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COMING UP AT MA

LitFest
Minicourse
MA Celebrates
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and more...



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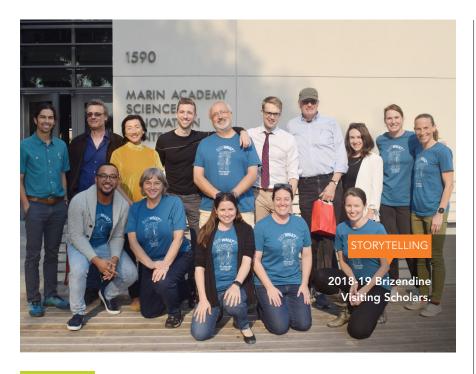
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Any feedback, thoughts or concerns you may have about NEXUS or NEXUS Now: Please click here to email us at communications@ma.org

A



COMPELLING

Brizendine Visiting Scholars and MA Science department—"Say What?!: The Art of Compelling Expression."

The Human Development class at MA

"This class is a place to nurture young people at a vulnerable time in their lives so they can figure out who they are and what they believe in while maintaining individual perspectives."

—Sanjai Moses



STUDENT DIVERSITY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

SDLC hosts about 1500 high school students from all over the country to dialogue about equity and inclusion work in their communities. Six of our students got to participate in daily workshops, affinity spaces, and hear from guest speakers in Nashville this year!

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I think [Wilderness Quest]
stirred something
in me...deep
gratitude for the
abundance that
surrounds us, and
a curiosity and
desire to bring
more mindfulness
to the present
moment, in which
all of this abundance manifests.

"

STEPHEN MORSE '88



WELCOME

BY TRAVIS BROWNLEY



elcome to a new edition of NEXUS Now! I'm delighted to be able to share news and activities with you through this digital format filled with stories and clickable links to videos, connected articles, alumni news, and school-related information and events designed to provide our community with greater access to the academic, creative, athletic, and social life at MA.

Milestones always bring a wave of reflection, and as we move closer to

Marin Academy's 50th anniversary in a few years, I look back over our history to reflect on all the changes and consider what has remained the same.

We know the world changes. We expect buildings to get demolished or erected, and people to move through hallways and classrooms on their way to the next chapters in their journey. While change is constant, what remains firmly the same is MA's commitment to providing a dynamic educational experience that empowers every student with the critical and creative

thinking necessary to chart their course in the world today, and far into the future.

In this issue of NEXUS Now, you'll read about our growth through the lived experiences of alumni from different eras in MA's history, understand more deeply the thinking behind some of our programs and curricula with the new video series "What Are They Thinking," read more about our innovative Transdisciplinary Learning Programs, and so much more.

As our school continues to flourish, I'd like to invite you to follow me on Twitter where I'll begin sharing my thoughts on a host of issues within the educational landscape.

I wish you all the best for a happy and healthy start to your year!

Warm regards,

Trovis



MARIN ACADEMY Think. Question. Create.

NEXUS NOW JAN 2019

IN THE COMMUNITY



Living MA's culture of generosity

MA Hosts Its First Freshman Family Service Day

During the fall semester, under the new Director of Community Action, James Hughes, MA launched its first Freshman Family Service Day in September, bringing together 9th grade students and families in a day of partnership and service to a number of off-campus non-

Every semester, Marin
Academy students engage
in meaningful and fun
community service projects
such as assembling care
packages, preparing
sack lunches, or creating
fundraising efforts for those in
need in our community.









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profit organizations, as well as to the MA campus garden.

October saw the entire 9th grade class engaged in a service learning project with Marin County Parks at Bothin Marsh that was linked to biodiversity curriculum in Biology classes. November focused on food needs in the community with our annual Thanksgiving food drive to support SF-Marin Food Bank and over 50 Next Generation Scholar families with Thanksgiving meals. In December, our basketball teams supported the holiday gift wishes of children through Ritter Center, while the Christian Student Organization and Community Action co-sponsored a campus-wide Toy Drive for low-income children in East Oakland.

Throughout the semester, students in the Community Action Leadership Group also organized a number of community engagement and fundraising efforts, including a Halloween-Fall Festival at Short Elementary School, a volunteer day at SF-Marin Food bank, brown bag lunchmaking for the clients at St. Vincent de Paul, bake sales to support Paradise fire relief efforts, the LEAP program (Learning Enrichment Afterschool Program) at Short Elementary School, and an MA student-led project with Wonderbag.org to provide sustainable cooking resources to woman in Africa.











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How volunteerism can strengthen bonds and inspire change with Elaine Tokolahi '98

How did you find your way to nonprofit work? When I was a senior at MA, I was required to complete a research project on my passion in life. After some deep self-searching, I recognized that my passion was helping people. When I went on to college the next year, I specifically wanted to spend my spare time helping kids in high school who were like me: Pacific Islanders from working class families who were the first college-bound members of their families. There was a nonprofit called the Oakland Asian Cultural Center that was dedicating a lot of time and resources to immigrant youth at that time, so I joined them as a volunteer and then as a Board Member. I found the nonprofit world fascinating since it was full of changemakers who dedicated their lives to solving our society's problems. Since then I've worked and volunteered in the nonprofit sector for the majority of my career.

Was there any experience at MA that started you down the path to making volunteerism a large part of your life? After my senior year at MA, Lisa Arrastia, my Language Arts teacher and personal mentor, invited me to be a counselor in a

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Multicultural Leadership summer program where MA students and Balboa High School students undertook leadership training together with a view to strengthening ties between people from different socioeconomic, geographic, and racial backgrounds. I absolutely loved it. I learned that volunteering wasn't just pulling weeds or stocking canned food. It could be about building bridges and fostering compassion between people from different walks of life.

Our current students are individually and collectively engaged in service work as part of the curriculum, and unlike other schools, MA does not have a service requirement to graduate. What are your thoughts about that? It is my hope that every high school student dedicates time to community service, and takes their learning a step further, where they critically reflect on their service and the differences they can make in our community.

Do you think it's important for young people to volunteer and why? Absolutely! Volunteering exposes young people to the working world at an early age, and also provides them with insight into the issues that disenfranchised people (and animals, and the environment) in our community face, along with the initiatives our local nonprofits and government agencies devise to meet urgent needs.

What is the most challenging piece of your work? Not being able to solve all the problems I come across.

What is the most rewarding piece of your work? I love working with AmeriCorps members, who dedicate six months to a year of their lives to developing the capacities of local nonprofits. I highly recommend anyone who is transitioning between college and work, or between industries, to join AmeriCorps, which is known as the domestic Peace Corps.

What would you tell the Elaine of your senior year? "You're making good choices now. You'll get into college, and in fact you're already poised to succeed there. There's no need to get stressed to the point of feeling ill. Keep working hard, but get some more sleep and have some more fun."

MARIN ACADEMY Think. Question. Create. NEXUS NOW JAN 2019

ALUMNI NOTES

BY REBECCA ABBEY



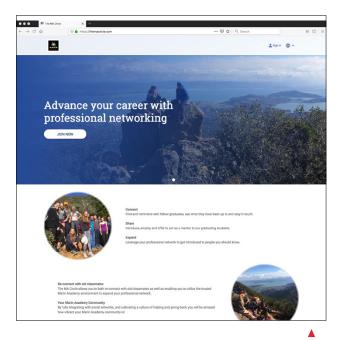
ith a lot of excitement and some fear, I accepted the position of Alumni Relations Director last year and embarked on a new chapter at Marin Academy. The first thing I did was memorize the mission statement. "Marin Academy asks each individual to think, question, and create in an environment of encouragement and compassion, and challenges every person to accept the responsibilities posed by education in a democratic society." (I typed that from memory, just in case you were wondering.) As a mission-driven school, I'd seen and heard those words often – especially, "think, question, create" which motivates MA on a daily basis. But, in memorizing the full statement, I began to appreciate the work that goes into not just preparing our students for what's next but in preparing our students to be guided by their own mission.

As a student, we asked you "to accept the responsibilities posed by education in a democratic society." To recognize our shared responsibility to inspire and foster a purposefully diverse,

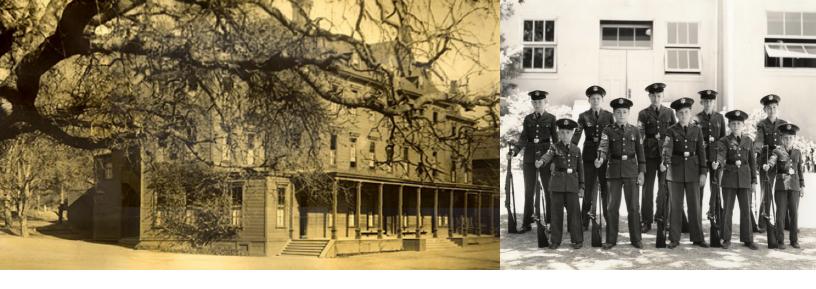
equitable, and just community. Travis often says that MA needs to be better than the real world and after spending this last year getting to know many alumni and seeing the work you are doing, I felt galvanized. I realized that Marin Academy alumni and current students are now, and have been since the school's inception, creating the world I want to live in. And I next asked myself how do we better connect all our

questioning, creative, compassionate, socially responsible people to each other? What would the world look like if we could tighten the bonds of our own community?

With this in mind, I introduce The MA Circle. Our internal hub for networking so you can call on a fellow alum when curious about a career change or need an interview. The MA Circle will also be an opportunity for our young alumni who are struggling with debt and crippling workforce issues to find mentors and internships with older



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alumni more settled in their roles.

Inspired by "think, question, create" and recognizing that the MA of today is very different than the MA of even ten years ago, I announce our video series, "what are they thinking" as a way of taking you behind the scenes to learn more about the people and programs that profoundly impact students and alumni. Our "what are they thinking" series will eventually spin off into "what are they questioning" and "what are they creating" and I invite you to send

MA and our campus. Did you know that students have been on the MA campus since 1880? Our Minicourse will set the foundation for the tour and will begin to tell the story of MA through not just a factual and historical perspective but with your voices. To make this happen, I will begin asking alumni to join me on campus to tell your own recorded oral history.

Marin Academy is an idea. An idea I believe in. Founded on the principles that education is a guiding light for

> change and stewarded by loyal and tireless captains throughout the years who address different needs at different times. An idea so strong that you can

feel and see those flickers of light scattered throughout the globe today and making tiny, almost imperceptible waves of change rooted in shared values. Join me in remembering and honoring our past, embracing our present, and building our future together.

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is an idea. An idea I believe in. Founded on the principles that education is a guiding light for change and stewarded by loyal and tireless captains throughout the years who address different needs at different times.

"



me any requests for topics.

As we prepare to celebrate our 50th anniversary in just a few short years, I begin work on my first Minicourse with Anayansi in which, with the help of alumni, students, and faculty, we will launch an audio tour and oral history of

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CHANGES

An insightful Q&A with two Marin Academy alumni who've experienced student life at MA at different moments in its history. We ask of both the same questions—interesting to see how varied or similar their responses are.



Mark Battat '79

What made you want to come to MA?

A small school environment worked best for me. I was a product of the public school system and while I got away with a lot of mischief, my parents realized that sending me to the public high school could result in a poor education. In a small school you can't get away with mischievous behavior.

Did MA have a reputation as being a certain type of school when you were in the 8th grade?

In 1975, MA was looked on as a 'new' school (the school was barely 3 years old). Furthermore, I knew that I didn't want to go to Branson as boys had to wear a uniform in those days and the school and administrators operated with a rule book a mile long. Life at MA had a much more humanistic approach. There were rules, of course, but they weren't compiled in a book.

What was your greatest fear before high school?

I had no fear at all. I detested middle school and I was delighted to start a new adventure at MA.

What were your favorite classes and why?

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Any of the Arts classes. Whether I was up in the Art Barn learning new techniques in painting with Barbara Gardener, photography with Lew Watts or theater classes with Phoebe Moyer, my arts classes allowed me to think differently and complemented the critical thinking you need in your other classes. They gave me great balance.



Tule Horton '17

What made you want to come to MA?

There were a handful of reasons I wanted to come to MA, but I think the ultimate pull was how much MA does to make your high school experience well-rounded, dynamic, and just overall super fun. Aside from just learning the necessary curriculum, MA has Minicourse, End-of-Year projects, amazing music and soccer programs (both of which I was excited to take advantage of), an Outings program unlike any other high school I've come across, and unique experiences like Vision Quest (now known as Wilderness Quest)... (read more online...)

Did MA have a reputation as being a certain type of school when you were in the 8th grade?

I think it had a bit of an artsy, hipster-y vibe but it also was clear that there were all types of kids at MA. I think it also had the reputation of being a place where students were pretty happy.

What was your greatest fear before high school?

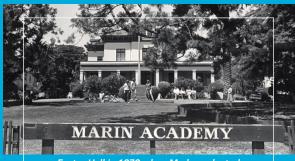
The decision to go to MA was a bit of a surprise and definitely not something I had... (read more online...)

What were your favorite classes and why?

My favorite classes were US History and History, Culture, and Identity with Bill Meyer, and That's Absurd with J O'Malley. These classes were my favorite because more than any others, they challenged my preconceptions of the world and pushed me to think... (read more online...)

MARIN ACADEMY Think, Question, Create.

NEXUS NOW JAN 2019



Foster Hall in 1979 when Mark graduated.

In what extracurricular activities did you participate?

I enjoyed the outings programs a lot as well as the spring theater musicals.

What's your favorite MA tradition?

Minicourse. In my day they held it twice a year: in the fall and spring. In the fall, I'd take classes like a creative writing class in the morning and a cooking class in the afternoon. The spring minicourse was held the week before spring break so you could take a long trip and get a lot out of it. I have great memories of these trips to Mexico, backpacking in the Grand Canyon, cycling in Northern California, and discovering Death Valley.

How did you get to school?

I rode my bike every day.

What political events have most influenced MA during your time here?

It was the Carter Administration during my time at MA so they really didn't influence the school at all except for gas rationing in 1978-79. People just switched license plates to get gas if they were running low on the wrong day.

What makes MA, MA?

Despite that the school has grown from 180 students when I graduated to over 400 today MA has always been a great place to learn, evolve, share, and achieve. You learn an awful lot about yourself in those four years as well as how to coexist with others and respect their choices and opinions. It's an incredibly nurturing environment that I've never seen duplicated or repeated anywhere else.

If you had a magic wand and could magically change one thing about MA what would it be? Nothing. In my opinion the improvements to the campus,

Nothing. In my opinion the improvements to the campus curriculum and staff have been a wonderful vision to experience. I'm delighted with the school and its growth.

Where would you like to see MA in 10 years?

Its essence, which I described, is what makes MA so special. Fortunately, the Board of Trustees and the Head of School [agree and have] put together 5-year and 10-year plans [MA Strategic Plan] which include the vision of students, faculty, staff, and parents on where they want to be. These plans are crucial to the future of the school.



Foster Hall in 2017 when Tule graduated.

In what extracurricular activities did you participate?

I played soccer all four years and participated in the music department all four years as well... (read more online...)

What's your favorite MA tradition?

I don't know if this is technically a tradition, but Minicourse is pretty special. I really appreciated each chance to totally invest myself in a new skill over the course of the week, and I had some really memorable experiences finding new things I love and building new relationships. The Songwriting by the Sea Minicourse that I partook in my sophomore year was especially a highlight.

How did you get to school?

I live in San Francisco, so I carpooled all four years, occasionally taking the bus as well.

What political events have most influenced MA during your time here?

Trump was elected during the fall of my senior year, and so that, and all the events and policy changes that followed are what come to mind first. During that time, there was a lot of demonstrating... (read more online...)

What makes MA, MA?

I would say both the community and the appreciation of extracurricular activities. Speaking to my first point, I loved how spirited and dynamic the MA community always was and how students could be a part of so many different groups and spaces on campus. It wasn't so much about choosing just one small community, but rather occupying many different spaces and roles... (read more online...)

If you had a magic wand and could magically change one thing about MA what would it be?

There are a few members of the faculty I would love to bring back to MA. Some of my favorite teachers no longer teach at MA and I would love... (read more online...)

Where would you like to see MA in 10 years?

I would like to see MA continue building its extracurricular programs. It would be awesome to come back in 10 years and see thriving Outings, Minicourse, music, athletics, gardening, and electives programs. I also have such an appreciation for the history department in particular, and so I would love to see more crazy... (read more online...)

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CONFERENCE ON DEMOCRACY

While "think, question, and create" has become the motto of Marin Academy, it is the second part of our mission statement—that MA "challenges each person to accept the responsibilities posed by education in a democratic society"—that inspires the Conference On Democracy, celebrating its 15th Anniversary in 2018.

MA inaugurated the Conference On Democracy in 2004 in an effort to strengthen the connection between our mission and the everyday intellectual and social life of the school. The Conference provides a wide array of perspectives on political, social, economic and environmental issues that our communities face locally, nationally,

and globally. The overarching goal of the COD is to provide a comprehensive view of the democratic concept and to examine the question: "what does it mean to prepare students for life in a democratic society?"

This year, informed by student feedback and a desire to "democratize" the event further, the Conference On Democracy featured more student-led sessions than ever. Students took a primary role in shaping the sessions, from fake news and its threat on democracy to sessions on food justice, women in politics, local governance and more. We asked some students about their experiences leading their sessions and below are some insightful responses.



Current junior, Luke C. '20 arranged for Hossain Albgal '10 to return to campus and speak to students about the organizational strategy known as the "snowflake model" and how it can be leveraged to achieve social change for a cause students care about.







Day 1 of COD kicked off with a morning session, "Exploring SF Bay Area Food Justice" featuring alums, Zia Grossman-Vendrillo '11, Ruby Fisher-Smith '13, and Margot Reisner '10. The group spoke to students about their work with Planting Justice and the Insight Garden Project exploring what it's like for organizations to work at the intersection of environmental and social justice while promoting a more equitable, humane, and hopeful vision of the future. Bay Area food justice activist, author and James Beard Award-winning chef, Bryant Terry, was also part of this year's COD programming.

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What session did you help coordinate at Conference On Democracy and what was a takeaway? I helped coordinate the COD session with Hossain Albgal '10, who spoke about Obama's 'Snowflake Model,' which is a plan to unify communities with an emphasis on local leadership and personal storytelling.

For me, the session provided an opportunity to speak in front of a large group of peers. I haven't had many chances to do this during my experience at MA thus far, so I was grateful for having the privilege to do so.

I also really appreciated the message that Hossain brought to MA. The audience split up into small groups and shared a specific personal cause about which they are passionate. The takeaway from this activity is that it is easy to bring people together when there is enthusiasm and a desire for the betterment of a community.

What session did you help coordinate at Conference On Democracy and what was a takeaway? I helped coordinate a self-defense session as part of my leadership in FOLKS, an affinity group for people of color on campus that I co-lead, and also a session on recognizing fake news and learning how it threatens democracy as part of my Truth & Power English class.

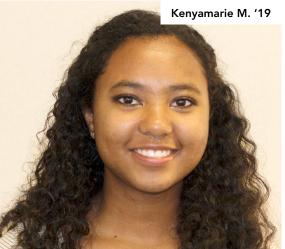
My favorite part about this year's conference was being able to have an impact on the Marin Academy community. I have always enjoyed attending the Conference on Democracy but this year's theme of student activism made me want to get involved. My co-leader for FOLKS, Madeline, and I decided to lead a self-defense workshop because we feel that self-defense skills are important for young people to have but also that feeling empowered in a sense of safety is necessary for youth activism. We worked with a local organization, IMPACT Bay Area, to lead 2 sessions with a total of 60+ participants. We started each workshop with a short discussion about how for people of color, self-defense can be a practical skill for instances of hate crime, and also a crippling one as it can be seen as aggression by law enforcement. Not only my own, but each student-led session allowed students' personal interests to leave a lasting impression on the student body.



(Top photo) Kyle Lemle '07 hugging Performing Arts Teacher and Department Chair, Annie Elias.

(Bottom photo) Kyle joined us as part of the COD to speak to the Environmental Science class and to answer questions on his work representing the young people of the United States of America as an official Delegate to the COP23 UN Climate talks in Bonn, Germany.

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What session did you help coordinate at Conference On Democracy and what was a takeaway? This year I worked on three sessions about Environmental Science, Women in Politics and PC Culture at MA. For my environmental science session I was working in conjunction with the rest of my class to create research projects and posters regarding any environmental issue. For this, I studied the SF Bay Wetlands and the politics surrounding our marshland. For my Women in Politics Session, I worked with my co leader for GROW (Global Role of Women) to create an interactive workshop about the role gender has in politics. When creating this session I went in with a few main questions that I wanted the group to explore: Why does representation in government matter (for any group)? How do politics impact how we discuss gender? And how are there still fewer women than men in government, even when women consistently vote more than men do? For my third workshop I worked with Fresca V. '19 to lead a discussion around political correctness on MA's campus. For this workshop my goal was to answer these questions: What was the original purpose of political correctness? How is political

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correctness defined at MA? and How does political correctness help (or hurt) our school community?

The most exciting part of these COD sessions was actually leading them. While I lead similar discussions at school through Grow, and PR and other leadership groups, during COD I was able to facilitate a group of students who I rarely saw in IDEQ meetings or in other spaces that tend to draw a very specific group of students. Especially in the Political Correctness workshop, I loved being able to see not only the diversity of thought on our school campus, but I got the opportunity to observe the eloquence and respect in the ways students disagreed with each other. In leading a workshop that stirred some healthy discourse, I was really reminded of why I even came to MA in the first place- because MA is a place where students are thoughtful in what they say, and are not afraid to show their passion for learning and gaining new understandings of the world we live in. It was also fun seeing a few parents and teachers on campus in the workshops and engaging in these types of discussions outside of a classroom setting.

What session did you help coordinate at Conference On Democracy and what was a takeaway? I hosted and coordinated a session called "Local Governance Discussion with San Rafael City Councilwoman Kate Colin and Marin County Supervisor Damon Connolly."

Throughout the process of planning my session, I was really excited that my fellow students would have the opportunity to interact with their local government as I had been interning for the Board of Supervisors. The audience I saw at county government hearings did not look like the audience on the day of my session; the average age in those hearings was often well over 50 or 60 years. I hope that showing MA students how much local government impacts their lives will inspire more people to pay attention to the happenings of their community. Also, because of the smaller session sizes this year, students were able to ask a lot of questions and interact with COD guests in more meaningful ways. I greatly value the opportunity that COD gave me to not only build my skills, but also bring something I'm passionate about back to MA.

MARIN ACADEMY Think, Question, Create.

NEXUS NOW JAN 2019

TRANSDISCIPLINARY LEADERSHIP

As part of MA's ambitious Strategic Plan, we are running a pilot program that will launch next August with a cohort of students from the class of 2020. The Transdisciplinary Leadership Program, or TLP, will focus on developing leadership in students as they learn about, navigate, and respond to real-world, complex issues. The program has four components—a leadership retreat in August; student leadership at school; a 2-block, first-semester, senior course; and a capstone project. Current juniors are in the process of learning about the

program and application process, which includes a focus on next year's 2-block course, Culture Shock: Migration, Exile, and the Refugee Crisis.

Read more about transdisciplinary learning, the program, and next year's pilot course by clicking the links below—and please reach out to KaTrina Wentzel, Academic Dean, with any questions.

Student Brochure: Read here to find out some basics about transdisciplinary

education and the overall program.

Information Sheet and Application:

Read here to get more details about each component of TLP, see some FAQs and responses, and access the application.

Course information: Go to this detailed site to learn more about transdisciplinary learning, TLP, and the pilot TLP course.

How can you redefine your education?



Student brochure.

Marin Academy
TRANSDISCIPLINARY
LEADERSHIP
PROGRAM (Pilot)

Information and Application

Information sheet and application.



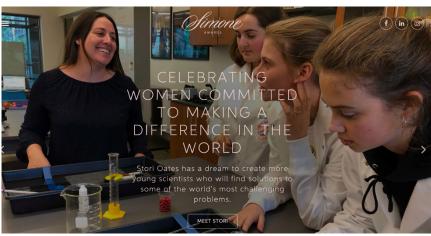
Detailed site on Transdisciplinary Learning and the TLP Pilot.



Award recognizes Stori Oates and Marin Academy Transdisciplinary program

In just three years, the Marin Academy Research Collaborative (MARC) has grown from a pilot program with five students to a highly competitive program where students collaborate with mentors from a variety of institutions, government agencies, non-profits, and universities. Now, Stori Oates, the MARC Program Coordinator, is being recognized with an international award for her pioneering work.

MARC is specifically designed to engage a diverse group of students in cutting-edge science and engineering research that is characteristic of college-level courses. This two-year, transdisciplinary program provides the opportunity for interested students to identify their particular skills and interests, partner with the larger scientific community to pursue a research project of their own design, and complete a rigorous college prep curriculum. Students generate a novel research question, conduct a rigorous literature review, collaborate with content-area experts, develop hypotheses, collect and analyze data, and learn how to publicly present, as well as, publish their work.



Click to read more about the award, MARC, and the interview with Stori.



I want the MARC program to allow students to follow their interests and ask questions in a way that fosters independence and healthy risk-taking while offering support along the way.

"

A CONVERSATION WITH TAYLOR TAN '06



What made you want to pursue teaching? Education runs in my mom's side of the family as my mom is an early childhood educator and her sister was, as well. During my time at MA, I worked at my mom's school over the summer, doing all kinds of different work from campus maintenance to classroom assistance. While working with little kids leads to a certain kind of joy, I knew that teaching pre-school would not be my career path. In my second year at UC Berkeley, I was contacted by Don Oliver, then head track and field coach at MA, to see if I would be able and willing to help coach track that spring. Coaching MA students, some of whom were former teammates of mine in the first couple of years, really helped show me that I enjoyed working with teenagers. I also began to tutor a Marin Catholic student in science, math, Spanish, and history, leading me to think that I had enough mastery of high school content to effectively teach it to others. Finally, after graduating from UC Berkeley, I got on the substitute list at MA, getting me into MA classrooms and interacting with students in a more academic context nearly every week. During the time before I joined the faculty, I believe I subbed every subject on campus with the exceptions of dance and theater.

Were there any experiences at MA that helped lead you to your current path? My path in college, as a Conservation and Resource Studies major, was significantly influenced by two classes I took at MA: Liz Gottlieb's (née Fagan's) AP Environmental Science and Dai Owen's Oceanography classes. In both of these classes, I was intrigued

by the interconnectedness of our world and given the freedom to explore the 2005-2006 crash of Sacramento River salmon, a topic I would explore even further in my undergraduate work at UC Berkeley and subsequently expand on while working at the Salmon Protection and Watershed Network (SPAWN). Liz even had me back to serve on panels during the Conference on Democracy!

As an alum and current teacher, you have the unique privilege and perspective to speak to how MA has changed over the years in many ways, and in particular, how much the way we teach math has changed. What are your thoughts on this? My math education at MA was wonderful and I remember enjoying the majority of my time in math classrooms, particularly Beau Leonhart's Precalculus class. That said, we have definitely shifted a lot of the way we teach math in ways that I think (and hope) allow students of many different learning styles to master skills and concepts readily. In my classroom, I often see myself more as a coach or conductor rather than an instructor. Students are seated in small groups and the worksheets I hand out are typically guided explorations where students are working collaboratively to figure out new concepts. I circulate through the room, answering questions and asking students to reflect on why what they've just done makes sense. The only times that I actually stand in front of the class and lecture is when I'm wrapping things up, summarizing important take-aways, or demonstrating a new application of the topic at hand.

Read the full conversation online.





TWELFTH NIGHT

BY DAVID SINAIKO

n November 1-3, Marin Academy's Theater Program brought a little slice of the mod era to the Performing Arts Center with their production of William Shakespeare's Twelfth Night, or what you will.

MA students and director David Sinaiko reimagined the classic Elizabethan comedy as a modern-day romp inspired by the mid-1960s world of New York City and Andy Warhol's famous Silver Factory. In a plot riddled with disguises, mistaken identities,

gender-bending intrigue, and modern art - and saturated in the intoxicating and irresistible force of love, Twelfth Night is Shakespeare's brilliantly layered, kaleidoscopic opus on the madness of the human heart.

This brought to MA's stage images such as Duke Orsino (played by Xanthe S. '20), declaiming one of the play's many famous lines: "If music be the food of love, play on!" in Warhol-like attire, while a band resembling the Velvet Underground played in the background, and psychedelic





images were projected on the stage.

As the shipwrecked Viola (played by Lila P. '20) disguised herself as a man, Shakespeare's gender-bending themes became even more resonant by setting them in the counter-culturally explosive 1960s. As Countess Olivia (Clara D. '19), her butler Malvolio (Kaitlin G. '19), and her drunken cousin Sir Toby Belch (Francesca W. '20), careened through the play, encountering such wild inhabitants as Olivia's gender-non-binary fool Feste (Kathryn H. '19), the pirate Antonio (Erika C. '21) and hipsters Curio, Valentine, and Curiositine (Sophie T. '21, Eric A. '21, and Grace F. '21) the beat was kept driving by a rock band comprised of MA's all-star musicians, playing songs by the Velvet Underground and the Scottish band Amplifico. It was a wild ride through a topsy-turvy world and a wonderful time was had by all.



If music be the food of love, play on!

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XANTHE S. '20

as Duke Orsino







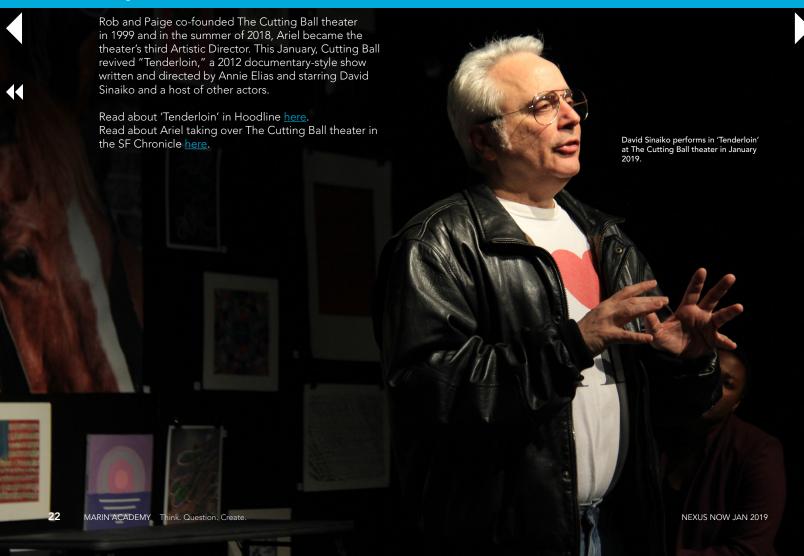






The student becomes the teacher, or director in this case.

Ariel Craft was a student in Marin Academy's theater class who can claim Rob Melrose, Paige Rogers, Annie Elias, and David Sinaiko among her teachers and mentors during the time she was at MA.











TEAM ATHLETIC AWARDS 2018-19



- Boys Cross Country: 5th Place
- Girls Cross Country: 3rd Place
- Girls Tennis: 5th Place
- Girls Volleyball: 4th Place
- Boys Water Polo (MCAL): 9th Place
- Girls Water Polo (MCAL): 6th Place

NORTH COAST SECTION CHAMPIONSHIPS

- Girls Tennis: NCS Division 2 Quarterfinals
- Girls/Boys Cross Country: NCS Division 5 Championships cancelled due to poor air quality

CIF STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

• Girls Cross Country (selected by committee) - Chiara Savage-Schwartz - 71st Place

NCS SCHOLASTIC CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM AWARDS

Boys Water Polo: Division 1Girls Tennis: Division 2

















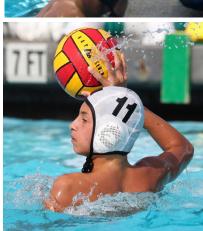






























Henry Maas graduated from Marin Academy in June 2018 and is currently attending the School of Business at George Washington University and playing water polo.

Since joining the team, Henry has emerged as a starter in his rookie campaign to help the Colonials earn a repeat Mid-Atlantic Water Polo Conference (MAWPC) Championship and their first NCAA victory. For the season, he tallied 33 points via 15 goals and 18 assists, grabbed 22 steals with seven field blocks and six ejections drawn. A quick highlight of his season includes:

- Scored first career goal in win over Salem International (9/1)
- Tallied two goals and an assist in win over La Salle (9/2)
- Grabbed a season-high three steals in a win over Iona (9/7)
- Notched a goal, an assist and a field block in a win over Whittier (9/15)
- Recorded three assists in the win at Johns Hopkins (9/28)
- Posted a goal, an assist and a steal in the win over

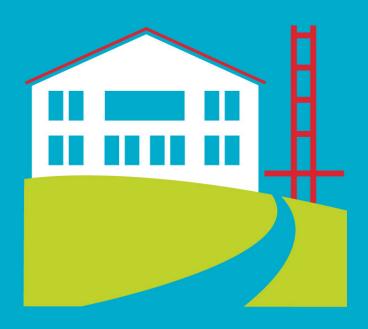
Austin College (10/12)

- Converted all three shots to tie his career high for goals in the regular season finale at Navy (11/10)
- Totaled two goals and an assist in the win over McKendree to begin the MAWPC Championship (11/16)
- Equaled season-high with three assists in the MAWPC semifinals vs. Wagner
- Matched season high with three goals in the <u>NCAA</u>
 <u>Tournament at Princeton</u>, including a pair of overtime
 tallies in the victory which was their first NCAA
 tournament win
- Advanced to the final Elite Six hosted at Stanford to play defending champion UCLA and finished ranked 11th in the country—George Washington University's highest ranking ever.

Like we said, killing it!

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NEXUS NOW JAN 2019



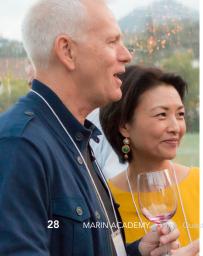
VACELEBRATES



MA CELEBRATES

March 23, 2019 Letterman Digital Arts Center in the Presidio











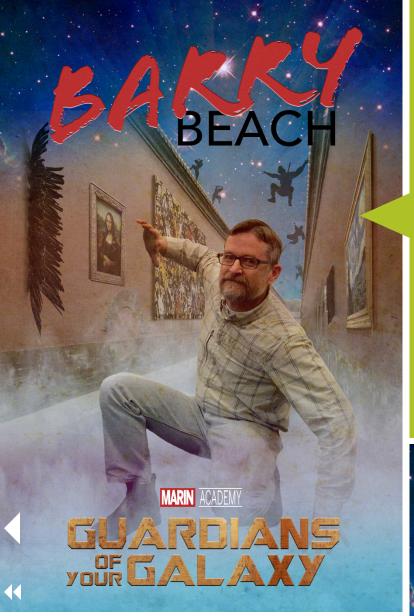




MA CELEBRATES

AT THE LETTERMAN DIGITAL ARTS CENTER | MARCH 23, 2019





YEARS

POSITION Visual Arts

EDUCATION

FUN Barry's artwork is regularly exhibited at galing, specializing in portfolio preparation. He has served as an examiner for International

YEARS

POSITION English Teacher and Girls Water Polo Coach

EDUCATION BS | Journalism, S. Connecticut State University

FUN Mary is a member of the English Department fellow Galaxy Guardian, MA math teacher Jamie Collie. Outside of school, Mary coaches Program. She is currently the head coach of the



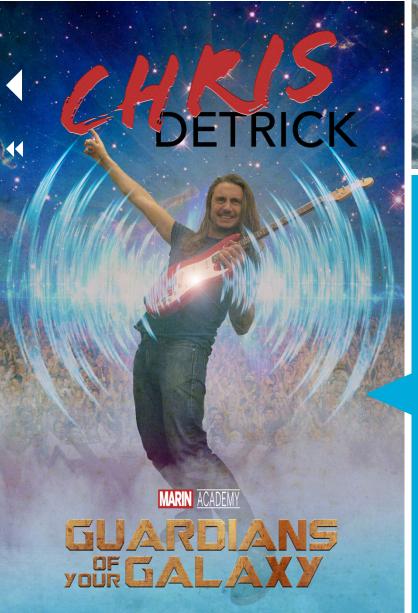
YEARS Five

POSITION Science Teacher and Director of the MARC Program

EDUCATION BS | Biology and Environmental Studies, Santa Clara University

> MSc | Marine Science, San Jose State University and Moss Landing Marine Laboratories

FUN Stori is both a teacher and a research scientist. She currently teaches Environmental Science, California Coastal Oceanography, and is Program Coordinator of the acclaimed Marin Academy Research Collaborative (MARC). She also partners with organizations such as the River Otter Ecology Project and Surfrider's Blue Water Task Force to involve MA students in local citizen science projects. Stori maintains ties to the One Health Institute at the U.C. Davis School of Veterinary Medicine, where she also worked to investigate the health and disease of marine species throughout California.





AT MA

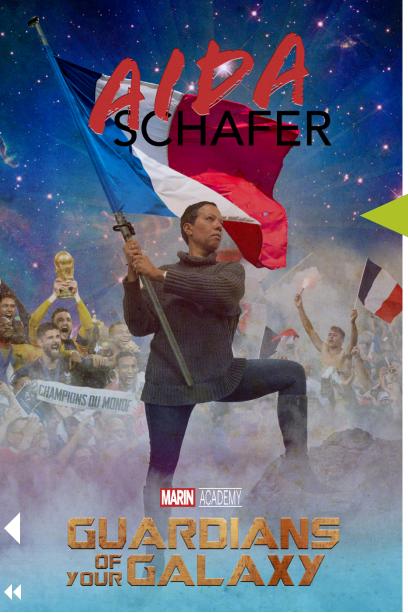
Five

POSITION Music Teacher

EDUCATION

BA | Music Theory and Composition, U.C. Berkeley & Studied Advanced Music Production with Ableton Live at Berklee College of Music

Chris is an accomplished multi-instrumentalist, performing in several local bands on guitar, bass, drums and keyboards. His teaching philosophy is centered around empowering students to be actively involved in the process of becoming a better musician in order to develop an authentic musical voice. Chris teaches Foundations, American Roots Music, World Music, and the Advanced Band ensembles at MA.



YEARS

POSITION French Teacher and World Language

EDUCATION MA | University of La Sorbonne, Paris

Aïda is a native of Paris, France. She is the Aïda teaches French and serves as the World Mixed Ethnicity, and leads the minicourse "Bikram Yoga." Before joining the MA faculty, es for Ross Recreation and Ross Middle School, and private tutoring for adults and high school

YEARS AT MA

POSITION

EDUCATION BA | University of Arizona Strength and Conditioning Specialist

coaches, and parents to assess, treat, rehabilitate, and prevent injuries. He began his career in a physical therapy clinic in Walnut Creek that sporting events: the Little League World Series,



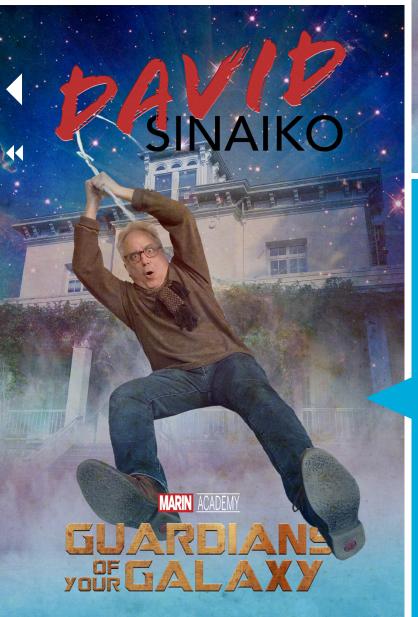
YEARS

Thirteen

POSITION English Teacher

EDUCATION BA | American Civilization, Brown University MA | American Studies, University of Michigan

FUN Nicole grew up in Baltimore, Maryland, and began her teaching career as a Teaching Fellow at Phillips Academy in Andover, MA in 1996. Besides English, Nicole has also taught electives including Modern American Novel, African American Literature, and British Literature. Nicole is a freshman advisor, and serves as a faculty advisor to the Debate Club and the Young Women of Color Affinity Group. She also teaches 9th and 10th grade Human Development. Nicole served as Dean of Faculty from 2011-2015.





YEARS

Nineteen

POSITION

Co-Director of Theater and Thoreau Faculty Chair for Sustainability

EDUCATION BA | NYU Tisch School of the Arts

FUN David founded the Dák Theatre in New York City and helped to start the Phantom Theater in Warren, Vermont. In Chicago he co-founded the critically acclaimed, award-winning, New Crime Productions. He co-directs MA's theater program with his life partner and frequent artistic collaborator, Annie Elias, with whom he received a grant from the Ensemble Studio Theatre/Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Science and Technology Project to develop a dance/theater adaptation of the novel Einstein's Dreams by Alan Lightman. As a professional actor David has earned professional stage, film, and television credits in Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.



MA CELEBRATES

See you at Letterman Digital Arts Center! Saturday, March 23, 2019 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

TICKETS

YEARS

POSITION

On Democracy

EDUCATION BA | Macalester College

Bill is the co-creator and co-chair of the Marin ry Department Chair, and has also served on the Board of Trustees. He loves teaching film studies-based Minicourses and is always looking for new ways to bring filmmakers into discussion with MA students. Before coming to MA Someday Bill would like to finish the MA in





LIFELONG CONNECTIONS AT MA

Moments that bring a lifetime of appreciation



Anayansi Aranda-Yee for teaching me two years of Spanish, which became one of the most unanticipated practical skills that I still use.

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BRIAN GOLDMAN '03

What is an MA memory that sticks out for you from your time as a student? Two of my favorite memories from my time at MA were winning MA's first BAC championship for Varsity Lacrosse, and acting in A Midsummer Night's Dream, both during my senior year.

Who were your favorite teachers and why? Mark Stefanski for demonstrating how learning can be applied to the greater good.

Derek Anderson for expanding my love of history and literature.

Anayansi Aranda-Yee for teaching me two years of Spanish, which became one of the most unanticipated practical skills that I still use.

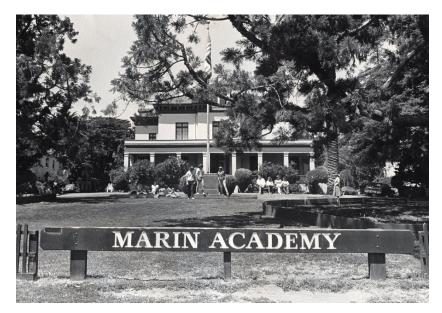
How has your experience at MA impacted your life currently? MA gave me lifelong friendships both with my peers and with faculty, and a continued connection with MA's athletic department and Lacrosse program that included coaching at MA for four years. It also guided me to understanding

that I would only feel fulfilled pursuing a career dedicated to helping others.

Why do you give back to MA? MA remains one of the most unique and welcoming educational communities I have ever been a part of. I know that the experiences I was able to have at MA are not available in other places, and am certain that current and future generations will benefit from access to those same types of experiences.

What are your thoughts on the MA Promise? The MA Promise is a necessary commitment to all students who call the Bay Area their home. The Bay Area's economic success in recent years is both a boon and a burden to the families that live here. For many, the cost of living makes it impossible to afford many things, let alone the premium of a private education. The MA Promise affords MA the ability to accept the best and brightest students, regardless of their economic background, which only adds to MA's ability to fulfill its educational mission.

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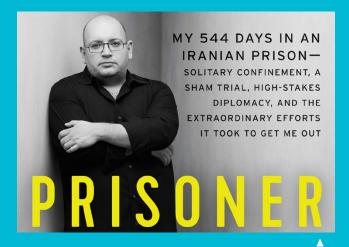


SAVE THE DATE

2019 MARIN ACADEMY ALUMNI REUNION

Saturday, October 12, 2019

Alumni In the News



Catch Jason Rezaian '94, currently on a book tour for his latest memoir, Prisoner

"An important story. Harrowing, and suspenseful, yes—but it's also a deep dive into a complex and egregiously misunderstood country with two very different faces. There is no better time to know more about Iran—and Jason Rezaian has seen both of those faces." — Anthony Bourdain

Read more>



Gustavo Barahona-Lopez '06 pens a touching poem to Jakelin Caal Maquin: "The Not Knowing Tears"

"...With unaccompanied minors and families traveling with children becoming a greater proportion of migrants, particularly those from Central America, this also means that cases like that of Jakelin Maquin will become more common. As an educator and human being, I find this appalling."

Read more>

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COMING UP AT MA

February 1 | Youth Grants Deadline.
MA Youth Grants
Board is a studentled youth philanthropy organization.
Throughout the year, the group
works to fund youth-led service and
social justice projects that positively
impact the communities around us. In
addition to MA students, middle and
high school students throughout the
Bay Area are welcome to apply for a
grant of up to \$1,000 to help fund their
community project. Applications are
due by Feb 1. Email to grants@ma.org.



Short story writer, Alyssa Aninag, is a featured participant in this year's LitFest.

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February 7-8 | LitFest. From Pulitzer Prizewinners and United States Poet Laureates to cherished local writers, MA's LitFest celebrates the oral and written word over this two-day festival. Throughout the day on Thursday and Friday, students will participate in various sessions with writers, poets, journalists, and performers, including some of our own incredible MA alumni. Please note: these events are open to students only. See the LitFest page for this year's amazing lineup.

February 12 | MAPA
Presents: Master
Class: Human
Development with

Sanjai Moses and Nicole Stanton.

Have you ever wondered what your student is doing in HumDev class? Human Development is a requirement for all freshman and sophomore students and provides students with the tools they will need for life at MA. This Master Class workshop is an opportunity for parents to learn about the Human Development curriculum from Sanjai Moses and Nicole Stanton, who have been at MA for more than 13 years. In this workshop, you will be guided through some of the activities and lessons that 9th and 10th graders participate in during the course. Nicole and Sanjai will address topics like identity development, ethics, decision making, healthy relationships, and consent. They will ask you, like they ask our students, to be ready to engage in critical conversations about some



Sanjai Moses and Nicole Stanton.

MARIN ACADEMY Think, Question, Create.

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important and potentially challenging issues. Their hope is that participants will leave with a better understanding of how students experience Human Development, and how it helps set the course for your student's experience at MA. This event is limited to the first 25 participants. Light refreshments will be provided. RSVP here.



February 14-16
| Winter Theater
Performance. Marin
Academy's Theater
Program brings Thornton Wilder's
Pulitzer-winning, all-time classic Our
Town to the MA stage, February 14
through 16! While seeming to look
back to small town life in rural New
Hampshire over a hundred years ago,
Our Town's astonishing power comes
from the square look it takes at our
communities today. We each have one
precious Life, with which to accomplish

Alumni In the News



Zack Chen '07 buys SFist for an undisclosed amount and revival plans are underway

One year and two months to the day after news site SFist and its sister sites were shuttered by the billionaire Republican owner of the "Gothamist" news chain, a San Francisco native announced its revival.

Read more>



Matthew Shepard's Interment Ceremony and the Grace of the Christian Left

Megan Kallstrom '11 creates a wonderful piece for Slate magazine marking a resolution of sorts to a horrific event that occurred 20 years ago.

Read more>

MARIN ACADEMY Think, Question, Create. NEXUS NOW JAN 2011

something simple: to find meaning in our ordinary existence and happiness in everyday wonder. How are we doing? With all our advances and innovations, do we understand our responsibility to each other and ourselves, our duties as citizens, sisters, brothers, mothers, fathers and children with compassion and care? When you measure the value of a Life on this earth, what yardstick do you use? In three swift, unsentimental acts, Our Town lifts up the ordinary moments of Life as an opportunity to recognize the power of Community, Commitment and Citizenship. Join us Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, February 14, 15, and 16, at 6:30 p.m. at the MA Theater. Ticket go on sale beginning Monday, February 4th online at ma.org/arts, or at the theater box office during MA's lunchtime hours. See you at the show!

February 25-March 1 | Minicourse Week. Minicourse is a time when students and faculty immerse themselves in an activity of broad educational value to a degree that is not possible during the school year. Minicourses come in many styles, but all have as their goal the enrichment of students' lives and expansion of their awareness in the world. Each course challenges students in a variety of ways through environmental stewardship, community service, academic and/or artistic enrichment, and wilderness skills and living experiences.





March 23 | MA CELEBRATES. Join us for an unforgettable evening of bidding and mingling with the MA community at Letterman Digital Arts Center in the Presidio. Our extended cocktail reception will feature plenty of delicious food, a deluxe wine bar, signature beverages, and a rousing live performance by the MA faculty band. In support of Tuition Assistance and faculty/staff professional development, we will have three silent auction categories: Parties and Gatherings, Rare and Unique Wines, MA Exclusives. Saturday, March 23 from 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Register and get tickets here.

April | Math Night is an annual event that showcases our students' passion for mathematics and their critical and creative ways of applying math in the world. In addition to student presentations, an outside mathematician will speak about their work in the field. Past presentations have included topics such as "Optimal Rubik's Cube Solution," "Mathematics of Mirrors and Mirrored Images," and Gravity Waves and Tensors." It promises to be a night filled with plenty of discovery and enthusiasm for math. Look for more information in TW@MA.





May 9 | Night of the Arts. Come celebrate MA's visual and performing artists as they share their work with the community. Night of the Arts kicks off the weekend with the school's most complete art show. All student artists will have work on display, and it's a great opportunity to see what's going on inside our art studios and to honor the phenomenal work our students and art teachers do. More info on the MA Arts homepage ma.org/arts.

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Tad Kinney, Parent of Sam '18 and Liza '19, shares why it's important to get involved at MA

I have been an MA parent since 2014. With my second child about to graduate, I am grateful for the experiences that my children (and I) have had at MA. Having gone to a boarding school, far away from my family, I've appreciated the connection that my children and I have had during their high school years.

I got to see them challenged academically and socially on a daily basis, and the highs and lows of high school have been intriguing. In the end, I am so impressed with how it's all come together, the student athletes that my children have become, and I could not be happier with the school. As they graduate, they are ready for academic and social challenges, and they are excited!

The curriculum at MA is well conceived and properly executed. I know our children are prepared for college, or whatever else comes their way. The campus facilities are superb and the teachers are so impressive, they really love teaching, and it shows. One particularly noteworthy aspect of MA is the high level of parent involvement and commitment. Many, many parents give countless hours serving as Trust-

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ees, volunteering through MAPA, or acting as sports team parents. I know it makes a difference; there is such a strong sense of community!

Against this backdrop, I have found great joy in lending a helping hand where I could. Whether helping with the Annual Fund, serving as an attorney coach for the mock trial team, or showing up to support the various sports teams, there is nothing more satisfying than giving, and seeing that it makes a difference. Helping out when you can is what the Annual Fund is all about. Those who came before us helped create a solid foundation for our students. The Annual Fund is one way to continue the building of a great school, and as long as every family contributes in a way that is meaningful for them, MA will continue to prosper.

I am really going to miss my almost daily involvement with MA, and I must say, it has been so satisfying. I am thankful that I had the chance to get involved and that I got to meet all of these talented and wonderful people along the way. I am sure that I got as much out of the opportunity as my children did. Get involved, it's more than fun!

MARIN ACADEMY ANNUAL FUND



At MA, we ask students to participate in their own transformation. You see it when you witness students having the time of their lives at a performing arts production. You feel it when you hear students connect what they discussed in today's history class with something they learned in science recently. And you know it when you read about an alum who is applying the critical-thinking skills developed at MA to make an impact on today's world. Throughout, MA's capacity to provide a one-of-akind, experiential education is clear. Help provide MA students with an education that inspires them to think, question, and create in their lives now and in the future.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

IF YOU HAVEN'T GOTTEN INVOLVED WITH THE ANNUAL FUND, PLEASE DO SO TODAY!

CLICK HERE TO DONATE NOW

CLICK HERE TO MAKE A PLEDGE

MARIN ACADEMY Think. Question. Create. NEXUS NOW JAN 2019

Marin Academy offers a dynamic path along the journey of learning.

Both in and out of the classroom, we encourage students to ask tough questions and initiate difficult conversations.

By pushing the boundaries of not only what, but also how to learn, an MA education empowers students to move beyond information mastery to become inspiring and compassionate contributors to a better world.

Students at MA develop the intellectual and creative toolkit to live life to its fullest.



Download the viewbook



Watch the video

For more information about the benefits of an MA education, or to schedule a visit, please contact the Admissions Office here.



Marin Academy Announces the MA Promise

The MA Promise is Marin Academy's historic commitment to ensuring that the most talented students in the Bay Area have access to an MA education.

Beginning with the class of 2023, Marin Academy will be free for all admitted students whose families earn less than \$100,000 per year (and have assets typical of this income range). And while a family whose income exceeds \$100,000 per year might not qualify for free tuition under MA Promise, the School will continue to meet 100% of demonstrated financial need for ALL admitted families who apply for tuition assistance.

Read more about the MA Promise.

SOCIAL

Connect with us online:















VISITOR SIGN-IN KIOSKS

Visitors to the MA campus during regular school hours are now required to sign-in via our touch screen kiosks located in BBLC or Foster Hall, and will receive a visitor's badge. As you enter either building's main entrance you'll find the kiosk on the wall to the right. In BBLC, after you sign in you'll walk into the Reception Office across from

the kiosk to receive a visitor's badge; in Foster Hall, your host will meet you after signing in with your visitor's badge. Marin Academy defines regular school hours as Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

To use the touch screen kiosks...

Guests: Please use the "Guest Registration" screen to enter your name, and let your host know that you're here. The kiosk will send your host an email announcing your arrival.

Events: Use the "Daily Bulletin" screen to see all of the things planned for the day, including lunch menus and athletic games.



1600 Mission Avenue San Rafael, CA 94901

Any feedback, thoughts or concerns you may have about NEXUS or NEXUS Now: Please click here to email us at communications@ma.org

