

TAKE THE LEAP

CELEBRATING THE TRIUMPHS PAGE 4

FALL 2019

BRIARWOOD

NEWSLETTER FOR THE BRIARWOOD &
TUTTLE SCHOOLS

BRIARWOOD, A School for Children with
Learning Differences

THE TUTTLE SCHOOL, A School for Children with
Intellectual Disabilities



— CELEBRATE —

BRIARWOOD'S 50TH ANNUAL

GATSBY GALA

MARCH | 27 | 2020

Join us at the Astorian for a night full of delectable food and drinks, lively dancing, luxurious live and silent auctions, and unmatched, feel-good atmosphere

Bridging the Gap

The Gala is vital to the success of Briarwood.

It serves as an opportunity for the school to seek financial contributions from Briarwood families and corporate sponsors to assist in maintaining Briarwood's supreme educational services, while providing guests with a spectacular night! We hope to BRIDGE THE GAP between the annual tuition and the average cost of educating each child.

MYSTERY DINNER

If a big gala is not your thing, that's fine! This year FOB is also hosting a Mystery Dinner...a little fun never hurt anyone!

Join us for a great night full of food, drinks and (of course) mystery at The Annie Café & Bar!

Mark your calendars for October 19, 2019. Ticket sales will be limited. You will not regret it... *or will you?*

Special thanks to The Annie Café & Bar and Berg Hospitality Group for underwriting this exciting event!

KICKIN' IT UP FOR OUR KIDS!

A Gala of this magnitude does not happen by itself.

We need YOUR help! You can donate to help underwrite specific areas, solicit donations from corporations or stores, buy a table at the Gala, or purchase individual tickets.

Let us know how you can help!

CONTACT US:

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M/U SPORTS

They work hard and play hard! Check out their accomplishments.



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THE **BRIARWOOD** *School*

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TUTTLE SCHOOLS | FALL EDITION 2019

BRIARWOOD, A School for
Children with Learning Differences

THE TUTTLE SCHOOL, A School for
Children with Intellectual Disabilities

12207 Whittington Drive | Houston, TX 77077
www.briarwoodschoolorg
281.493.1070 tel | 281.493.1343 fax

The Briarwood School & Tuttle School admits students of any race, gender, color, national or ethnic origin. The school selects students who are interested in completing their education and who need a prescriptive educational program.

Briarwood is a publication of The Briarwood School & Tuttle School. Briarwood is published annually and sent to alumni, present and past parents and friends.

SHARE BRIARWOOD MEDIA:

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Look what's going on with our Alumni!

Parents: let us know what your former Briarwood students are doing now!

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ALUMNI NEWS

TAKE THE LEAP

CELEBRATING THE TRIUMPHS

It is with honor that I have the opportunity to continue the important work inspired by our Founders, Yvonne and Dave Streit. With humble beginnings, Briarwood began out of need. In the late '60's, our Founders were unable to find a school or facility capable of teaching their severely handicapped daughter. With a small group of eight children that included the Streit's daughter, Special (Tuttle) School came to fruition. Soon children who were not handicapped and had average to above average IQ's were being brought to Briarwood by frustrated and concerned parents. Their children were failing in school. Thus, the unique concept of serving the LD and ID populations in one building began and has developed steadily for over 50 years.

In mid-June, I had the privilege of joining approximately 70 of my colleagues at The



Marburn Academy in Columbus, Ohio, for the Fifth Annual Leadership Summit for LD schools across the nation. Always inspirational, the Leadership Summit implemented a mentorship program this year, the purpose of which is to mentor those who

are new in leadership positions. The mentorship program is a wonderful opportunity to serve

others. Over the years we have welcomed to Briarwood many of our colleagues who lead LD schools.

Having bid farewell in May to another outstanding group of students, the Class of 2019, we celebrated the class for their triumphs and their aspirations. Each of these graduates came to Briarwood out of need, for most struggled with reading, writing, or spelling. The learning challenges had already begun to impede their potential successes in school and their self-esteem. Prior to joining Briarwood, many had already been told that they would never graduate from high school, let alone college. Upon graduation, the Class of 2019 spread their wings to Arizona State University, the University of Missouri, Schreiner University, Austin College, Houston Community College and Lone Star College. In that group we bid goodbye to an aspiring actress, a landscape architect, a veterinarian, entrepreneurs, a writer, and several who will follow careers in technology. Again, we had another class of students who clearly defied the odds. Once more, parents took a leap of faith; trusted the vision set forth by Briarwood's founders and watched their children prosper.

In a recent phone conference with Brent Richardson, Class of 2008, he reflected on his years at Briarwood. Upon his graduation from high school, he followed his dreams and gave his all. With a work ethic that cannot be surpassed, Brent attended Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, where he earned degrees in Hotel and Restaurant Management.

Throughout his college years, Brent worked to help defray the costs of his education. Before Brent entered Briarwood, he was reminded often of things he would not be able to accomplish because of his learning disabilities. "You're not going to make it unless you know someone, so just settle for this job" were words Brent will always remember.

Today Brent lives in Delray Beach, Florida, with his wife and two dogs. He is Regional Director of TPG Hospitality Hotel & Resorts and aids in the oversight of 22 hotels/resorts along the East Coast, including Westin, Marriott, Wyndham Resorts, and boutique hotels from Rhode Island to Florida. Brent works on all aspects of hotel management, acquisition and construction: Ownership, operational oversight

acknowledges their strengths, they are able to imagine a bright future and are prepared to 'take the leap.'

We are here to serve, not only our students but also our families. Known around the world, Briarwood is recognized for the intense remediation that we provide, the ray of light that sparks and ignites a spirit of hope for the future. Throughout their years at Briarwood, our students are 'stretched to their strengths', gifts that they never knew they had! Through direct and explicit instruction, our students are taught organizational skills, another area of challenge. Briarwood students are critical and creative thinkers who think outside the box. Innate in each is a desire we nurture through an extensive volunteer program. Whether

“Once our students begin to experience success, they begin to see themselves differently. . .dreams become realities. Through their journeys, our students confront fears based on the past and rescue aspirations for the future.”

and best practices. Confident in taking risks, Brent has followed his dreams. Goal-oriented, he writes down goals daily. "Briarwood gave me so much and I am so thankful for all that the teachers and administrators gave me." With a philanthropic and gentle spirit, Brent closed with words of thanks. "I want to give back to those who gave their all to me." "I think about Briarwood every day."

As we prepare to celebrate another year, I am mindful of the important role Briarwood plays in helping students reconstruct their own understanding of themselves. So many of the students who find their way to Briarwood experienced discouragement and defeat in other learning environments. When they arrive at a school that understands and honors their experiences, embraces their challenges and

they enter into college or the workforce, our graduates are drawn to organizations that are philanthropic. Always eager to make a difference through volunteering, our students' abilities to look beyond themselves WILL make the world a better place.

A Briarwood education is always Mission-based. As we enter a new year, our Mission will remain. We circle back to Briarwood's humble beginnings and give thanks to our Founder for making a decision, through faith, to carry the torch of learning for those who struggle to learn. We give thanks to our families, friends and donors who have walked with us and beside us through this wonderful journey. Every day, not just occasionally, we have the opportunity to make a difference, to give back to others, celebrate the journey and especially the triumphs, and to change a life for a lifetime.

THE ANNUAL BENEFIT



MAKING A SPLASH

Briarwood's "Treasures Under the Sea" Benefit, on March 29, 2019 at the Houston Country Club, was a swimming success bringing in over \$540,000, thanks to the hard work and dedication of our sea of volunteers! Chairs Ursula and Mike Sharp along with Rynda and David Lofton were aboard to *oversee* the splendid beauty of a night filled with friends and charity--Briarwood's little treasures are forever grateful!



...
Made with Love
 Lower School students, art teacher Cynthia Goodyear and grandmother Kathy Pullen lovingly combined efforts to create a one-of-a-kind quilt.
 ...

Special thanks to: Briarwood High School Photographers, Charles Clark, Elegant Portraits, Cindy Price, Sherry Clark & Troy Tucker, Elegant Portraits, Al Farb, Teri & Sonny Milos, Shauna & Gregg Steffen, Mary & Greg Whalley, Julie Whitten



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Educator's Club (\$500-\$999)

Parla Altan
Mike and Pat Brady
Eva and Robin Brown
Mr. and Mrs. Paul N. Gold
Eleonora and Bryan Leibman
Mr. & Mrs. Leo Linbeck, III
Samantha Melman
Susan D. Ricca
Danielle and Andrew Slentz
Paul Smith
Marcia Smith
Jeanette and Scott Stevenson
Holly and George Strapulos
Twin Eagle Resource
Management LLC
Cassandra Ad Wagner
Julie and Chris Whitten
Tanya and Michael Wood

Mustang Club (\$250-\$499)

Christina and Bart Blackwell
Laurie and Adam Chunn
Randall Hance
Edd and Nina Hendee-
Taste of Texas
Alfredo and Lydia Lira
Cheryl Mcanear
Vona and Bill Morefield
Lyndsey and Damian Stead
Diana Strassmann and
Jeffery Smisek
Margaret Stribling
Svgherry and Paul Wehner
Edith and Henry van
Wageningen
Hope Wills/TexasYogini

Blue & Red Club (\$100-\$249)

Kemi and Tayo Akinkunmi
Judith Arceneaux
Mary Judith and Harry Brookby
Judson D. Bryant
Kathy and Paul Castiglione
Sherry and Jim Cattan
Ben Duckworth
Sonya and Matthew Fisher
Brandye Garrison
Rebecca and Mark Hobson
Vita and Ron Jordan
Michele Joseph
Gail and Don Keasler
Vickie Keller
Dea Larson
Karen Lopez
Julie and Louis Mayer
Barbara and LV McGinty
Tan Parker
Natasha Pieper
Hilda and Bruce Poindexter
Stefon and Anna Catherine
Roosa
Jerriann Sadowski
Clifford Shedd
Lois and David Smith
David Smith
Christina and William Stickney
Janet and Michael Terlouw
Barbara and Paul Walker
Sandra and Ralph Weaver
Nancy and Frank Wilson
Linda and Jerry Woodson
Kim and Richard Yeh

Friend (Up to \$100)

Judge and Mrs. Richard Abrams
Judson D. Bryant
Johanna Cook
Lana & Stewart Hirtz
Joyce and Ran Loy

Liza Rodriguez
Phoebe Roquemore
Speech Language Learning-
Pam Bass
Dinorah and Jonathan Zanger

DIRECTED GIFTS 2018-19**Annual Benefit**

Kelly Gene Cook, Sr.
Charitable Foundation
The Ellwood Foundation
Marvy Finger Foundation

Annual Giving Fund

Marvy Finger Foundation

Henry Bean Scholarship Fund

Bean Family Foundation

CEI Lab Desktop Computers

Kappa Kappa Gamma
Charitable Foundation

General Operating

The Ellwood Foundation
Edward & Ellen Randall Foundation

7th Grade Laptops

Strake Foundation

Paige Suvalsky Scholarship Fund

Rita Blumenfeld

Staff Development

M.D. Anderson

Teacher Enrichment/Neuhaus Luncheon

Gay Roane

Technology

George and Mary Josephine
Hamman Foundation

Tuition Assistance

The Hamill Foundation
Fred and Mable Parks Foundation
Janet and Rod Dundas

Underwriter of Scott Poland Event

Craig & Deborah Curd

IN MEMORY (OF/FROM)**Brian Boles**

Dooley Family Foundation

Bruce Clark

Stefon and Anna Catherine Roosa

James Wills

Frances W. Parker

IN HONOR (OF/FROM)**Keatyn Lessner**

Dinorah and Jonathan Zanger

Carole Wills

Diana Strassmann
and Jeffery Smisek

CORPORATE DONORS

Albertson's
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Chevron Matching Gifts
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One Ashford Owners Association
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Shell Oil Company Foundation
Shell Oil Company Matching Gifts
Shell Oil HERO Program
Sherwin Williams
Morgan Stanley
Statoil Gulf Services
Taste of Texas
Wells Fargo Matching Gifts



For omissions | corrections |
giving opportunities,
please contact Kim Black
in the Development Office,
281.493.1070 or at
kblack@briarwoodschoo.org.

THANKS FOR MAKING
2018-19 A SUCCESS!

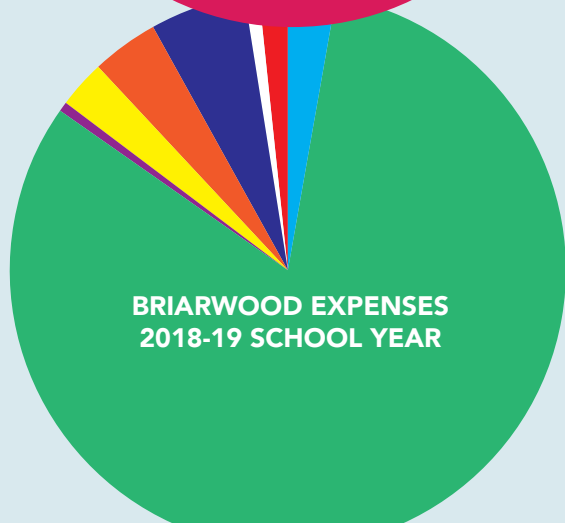
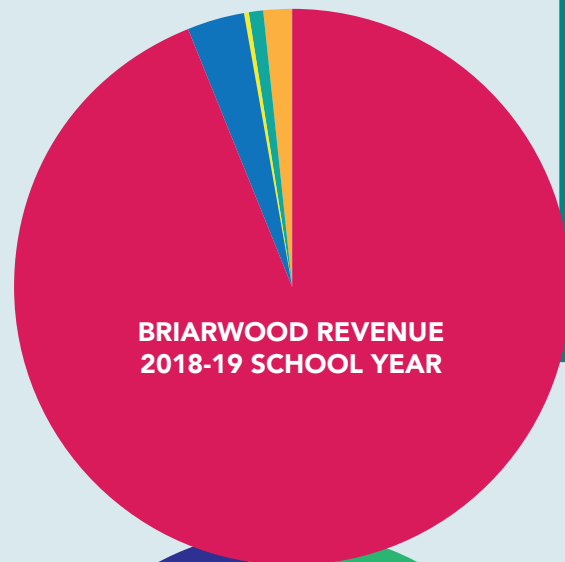
FOREVER GRATEFUL

WE ARE FOREVER GRATEFUL TO THESE FOUNDATIONS WHO HAVE SUPPORTED BRIARWOOD'S MISSION FOR A COMBINED **240** YEARS!

SINCE 1984

ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF HOUSTON

Tuition Assistance and Scholarships



SINCE 1978

M.D. ANDERSON FOUNDATION
Staff Development

SINCE 1979

GEORGE & MARY JOSEPHINE HAMMAN FOUNDATION
Technology

SINCE 1986

THE ELLWOOD FOUNDATION
Operating & Annual Budget

SINCE 1988

MARVY FINGER FOUNDATION
AGF & Annual Benefit

SINCE 2007

THE HAMILL FOUNDATION
Tuition Assistance

SINCE 1992

STRAKE FOUNDATION
7th Grade Laptops

SINCE 2012

FRED & MABLE PARKS FOUNDATION
Tuition Assistance

SINCE 1996

KELLY GENE COOK, SR. CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
Annual Benefit

SINCE 2019

KAPPA KAPPA GAMMA CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
CEI Lab Desktop Computers



The Briarwood School would like to take this opportunity to thank the foundations that have contributed to our success. We thank each foundation for their valuable partnership and believing in us year after year!

2018-19 Operating Budget

OPERATING REVENUE

■ Tuition & fees, net tuition assistance	7,999,319
■ Donations-unrestricted & tuition assistance	306,666
■ Interest & other income	20,000
■ Endowment earnings	80,000
■ Prior year earnings	120,000

TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE 8,525,985

OPERATING EXPENSES

■ Capital expenditures	250,000
■ Salaries & Benefits	6,967,995
■ Professional Fees	50,000
■ Administrative & development	250,000
■ Building & utilities	320,000
■ Classroom curriculum & student activities	472,990
■ Technology	90,000
■ Insurance & other	125,000

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES 8,525,985

TAKING ON *Washington*

SENIORS JACK SCHROCK AND RICHARD NEAL were invited to attend the NYLF National Youth Leadership Forum held in Washington, D.C. over the summer. Students from all over the country gathered to learn about national security issues facing our nation.

Jack and Richard also visited institutions in our nation's capitol and heard about real world national security challenges from esteemed keynote speakers. Students gained invaluable hands-on experience and participated in an actual simulation that put their new skills to test. It was an eye-opening week!



PAST ATTENDEES INCLUDE: Jake Upshaw, Lila Gutman (2018), Stephen James (2009), James Earley (2008)







THE CREATIVE EDUCATION INSTITUTE at Briarwood is an extensive remediation program for our Lower School students. The CEI learning process uses a combination of software and one-on-one coaching addressing students' reading needs. Studies show that one of the best ways to address learning difficulties is through multi-sensory instruction which is accomplished through the CEI Reading Lab. In the CEI Reading Lab, students work at their own pace. Students process information using a combination of software and one-on-one coaching that requires visual, auditory, and kinesthetic responses.

 <https://www.ceilearning.com>

Creative Writing Award Recipients

6TH GRADE:

Patrick Schorre -
Judge's Choice
Rhys Davies - 1st
Simon Blocker - 2nd
Christiane Griggs - 3rd
Maddy Gibson - HM

5TH GRADE:

Addy Sandell - 1st
Hailey Walker - 2nd
Jaycie Fazande - 3rd
Loulie Parker - HM

INTERMEDIATE:

3RD & 4TH GRADE

Channing Hall-Dixon - 1st
Luke Carl - 2nd
Kenya Hardy - 3rd
Joshua Brown - HM
Lane Lippold - 1st
Ethan Cook - 2nd
Annalise Mayfield 3rd
Savannah Dykman - HM
Julian Gonzalez - 1st

*HM-Honorable Mention

EXEMPLARY LAB AWARD

The Briarwood School is honored to have received, for the 8th year in a row, the Exemplary Lab Award. In order to be eligible for Exemplary Lab Award, CEI Lab Facilitator Mary Kay Sherman submits information indicating how our lab implements the CEI program, shows how the CEI curriculum is extended into the student's learning outside of the program and provides data regarding gains in CEI test scores.



We commend all our teachers for the positive difference they are making in our students' lives.

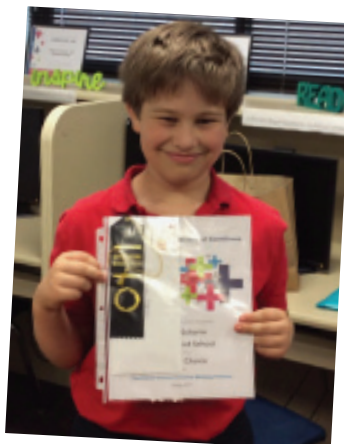
THANK YOU!

This year, the Briarwood CEI Reading Lab received a grant from the Kappa Kappa Gamma Charitable Foundation of Houston. The grant provided twelve desktop computers. We are so thankful for our partners! Thank you, Kappa Kappa Gamma!



CREATIVE WRITING AWARD

Our Lower School participants face different learning challenges, however they have one thing in common; they are willing to share their thoughts by writing an original story and entering it in the CEI Creative Writing contest.





What is Your Fear?

Did you know it's estimated that 75% of people suffer from speech anxiety known as Glossophobia? Did you know that research states, if you teach a child public speaking skills early on, that child has less speech anxiety than adults? Part of the T.O.P.S. program is to prepare Briarwood sixth graders to present a research project on a chosen hero to their families, teachers, staff and fellow classmates. Each and every student did a fantastic job! Why? Because our sixth graders have tremendous character strengths of the growth mindset just like the heroes they researched who impacted the world around us.

BY JENNIFER SOLEY
TEACHER OF TOPS



Heroes All Around

This year we were fortunate to have not just one, but two of the best-known mascots in town pay Briarwood a visit. Orbit, from the Astros, spoke to our students about different types of bullying and encouraged students to take a pledge to STOP bullying in their community by "Standing up for one another, Telling an adult, Offering friendship, and Practicing respect."

In the Spring, the Lower School's KCC Club enjoyed a visit from Swatson, the Sugar Land Skeeter's mascot. Swatson encouraged our students to 'keep on reading' and he shared a book about the importance of teamwork. It was great fun having famous mascots at Briarwood!



Work Force Program

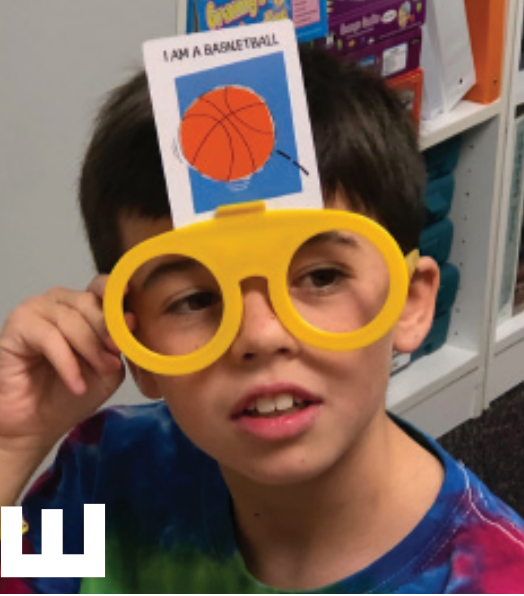
Students in the Work Force program come daily to learn vital employment skills which help them successfully transition into life after Tuttle School.

.....
The students learn how to check and follow a schedule, extend their time on task, use appropriate social skills, and so much more.
.....

They learn these skills through meaningful jobs such as our Tuttlebucks coffee business, where the students make coffee, fill the coffee orders (cream/sugar), deliver them to the teachers who order, make change, and work on their verbal skills. The students also use a Cameo Vinyl Machine to make different personalized products such as monogrammed cups and Halloween baskets. They also recycle, shred, data entry and organize and sort the carpool numbers. They also have teamed up with Curtis Wagner Plastics, a local plastic company, to put code stickers on products, stack them in groups of 50, and send them back to the company. The transition class goes off campus for work training at Kroger and Chick-fil-A. Here, they learn how to interact and take direction from new people. They develop the stamina to work for extended periods of time without taking a break and interact with customers. The students love working at both locations and they take pride in doing a fantastic job. Students also go to work at Brookwood where they work in different areas of the Horticulture Center.







Serving our students at The Briarwood School necessitates looking closely at each child’s individual needs. The profile of every student is unique and deserves to be treated as such. Studies have shown that up to half of children diagnosed with a learning difference have also been identified with a speech and language disorder. These children may have language deficits across multiple dimensions of language, including phonology, morphology, syntax, vocabulary, and pragmatics. The Briarwood School offers a robust speech and language therapy program that addresses this important underlying need.

The speech and language department has eight full and part time therapists who specialize in remediating the underlying language concerns associated with learning differences. Each therapist holds a master’s degree and state certification/licensure in the field, and a certificate of clinical competency from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). Once a child has been identified and placed within our program, we use an evidence-based approach to design a program that supports and improves the overall academic outcome for the student.

In Lower School, focus is on diagnostic-prescriptive intervention and foundational skills. Speech-language pathologists utilize both individual and small group sessions to target goals. Intense remediation is given to underlying phonological awareness skills, working memory strategies, receptive/

expressive language abilities, social language competency, written language development and reading comprehension. Executive function skills are stressed at every level, creating independent and secure learners.

Working with our Middle and Upper School students involves a unique approach that looks beyond remediation. Keeping in mind that the challenges of college and “adulting” are right around the corner, sessions focus on the skills and strategies that will serve them past graduation. Our speech-language pathologists work closely with each student to develop independent study skills, improve executive function abilities to meet real life challenges, develop strategies when academic challenges arise, teach advanced reading comprehension/written language skills and importantly, develop the social language expertise to become well-adjusted adults. Tuttle school students come through our doors with a wide range of needs and abilities. The

speech department develops a program that is best suited for each student and works collaboratively with classroom teachers and families to ensure the carry over of goals. Whether our students are learning to communicate with the help of an augmentative communication device, developing conversational skills, or practicing the rules of pragmatic language, our objective is to help each child learn to their potential.

The speech and language department incorporates The Briarwood School’s mission statement in all that we do; striving to reach each and every child and teach them in the way they learn best guides our therapeutic design and practice. Through direct intervention and collaborative efforts, our department supports Briarwood to best meet the challenges of our students and their unique communication needs.

WORK HARD PLAY HARD



MIDDLE UPPER SCHOOL SPORTS

**Outstanding
Female Athlete**
Lila Gutman

**Outstanding
Male Athlete**
Hayden Pena

**Martha W.
Stanley Award**
Jenna Baird

Brian Boles Award
Reece Transou

VARSITY VOLLEYBALL
All District
Chrissy Mundy 2nd
Lila Gutman HM
Jolie Johnson HM

**JUNIOR HIGH
VOLLEYBALL**
All Star Team
Olivia Finger
Keatyn Lessner
Taylor McLaughlin
Riley Nuttall

FLAG FOOTBALL
All State
Garrett Ratliff
Jake Upshaw
Carter Roosa
Hayden Pena

VARSITY BASKETBALL
All District
Garrett Ratliff 2nd
Sam Soffar 2nd
Jack Seidensticker HM

**JUNIOR HIGH
BASKETBALL**
All Star Team
Chance Allaire
Greg Khuri
Reid Lofton
Julius Marmelstein
Gunnar Sherman

*2nd: 2nd Team
*HM: Honorable Mention

**VARSITY GIRLS
BASKETBALL**
All District 2nd
Jenna Baird
Jolie Johnson
Katy Warren
Lila Gutman
Olivia Trulock

SOCCER
All District
Honorable Mention
Donny Ricca
Cole Handin
Andy Lopez
Reece Transou
Hayden Pena

GOLF
State Qualifiers
Women:
Bethanne Castiglione
Men:
Cole Handin
Hayden Pena
Quinton Tremblay
Quinn Considine
Carson McConnell

Regional Qualifier
Men: Zack Follis

VARSITY TENNIS
State Qualifiers
Women's Singles
Katy Zivley
Rachel Phillips
Men's Singles
Parker Slentz
Men's Doubles
Jason Bates/Carson Lewis,
(3rd place at District)
Tate Grant/Zavian Panjwani,
(State Alternates)

JUNIOR HIGH TENNIS
WHCAC Tournament
Boy's Singles
Brandon Hiemstra (3rd
Place)
Boys' Doubles
Greg Khuri/Ryan Nokleby
(2nd Place)

Chance Allaire/Jakob Turpin
(3rd Place)
Girl's Singles
Bethany Lew (2nd Place)

VARSITY TRACK
Regional Qualifiers
Women:
Lila Gutman
Kate Munson
Jenna Baird
Eliza Kelly
Chrissy Mundy
Hayley Uehlinger
Katy Warren
Men:
Ian Blood
James Mayer
Luke Friedell
Sujesh Ajmani

JUNIOR HIGH TRACK
Championship Meet
Qualifiers
Girls:
Kate Brookby
Taryn Crayton
Christiane Griggs
Caroline Landry
Riley Nuttall
Boys:
Jamie Bradford-Andrew
Rhys Davies
IV Elam
Reed Filla
Graves Gardiner
Zane Krocak
Norv Parsell
James Whaley
Joe Whaley

CROSS COUNTRY
State Qualifiers
Women:
Jenna Baird
Kate Munson
Men:
Eli Witt
Reece Transou
Sean Church
Hayden Pena
Quinton Tremblay



Briarwood is Busy! Teachers/faculty are regularly attending professional development and continuing education to continue the Briarwood standard of excellence. Routinely our teachers are asked to present as experts in their fields as outreach to others in our community and beyond. *Take a look at what we did in 2018-19!*

OUTREACH & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT 2018 -19

01/03/18 College Panel of Dyslexic Students – Neuhaus Education Ctr.

Panel of Five Dyslexic Students*
Audience: Parents, students, professionals
 *Panel included two from Briarwood

02/03/18 Conference on Dyslexia – Schreiner University

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Maryanne Wolf – National/International Authority on Dyslexia, Reading and Brain Development
 Author of Reader Come Home – (The Reading Brain in A Digital World)

03/03/18 Houston Branch, International Dyslexia Society Spring Conference – Houston

Keynote: Joan Sedita
Topic: Keys to Literacy/Strategies

06/18/18 Briarwood presented to River Oaks Country Club

Presenter: Carole Wills, Head of School
Topic: History and Information about Briarwood

07/12-13/18 Tuttle School attended International Down Syndrome Conference – Dallas

07/24/18 Briarwood hosted LETRS Training

Trainer: Lisa Landi, Head of Lower School
Attendees: Public & Private School Administrators and Teachers

07/30/18 Briarwood attended JUST WORDS Training – Round Rock, TX

08/8-9/18 Briarwood hosted William Van Cleave

Topic: Teaching Writing

08/29/18 Briarwood hosted Scott Poland,

licensed psychologist and Co-Director of the Suicide & Violence Prevention Office at Nova Southeastern University; leading expert in school shootings (Columbine, Parkland, FLA, Santa Fe, TX). This is part of Briarwood’s Outreach Program
Attendees: Public & Private School

Administrators and Teachers/
 Professional Community

09/14/18 Briarwood presented to Neuhaus Education Center

Topic: Teaching Multisensory Strategies to Students
Briarwood Presenters: Allison Fernandez, Asst. Head of Lower School, Jill Wiseman, Briarwood Counselor

12/06/18 Briarwood presented to 19th Annual Region 4 Dyslexia Conference Houston

Topic: How Dyslexia Presents in Different Subjects and What to Do
Presenters: Amanda O’Neil, Lower School Primary Teacher, Allison Fernandez. Asst. Head of Lower School

01/09/19 College Panel of Dyslexic Students – Neuhaus Education Ctr.

Panel of Four Dyslexic Students*
Audience: Parents, students, professionals
 *Panel included two from Briarwood

01/10/19 Briarwood hosted Scott Poland,

licensed psychologist and Co-Director of the Suicide & Violence Prevention Office
Topic: *Raising Children in Challenging Times: The Screen Age*
 This is part of Briarwood’s Outreach Program
Attendees: Public & Private School Administrators and Teachers/
 Professional Community

02/6-8/19 Briarwood presented to Southwest Educational Research Association 2019 Annual Meeting – Houston

Presenter: Kay Sherman – HBU Ph.D.
Topic: Pre-Service Primary Teachers’ Perceptions and Knowledge of Dyslexia and Basic Language Concepts

02/12/19 Briarwood attended the Social Thinking Conference – Austin

Presenter: Renee Attaway, MS, CCC-SLP– Expert on Social Thinking Concepts; Social Emotional Learning
Topic: Implementing Social Thinking Concepts and Vocabulary: A Day to Develop Team Creativity

02/13/19 Briarwood hosted Rick Lavoie – Servedas an administrator of residential programs for children with special needs since 1972; Mr. Lavoie holds three degrees in Special Education
Afternoon Topic: Demystifies social problems that rejected students experience and offered field-tested strategies that educational professionals can use to assist these students
Evening Topic: Demystifies reasons why kids with LD struggle with social interactions; strategies provided
 This is part of Briarwood’s Outreach Program
Attendees: Public & Private School Administrators and Teachers/Professional Community

02/18-21/19 Briarwood presented at Learning Disabilities Conference – Fort Worth

Topic: Tools and Techniques to Help Students with Succeed in College
Presenters: Janet TerLouw, Briarwood Head of Middle/Upper School, Mary Sarver, Briarwood Upper English School Teacher
Topic: Reaching Tactile and Kinesthetic Learners
 In the Elementary Math Classroom
Presenter: Cora Box, M.Ed., Briarwood Lower School Math Coordinator

02/21-22/19 Briarwood presented at LLI Southwest Conference – (Lausanne Learning Institutes) Arlington

Topic: Four Warm-Ups for Reading Remediation
Presenter: Allison Fernandez. Asst. Head of Lower School

02/23/19 Briarwood attended HBIDA 23rd Annual Conference – Houston

Keynote: Dr. Guinevere Eden (Professor in Department of Pediatrics and Director of the Center For the Study of Learning) – Georgetown University
Topic: Decoding the Brain: Imaging Studies of Dyslexia
Breakout: Christopher Woodin, M.Ed. – Specialist in Field of LD; Chair of Mathematics at Landmark School;
 Topics: Best Graphic Organizers to Teach Math Facts And Procedures; Characteristics of Language Based Instruction with Math Classes;
Breakout: Renee Attaway, MS, CCC-SLP
Topic: Zooming In: Strategies for Concrete Learners

03/01/19 Briarwood presented at Small Steps Nurturing Center

Topic: PD for Teachers/Staff at SSNC Strategies/Methodologies Specific to Young Children
Presenters: Amanda O’Neil, Briarwood Lower School Teacher, Jill Wiseman, Briarwood Lower School Counselor

05/17/19 Briarwood hosted Vine School Leadership Briarwood

Purpose: Consultation w/Briarwood team regarding inclusion

Students: Inclusionary School – Vine School

06/03 – 07/01 Briarwood hosted LETRS Training

Trainer: Lisa Landi, Head of Lower School
Attendees: Public & Private School Administrators and Teachers

06/06-27/19 Briarwood hosted Summer Remediation Program

Led by Briarwood's Speech & Language Staff (Sixth Annual – designed after Camp Success at Baylor University)
Program designed for students entering K – 6 (16 students attended; represented public and private schools)

06/17/19 Briarwood attended Marburn Leadership Retreat in Columbus, OH
Fifth Annual Leadership Retreat for Heads of LD Schools –
Mentorship Program implemented
Carole Wills attended

06/17/19 Briarwood attended Region 4 Conference – Houston

Steam 2019: Opening Minds To Endless Possibilities

06/18/19 Briarwood Hosted Lone Star Students

Came to observe Briarwood's Summer Remediation Program

07/02/19 Briarwood Attended ISM Webinar: Preparing for the Coming Generation of Private-Independent School Families**08/1-2/19 Tuttle Attended Texas Autism Conference – San Antonio****09/25-26/19 Briarwood Hosting William Van Cleave**

Topic: Writing

10/02/19 Outreach/Professional Development – Briarwood

Presenter: Dr. Maryanne Wolf – National/International Authority on Dyslexia and Brain Development
Author of Reader Come Home – (The Reading Brain in A Digital World)
This is part of Briarwood's Outreach Program
Attendees: Public & Private School Administrators and Teachers/Professional Community

10/26/19 Briarwood Attending Rawson-Saunders School – Austin

Presenter: Russell Barkley, Ph.D. – Leading expert on AD/HD; currently Professor at the State University of NY ▶

(Upstate Medical University); author of dozen+ books and articles related to the nature, assessment/treatment/ADHD

10/28/19 Briarwood Attending HBIDA Fall Symposium – Houston

Keynote: William Van Cleave
Topic: Teaching Writing
Luncheon Speaker: Josh Frank, Briarwood Alumni, Dyslexic/Author/Entrepreneur

02/2-7/20 Briarwood Attending TCEA Tech Conference – Austin

THE BRIARWOOD SCHOOL OUTREACH PROGRAM WELCOMES

Maryanne Wolf

OCTOBER 2, 2019

The Future of the Reading Brain in An Increasingly Digital World

Maryanne Wolf will present “The Future of the Reading Brain in An Increasingly Digital World” on **October 2, 2019**. Wolf is the director of UCLA's Center for Dyslexia, Diverse Learners & Social Justice.

Wolf is a scholar, teacher, and an advocate for children and literacy around the world.

THE SCHEDULE:

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.

Part 1 - *The Reading Brain's Lessons for Dyslexia and Intervention*

10:00 - 10:30 a.m. Break

10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Part 2 - *The Future of the Deep Reading Brain*

REGISTER ONLINE!
www.briarwoodschool.org

OUTREACH PROGRAM



WHO ARE BRIARWOOD STUDENTS?

Our students are scientists, artists, musicians, computer programmers, thespians, photographers, athletes and so much more.

You would them see in any mainstream classroom, anywhere in the United States.

They are from all races, religions, cultures and walks of life.

“We have created programming to remediate areas of difficulty and bolster areas of strengths.”

Our students are bright, creative, unique, talented and passionate. However, their talents are often overlooked due to learning challenges, such as dyslexia, dysgraphia, and dyscalculia. Prior to Briarwood, many of our students spend hours on homework, and work with tutors before and after school. They have met educational challenges which left them feeling unsuccessful and unfulfilled, unable to develop their talents and strengths.

Our students are taught strategies for life. They are taught how to use an organizational system, given strategies for note-taking, test-taking and writing.

We meet the students “where they are” and develop a plan to remediate the needs of each student through a diagnostic-prescriptive approach. With this support, our students become confident in their abilities as learners and are able to develop their talents and strengths.

Our students are given the opportunity to develop their leadership and creative talents through inquiry-based learning, collaborative groupings, and entrepreneurship programs. Learning strategies, opportunities for public speaking, and technology programs are woven throughout the curricula. Students become captains of the team, Editor of the Yearbook, members of the Executive Branch for Student Council in Middle/Upper or the K.C.C. Leadership Committee in Lower School. They are also afforded the opportunity to become playwrights through our partnership with the Alley Theatre. These opportunities allow our students to ignite the talents they innately possess. When you take away self-doubt and insecurities and give kids the skills to accommodate for learning differences and achieve, students thrive. It's true, *Briarwood students really can do anything.*

WRITTEN BY DEBBIE ETHERIDGE



This year's recipient of the **REBECCA ROTH SCHOLARSHIP** is **HAILEY UEHLINGER**, sophomore. This scholarship was created in memory of Becca Roth who attended Briarwood, graduated from college, and drowned in a tragic accident in 2012. Her family wishes to keep Becca's memory alive through others who can benefit through her dreams.

2018-19

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF HOUSTON SCHOLARSHIP AWARD WINNERS



SAMMY ESCOBAR

SINCE 1984, the Assistance League of Houston has provided many scholarships to our Briarwood students. These scholarships are awarded annually to students who have demonstrated scholastic achievement. The scholarships are intended to encourage committed students to pursue their education through high school and beyond.

This year's recipients are **Rory Coyne, 11th; Sammy Escobar, 11th; Andy Lopez, 11th; Hayden Pena, 10th; Riley Nuttall, 8th.**



ANDY LOPEZ



HAYDEN PENA



RILEY NUTTALL



This year's recipient of the **MARCY SCHROEDER SCHOLARSHIP** is **JOLIE JOHNSON**, sophomore. The Schroeder family set up this scholarship for a high school female student with Dyslexia in memory of Marcy Schroeder, a grandparent of a dyslexic student.



RORY COYNE



Briarwood Has Lunch & Dinner Covered!

12-8 PM
KIRKWOOD LOCATION ONLY
2606 S. KIRKWOOD 77077

September 18, 2019
November 6, 2019
January 15, 2020
March 4, 2020



A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS GO THE BRIARWOOD GALA

FOR BRIARWOOD CREDIT, PUT YOUR RECEIPTS IN THE SPIRIT NIGHT BOXES!

Teachable Moments

Briarwood thinks its teachers are pretty spectacular (you know we're right). Join us in welcoming new teachers throughout the school! We also celebrated a new school year with a feast fit for the finest teachers and staff in the world, courtesy of our parent organization. **Happy school year!**

WELCOME NEW TEACHERS

TOP PHOTO TUTTLE SCHOOL

Kourtney Rucker
Holly Pessoa
Tyra Stevens

MIDDLE PHOTO MIDDLE UPPER

Carole Wills,
Head of School

Toni LaZurs,
MU Counselor

Amanda O'Neil,
Asst. Head of MU

Ron Lessner, Science

Susan Thomas,
MS Remediation Class

Jane Nguyen, English IV

BOTTOM PHOTO LOWER SCHOOL

Emma le Comte,
Asst. Head of LS

Shelley McCormick,
Fifth Grade

Anne Marchese, CEI Lab

Tina Molina,
Paraprofessional

Katherine Ludwig,
Primary

Lisa Landi, Head of LS

Kathy McLane, Primary





Puppy Love

Duchess is looking for a forever home. For information, please contact Westbury Care at westburycare@gmail.com



**SAM THOMAS
CLASS OF 2010**

Making Friends WITH MAN'S BEST FRIEND

Briarwood Alumni Sam Thomas, Class of 2010, gets special kuddos for providing the daily dose of cuteness. Sam, who always intended to pursue a career helping animals, is making his dreams a reality. Sam has returned to Houston after attending Westin State Colorado University.

In Houston, Sam attended the PIMA Medical Institute to get his certification to become a Veterinary Assistant. Sam provides medical care to animals and performs multiple tasks under the

supervision of the veterinarian. While interning at the VCA Animal Hospital, Sam so impressed his colleagues with his work...they hired him full time! He is currently preparing to work on becoming a Licensed Vet Technician. He is under the supervision of our very own Briarwood former parent, Dr. Sally Slomer. Her son, Reece, is a 2006 Briarwood graduate.

Sam is the proud owner of four dogs. On an adorable plea: Are you looking for a furry family member? Duchess, pictured inset, is ready for her forever home (contact details above).



RYAN CLARK '08

Welcome Back

Welcome back to Briarwood, Ryan! Ryan has come full circle, first as a 2008 graduate to returning to Briarwood as an Instructional Technologist. After Ryan graduated from Briarwood, he attended Schreiner University for two years and then transferred to Northern Michigan where he majored in English and minored in History. He received his certification at The University of Houston. Ryan spent five years teaching English and Literature in middle school at St. Cecilia Catholic School. He received his Master's in Education at The University of Houston. He is married to our own Mackenzie Vaughn Clark, Briarwood graduate of 2012. Mackenzie teaches first grade in CyFair. We are thrilled to have you back, Ryan!

Aaron Young, '90

We have been so fortunate to have alumni, Aaron Young visit and continue to inspire our students. He is a 1990 Briarwood

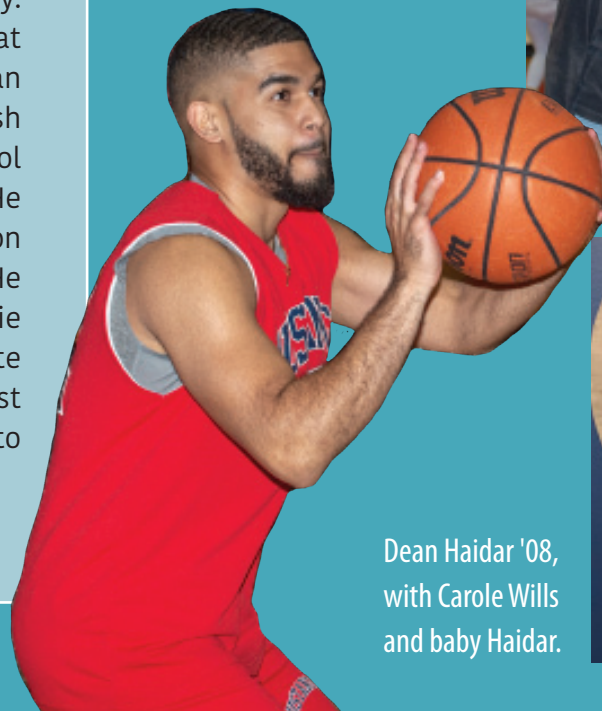
graduate and has made his career as a Life Flight EMT. Aaron feels that dyslexia and ADD contribute to his success as an EMT. He has the ability to multi-task and make instantaneous decisions, which are crucial in his line of work....saving lives.



SEEN AROUND CAMPUS

SEEN AROUND CAMPUS:

Frantz Jean-Louis '17, in mid lay-up at the Alumni Game in January; Hope Schultz '17, Cole Johnson '18, Alex Schaffer '17, Leah Lewis '19.



Dean Haidar '08,
with Carole Wills
and baby Haidar.

Slam Dunk

The Annual Alumni vs. Staff Basketball Game is an easy way to catch-up with your Briarwood pals. Make sure to join us in January 2020!



Laura Kibler, '13

We were so excited to have Briarwood graduate Laura Kibler speak to our upper school classes last semester. Laura is a 2017 graduate of Sam Houston State University getting her degree in Criminal Justice and Victimology. Over this past year, Laura has been serving communities in need in over 16 different countries!

Emily Hallmark, '12

Emily also took time from her busy schedule to speak to our juniors about post high school planning and college. After graduating in 2012 from Briarwood, Emily started her college journey at Baylor University. She finished her freshman year in Waco and decided to continue her academic pursuits at Auburn University, receiving a degree in education. Emily is currently student teaching in Auburn.



Hey Alumni!

If we haven't heard from you in awhile, stop by, shoot us an email, give us a shout—we love to hear about you!



DYSLEXIC BEFORE IT WAS COOL



DOUG GINSBERG '18

Doug Ginsberg celebrated a great first year and experience at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas. On top of a full course load, maintaining a 3.3 GPA, he competed on the cross country and track teams. Also, a huge congrats to Doug for competing in the American Ninja Warrior competition in Oklahoma! Briarwood is honored to have been a part of Doug's learning journey. With his 'no quit' attitude, he is and will continue to be an inspiration to us all. You do make dyslexia cool, Doug!

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WITH LEARNING DIFFERENCES & INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES

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Happy
birthdays

to our leader
and friend

