
Mr. Ryan M. Pagotto*
Mr. Patrick I. Arangio*
Mrs. Victoria P. Bailey*
Mrs. Christy L. Burkart*
Ms. Tara S. Clarke*
Mr. James-Christian S. Davin*
Mr. Erin F. Dow*
Mr. David A. Goodman
Mr. Blake Haase
Mr. Thomas F. Horne, Jr.*
Mr. Blake Haase
Ms. Stefanie R. Kuhner*
Mr. Ryan M. Pagotto*
Mr. Patrick I. Arangio*
2000
Class Giving: $1,349.00
Donors: 15
Participation: 14%
Class Rep: Logan K. Garrels
Andrew D. Peters
Veronica M. Reo
Meredit M. Seidel Wells
Mr. Charles A. Andre III
Mrs. Amanda E. Apple*
Mr. Michael J. Carbonaro*
Mr. Mark D. Danksiewicz
Mr. Xavier de Boissezon*
Mr. Logan K. Garrels*
Miss Mary M. Herman
Mr. Paul W. Jablonski*
Mr. Frederick F. Lash III
Mrs. Elizabeth N. McDowell*
Mr. Andrew D. Peters*
Mrs. Jane M. Spann*
Dr. Michael A. Tessler*
Mr. Panos J. Voulgaris*
Mr. Charles L. Washington, Jr.*

2001
Class Giving: $8,553.00
Donors: 16
Participation: 15%
Class Rep: Kristen E. Bogart
Maria Lieberman Smalley
Mrs. Nicole A. Applebaum-Johnson
Ms. Kristen E. Bogart*
Mr. Nicholas C. D’Amato*
Mr. Jay C. Garrels*
Mr. Razeen Jeena
Mr. Robert W. Kampmann
Ms. Cormany K. Koeppen*

2002
Class Giving: $5,084.00
Donors: 33
Participation: 27%
Class Rep: E. Meredith Gal
Chelsea N. Grefe
Stephanie A. Leal-Garbrett
Mrs. Elizabeth H. Adams
Mr. Matthew J. Alario*
Mrs. Brooks Anderson Whitten
Capt. Steven J. Benedetti*
Mr. Kenny Chen
Mr. Christopher W. Curcio
Mrs. Rebecca R. Fekshens
Mr. Benjamin S. Fertig*
Mrs. E. Meredith Gal*
Mrs. Deborah L. Gamarekian
Mrs. Stephanie A. Garbutt*
Mr. Akih Garg*
Dr. Chelsea N. Grefe*
Mr. Jason Haas*
Mr. Andrew A. Lebed*
Mr. Thomas S. Lieberman*
Mr. David A. Lin*
Ms. Vanita Mangsharamani
Mr. Colin C. McAdoo*
Mr. Shaun S. Mehtani
Mrs. Amy M. Nuzzo*
Ms. Meghan R. O’Neill*
Mr. Andrew R. Pearce*
Mrs. Jane P. Poirier
Mr. Kyle A. Post
Mr. Andrew M. Price
Mr. Christopher D. Smith*
Mr. Gabriel R. Vallejo
Mrs. Victoria C. Vallejo
Ms. Erin J. Washington
Ms. Sophie W. Wiss*

2003 - 15th Reunion
Class Giving: $19,641.00
Donors: 35
Participation: 29%
Class Rep: Jessica A. Hess
Brandon D. Lucien
Christopher L. C. Nalty
Elizabeth H. Ricca
Sarah C. Soden
Stephanie E. Tucker
Michael E. C. Wilson
Ms. Neva J. Anthony*
Mr. Martin B. Benante
Mr. Winfield S. Browning
Mr. Ethan Bucarey
Mrs. Virginia S. Case*
Ms. Ahna Cho
Ms. Kira L. Fritzy-Randolph*
Mr. Joseph P. Geise
Mrs. Jessica A. Hess

2004
Class Giving: $35,276.04
Donors: 30
Participation: 26%
Class Rep: Matthew J. Dwyer
Kaitlin G. Maillet
Matyasovska
Philip J. Mauriello, Jr.
Mr. Alexander A. Adrien*
Mr. Emmanuel Bello*
Mr. Mark C. Bogart
Ms. Carolyn R. Davis*
Mr. Matthew J. Dwyer
Mr. Moritz Flogel*
Mrs. Kathryn H. Hanson
Mr. Nicholas C. Hindle
Mr. Andrew S. Kaskel*
Ms. Cara F. Levy
Mr. Alex J. Maciag
Mrs. Kaitlin G. Maillet
Matyasovska*
Mr. Philip J. Mauriello, Jr.*
Mr. Benjamin T. McLaughlin
Ms. Holly V. D. Mesnard
Mrs. Claiborne C. Moses*
Ms. Caroline A. Pratin
Mr. Kevin T. Reese*
Ms. Rebecca M. Renninger
Mrs. Elizabeth A. Rippey
Ms. Martine D. Romano*
Mr. Cortney A. Romyns-Sinegara
Mr. William N. C. Scott*
Ms. Nicole G. Styler Harker
Mr. Todd Tamagnini*
Mr. Douglas J. Weltman*
Mrs. Kaitlin G. Maillet
Matyasovska*
Mr. Philip J. Mauriello, Jr.*
Mr. Benjamin T. McLaughlin
Ms. Holly V. D. Mesnard
Mrs. Claiborne C. Moses*
Mr. Caroline A. Pratin
Mr. Kevin T. Reese*
Ms. Rebecca M. Renninger
Mrs. Elizabeth A. Rippey
Ms. Martine D. Romano*
Mr. Cortney A. Romyns-Sinegara
Mr. William N. C. Scott*
Ms. Nicole G. Styler Harker
Mr. Todd Tamagnini*
Mr. Douglas J. Weltman*
Mrs. Kaitlin G. Maillet
Matyasovska*
Mr. Philip J. Mauriello, Jr.*
Mr. Benjamin T. McLaughlin
Ms. Holly V. D. Mesnard
Mrs. Claiborne C. Moses*
Mr. Caroline A. Pratin
Mr. Kevin T. Reese*
Ms. Rebecca M. Renninger
Mrs. Elizabeth A. Rippey
Ms. Martine D. Romano*
Mr. Cortney A. Romyns-Sinegara
Mr. William N. C. Scott*
Ms. Nicole G. Styler Harker
Mr. Todd Tamagnini*
Mr. Douglas J. Weltman*
Mrs. Kaitlin G. Maillet
Matyasovska*
Mr. Philip J. Mauriello, Jr.*

2005
Class Giving: $8,886.00
Donors: 38
Participation: 31%
Class Rep: Martha C. Dawson
Christopher J. Gatch
Mary J. Hall
Kathryn H. Nelson
Julian F. Swayze
Mr. Nana O. K. Acheampong*
Ms. Staci N. Ailaro*
Ms. Lauren E. Anderson*
Mr. Stephen P. Anderson
Ms. Emily G. Bowditch
Ms. Katherine M. Brandwood*
Mr. Kevin C. Brewster
Mr. Thomas Chalupka
Ms. Deborah M. Clarke*
Ms. Stephanie J. Collins
Ms. Alexandra M. Elopoulos
Mr. Scott R. Findlay
Mr. Christopher J. Gatch
Mr. Jordan M. Gertler
Mr. Robert Gilbert*
Ms. Brittany A. Haines
Dr. Elizabeth A. Hall
Mr. Mary J. Hall*
Mr. Drew P. Horne*
Mr. Bradley C. Horth
Mr. Ty W. Johnston
Mr. Hyung Ik Kim
Dr. Avishhek R. Kumar*
Mr. Benjamin Lo*
Mr. Justin Lubliner*
Mr. Marion O. McAdoo*
Ms. Claire C. McConnell*
Mrs. Faith C. McNiel*
Mrs. Kathryn H. Nelson*
Mrs. Kaitlyn E. Roncoske
Mr. Jonathan R. Slawson*
Ms. Lauren C. Stival*
Mr. Julian F. Swayze
Mr. Matthew J. Szalachowski
Ms. Evelyn B. Tilney*
Ms. Jennifer C. Welsh*
Mr. Geoffrey E. Weyl*
Ms. Jessica C. Young*

2006
Class Giving: $2,930.00
Donors: 26
Participation: 21%
Class Rep: Anthony Z. X. Eu
Alexander B. Graber
Elizabeth A. Kaskel
Anne E. Newall
Sarah L. White
Ms. Edwina O. Adrien*
Ms. Natesa P. Amin
Mrs. Christine E. Bacon*
Mr. Timothy M. Bacon*
Mrs. Madeline R. Britton*
Mr. William F. Crosson
Mr. Anthony M. D’Amato
Ms. Tamara J. De Vine*
Mr. Anthony Z. X. Eu*
Ms. Megan L. Fry
Mr. Adam Garcia
Ms. Christina M. Giambrone
Mr. Alexander B. Graber*
2007
Class Giving: $11,824.88
Donors: 30
Participation: 24%
Class Rep: Kymbia P. Ainsworth
Ms. Alison L. Crewi
Ms. Marisa S. Nedderman
Cooper A. Smith
Ms. Kymbia P. Ainsworth
Ms. Emily J. Anderson*
Ms. Gellisha Arpion*
Mr. Robert J. Brackup
Ms. Angela C. Celeste*
Mr. Hudson L. Collins*
Mrs. Taylor C. Costa
Mr. Alex Cournoyer
Ms. Alison L. Crewi*
Mr. Colin B. Daddino*
Ms. Arlana Egan
Mr. Jeffrey W. Ernsting*
Mr. Jacob J. Fedechko
Mr. Dennis W. Flores*
Ms. Dominique D. Frasier
Mr. Jameson R. Gay
Ms. Zoe Jameson
Mr. Dixon B. Jenkel
Mrs. Alexandra R. Lavorato*
Mr. Kevin M. Lieberman*
Mr. Andre de Albuquerque Matias
Mr. Craig M. McConnell
Ms. Samantha M. Peretore
Ms. Jena Pinkard*
Mr. Michael G. Pouliot*
Mr. Brendan S. Schaffer
Mrs. Natalya Schluechter*
Mr. Cooper A. Smith
Ms. Jaclyn Steger
Mr. Anthony L. G. Stival

2009
Class Giving: $3,519.09
Donors: 24
Participation: 20%
Class Rep: Melissa L. Collins
Margaret DeOliveira
Ralph F. Dierlam
Janak N. Padhiar
Mr. Nathan T. Brodell
Mr. Ameer K. Brown
Mr. Andrew J. Clark
Ms. Sarah E. Clark
Ms. Rachel J. Collins*
Mr. Adam B. Daddino*
Mr. Ricardo De Zulueta
Lt. James F. Diddell*
Ms. Raleigh F. Dierlam*
Mr. James B. Fahey*
Mr. Adam C. Hogue
Mr. Andrew N. Lajara
Ms. Alexandra K. Lowery
Ms. Jenna A. Lubliner*
Mr. Michael D. Mayes
Ms. Felicia N. Mgbada
Mr. Janak N. Padhiar
Mr. Eric H. Panicucci
Mr. Daniel H. Smith*
Mr. Alexander W. Starkman
Ms. Kara A. Stessl
Mr. Kyle Stevens
Mr. Keefer D. Taylor
Ms. Christine H. Devenny*
Mr. Dylan K. Evans
Ms. Juliana N. Furey
Mr. Jonathan D. Gallagher
Mr. Matthew C. Galligher
Ms. Alexa M. Gilmartin*
Mr. Filip M. Gzella
Ms. Madeline A. Hargis*
Mr. Derek S. Jonson
Ms. Shamilia A. Kohestani
Mr. Todd P. Lewis*
Mr. Edward H. Lim
Ms. Elizabeth H. Martens
Ms. Marissa Mattar*
Ms. Michaela McCrink*
Ms. Taylor C. McKay*
Ms. Laura A. McNeil*
Mr. Alex S. Motiuk*
Mr. William S. E. Neff
Mr. Timothy D. Peacock*
Ms. Caitlin Pinkard*
Mr. Robert L. Rinaldo
Mr. Alexander G. Romano
Mr. Kenneth H. Shin
Ms. Ashley H. Thompson
Ms. Samantha M. Tilney*
Ms. Tina A. Tozzi*
Ms. Olivia L. Troscope*
Mr. Anthony M. Valles
Mr. Raj Viroja
Ms. Margie L. Weiner
Mr. Samuel W. Wood
Mr. Adam C. J. Ziff

2010
Class Giving: $13,240.10
Donors: 34
Participation: 28%
Class Rep: Sarah E. Bugen
Jin Ryang Chung
Michael DeTogni
Dillon R. Hoffman
Rebecca A. Litvin
Brittany T. Small
Saul Sparber
Neil P. Zimmermann
Ms. Arielle Aikens*
Ms. Hayley A. Anderson*
Ms. Jacqueline E. Carter*
Ms. Jenna N. Catalano
Mr. Celil N. Cavusoglu
Mr. Swin Chiaravanont
Mr. Jin Ryang Chung
Ms. Katharine C. Coffey
Mr. Timothy C. DeBerry
Mr. Michael DeTogni*
Ms. Maeve A. Fahey*
Mr. Michael F. Geller
Ms. Lindsay Gilbert*
Mr. Henry C. Herbol
Mr. Dillon R. Hoffman*
Ms. Sidney L. Kamolvathin*
Mr. Keunrak Kang
Ms. Rebecca A. Litvin*
Mr. Marcus A. Luise
Mr. Patrick Maillet*
Mr. Graham N. McConnell*
Ms. Rebecca L. Merrifield*
Mr. Jeffrey D. North
Mr. F. Calder A. Powel
Mr. Terence E. Rhea
Ms. Brittany T. Small*
Mr. Saul Sparber
Mr. Nils C. Stahlkrantz*
Ms. Taylor Starkman
Ms. Ho-Jung Tseng
Mr. Gregory B. Weiss
Mr. Theodore J. Welch
Ms. Katherine C. Young*
Mr. Neil P. Zimmermann*

2012
Class Giving: $3,198.34
Donors: 30
Participation: 23%
Class Rep: Meredith A. Berry-Toon
Olivia R. Davis
Timothy J. Hettinger
All N. Johnson
Max Kaplan
Timothy M. Kui
Phoebe M. O’Rourke
Casandra Peretore
Mr. William Barrett
Ms. Meredith A. Berry-Toon
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Ms. Anne Kimmelman
Ms. Hannah A. Kirby
Ms. Nicolas Ladd*
Mr. Andrew T. C. Marvin*
Ms. Jane A. McConnell
Ms. Elizabeth Meiselman
Ms. Catherine A. Miller
Ms. Tamara E. Mizrahi*
Ms. Emma Moore
Mr. Joseph Park
Ms. Manuela Perez
Mr. Theodore S. Richardson
Mr. Christopher Sabaitis*
Ms. Haley San Giacomo*
Ms. Victoria L. Small*
Ms. Yanisa Thanyodom

* Denotes five or more fiscal years of consecutive giving
Mr. Daniel B. Geller
Ms. Margaret G. Fahey*
Ms. Ana Sofia deOlazarra*
Mr. Shannon S. E. Davis*
Ms. Natalie M. Bunting

Donors:
Ms. Ashley Zimmermann*
Mr. Martin H. Yu*
Ms. Sierra C. Yit*
2nd Lt. Jack Wedholm*
Mr. Edward M. Tirpack III*
Mr. Kyle R. Tierney
Ms. Alison Surdoval*
Mr. Jake Spezial
Mr. Nicholas Parauda
Mr. Rhett Moroses
Mr. Connor M. McClain
Mr. Derek Light
Ms. Hannah Lappin*
Ms. Madeline M. Kling*
Ms. Morgan R. Klein

Participation:
Class Giving:
2013 - 5th Reunion
$7,509.50
30%

2015
Class Giving:
$1,667.15
33%

2016
Class Giving:
$4,218.48
39%

2018
Class Giving: $902.44
Donors: 111

Participation:
Class Rep:
2013 - 5th Reunion
100%

2015
Participation: 25%

2016
Participation: 31%

2018
Participation: 93%

Class Giving:
2013 - 5th Reunion

2015

2017
Participation: 29%

2018
Participation: 39%

* Denotes five or more fiscal years of consecutive giving
Mr. Seth S. Kim  
Ms. Cortney N. Klein 
Mr. Zachary P. Kreider  
Ms. Katharina S. Kremmer 
Mr. Alec C. Lawless  
Ms. Seung Min Lee 
Mr. Ernst M. Lippert 
Mr. Christopher Lovisolo  
Mr. Shane S. Lusby 
Mr. Jose R. Martinez III  
Ms. Alena C. Marvin 
Ms. Rose M. Mascarenhas 
Ms. Clara C. McGrath  
Mr. Thomas J. Menoni 
Ms. Helen Mercedes 
Ms. Grace M. Miller  
Ms. Emma J. Mohlmann  
Ms. Tiara Myrie  
Ms. Janice M. Negvesky  
Ms. Maria Ngugi 
Ms. Anh M. Nguyen 
Mr. Lucky Okpoye  
Mr. Pierce R. O’Malley  
Mr. Connor M. O’Neill 
Mr. Yingjian Fan  
Ms. Sophie B. Parker 
Mr. Luigi Pasquariello  
Mr. Garrett D. Patterson 
Ms. Katherine G. Peacock 
Mr. Dy-Jae Pearson 
Ms. Elisabeth C. Pinkerton  
Mr. Spencer A. Quinn 
Mr. Gabriel R. Ravetz 
Mr. Tucker Richardson  
Mr. Alexander R. Roberts 
Mr. Malcolm M. Robinson 
Mr. Cody W. Romano 
Mr. Zachary A. Rubin 
Ms. Eleanor G. Santiago  
Mr. Pasapol Saowakon 
Mr. Naratorn Sereeyothin, Jr.  
Mr. Sidney J. Sharp 
Mr. Bradford E. Sigety  
Mr. William H. Sigety 
Mr. John J. Six 
Mr. Ronan T. Smarth 
Adham Sobhy  
Michael Stockley  
Daniel H. Sylder 
Leonardo Tarantino 
Max D. Thorshier 
Siena I. Tipton 
Caroline E. Toal 
Jade A. Torres 
Michael E. Uglum 
Harrison W. Valentine  
Alec B. Vaille 
Sydney W. Walters 
Julia M. Wienberg 
Blake A. Wilkey 
Caroline A. Wolfe 
Braden W. Worthington 
Rebecca E. Xi  
Ignacy Ybanez 
Yujin Zhang

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Mr. Sarab S. Anand ’21 
Mr. Elijah L. Anthony ’20 
Mr. Jai Bakshi ’20 
Ms. Alexandra Bakulina ’21 
Peyton K. Barksdale ’20  
Ms. Cameron G. Bentley ’20 
Zora W. Bissell ’21 
Jaylen T. Blakes ’21 
Andrew J. Bogdan ’21 
Matthew M. Bottone ’19 
Nathaniel J. Castimore ’20 
Arjun K. Chopra ’21 
Anne G. Coates ’20 
Beverly C. M. Da Costa ’21

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Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Doellfel, Jr.  
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Mr. Edward W. Douglas 
Mr. and Mrs. Ting Fan 
Mr. and Mrs. Joao C. Festa  
Mr. and Mrs. Ting Fan 
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Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Doelfel, Jr. 
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Mr. and Ms. Carmine Curcio  
Mr. and Ms. David Czaia* 
Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Doellfel, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. Donaghy, Jr. 
Mr. Edward W. Douglas 
Mr. and Mrs. Ting Fan 
Mr. and Mrs. Joao C. Festa  
Mr. and Mrs. Ting Fan 
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. Donaghy, Jr. 
Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Doelfel, Jr. 
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Mr. and Ms. Carmine Curcio  
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Mr. and Mrs. Chaoyat Sereeyothin
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sharp, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius E. Sigety '76*
Ms. Elizabeth D. Sigety, Esq.*
Mr. Robert G. Sigety '75*
Dr. Inderpal Singh and
Dr. Sukhdeep Kaur
Mr. and Mrs. Lennon Six
Ms. Colleen Smarth*
Mr. Timothy Smarth*
Dr. and Mrs. Hisham Sobby, Ph.D.*
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Mr. and Mrs. Mark D. Thorshiem
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick B. Tipton, Esq.
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Mr. and Mrs. Carlos E. Torres
Mr. and Mrs. John R. Uglum III
MRS. KARA VALENTINE
Mr. and Mrs. Angel Valle, Sr.
Mr. Timothy A. Walters and
Mrs. Wendy A. Geehreng
Mr. and Mrs. Mark Wienberg
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Wilkey
Mr. Christian K. Wolfe '85 and
Mrs. Amelia C. Wolfe '85*
Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Worthington
Mr. and Mrs. David G. Xi
Mr. Jorge Ybanez and
Mrs. Ana Cuerda
Mr. Jun Zhang and Ms. Bei Zhu

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Ms. Sophia Rosenfeld
Mr. and Mrs. Eric L. Altman*
Ms. Patricia Anaemejeh
Mr. and Mrs. Aaron H. Ayhan*
Mr. and Mrs. Kurt A. Baker
Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Berman
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen E. Brooks
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Mr. Mingming Cao and Ms. Tao Wang
Ms. Qingsong Chen
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Mr. Jia Dong
Ms. Julie Dowden*
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Mr. and Mrs. Jeff L. Fralick
Mr. B. Scott Fuller
Ms. Danielle L. Fuller
Mr. and Mrs. Lenard A. Garriques
Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Gieson, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Michael G. Glickman
Mr. Rodrigo A. Gabobencion
Ms. Yohany E. Gonzalez
Mr. and Mrs. Michael W. Green
Mr. Xiaofeng Gu and Ms. Fei Xu
Mr. Allen P. Haines and
Ms. Bonnie St. John
Mr. and Mrs. Steven L. Hess
Mr. and Mrs. James E. Hogue
Dr. Stanley Horton and
Dr. Laura Engles-Horton
Mr. Craig V. Humphrey
Dr. Michael itt and
Mrs. Maia Malojes-ltta
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Mr. and Mrs. Kenton Jernigan
Mr. and Mrs. Mark A. Jones, Sr.*
Ms. Jeni Junkermann and
Ms. Tanya Nargollawa
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Mrs. Susan R. Kahn Berman*
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Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Leddy
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Mr. Hong Jun Li and Ms. Fan Yang
Mr. Jingzheng Li and Ms. Kaisly Chen
Ms. Marianne Lieberman '79 and
Ms. Carolyn M. Grant*
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Mr. and Mrs. Sanju Mullick
Mr. Donald W. Munro
Ms. Julie A. Munro
Mr. Anil A. Nayak
Mr. and Mrs. Eric P. Neuffer
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Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Ng-Yow
Dr. Yoshiko Nominoya and
Dr. Sayuri Nominoya
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Mr. Mikhail Dvivdkov
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Mrs. Dajung Jeon
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Mr. and Mrs. Michael L. Pasternak
Mr. Tung Phan and Mrs. Lan N. Bui
Mr. David P. Quinlan and
Ms. Van N. Ton-Quinlan
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Mrs. Wendy A. Geehreng
Mr. and Mrs. Scott D. Will
Mr. and Mrs. Mark C. Williard*
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Ms. Hong Xu
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond C. Yee
Mr. Wenkai Zhang and
Ms. Cathy Z. Wang
Mr. and Mrs. John Zoetjes

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Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Bentley
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel B. Carson
Dr. and Mrs. Sam Castimore, Jr. '68
Ms. Sandi J. Cerami
Mr. Todd P. Cerami
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Dr. Victoria Gardner Coates
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Mr. and Mrs. Ward Davol
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Ms. Devjani Dev
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Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Donnelly, Jr.
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Mr. and Mrs. Lars Engel
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Mrs. Xiaohua Li
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Mr. Gordon Ho and
Ms. Jowenne Kwok
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Mrs. Katrina Lenden Jackman
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Ms. Yeong Soon Park
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Mrs. Sheri Holland-Lee
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lee
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Mr. Gui Li and Ms. Yeuk Yan Ngai
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Ms. Felicia Manu
Mr. and Mrs. Darin Martini
Ms. Ana C. Massa
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Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Miller, Jr.
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Mrs. Jisuk Lee
Ms. Jacqueline J. Montfort
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Mr. and Mrs. Henrichus C. 
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Mr. Teed J. Welch* 
Mr. and Mrs. Sharon Whipple 
Mr. and Mrs. Richard G. Wilburn* 
Capt. and Mrs. William S. Wildrick, 
USN Ret. ’63* 
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Mrs. Leslie A. Carroll* 
Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Young, Jr. ’65* 
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Zimmerman* 

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Ms. Carol P. Bauer 
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Bogdan 
Mr. and Mrs. John C. Bogle ’47* 
Mr. and Mrs. David A. Brands, Sr. ’52 

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Mr. and Mrs. John P. Weesner ’94

Mr. Paul R. White
Dr. Robert Rosenthal ’70 and
Mrs. Barbara Chuoke
Mr. Robert S. Weiner ’65
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution/Organization</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kit Y. Wong ‘46</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Annice Bacsik</td>
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<td>Ms. Allison Cryan</td>
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<td>Mr. Anthony Della Salla</td>
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<td>Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund</td>
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<td>My Tribute Gift Foundation, Inc.</td>
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<td>Mr. and Mrs. James Sullivan</td>
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<td>Surgery Center of Central New Jersey</td>
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<td>Dr. Sidney Whitman</td>
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<td>Ms. Lisa Wong and Mr. Antonio Mongiovi</td>
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<td>Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wong</td>
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<td>Mr. Keith Yuen</td>
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<td>Gerard M. Wynn ‘52</td>
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<td>Roy Ziff</td>
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<td>Mr. and Mrs. Adam C. J. Ziff ‘08</td>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution/Organization</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Zachary Aikens ‘10</td>
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<td>Mr. F. Calder A. Powel ‘10</td>
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<td>Mr. Jaylen T. Blakes ‘21</td>
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<td>Mr. Monroe Blakes and</td>
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<td>Mrs. Nikkia Miller-Blakes</td>
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<td>Mr. John C. Bogle ‘47</td>
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<td>Mr. Alexander A. Adrien ‘04</td>
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<td>Mr. Peter Bailey and Mrs. Victoria P. Bailey ‘97</td>
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<td>Mr. Emmanuel Bello ‘04</td>
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<td>Ms. Kristen E. Bogart ‘01</td>
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<td>Mr. David Leonardis ‘91 and</td>
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<td>Mr. Michael Ridley and</td>
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<td>Mrs. Lanisha Makle-Ridley ‘94</td>
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<td>Mr. and Mrs. Scott E. McKee’77</td>
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<td>Mr. Brian Shumaker ‘91</td>
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<td>Ms. Nami C. Hoffman ‘18</td>
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<td>Ms. Anne L. Kalemjjan and</td>
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<td>Mr. Randolph E. Suhl</td>
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<td>Mr. John and Patricia Kennedy</td>
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<td>Mr. William J. Kaiser ‘18</td>
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<td>Mrs. Stefanie R. Kuhner ‘96</td>
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<td>Mr. Jeffrey Lusby</td>
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<td>Mr. Shane S. Lusby ‘18</td>
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<td>Mrs. Elizabeth N. McDowell ‘00</td>
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<td>Mr. and Mrs. William G. Niles</td>
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<td>Mrs. Cara B. Mohlmann</td>
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<td>Ms. Maria Ngugi ‘18</td>
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<td>Mr. Thomas D. Santiago ‘20</td>
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<td>Ms. Olivia N. Scialla ‘20</td>
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<td>Mr. Naratorn Sereeyothin, Jr. ‘18</td>
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<td>Walter McDonald</td>
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<td>Mary Ann Johnston</td>
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Emeritus Trustee

James H. Chesnutt. The Rev. Dr. James H. Chesnutt, an honorary member of Blair’s class of 1947, served Blair Academy with distinction for more than five decades. A Trustee from 1963 to 1995, he continued to serve as Emeritus Trustee for the next 23 years, faithfully attending Board meetings until his health no longer permitted him to do so. Dr. Chesnutt was president of the Blair Academy Corporation from 1971 to 1995, and he led the Trustees in the reconfiguration of the relationship between the School and the Presbytery of Newton, completing the Covenant in 1995 after many years of work. In recognition of his vision, loyalty and invaluable contributions to the School, Dr. Chesnutt was awarded the 1992 Citation of Merit, Blair’s highest honor, and Chesnutt Chapel was dedicated in his name in 2004. Dr. Chesnutt earned a bachelor’s degree in economics at Lake Forest College (1951), an MDiv at Princeton Theological Seminary (1954) and a doctorate of ministry at McCormick Theological Seminary (1976). During his ministry, he served as chaplain for the Civil Air Patrol; as pastor of Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church in Cincinnati, Ohio; and at Old Greenwich Presbyterian Church in Stewartsdale, New Jersey. He was the Presbytery of Newton’s executive presbyter for 25 years, president of the New Jersey Council of Churches from 1992 to 1993, and a former trustee and treasurer of Presbyterian Camps and Conferences Inc., in Johnsonburg, New Jersey. Dr. Chesnutt received the 1994 Princeton Theological Seminary Distinguished Alumnus award and a certificate of merit from the Association of Retired Ministers. A man of great faith, he loved spending time with his family and many friends, vacationing at the Jersey Shore, golfing and cheering on the Chicago Cubs. He will long be remembered at Blair for his kindness, his love for the School and the prayers he so beautifully offered on many occasions in his deep, rich voice. Dr. Chesnutt is survived by his wife, Marie, three daughters and six grandchildren.

1939

Albert S. Riggs. After serving in the Army during World War II, Mr. Riggs returned home to Oak Ridge, New Jersey, where he began his career as a dairy farmer and eventually became a real estate developer. In the 1960s, the Riggs family constructed the Bowling Green Golf Club on the land that had been the dairy farm, and Mr. Riggs served as the club’s president for many years. He was also a founding director of Lakeland Bank and a bank trustee until his retirement. Mr. Riggs attended Blair for several years as a teenager, received his honorary diploma in 2009, and was a lifelong friend to the School and his classmates. His family legacy at Blair includes his nephew, Jerre S. Riggs Jr. ’57, and his late brothers, Jerre S. Riggs Sr. ’33 and John E. Riggs ’39. Mr. Riggs enjoyed traveling, especially to his farm in Vermont, and he was devoted to his family. Predeceased by his wife, Elizabeth, he is survived by his longtime companion, Clare Callender, his son, two grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

1941

Homer D. Schaaf. A lifelong supporter of the School, Dr. Schaaf returned to campus for the first time on the occasion of his 70th reunion in 2011. He enjoyed a long career as a physician. Predeceased by his first wife, Sara, Dr. Schaff is survived by his second wife, Matilda, two children, five stepchildren, five grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

1942

Harry J. Fisler. Mr. Fisler was a loyal member of the class of 1942 and a baseball, wrestling and football athlete during his four years at Blair. He served in the Navy during World War II, after which he remained in the Naval Reserve for 21 years, eventually retiring as a commander in the naval intelligence service. A 1948 graduate of Lafayette College, he worked for 20 years as an electrical engineer for Pennsylvania Power & Light Company. Mr. Fisler dedicated his time and talent to local government boards, the American Heart Association, Kiwanis, United Way and other community organizations. He is survived by his wife, Martha, two children and several grandchildren.

Donald Lessing. Mr. Lessing was a member of the soccer, wrestling and track teams at Blair. He served in the U.S. Army’s 88th infantry division during World War II, earning a Purple Heart and Bronze Star. He continued his education at Pace University and worked as an insurance underwriter during his career at INA (now Cigna) in Newark, New Jersey, and New York City. Mr. Lessing is survived by his wife of 59 years, Nancy, two children and five grandchildren.

Harold LiSooey. A dentist for many years in Westfield, New Jersey, Dr. LiSooey attended Blair for his senior year of high school during which he coached the fencing team, played football and sang in the choir. He was predeceased by his nephew, William W. Feng ’67, and his brother, Robert A. LiSooey ’44.

Joseph B. Quig. At Blair, Mr. Quig was a four-sport varsity athlete (basketball, football, wrestling and baseball co-captain) and vice president of the class of ’42. He graduated from Dartmouth College and served in the Marine Corps as an infantry officer during World War II. In 1947, Mr.
Quig embarked upon a fulfilling 27-year career with the DuPont Company. He enjoyed traveling, hunting, fishing, golf and, especially, spending time with his family during his retirement. Mr. Quig is survived by his wife of 71 years, Carmela, five children, 12 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

1943

Charles T. Hall. The son of longtime former Blair math teacher Charles E. Hall, “Tad” maintained a lifelong connection to the School as a class representative, Trustee, and member of Blair’s 1848 Society and Alumni Board of Governors. He capped his five years at Blair as ACTA editor-in-chief, class valedictorian and winner of the Blair Academy Trophy, then served in the Army following his graduation, earning a Purple Heart. Mr. Hall matriculated at Princeton University (class of 1949) and Harvard Law School (class of 1952). His legal career included work at the New York City firm Breed, Abbot and Morgan, and at General Electric. Mr. Hall was predeceased by his wife, Margaret, his brother, Alden B. Hall Jr. ’74, and his nephew, Alden B. Hall ‘44. He is survived by his children and grandchildren.

1945

George W. Smith III. A varsity tennis, track and football athlete during his junior and senior years at Blair, “Boots” went on to play varsity football and earn a bachelor’s degree in American history at Princeton University. He began his business career in the tile industry in New York City, joined Maritz Inc. in 1964, and eventually retired as president of Maritz Motivation Co. Mr. Smith and his wife of 64 years, Jo Ann, traveled the world during his time at Maritz. He was a member of St. Peter’s Episcopal Church and remained connected to Blair and his classmates throughout his life. Predeceased by Jo Ann in 2014, Mr. Smith is survived by two sons and five grandchildren.

1946

Robert E. Meyers. Music was a mainstay in Mr. Meyers’ life, including during his Blair days, when he was the top trombonist in the band and dance orchestra. He was educated at the University of Pennsylvania, The Juilliard School and the Manhattan School of Music, where he earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees, and he was a former trombonist with the Hartford Symphony Orchestra and a teacher of trombone at the Hartt School in Connecticut. An accomplished Boston-area piano technician for many years, Mr. Meyers served for 15 summers as the accordatore di pianoforti at the Festival Dei Due Mondi in Spoleto, Italy. His military service also included music, as he was a member of the U.S. Military Academy Band and the 8th Army Band during the Korean War. Mr. Meyers is survived by two sons and his “permanent sweetie,” Judith Klau.

1947

Rudolph A. Pfuhl. Mr. Pfuhl participated in swimming, baseball, football, the International Society and band during his four years at Blair. He graduated from Rutgers University with a bachelor’s degree in agriculture and, for many years, he and his brother ran their family’s Chatham, New Jersey, restaurant, the Swiss Chalet. Mr. Pfuhl was predeceased by his wife, Carol.

1948

Thomas M. Behnfield. A class representative and reunion committee volunteer, Mr. Behnfield was a steadfast supporter of the School. He was a varsity pole-vaulter and member of the Stylus, choir, band and art club during his Blair days, continuing his education at Rutgers University and ultimately earning a bachelor’s degree in English from Michigan State University (1952). Mr. Behnfield served as an Army cryptography officer for two years before beginning his career in the financial services industry, during which he worked for Merrill Lynch for many years and for Paine Webber. Following his 1990 retirement, he earned a master’s degree in anthropology at the University of New Mexico (UNM), became a master gardener and served on the board of UNM’s Maxwell Museum Association and as president of the Albuquerque Council of Garden Clubs. Mr. Behnfield’s survivors include his wife, Debbie, four children and two stepchildren.

Lawrence O. Houstoun Jr. Following three years at Blair, Mr. Houstoun attended Lafayette College and later earned a master’s degree in planning at Catholic University. He worked for six federal departments during his civil service career, after which he became a consultant to local governments and private sector leaders on the formation of special improvement districts in cities and municipalities. Mr. Houstoun wrote extensively on the subject, including the 1997 book, Business Improvement Districts. He became a nationally known expert who helped to create special improvement districts in Red Bank, Long Branch and Trenton, New Jersey, as well as Philadelphia and dozens of other cities and towns in five states. Mr. Houstoun enjoyed opera, big band jazz, trains and being outdoors. He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Feather, two daughters and two grandchildren.
Richard A. Wood. Mr. Wood served three years in the U.S. Army after graduating from Franklin & Marshall College in 1952. He enjoyed a long career with the U.S. Postal Service and was an active volunteer with his church and Meals on Wheels in Oberlin, Ohio, following his retirement. Mr. Wood is survived by his sons, three grandchildren, and his friend and former wife, Felicia.

1949

George V. Gustafson. The 1949 ACTA notes that Mr. Gustafson, a day student from Blairstown, “won many friends with his quiet and sincere ways.” His varied career took him and his family to several states and included work in the housing business, a job with the IRS, operating Mr. Donut shops and a food cart with his wife, Lorraine, and ownership of a milk delivery business. Mr. Gustafson was a dedicated elementary school and church volunteer, but his greatest love was his family. Preceded in death by Lorraine, he is survived by his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Arthur W. Mueller. A six-year Blair student, Mr. Mueller was a member of the football team and student council and president of the choir. He remained deeply loyal to the School throughout his life, serving as a class representative and reunion committee member who faithfully kept his classmates connected to Blair and to one another. He was honored with the Peachey Award for outstanding class representative in 1999. Mr. Mueller graduated from Georgetown University with a degree in finance and proudly served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War, remaining in the Naval Reserve intelligence group until 1972. He earned a graduate degree in mortgage banking from Northwestern University in 1961 and became an expert in the mortgage finance industry over a 35-year career, during which he specialized in commercial real estate financing. Upon his retirement, Mr. Mueller traveled extensively with his wife, Jan. He was a lifelong learner who became skilled at gardening, golf, dance and woodworking, and he dearly loved his family. Mr. Mueller is survived by his wife of 60 years, their son and two grandchildren.

George W. Slingland. Mr. Slingland played varsity football and basketball during his postgraduate year at Blair and went on to earn a bachelor’s degree from Dickinson College. He served as a fighter pilot in the Navy during the Korean War before earning his JD at Rutgers Law School in 1960. Mr. Slingland was a partner in the law firm of Slingland, Bernstein and Van Hartogh in New Jersey. He is survived by Ann, the love of his life and wife of 60 years, as well as their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

1950

John G. Dixon Sr. Mr. Dixon served in the Navy during the Korean War and worked for the U.S. Postal Service. Predeceased by his wife, Frances, he is survived by a son and granddaughter.

Michael M. Pakenham. Mr. Pakenham’s career as a journalist spanned more than six decades. He started in Chicago as a reporter for the City News Bureau in the late 1950s and a Chicago Tribune assistant city editor and Washington, D.C., correspondent in the 1960s. After two years the New York Herald Tribune, he joined the Philadelphia Inquirer in 1966, where he was an editor and columnist until 1984. Known for his strong editorial voice, Mr. Pakenham helped the Inquirer earn a 1978 Pulitzer Prize for public service with his writings about Philadelphia police violence. He also wrote a well-regarded wine column for the Sunday Inquirer. In 1984, Mr. Pakenham became the editorial page editor at the New York Daily News, and he continued his career in the 1990s as executive editor for the London Sunday Correspondent before taking on the same role at Spin magazine. He was the books editor and a literary columnist at the Baltimore Sun from 1994 to 2004 and shared a home editing business with his wife, Rosalie, until his 2012 retirement. A six-year Blair student who was a member of the Stylus and honor roll, Mr. Pakenham studied economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and liberal arts at Columbia University. He is survived by his wife, Rosalie, former wives, Mary Graff and Jane Ashley Pakenham, and his daughter.

1951

Howard E. Perkins. A Marine Corps veteran, Mr. Perkins proudly served his country during the Korean War. He owned the car wash supply company HE Perkins and was an avid sports fan. During his year at Blair, he played varsity football, basketball and baseball, and was a member of the student council and ACTA staff. Mr. Perkins is survived by his wife of 60 years, their son and grandchildren.

1952

Miles H. Colerick. A member of the Blair track team, Mr. Colerick attended Duke University and served in the Army from 1956 to 1962. He eventually retired from D.B. Smith & Company where he was a buyer/expeditor.
Robert J. Desiderio. An honor roll student and stellar athlete, Mr. Desiderio captained Blair’s varsity football and track teams. He earned a business degree at Fairleigh Dickinson University and eventually retired from Whippany Paperboard Company, where he was the director of purchasing. Predeceased by his brother Frank D. Desiderio ’50, Mr. Desiderio is survived by his wife of 60 years, Rose Marie, brother, Dominick Desiderio Jr. ’52, three children, three grandchildren and many members of his extended family, including his nephew, Dominick Desiderio III ’60.

James E. McCready Jr. Mr. McCready served in the Army and Marine Corps and worked in sales for Teknor Apex of Pawtucket, Rhode Island. Following his retirement, he was the head starter for the Pinehurst Country Club. Mr. McCready attended Blair for one year, during which he played football and baseball and ran winter track. He is survived by his loving family.

1953

Robert M. Livingston. Dr. Livingston was a 1957 cum laude graduate of Harvard College who earned his MD from Yale University in 1961 and served his residency at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center. An advocate for women’s reproductive rights, he established an obstetrics and gynecology practice in Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, and opened the first freestanding birthing center in the state. He later moved his practice to Boca Raton, Florida. Dr. Livingston was an accomplished clarinetist and an avid daily reader of The New York Times. Through his work, he inspired his three children to become physicians. He was valedictorian of Blair’s class of 1953, a member of the track team and debate club, and a steadfast classmate. Dr. Livingston is survived by his children and seven grandchildren.

1954

Carl M. Hornung Jr. Mr. Hornung played varsity baseball and basketball during his Blair postgraduate year and earned a bachelor’s degree in math and science at Cornell University, where he was a top player on the Big Red basketball team. He proudly served in the U.S. Air Force before commencing his career on the New York Stock Exchange. Mr. Hornung’s many interests included fly fishing, boating, golf and gardening, and he dearly loved his family. He is survived by his wife, Dasha, five children and six grandchildren.

1955

Martin Altman. Mr. Altman was a member of the choir during his Blair days. A graduate of Dickinson College, he retired as an outside salesman for the federal government. His interests included skiing and the study of American history. Mr. Altman is survived by his wife of 45 years, Elizabeth, three children, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

1957

Victor N. Grohmann. A self-taught designer and craftsman, Mr. Grohmann was a real estate developer and renovator of old houses. He came to Blair for his senior year of high school and served in the Army after graduation. Mr. Grohmann and his wife, Susan, were married for 49 years; Susan predeceased him in 2016. He is survived by his siblings, nieces and nephews.

1958

John W. Applegate. A three-year Blair Buc, Mr. Applegate worked on the Stylus, the ACTA and The Blair Breeze. He earned five advanced degrees, including master’s in English literature and social work from Columbia University. During his career as a psychotherapist, he worked at several residential treatment facilities. Mr. Applegate was predeceased by his wife, Deborah, and is survived by two children and one grandchild.

1960

Roy B. Baker III. A prefect, football and basketball player, and class officer during his Blair days, Lt. Col. Baker graduated from Boston University in 1964 and was commissioned as second lieutenant in the Air Force. He served for 20 years as a procurement/contracting officer in duty stations from Goose Bay, Labrador, to Honolulu, Hawaii, retiring as a lieutenant colonel in 1984. He then pursued a civilian career in purchasing,
1962

Edmund A. Strickland Jr. Mr. Strickland was a loyal Blair alumnus and supporter of the School. During his six years as a Buccaneer, he managed the soccer and basketball teams, played in the band and was a member of The Blair Breeze staff. Mr. Strickland attended Emory University and the Georgia Institute of Technology, and his career included working for his family's resort, the Strickland Mountain Inn in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, and operating a dental lab in West Palm Beach, Florida. He is survived by his sister, stepbrother, and many nieces and nephews.

1966

James E. McDowell. Mr. McDowell lived and worked in 31 countries during his career in the shipping industry. He served five years in the Merchant Marines and earned his undergraduate degree from Roanoke College and his MBA from the University of Oklahoma. He retired in 2008 as CEO of an international shipping company based in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and continued to work as a consultant. Mr. McDowell was a two-year Blair student, and his wife of 45 years, Janet, was his high school sweetheart and Blair prom date in 1966. Janet and three daughters survive Mr. McDowell.

1967

John P. Jessup. Mr. Jessup attended the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (UNC) on a full athletic scholarship and continued his education at Wake Forest University, where he earned an MBA as a Babcock scholar. Throughout his distinguished 33-year career at DuPont, he enjoyed assignments in corporate, business and international finance, retiring in 2006 as vice president and treasurer. Mr. Jessup was a loyal member of Blair’s class of 1967 who remained close to classmates and the School. He played football and captained the track team during his postgraduate year at Blair, and he continued his athletic pursuits as a record-holding shot putter at UNC and a passionate tennis player throughout his life. Mr. Jessup served for 10 years as a board member of Longwood Gardens and chaired its investment committee. Known for his kindness and generosity of spirit, he is survived by his wife of 43 years, Melissa, their two children and a granddaughter.

1969

Paul B. Koehler Jr. A two-year Blair student and Hofstra University graduate, Mr. Koehler worked as a district manager in the appliance industry. He is survived by two children and two grandchildren.

1975

Bruce P. Bell Jr. Mr. Bell was a member of the wrestling team during his postgraduate year at Blair. He graduated from Slippery Rock University and worked in the insurance industry. He is survived by his parents and siblings.

Mary Alyce H. Schultz. Mrs. Schultz (nee Mooney) attended Blair for her junior and senior years and continued her education at Endicott College. She married George Edward Schultz Jr. in 1978, and they raised four daughters. Mrs. Schultz’s diverse career included work as a dental office manager and a professional seamstress. Throughout her life, she shared her creativity and generous spirit with her colleagues, friends and family members. Mrs. Schultz is survived by her husband of 40 years, their daughters and four grandchildren.

1983

Marcie K. Alter. A two-year Blair student, Ms. Alter studied writing at the University of Pittsburgh and desktop publishing at the Art Institutes. Her Jewish faith was central to her life, and, after becoming an Orthodox Jew in 2003, she fulfilled her dream of moving from her native Pittsburgh to Israel. Following brain surgery three years later that left her almost completely paralyzed, Ms. Alter continued to hold strongly to her faith and remained immersed in her Jewish community from her hospital room. Eventually fitted with a computer that she could control with slight nods of her head, she was able to more easily communicate with her family and friends. Ms. Alter is survived by her beloved son and daughter-in-law, two grandsons, her siblings and a large extended family.

2004

Amanda B. Coward. A member of Blair’s cum laude society, Ms. Coward played softball and tennis for the Buccaneers and celebrated her lifelong love of music and singing as a member of the Blair Academy Players and Singers. She attended Colgate University and earned her bachelor’s degree with honors at the Culinary Institute of America, where she served as vice president of the class of 2010. Ms. Coward was a member of Les Dames d’Escoffier International and the Chaîne des Rôtisseurs, and she enjoyed traveling. She is survived by her mother and stepfather, Diane and Dan Shnaider, two sisters, a half-sister and four nephews.
In MEMORIAM

Former Headmaster’s Wife

Selena T. Howard. Wife of the late former Headmaster Dr. James M. Howard Jr., Mrs. Howard embraced her role as Headmaster’s wife and defined her own role at Blair during their 22-year tenure (1954 to 1976). She steadfastly supported Dr. Howard’s leadership during a period of great growth and change at Blair, served on local boards and in civic clubs, and hosted countless gatherings at Sharpe House for Trustees, parents, alumni and visitors. Above all, Mrs. Howard dedicated herself to Blair’s students, and, through her support of their many activities and her deep care for all, she became like a mother to a generation of Blair boys and girls. Mrs. Howard earned her bachelor’s degree at Rutgers University in 1977. She and Dr. Howard settled in Westport, Massachusetts, following Dr. Howard’s headmastership, and Mrs. Howard became deeply involved in the community as managing partner of a popular store and advocate for a number of causes, including the Westport River Defense Fund and Habitat for Humanity. Following Dr. Howard’s passing in 2002 and despite her own health challenges, she continued to serve on town boards and committees, travel extensively, pursue continuing education coursework and develop her philanthropic interests. The “definitive first lady of Blair,” Mrs. Howard received Blair’s highest honor, the Citation of Merit, in 2002. She continued to love and support the School throughout her life, returning to campus in 2008 for the dedication of Howard House, which the class of 1958 named to honor Dr. and Mrs. Howard’s many contributions to the School. In 2009, Mrs. Howard established the Mollie Howard Conklin ’71 Memorial Scholarship at Blair in memory of her daughter, Mollie Howard Conklin ’71, who lost her valiant battle with cancer. Mrs. Howard was devoted to her family, and she is survived by her daughters, Alida Woods and Eleanor T. Howard ’74; her son-in-law, Huxley H. Conklin ’71; nine grandchildren, including Jamie H. Conklin ’98; and five great-grandchildren. In addition to Dr. Howard and Mollie, she was predeceased by her son, James M. Howard III ’60.

2011

Daniel Lavanant. Daniel attended Blair for three years, graduating from Delaware Valley High School in 2011. He earned a bachelor’s degree in physics from the College of Charleston and will be remembered for his kindness and generosity. Daniel is survived by his parents; siblings, including Luc, Pierre ’08 and Eugenia ’13; cousins, including Eric H. Panicucci ’09; and grandparents.

Friends

Jeremiah J. Ciancia. A true friend of Blair and great believer in the life-changing value of education, Mr. Ciancia was a vibrant, gracious and deeply generous benefactor of the School. Together with his beloved wife of 71 years, Yolanda, he gifted the faculty residence at 8 Maple Lane to Blair in 2010 and made provision for a second residence and additional property to eventually become part of the School. In 2012, as they celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary, Mr. and Mrs. Ciancia continued their generous stewardship of educational opportunity by establishing the Ciancia Family Scholarship. Knowing the difference that education made in their own lives, they wanted the recipients of the scholarship to “energetically pursue their studies at Blair in great anticipation of making something of their lives and fulfilling their dreams.” Mr. Ciancia was a World War II Navy veteran and graduate of Columbia University. An insurance broker, licensed pharmacist and real estate broker, he was active in his family’s real estate business for more than 70 years. Mr. Ciancia served as a trustee and member of the construction committee of Holy Name Hospital in Teaneck, New Jersey. Throughout his life, he especially enjoyed spending time with his family and weekly visits to his summer home in Blairstown. Mr. Ciancia is survived by Yolanda and their three children, as well as two grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

Walter McDonald. Mr. McDonald was president and co-owner of Norwalt Design Inc., in Randolph, New Jersey. He was a strong proponent of education, and, together with his wife, Carol, established the Miles A. McDonald Endowed Scholarship at Blair in 2012. Named in honor of their grandson, the scholarship has since provided the gift of a Blair education to a deserving student each year. Mr. McDonald is survived by Carol, his wife of 57 years, their son and daughter-in-law, and two grandchildren.

Past Parent & Former Staff Member

Mary Ann Johnston. Ms. Johnston worked at Blair from 1965 to 1986, during which time she served as secretary to the business manager, secretary to the Assistant Headmaster for Finance and Development, resource associate in the development office, and development associate in charge of parent programs. She was the founder of the Parents’ Spring Auction and taught an extracurricular typing course for Blair students. Ms. Johnston is survived by her daughter, Michelle C. Maloney ’77, her son and a granddaughter.
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Questions? Contact Colleen Smarth P ’18 ’20, director of annual giving, at (908) 362-6121, ext. 5684, or smartc@blair.edu.
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