# EAST WOODS SCHOOL ON THE HILL

Winter 2020







# EAST WOODS SCHOOL

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East Woods School 31 Yellow Cote Road Oyster Bay, New York 11771 www.eastwoods.org

East Woods School is incorporated and operated on a not-for-profit basis by an appointed Board of Trustees. It is chartered by the Board of Regents of the University of the State of New York. The School is accredited by the New York State Association of Independent Schools and is

a member of the National Association of Independent Schools.

**MISSION STATEMENT** 

**OUR MISSION AT EAST WOODS SCHOOL IS** 

TO FOSTER STRENGTH OF CHARACTER AND

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE WHILE DEVELOPING

AND ENCOURAGING CREATIVITY, INTELLECTUAL

**CURIOSITY, AND A LIFELONG PASSION** 

FOR LEARNING.

WE ARE A NURTURING COMMUNITY THAT

CELEBRATES THE DIFFERENCES AMONG US AND

LEADS BY EXAMPLE THROUGH CITIZENSHIP

AND SERVICE TO OTHERS.

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# SAVE THE DATE

**COMMENCEMENT** FRIDAY, JUNE 12, 2020



**75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**FRIDAY, MAY 14, 2021
(YES! 2021!)



East Woods School named 2020 Best Private School on Long Island





# From the Head of School

Winter 2020

Dear Parents, Alumni/ae, and Friends,

East Woods School is quickly approaching the seventy-fifth anniversary of our founding in 1946. Surely by this time that many years ago, a small group of pioneering parents had already begun discussions among themselves to start an elementary school. Imagine the excitement of those conversations - and the concern - that they must have brought on. How thrilling to think about launching an educational program that rendered the finest curriculum, supported values and character development, offered physical education and the arts, and gave children the tools and confidence to converse with grown-ups, speak in public, and be leaders in and outside of the school. At the same time, think about the concerns they must have had about how to pay for classroom supplies, faculty salaries, maintenance of the school building and grounds, and what unforeseen bills would arise.

Since those early days, nearly 1,500 children have been educated by East Woods. What an incredible accomplishment in and of itself. Multiply that by the endeavors that our students achieved in their careers and how they impacted business, society, and government. Today, East Woods School counts among its alumni/ae, women and men who have been leaders in politics, run large companies, and conducted service activities for their fellow men, animals, and the environment. It is truly extraordinary that those private conversations seventy-five years ago resulted in literally a societal-changing institution in the hamlet of Oyster Bay.

Today, East Woods School continues to focus on those founding objectives and we still have those same concerns. Our students receive a superior academic education, we foster strength of character, and we nurture a community that celebrates the differences among us. In today's global and diverse world, we teach inclusiveness and kindness. In this edition of On the Hill, you will witness the dedication of our faculty, the successes of our students, the commitment of our parents, and the roles that our alumni/ae play in society.

I invite you to mark you calendar for the anniversary celebration of East Woods School. On Friday, May 14, 2021, we will invite all of you to come to 31 Yellow Cote Road to join together in festive commemoration. We have much to be proud of and much to be thankful for.

With pride and gratitude,

Laura Kang

Laura Kang Head of School



Dana Bratti, Board Co-President (left) Kristin Dennehy, Board Co-President (right)

# From the Board Co-Presidents

# Greetings to the entire East Woods community!

As we usher in the new decade, we have important milestones to plan for including the challenging task to Co-Chair the strategic planning committee this year, along with current East Woods parent, and Trustee, Luan Doan. The world feels quite different from the last strategic planning cycle and positioning East Woods School for the next five years is exciting work. We are also busy planning for the school's 75th Anniversary next year. For this very special place, both tasks are critically important, and we are thankful to be spearheading these initiatives. As we reflect upon almost 75 years of history, we will be celebrating how East Woods inspires each child with confidence, excellence and kindness. The dedicated faculty that inspires our children cannot be shown enough thanks for the ways they go above and beyond each day to make this school a transformational experience for each child. On behalf of the Board, we would like to express our deep and heartfelt gratitude to our incredible faculty and administrative staff.

On the topic of strategic planning, in order to be ready to publish our new plan in December 2020, the Board has been at work already for some time. In October, we met on a Saturday, along with a broad group of representatives who care so much about our school. The day was spent formalizing a set of priorities to create the next five year strategic plan to ensure our school and

community will be on solid ground as we plan for the future. This group of dedicated people included past East Woods parents, alumni, and current faculty and administrators. It was a very productive day where we spoke about our challenges, opportunities and the "special sauce" that we need to maintain, no matter what future challenges are ahead for East Woods School.

From the work on that day, where hundreds of ideas were exchanged, we broke out into small work groups to discuss where the school is today, how to anticipate the future, and the aspects of our school community, facilities, and program that we need to further enhance. Despite the fact that some key areas of our school will never change, especially the amazing manner in which our children are truly shaped into articulate, confident, and caring citizens of the challenging world we live in today, we truly do have some work to do as the landscape of independent schools continues to shift on Long Island. The Strategic Planning Committee, along with Laura Kang, identified that all of the brainstorming work bubbled up to five key themes on which to structure our work. These themes include: Enrollment, Program, Finance, Culture and Facilities.

We have formed five committees to focus on and plan the work ahead against these key areas. We



**ENROLLMENT** – Create a robust and diverse enrollment by developing brand awareness of the East Woods School unique cultural and educational niche.



**PROGRAM** – Further develop and enhance our world class educational program which includes a focus on our faculty, academics, curriculum, and enrichment.



**FINANCE** - Achieve and maintain financial sustainability.



**CULTURE** – Continue to attract and retain excellent educators and staff and focus on their continued professional development. To nurture a tight knit East Woods School community including parents, alumni, and, past East Woods School parents. And, to ensure students are known and loved and continue to foster the robust character development program.



**FACILITIES** – Enhance and modernize the facilities to support enrollment and maximize revenue.

will be announcing Town Hall meetings this year to allow everyone in the East Woods community to share their voice and participate in this important work. The Trustees and the Strategic Planning committee would like to thank the following participants for sharing their Saturday with us and lending their perspective on how we move forward together for the next five year cycle of the strategic plan. Past East Woods parents: Sealy Hopkinson, Cathy Hogg, Doug Arthur (alumni), and, Bill Sheeline (alumni); Faculty and Teachers including: Alex Carter, Michele Burke, Carmela Bernacchio, and, Christina Maass; and our Head of Development, Sean Collins.

A few other exciting updates to share. As you are aware, Laura Kang has been diligently working on ways to continue to differentiate an East Woods School education. The 8th Grade leadership program has taken root and is becoming one of the hallmark outcomes of the culmination of an East Woods education. Each year the 8th grade class chooses a charity to support and work with throughout their school year. This year they have selected to support an organization in our community right here in Oyster Bay, Youth and Family Counseling. This is a wonderful organization that is funded by The Community Foundation of Oyster Bay and the 8th grade has adopted a local family and has been providing necessities to them on a monthly basis. The Community Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation run by local volunteers in support of the needs of the residents in our community. A partnership with an organization so closely tied to the Community Foundation is a very meaningful choice considering that George and Abby O'Neill started the Community Foundation in 1965 and are such important pillars in the East Woods Community sending their six children here. We mourn the loss of Abby in 2018 and George in 2019 and will look forward to celebrating their commitment to East Woods School at a dedication ceremony to a new azalea garden being planted this Spring to honor Abby.

Another exciting development this past school year was the development of the first time Faculty Appreciation Award that was given at graduation to a teacher who goes above and beyond on behalf of the school and our students. The first year's award was given to Madame Martine Tawaji, recognizing her dedication not only to the French program, but also her work with the Student Council, and as Director of Community Service, leading our students and school community in the important work of giving back.

Dana and I would like to publicly thank all of the Trustees for their hard work and dedication to East Woods School and welcome the new Trustees this school year including Michèle Mercier, Essence Brown, Luan Doan, and George Kakoulides. There are many opportunities to celebrate East Woods School with us. The dinner dance is back on campus in May, and we hope to hear your voice at one of the Town Hall meetings. There continues to be a heightened level of excitement that we can all feel in the halls and "On the Hill" here at East Woods. A special thanks to Laura Kang for the critical role you play in leading the school. With your guidance and vision East Woods will continue to differentiate itself and fulfill its mission for years to come.

Wishing you a glorious start to the new decade,

Kristis A. Dennek

Dana Bratti and Kristin Dennehy Co-Presidents of the Board of Trustees



New and Noteworthy at East Woods

# Professional Development At East Woods School

East Woods School is committed to a strong professional development program for our faculty. In the section that follows, you will read about three such programs in which our faculty members participated.

The National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) recommends principles of good practice for independent schools. One of these is a professional development program and their effective implementation. "Effective professional development programs engender an atmosphere of excitement, intellectual stimulation, and collegiality. They bring about an innovative and exhilarating culture. They invite invigorating partnerships. They generate faculty enthusiasm, and there is a "trickle down" effect: an energized faculty leads to energized students."



# THE HOPE TRUMBULL MCCURDY OLMSETAD ENDOWMENT

This fund was established in 2007 in memory of Hope McCurdy Olmsetad '61, the daughter of Faith H. and James A. McCurdy, and the sister of Ian A. McCurdy '63, Sheila McCurdy '68, and Charles G. McCurdy '69. Because Hope's interest in history was first cultivated at East Woods School and continued at Radcliff College where she majored in history, the income from this endowment is to be used by the faculty who teach history at East Woods School. The purpose of this endowment is to provide members of the East Woods history faculty with the opportunity for intellectual enrichment and reflection and to broaden their knowledge in the discipline of the study and teaching of history.



### MAYER FELLOWSHIP AT EAST WOODS SCHOOL

Our thanks to the generosity of the family of the late Mrs. Donna Mayer, mother of Cathleen Mayer Kennedy '69, Deborah Mayer O'Brien '70, Cynthia Mayer Benfield '74, and Gerald G. Mayer '79, who established the Mayer Fellowship in 1986 to provide funds for enrichment activities for East Woods faculty.



Jeanne Lore, Upper School Science Teacher

# A Teacher's Expedition To Costa Rica

As teachers, we are often given the opportunity to attend professional development programs that will expand our knowledge of our subject area, introduce us to new ways to better deliver instruction to our students or to learn the newest technologies in the field.

East Woods teachers are given the most unique ways to enhance their professional career, thanks to funding provided by the Mayer family, alumni/ae from the late 1960s and 1970s. Each year, teachers are awarded grant money to be used to travel to places that will expose them to new arenas that will then be incorporated into their classroom.

As a science teacher, I have a few locations I would like to visit and experience first-hand. I had the chance to travel to one of my bucket list locations, Costa Rica. Prior to traveling there, I was anxious to experience the extraordinary fauna and flora I have read about in Costa Rica. I was curious to witness one of the most biodiverse countries.

Where do I begin to explain my amazement with the country? When we traveled, it was the end of the dry season in Costa Rica. When I was told it was dry season, I didn't realize the extent of dryness. Streams, rivers, and some of the small bays were completely dried up. This was astonishing to me; a very interesting concept for a place in which you consider to be composed mostly of rain forests. To the complete surprise of our guide while on an ATV tour of numerous terrains, we encountered a few raindrops. He claimed that this was unheard of during the dry season. My students were intrigued when I explained that it doesn't rain for months.

The days were hot and dry, and we spent most of our time either in the water to stay cool or out on a boat to experience the breeze of the Pacific Ocean. The evening was my favorite part of the day. As the sun began to set, the temperature would begin to decrease a bit, and the wildlife and flowers came to life. We found ourselves sitting on the side of the road often around dinner time just taking in the aroma of the flowers that awakened. You felt as if you were in the perfume department of your favorite local store. It was unbelievable how pleasant the aroma was and how you had not smelled them all day. Then, as most animals are nocturnal to avoid the hot sun, wildlife began to appear all around you. White faced monkeys swinging in the trees, anteaters walking in the bushes, macaws and toucans were flying all around. Absolutely stunning!

Spending a day on the Pacific Ocean and fishing was fabulous. Although it is rarely windy and rough in Costa Rica, we did have rough days. But that was quickly ignored when the marlin began to bite and we watched them dance across the top of the water. Just awesome! Trolling the boat through schools of spinner dolphins in the search for tuna was outstanding. There had to be over a thousand spinner dolphin around the boat at one point.



Another day we took a boat through a mangrove to explore life in all the layers of the forest.

Monkeys swinging from tree to tree, Jesus Christ lizards on the tree trunks, sloth sleeping in the trees, dart frogs, and parrots were among the many animals we witnessed. Learning the important role mangroves play in our ecosystem was interesting and learning how hard they are trying to protect the mangroves from the palm tree oil corporations. It was disheartening to see how much land has been cleared in the past decade to plant palm trees just for their oil. It is disrupting so many animal habitats.

Overall, this was such an amazing experience. Being able to experience firsthand so many of the concepts I teach was indescribable. Thank you to the Mayer family for this incredible opportunity.











: Michele Burke, Pre-Kindergarden Teacher Last summer, I had the opportunity to visit El Salvador as part of East Woods professional development program and funded by the Mayer Family. I left with an appreciation of America and all of the privileges we have. El Salvador had just elected a new President and its people were very grateful to him because his efforts were focused on trying to better their country and improve the quality of life. The school I visited was a parochial school called Corazon de Maria. It was located in the country's capital San Salvador. The school was built twenty-five years ago to create a safe haven for the children to learn. They have seven hundred and fifty students from Nursery age to about age fourteen. English is taught at an early age and they all greeted us by saying 'good morning.' The older children stood when we entered the room. This was impressive as this is the same greeting a visitor receives when they come into an East Woods classroom. I was able to share some techniques I use in my classroom and was also able to see how they learn. I had two suitcases full of gently used and new clothes donated to me by friends and family that I brought and gave to the school. They were extremely happy to host us and look forward to becoming our pen pals when I return to school. Special thanks to the Mayer family for establishing this wonderful fund for the East Woods teachers.

THERE ARE A NUMBER OF WORKSHEETS AND TEMPLATES WE RECEIVED WHICH CAN BE USED WITH STUDENTS TO IMPROVE THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF THEMSELVES THROUGH EXERCISES INVOLVING EXPLORATION OF THEIR THOUGHTS AND BEHAVIORS.

Christina Maass, Kindergarten Teacher Having studied psychology in college, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy has always been of interest to me. When I was given the opportunity to not only learn about it, but to become trained, I jumped at the chance. Mrs. Chase Zuzzolo, Second Grade Teacher, and Mrs. Paige Zuzzolo, Pre-Nursery Assistant Teacher, were fortunate to join me as well. The program was a threeday intensive training seminar and our fellow classmates included both psychologists and social workers. We felt pretty lucky as we were the only teachers to attend and are now certified. We left with a complete understanding of how a variety of disorders, such as Anxiety, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Depression, and Obsessive Compulsive Disorder can affect behavior. We learned how Cognitive Behavioral Therapy can change the way a patient thinks and how it helps to alleviate behaviors which hinder the person's quality of life. In the classroom, various strategies and techniques can be useful when working one-on-one with a student who may have one of the aforementioned conditions, or with the class as a whole, to help alleviate anxiety and self-doubt, referred to as "stinking thinking." Cognitive Behavioral Therapy is different than most therapies in that it does not seek to identify the cause of the behavior being treated, it only focuses on reducing the behavior through treatment. It is a very structured, sequential process which is driven by the patient with guidance from the therapist. For classroom application, there are a number of worksheets and templates we received which can be used with students to improve their understanding of themselves through exercises involving exploration of their thoughts and behaviors. Cognitive Behavioral Therapy creates self-awareness, requires transparency, and places : emphasis on parental/family support.



Lawrence Alexander

# Achieving Inclusive Excellence At East Woods

"I'm really proud of the work East Woods School is doing to achieve inclusive excellence. In this, year two of our work together, we are focusing on culturally inclusive curriculum and inclusive classroom practices. Since students spend the majority of their time in the classroom at school, we feel that this is the most appropriate place to devote our energies. We are excited to hear how our faculty and students are leaning into this work!" – Lawrence Alexander

Lawrence Alexander is the Director of the Equity and Inclusion practice at Carney Sandoe and Associates, an educational consulting firm based in Boston, MA. There, Alexander leads the firm's work on interrupting implicit bias in the hiring process and in increasing diversity and inclusion amongst faculty and administrators. Alexander also does consulting to schools, admissions offices, and works as a search consultant to help schools and organizations find senior-level leaders.







Overall Grand Co-Winner: Katie Purdy

# **2019 Book Cover Contest**

The Book Cover contest is open to students in Kindergarten through 8th grades, and there are winning entries in each grade and division. Students create an original illustration based upon their interpretation of a book they read.

### **KINDERGARTEN**

First Place: Theodore Lewis

Second Place (tie): Breck Goodwin and

Michaela Smith

# **FIRST GRADE**

First Place: Kai Hefets Second Place: Jeremy Lee

### **SECOND GRADE**

First Place: Emerson. M. Gaeta Second Place: Mason Roberts

# **THIRD GRADE**

First Place: Riley Lewis

Second Place: Austin O'Grady

# **FOURTH GRADE**

First Place: Kincaid Goodwin Second Place: Mason Crousillat

### **FIFTH GRADE**

First Place: Veronika Martinkova Second Place: Jaya Persad

### **SIXTH GRADE**

First Place: Lilah Black Second Place: Ben Segal

# **UPPER SCHOOL**

First Place (tie): Emma Sordi and Gianna Cedrone

# **OVERALL GRAND WINNERS**

: Anna Martinkova and Katie Purdy



Overall Grand Co-Winner: Anna Martinkova

Gongratulations to all of our winners and to the Overall Grand Winners, Anna Martinkova and Katie Purdy!



Mia Price-Notarnicola (left) Sandra Coudert Graham (right)

# **Parents Association**

East Woods School was founded in 1946 by a committed group of parents who wanted the very best education for their children. Parents were then and have always been part of the fabric of the school – supportive, caring, involved. Our parent community today remains steadfast in their dedication to East Woods, our mission, and the students we educate.

We are so grateful for your commitment to our school, students, faculty and staff. Thank you!!

With heartfelt appreciation, we extend our deep gratitude to the 2019-2020 Chair of the Parents Association, Mrs. Debbie Sweeney.

Her tireless efforts on behalf of East Woods aretruly remarkable. Mrs. Mia Price-Notarnicola

continues to provide an example of caring leadership this year as she continues in this role and is joined by Mrs. Sandra Coudert Graham. Together, your commitment is exemplary and extraordinary.













# 2019-2020 Faculty and Staff Additions

East Woods School is proud of its superb faculty and staff whose commitment and passion is at the core of our mission. We welcomed the following new faculty this school year.

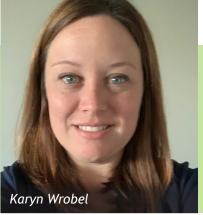
**Danielle Endress** joined East Woods as our Upper School English and Social Studies teacher. Danielle has a BA in English from State University of New York at Geneseo and a Master's in Education and Literacy from Queens College, where she earned academic honors. She has a NYS Professional Certificate in English for grades 7-12 and one for Literacy in grades 5-12. Danielle most recently has been teaching at Howard T. Herber Middle School and before that, at Harborfields High School. She also has taught electives in Power Vocabulary, Theatre Arts, and Public Speaking. For several years, in addition to her classroom teaching, she has been a soughtafter tutor at Huntington Learning Center for middle and high school reading, writing, social studies, and SAT prep.

Julie Klein joined us as our Upper School History teacher. Julie has a Master of Science in Education from Hofstra. She holds a New York State Professional Certificate in Social Studies for grades 7-12 and a NY State Professional Certificate in Education Grades 1-6. She has taught at a parochial school in Great Neck and has been a home instructor for Plainview-Old Bethpage CSD, among other teaching positions. She also has been a sought-after Regents review teacher and tutor at The Learning Center in Plainview. Welcome, Julie!

**Karen McVoy Stone** joined East Woods as our Music teacher this year. Mrs. McVoy most recently was teaching at St. Patrick's School in Bedford, NY, as well as Astoria Lutheran School in Astoria, NY. She was teaching Pre-K through 8th grade general music, recorder, and chorus. She was a vocal coach for Portledge School's musical The Sound of Music in 2017. She taught music for five years at Westbury Friends, toddlers through 5th grade. She is an experienced class violin and beginning piano teacher, as well as a voice teacher. Karen has coached many students through their NYSSMA preparation and she sings professionally and has performed with a choral group at Carnegie Hall. Karen has a bachelor's in music from Boston University, a Kindermusik certificate from Westminster Choir College and a teaching degree from Columbia University. She has four children who have attended local independent and parochial schools.

Andrew Murray came to East Woods as our Third and Fourth grade music teacher and band instructor for Upper School. Andrew received his Bachelor's in Music Education and Master's in Arts And Teaching from Manhattanville College. He is proficient in four stringed instruments, flute, clarinet and oboe, as well as trumpet and trombone. He has specialized in woodwind instruments, piano, vocals, and drums. He has done an extraordinary amount of performing in





musical theater, a capella singing, arranging and composing. He has taught at Fox Lane Middle School and Mike Risko Music in NYC. Welcome, Andrew!

**Karyn Wrobel** joined EWS as a Second Grade teacher. Karyn has served for nine years as a leave replacement teacher for the May Moore Primary School in Deer Park. She has taught long-term leave replacement assignments for grades K-3 and has significant second grade experience. Karyn

has a lot of experience teaching Fundations as well as TC Writing and Reading. She also has taught math and math intervention. This year she took a job as a director of a STEAM center for toddlers. Karyn is an avid gardener. She loves to plant vegetables in the spring and harvest her garden in the summer. She also loves reading with her two-year old daughter, Amelia. Karyn has a bachelor's from State University of New York at Buffalo and her Master's in Childhood Education from Dowling College.











# **Faculty Milestones**

We recognize faculty and staff on their milestone years. They have instilled scholarship, character, sportsmanship and creative expression in our students and alumni and continue to instill in our students. We salute you!

# 10 years

**Eileen Valenza,** our school nurse, cares not only for the medical needs of our students but keeps an eye on the adults as well. Her kindness, sensitivity, and understanding are valued by all.

Lisa Mintz has worked in Kindergarten, First Grade and ECC in the past at East Woods and most recently has been a valuable resource to her colleagues and students as a reading specialist with our Lower School grades. When not attending Broadway shows or the Tony awards, Lisa can be found on the Yellow Cote stage dancing and singing in group numbers and as a solo performer.

# 20 years

1999 was a great year for East Woods as we have four faculty members that have reached their 20 year milestone. Their portraits will be hung this summer on our Wall of Fame in the school's front hallway.

**Kate Aquilino** attended East Woods as a student and join the faculty in 1999. Kate began working with the Nursery class and Lunch Bunch and has been working in the Lower School for the past fifteen years in Kindergarten, Third and First grades where she currently resides.

**Patricia Butt** has taught math and science in Fourth through Seventh grade's for the past fifteen years. With a well-deserved reputation for high expectations and professionalism in all she does, Tricia is an amazing leader in any classroom she is in. This year she has been recognized by the Eighth grade class with the 2019 yearbook dedication.

**Alex Carter** came to East Woods in 1999 from the junior reporting school world to teach English. He has coached multiple sports and served for a time as Athletic Director. A child-centered educator, Alex provides thoughtful leadership as Assistant Head of School.

**Ruth Lorbert** is an invaluable resource in our Library. Her supportive and collaborative nature is appreciated by her students and colleagues.

# 25 years

**Michele Burke** started at East Woods in 1994 as a Second grade teacher. After a few years moving around Lower School she had the opportunity to move to the ECC where she has been ever since. Her experience and warmth with each child resonates within the Pre-K classroom and can be seen in each child's smile. Thank you, Michele.



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# 30 years

Christina Maass started at East Woods thirty years ago teaching Nursery for two years and then taught Kindergarten for fourteen years. Christina then was a First Grade teacher for thirteen years welcoming First Graders in the world of Spider Monkeys. This past year the

Kindergarten class is once again benefiting from Christina's knowledge and warmth. In addition to serving on several committees and chaperoning many Theater Club and Culture Club trips, Christina has lent her musical theater talents as a member of the Yellow Cote Players.

**YEARS** Eileen Valenza Nurse **Lisa Mintz** Teacher **YEARS Kate Aquilino YEARS** Teacher Patricia Butt Teacher Michele Burke **Alex Carter** Teacher Assistant Head Of School **Ruth Lorbert** Librarian **YEARS Christina Maass** 

Teacher







# **Board of Trustees**

Among the primary jobs of the Board of Trustees of East Woods School includes its role to shape and uphold the school mission, guide the school's strategic direction, support the Head of School, and to ensure the fiscal sustainability of the institution. These are important and demanding responsibilities and are those upon which East Woods was built.

# **ESSENCE BROWNE**

Essence and her husband Adekunmi are the parents of Adetola (2 yrs. old) and Adelola (7 yrs. old) who is in second grade at EWS. She has been an East Woods parent since 2017and serves on the Marketing Committee. Essence is an Officer and Senior Executive Administrator for Bank of America located in Times Square NYC. She has been with Bank of America since 2007. Essence is also a national leader for Christ Apostolic Church: Worldwide leading the music ministry hosting yearly conferences and workshops for the North America community She serves as a mentor and young adult advisor at her local assembly working closely with other leaders to plan retreats, summits and niche programs for young adults in their post graduate season. Essence received her MBA from Adelphi University specializing in Finance and Human Resources and her BBA in Marketing and International Business from Hofstra University.

# **LUAN DOAN**

Luan and his wife Lisa are the parents of Blake in the fifth grade. Luan has been an East Woods parent since 2013. He serves on the EWS Strategic Planning and Building/Grounds Committee. He is the president of Wellspring Benefits Inc, an insurance brokerage firm specializing in employee benefits. Luan founded Wellspring Benefits in 2008. He is also a partner at Vertical Fox, an employee benefits software solution developed for insurance brokers, carriers and employers. Luan has been an active board member for 2 additional organizations over the last 9 years. He serves as the president of Nathan Hale Beach Club, a private deeded homeowner club in Huntington Bay and also as the secretary for the Huntington Library Foundation. The foundation raises funds for innovative and creative programs not currently funded by the public library. Luan is a graduate of the University of Michigan.





# **OUR DEEP THANKS TO THOSE TRUSTEES WHO RETIRED IN JUNE 2019**

Douglas Arthur '69 Cary Goodwin Kevin Mercier Alexandra Galston Murray '87

Your work was tireless and sincere. For this we are forever greateful.

### **GEORGE KAKOULIDES**

George and Jessica are the parents of Oliver in Nursery and their newborn baby daughter, Sailor Willett. George is a Neurosurgeon in New York and specializes in both cranial and minimally invasive spinal neurosurgery. He completed his Neurosurgery and General Surgery residency at Dartmouth. He operates primarily at Huntington: Hospital and Good Samaritan Hospital. Prior to Dartmouth he attended medical school at Tufts while also receiving a Masters in International Relations at The Fletcher School at Tufts University. George received his BA/BS in Biology and Philosophy at NYU and is a graduate of The Kent School in Connecticut, and a 1990 alum of East Woods School. George is also a cofounder of Ikona Health, an immersive media company for patients and healthcare providers which delivers virtual reality as-a-service to healthcare organizations for education and training applications.

# : MICHÈLE BAHNIK MERCIER

Michèle and Kevin are the parents of Edward (5th Grade), Henry (EWS Class of 2019), and George (EWS Class of 2019). Michèle earned a B.S. in Elementary Education from the University of Vermont (1997) and an M.S. in Special Education from Long Island University (2000). She taught elementary school in Centerport, NY and preschool in Oyster Bay, NY before deciding to stay home to raise her children. Michèle is actively involved in many organizations serving as a trustee for the Community Foundation of Oyster Bay, Cold Spring Harbor Lab, and the Boys and Girls Club of Oyster Bay- East Norwich. At the Boys and Girls Club, Michèle is Co-Chair of the annual Gala Benefit and serves on the Golf Outing Committee. She is the Vice President of the Bahnik Foundation and assists on several committees within the Oyster Bay Presbyterian Church. At the Presbyterian Church, Michèle has been Co-Chair of the annual Holiday Fair for the last 6 years. At East Woods School she was president of the Parents Association for two years and founded the Parents Wellness Council in 2016. Michèle resides in Oyster Bay Cove with her husband Kevin, who is a professor at Adelphi University, and their three sons.





# **Spring Celebrations at East Woods**

# **Spring Fair Fun!**

The Spring Fair at East Woods School continues to be a lively and fun-filled family event with rides and children's activities, an attic treasure sale, barbeque and food trucks, music, and allaround delight! East Woods families, friends, and community members come out to enjoy this festive day in mid-Spring. We give our deep thanks to all those who volunteered endless hours, talents, and resources to make the 2019 Fair a fabulous event.









# 73rd Commencement Celebrations

How beautiful it was that Friday afternoon in mid-June 2019 on the north lawn of East Woods School. Sunny and bright. The East Woods commencement proceedings were steeped in tradition.

The school band played *America the Beautiful* and a prayer of invocation was made by Reverend Jeffrey Prey of First Presbyterian Church in Oyster Bay. Guests stood as the graduating class entered, boys in blue blazers and a single young lady in her white dress, proud and gleaming. Students processed up the center aisle as the band played *Pomp and Circumstance*. They were followed by faculty and staff as family members, alumni, and friends looked on.

Laura Kang, Head of School, made opening remarks saying that students had come full circle from the beginning of the East Woods journey. She remarked that this journey could not have been made without their devoted and brilliant guides, our East Woods faculty. Mrs. Kang addressed the graduating class saying that they had all grown and changed significantly. They honed skills and developed interests and passions which will carry them into secondary school, college and beyond. She remarked that they are better writers, thinkers, speakers, and problem solvers because they all worked hard at being better and because all of their teachers held them to higher standards. She remarked that one of their strengths as a class was that they recognized what each individual in the class excelled at and found a way to bring those skills into play for class projects and for the Leadership program. Mrs. Kang said that she

was especially proud of the work they did for their chosen charity, *Pal-O-Mine*. The students brought donations of medicines, conditioners, and supplies to the nonprofit. It was a remarkable display of leadership and service. She said that part of leadership is knowing how and when to give back to those who give to you and said an example is the meal they prepared and served for their parents at the end of their etiquette training. She concluded saying that we all were confident that these students were ready for the next step in their lives.

Mrs. Kang then introduced alumni/ae, George Lindsay '62 and Robin Gimbel Senior '68, accompanied by Anne Kraft Thompson '70, to present The James E. Gay Awards. She noted that these awards were presented annually to an alumnus and an alumna "who have shown a sense of commitment and dedication to a personal challenge. These qualities typify the life of Jim Gay who devoted his energies to being an outstanding teacher and a close friend to three generations of East Woods students, parents, and alumni/ae." This year's award winners were Julia Page 63' and the late Nicholas Deans '73, accepted by his brother, Robert Deans '68, and widow, Barbara Lawton-Deans.

Following the presentation of The James E. GayAwards, Mrs. Kang recognized eight faculty



: members with Milestone Awards for years of service and then introduced Commencement

Faculty Speaker, Mrs. Jeanne Lore, Upper School

Science Teacher. Before diplomas and student achievement awards, the Upper School Chorus presented We Won't Stop Dreaming.



# The George and Abby O'Neill **Outstanding Faculty Award**

At the 2019 graduation ceremony, Mrs. Laura Kang, Head of School, announced the addition of a new award, The George and Abby O'Neill Outstanding Faculty Award.

George and Abby O'Neill sent six children through East Woods School. George served on the Board of Trustees and was President of the Board from 1959 through 1962. Abby and George were tireless volunteers who always took a deep personal interest in the school and the students. Their family, all these years later, continues to support East Woods and to care deeply about our students.

The George and Abby O'Neil Outstanding Faculty Award will be given each year in recognition of a teacher who has demonstrated unwavering dedication to East Woods School and its students. A plaque with this wording

is displayed in the school to remind us of all the qualities of fine teaching and community participation. The one-time recipient is chosen by the Head of School and the Assistant Head of School, who considers teachers for their high academic standards, their academic and emotional support of students, their professionalism, and their visibility and participation in the life of the school community beyond the classroom.

The 2019 recipient of the George and Abby O'Neill Outstanding Faculty Award was Madame Martine Tawaji who is East Woods' longtime French teacher. Madame is also very well known for her leadership role in directing the many impactful Community Service programs for East Woods. Congratulations Madame Tawaji and thank you for your dedication to East Woods School.



Mrs. Jeanne Lore, Upper School Science Teacher

# **Commencement Address**

Dear Administration, Faculty, Parents, Honored Guests, Students, and most importantly, the Class of 2019.

Today we gather here to celebrate this year's graduates, and what a spectacular group of gentlemen they are along with a polite and kind young lady. First and foremost, congratulations to each and every one of you for earning this mark of distinction. I remember talking with you in September that this day would be here quickly and to make the most of your Eighth Grade year, and here you are, the last hour as an East Woods student.

I am humbled and honored that you chose me to speak at your graduation. We have spent many hours together in the classroom and most recently, we traveled together to Orlando, Florida for your Eighth Grade trip. Having the opportunity to spend those four days together truly allowed us to get to know each other better and created a more special bond. While I reflected on our trip, a few words and thoughts continued to stick out to me. I decided I should use those words to help me deliver my graduation message to you.

The first word from the trip was patience.
Being away with your classmates and having roommates for numerous days will test anyone's patience. But you all handled it well even if your hotel room was filled with odors from smelly sneakers, smoked salmon, and Ramen noodles. Patience is a skill many aren't just born with but one that people learn and develop as they mature. Having patience is one of life's most important skills and is vital to having healthy friendships and succeeding in life. However, success doesn't always come quickly or within a proper time frame. Albert Einstein said it best,

"It's not that I'm so smart, it's just that I stay with problems longer." As intelligent as Einstein was, if he wasn't patient, he too would not have made the discoveries or solved the problems he did.

I have been fortunate to watch many of you learn patience over the years, especially this year. Wayne and Peter, you have been tremendously patient learning the fundamental skills to play basketball, and it has paid off, you are both improving your game. Jack, you have been very patient with Xin during science class. Elodie, you were born patient I believe, and you have proven that being among these thirteen characters.

Fast Passes are next. Fortunately, while we were away together, we didn't have our patience tested much waiting on lines at any of the theme parks largely due to having fast passes. The word fast pass illuminates in my mind when I think of our trip. Newsflash for you, although it made you feel special to have fast passes in Orlando, fast passes do not exist in life. Success in life doesn't come from skipping lines, but it does come from hard work, determination and willingness to take the path less traveled. As you enter your new school in the fall, what an amazing time to set a new course and take advantage of new opportunities. Don't look for shortcuts, but rather work hard and challenge yourself academically, athletically, musically, and socially. Fashion designer Tory Burch said, "We may live in an age of instant messaging, instant gratification and Instagram, but there is no way to short circuit the path to success."

Many of you have found success because of your hard work. Henry, you have become a great baseball player through hard work. Michael, I don't think a fast pass to the White House exists so you will have your work cut out for you in the

years to come. Jared, you haven't become such an Having the ability to make a choice in one's best engineering and technology guru without hours interest. I observed this concept during our time of exploration and many drone injuries. away. Being able to be faced with a choice and

My third word is friendship. You all had mentioned how lucky you were to be able to make these final memories with your friends while we were away. One of you once told me that you do not think everyone needs friends. That you can take life on by yourself and will be fine. I contested this comment. Your friends are your family you get to choose in life. They do not replace family, but friends make life so much more fun. And we all need good friends to help us celebrate happy moments and carry us through difficult times. They say when you are an adult, if you have five good friends, you are lucky. To have good friends, you need to be a good friend in return. Good friends are loyal and kind, and they don't compete with their friends, but rather, respect them. I hope you foster the friendships you have made during your years at East Woods but open yourself up to make new friends next year. It can be difficult to put yourself out there to meet new people, however, navigating new waters is always easier with friends.

Over the past few weeks, it has been a pleasure watching you bond as a class and truly solidify your friendships. A lot of this has happened on the basketball court recently. I didn't think it was possible, but our hockey players have become better basketball players, especially Dan and Joe. Joe isn't even fouling his opponents as often.

You have learned to look out for each other and make sure your everyone is always happy. Chris, you are a kind young man and you worry about your friends often. I thoroughly enjoy how much you smile when you are with your buddies, Chris. You will always find George checking in on his classmates and trying to be the peacemaker of the group.

You all have been amazing friends and role models to your Kindergarten buddies this year, and I hope you come back and maintain your bonds with them. I am confident that they would appreciate seeing you at their East Woods events in the future. Drew and Nick, you have both been outstanding friends to your buddies. They will treasure this bond forever. I remember running across the park one night in Orlando so that Nick could have a personalized necklace made for his buddy, Jeremy. Such a special moment!

Having the ability to make a choice in one's best interest. I observed this concept during our time away. Being able to be faced with a choice and having to make a good decision is one of life's toughest situations. Do you make the choice that works best for you? Does it matter how it will impact others? These are questions you must ask yourself. Mr. Carter continually reminds you to follow his ten second rule. As you move beyond these halls, the decisions you will face might be more challenging, but always make the choice that will make you a better person and help those around you.

As I think about choices, I envision many of you on a water ride in Island of Adventures as you decided to go on the ride a second time regardless of what the other students wanted to do. Such a tedious little decision in life, but, for a moment, you realized that your choices do impact others. Never forget that. You can't always make the decision that is best for you if it's going to upset others. As special as you think you are, it isn't always about you. Think of others.

My final word from the trip is memories. During your years at East Woods you have created many memories with your friends and teachers. Treasure them; they are truly priceless. As you celebrate your accomplishments today, recall many memories: whether it's a school play like Crutchie, a Lower School talent show singing Billy Joel, seeing a clown in the woods while attending Night at the Museum, or building ROVs with Mr. Rich. The memories you have created are endless. And as I said in the beginning of this address, thank you for letting me be a small part of your memories. We all know that one day we will be buying more RAM from Jared. And thank you to the Class of 2019 for the best pronunciation of my last name.

Graduates, we celebrate you today, the choices you have made and the people you have become. These halls are a better place because you walked them. Always remember East Woods and support us, as our students and alumni are our best assets. Congratulations on all your accomplishments.

Although you are only fourteen years old, I hope you have a life that brings truth to the words of Reggae singer, Bob Marley: "Love the life you live. Live the life you love."

Congratulations, good luck, I will miss you and thank you!





# James E. Gay Alumni/ae Award

Robin Gimbel Senior '68 announced the first of the two James E. Gay award winners, the late Nicholas (Nicky) Deans '73. George Lindsay '62 made the presentation for our second award winner, Julia Page '63.

Photo Left:
Accepting the award for
Nicky was his brother, Robert
Deans '68,
accompanied by Nicky's
wife, Barbara
Lawton-Deans.

Robert Deans made the following remarks:

# Nicholas (Nicky) Deans '73

"Nick Deans was born in 1957 in New York City. His parents had just returned to the USA after several assignments in Europe (Switzerland, Austria) and the Mid-East (Lebanon). He grew up in the family house in Mill Neck with two brothers and two sisters all of whom attended East Woods School from Kindergarten through 8th or 9th Grade. He played hockey at Beaver Dam Winter Sports Club and participated in summer sports at The Creek. He also was an avid and accomplished equestrian who was fortunate to be taught by Raul de Leon, himself a renowned equestrian who remains a close friend of the family. Nick attended St. Paul's School in New Hampshire and then graduated from the University of Vermont in 1980 with a BA in History.

Upon graduation from the University of Vermont, Nick became interested in opportunities with the armed services when he found that they valued his talents in language and history. He joined the US Army and his initial assignments sent him to Germany to work with the intelligence services monitoring and evaluating communications. He was stationed there for 14 years. He returned twice to Monterey (CA) to attend the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center where he became proficient in Polish and Russian. During one of these sessions, Nick was fortunate to meet his

future wife, Barbara Lawton-Deans and they served together for the remainder of their careers in the armed services. After their return from Europe, Nick was stationed in Fayetteville (NC, 5 years) and Fairbanks (AK, 4 years).

Nick and Barb both served in Desert Shield/ Desert Storm and Nick was awarded several medals during his 23 years, including the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, 2 National Defense Service Medals, the NATO Medal, the Southwest Asia Service Medal with 3 Bronze Stars, the Valorous Unit Award, 4 Army Commendation Medals, and 2 Army Achievement Medals.

Upon retirement from the Army, Nick worked for the Army in Alaska for another three years before he and Barb took up residence in Harrisburg (PA) where Nick continued to work on militaryrelated projects involving the development of complex training scenario databases and training servicemen to use a wide variety of computer simulation models which replicated operational environments.

Nick had a sense of and a sense for adventure. After considering retirement while living in Harrisburg, he came upon an opportunity to spend some time working in the same fields with former colleagues in Japan and decided he had

Photo Right: George Lindsay '62 made the presentation for our second award winner, Julia Page '63.

one more "adventure" left in him. Unfortunately, That adventure, building and running a small he passed away suddenly in March 2018 before he and Barb had a chance to fully experience that: "last adventure".

He spent his entire adult life in service to his country and that aspect of his life ... service, honor, duty ... is as important as any in remembering him.

It is generally accepted that those with whom you choose to surround yourself, those who accept you, and those who remember you are a reflection of your character. Nick had more than a few friends from his time at East Woods and a large number from St. Paul's School. Nick worked: with a team of colleagues who are, like Nick, a truly committed group of professionals. And, of course, he had Barb ... his wife who he met early in his Army career and who had the strength to keep Nick on track. They were a team in every sense of the word for over 30 years.

Nick liked "the best" and when you were with him (traveling, shopping, eating) you could be sure he would find ... and share ... the best places, the best items, the best food, and the best entertainment. In the end, though, a classmate from St. Paul's School sent a thought which accompanied a great picture of Nick from the '76 SPS yearbook which truly captured the sense of his character: "God love the boy. He was always fun to be with."

Julia made the following remarks:

# Julia Page '63

"My life found its geographical course when, in the summer after seventh grade, our family spent: three days near Cooke City, Montana, visiting friends at their homestead ranch. We rode horses through the forest and crossed sparkling clear streams that had fish in them. The air smelled of pine. We saw bear, elk and deer in the woods. It was wild and I was hooked.

It took a while to return to the west, but in 1972, after college and working in the Florida presidential primary, I drove west with no plan and one name west of the Mississippi. I ended up at Alta ski area in Utah that winter. Eventually I was hired by the ski patrol, their first woman, and spent the next seven winters skiing, throwing bombs for avalanche control and doing first aid. In 1981, I bought a whitewater rafting business in Gardiner and Big Sky, Montana.

business, earned my living for many years and afforded me time to enjoy Yellowstone in the winter and to pursue my interest in conservation and politics.

I was lucky in the beginning of my activism to join a non-profit that believed in community organizing and involving members in policy work. I was a willing volunteer leader. We mostly worked on issues related to energy development in the coal fields of eastern Montana. I lobbied often at the capitol in Helena and also participated in state and local politics.

I met my husband while we were both serving on a non-profit board that drew its members from the three states surrounding Yellowstone. I now live in Boise, Idaho. The specific issues are different here. I'm learning a lot about the wild salmon of Idaho. They are resilient creatures that are now critically endangered. As with so many issues, it will take political leadership, a lot of strategic advocacy and grassroots support to restore salmon runs. I have greatly enjoyed working for the people, places and creatures of the west where I've lived."

East Woods Schools is proud to present the late Mr. Nicholas Deans '73 and Ms. Julia Page '63 as its 2019 James E. Gay awardees.

# A REQUEST FOR ALL ALUMNI/AE

Submit your nomination for candidates to be considered for the James E. Gay Award.

James E. Gay Award is given to an alum "who has shown a sense of commitment and dedication to a personal challenge. These qualities typify the life of Jim Gay who devoted his energies to being an outstanding teacher and a close friend to three generations of East Woods students, parents, and alumni/ae."

Send nominations to

Sean Collins at scollins@eastwoods.org





# Secondary School Placement

# Congratulations to Class of 2019!

: Michael J. Byrne: Chaminade High School

Jack M. Ceriello: Avenues: The World School

Xilin Cheng: Holy Trinity Diocesan High School

Nicholas P. DiStefano: Kellenberg Memorial

High School

Christopher J. Dolan: Portledge School

Daniel M. Gambella: Friends Academy

Jared T. Hemley: Forman School

: Xin Hu: Long Island Lutheran High School

Wenzheng Li: St. Anthony's High School

Joseph J. McCartan: Friends Academy

George L. Mercier: Portledge School

Henry C. Mercier: Portledge School

Elodie Saliou: Harborfields High School

Andrew E. Trinagel: Half Hollow Hills High School







# **Graduation Awards**

### : ART

Awarded for outstanding effort, interest and achievement in various aspects of art.

Winner:

Wayne Li

### **COMPUTER SCIENCE AWARD**

Recognizes that student who has demonstrated outstanding effort and interest in mastering computer technology and demonstrated outstanding ability and achievement in the use of computer technology.

Winner:

Jack Ceriello

# **DRAMA** (Performing)

For outstanding achievement in acting.

Winner:

George Mercier

# **DRAMA** (Backstage)

For outstanding achievement in backstage management.

Winner:

Elodie Saliou

# PATRICK DRISCOLL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN MUSIC

Winner for Band:

Andrew Trinagel

Honorable Mention:

Gianna Cedrone, Ben Ciuffetelli

Winner for Chorus:

: Michael Byrne

Honorable Mention:

Emma Sordi

# JAMES F. ADAMS GEOGRAPHY AWARD

Jim Adams was Headmaster of East Woods for 17 years in the 1970's and 1980's. Established in honor of his love of and interest in geography, the James F. Adams Geography Prize is awarded to that student who has demonstrated that same interest and love for geography throughout the academic year.

Winners:

Nick DiStefano, Michael Byrne

Honorable Mention *Joseph McCartan* 

# **GORDON M. FERGUSON HISTORY AWARD**

The Gordon M. Ferguson Award is for excellence in history. Mr. Ferguson was a highly regarded history teacher in the 1950's.

Winners:

Andrew Trinagel, Elodie Saliou

Honorable Mention:

Jack Ceriello, Henry Mercier

# **SPANISH**

For outstanding achievement in Spanish language.

Winners:

Michael Byrne, Daniel Gambella

Honorable Mention:

Ben Ciuffetelli

### FRENCH

For outstanding achievement in French language. : Emma Sordi, Frank Prestia

Winner:

Elodie Saliou

Honorable Mention:

Jack Ceriello, Emma Sordi

### **SCIENCE**

For outstanding ability, interest and achievement in science.

Winner:

**Andrew Trinagel** 

# **INFORMATION LITERACY**

For outstanding effort and proficiency in inquirybased research and for effective communication of information.

Winner:

Elodie Saliou

Honorable Mention:

Ben Ciuffetelli

# **WRITING**

The following awards are given in the interest of excellence in writing.

# MARCIA CRADEN CREATIVE WRITING AWARD

The Creative Writing Award is given in memory of Marcia Craden, who taught English and Ancient History for 30 years.

Winners:

Joseph McCartan, Elodie Saliou

### **EXPOSITORY WRITING**

Mrs. Porter and Mr. Andrews, both English teachers in the 1950's and 1960's, were the originators of these awards.

Winners:

Andrew Trinagel, Jack Ceriello

Honorable Mention:

Chris Dolan

# **READING**

For the quality and quantity of the books read as well as outstanding interest in reading.

Winner:

Michael Byrne

Honorable Mention:
Fmma Sordi Frank Prestia

# JESSE KNIGHT, JR. MATHEMATICS PRIZE

For outstanding ability, interest and achievement.

Winner:

Andrew Trinagel

# JOHN R. REESE SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

The John R. Reese Sportsmanship Award is presented to a girl and a boy from the varsity athletic teams who best exemplify good sportsmanship throughout this school year. The varsity coaches recognize these students for their ability to accept defeat without complaint and victory in good grace. The coaches further recognize these students for treating teammates as well as opponents with fairness, generosity and courtesy. Mr. Reese is a past parent and was President of the Board from 1980-1984.

Winners:

Girl: Elodie Saliou Boy: George Mercier

### **CHARLES BARTLETT AWARD**

This award goes to the sixth through eighth grade student who has, according to the faculty, brought the most happiness and cheerfulness to the school during the academic year. Mr. Bartlett was a history teacher and then Assistant Headmaster from 1954-1988.

Winner:

George Mercier

### **ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD**

The Environmental Award is given to recognize an eighth grade student who has exhibited environmental responsibility and demonstrated a commitment to our environmental program and "green" practices.

Winner:

Jack Ceriello

# FACULTY AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Faculty Award for Outstanding Community Service recognizes the sixth through eighth grade student who best exemplifies East Woods' ideal of service to others.

Winner:

Logan Taylor

### PETER WESTERLING EFFORT AWARD

This prize goes to a student in sixth through eighth grade who, in the eyes of the faculty, demonstrates consistent and commendable effort. This prize was instituted as a result of the class gift of the graduating class of 1962. In 1986, • The Trustee Award for Excellence in Scholarship it was named in memory of Peter Westerling who ' is presented to the student in the 6th through graduated from East Woods in 1983.

Winner:

Daniel Gambella

### JAMES F. ADAMS CITIZENSHIP AWARD

The James F. Adams Award is given to the fifth grade student who consistently demonstrates the qualities of a good citizen.

Winner:

Jenna Gambella

# **FACULTY AWARD FOR CITIZENSHIP**

The Faculty Award for Citizenship recognizes students in 6th grade and above who have best exemplified East Woods School's ideals of citizenship throughout the year.

Winners:

6th: Kierstin Lore 7th: James Belfi 8th: Elodie Saliou

# **EAST WOODS SCHOLARS**

Since 2003, the East Woods School Scholars Award has been awarded to the 8th grade graduates who have achieved Academic Honors in each term during their Upper School tenure.

Michael Byrne Jack Ceriello Daniel Gambella Joseph McCartan George Mercier Henry Mercier Elodie Saliou Andrew Trinagel

### THE JAMES C. FERRER AWARD

Mr. Jim Ferrer was East Woods School's sixth Headmaster, serving from 1990 to 2002. The James C. Ferrer Award is given to the 8th grade boy or girl who has best demonstrated a commitment to the values of "Studium et Voluntas" – Eagerness and Willingness. The recipient of this award is to be one who best exemplifies an enthusiasm for learning, a caring for others in the community, and who best represents those qualities of East Woods School both on and off the campus.

Winner: Henry Mercier

# TRUSTEES AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SCHOLARSHIP

8th grades who has achieved the highest academic average for the year.

Winner: Ben Ciuffetelli







# **Honor Roll**

# 2018-2019 Medals of Excellence

These sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students received High Effort Honors, High Academic Honors, and Citizenship Honors for all trimesters during the 2018-2019 school year.

Sixth GradeSeventh GradeEighth GradeKierstin LoreGianna CedroneElodie Saliou

# : FALL 2017

High Academic Honors
John Michael Allegra
Ian Black
Lilah Black
Landon Cedrone
Charlotte Dennehy
Ella Lanza
Frank Prestia
Ben Segal

- Mia BrattiJames GodsellJacqueline HesleeKierstin LoreEmma SordiLogan TaylorWilla Wang
- Alexander CatalanoGianna CedroneBen CiuffetelliSamuel LasersonAnna MartinkovaDevin Sweeney

- Michael Byrne
  Jack Ceriello
  Daniel Gambella
  Joseph McCartan
  Henry Mercier
  Elodie Saliou
  Andrew Trinagel
- : Academic Honors
- Michaela Burke
  Jenna Gambella
  Chloe Gayle
  Sabrina Hemley
  Neela Jarmon
  Jovana Moy
  John Stair
- 6 Camden Carter Wilder Finkel Andrew McCartan Nathan Trocchio
- James Belfi
  Nile Jean
  Paris Prestia

- 8 : Xilin Cheng Christopher Dolan Wenzheng Li George Mercier
- High Effort Honors

  John Michael Allegra
- 6 Mia Bratti Kierstin Lore Logan Taylor Willa Wang
- James Belfi Gianna Cedrone Anna Martinkova
- Michael Byrne
  Daniel Gambella
  Henry Mercier
  Elodie Saliou
  Andrew Trinagel
- Effort Honors

  Ian Black
  Lilah Black
  Michaela Burke
  Landon Cedrone
  Charlotte Dennehy
  Jenna Gambella
  Chloe Gayle
  Neela Jarmon
  Ella Lanza
  Siena McGill
  Jovana Moy
  Ben Segal
- 6 Camden Carter
  Wilder Finkel
  James Godsell
  Jacqueline Heslee

Huan ran LiuAndrew McCartanEmma SordiNathan Trocchio

- Alexander Catalano
  Ben Ciuffetelli
  Samuel Laserson
  Zhengqi Miao
  Devin Sweeney
  Christian Thomas
- Jack CerielloXilin ChengJoseph McCartanGeorge Mercier

# Citizenship Honors

- 6 Mia Bratti Wilder Finkel Kierstin Lore Willa Wang
- James BelfiGianna CedroneBen CiuffetelliAnna Martinknova
- Michael Byrne
  Daniel Gambella
  Elodie Saliou

# **WINTER 2019**

High Academic Honors

- John Michael Allegra
  Ian Black
  Lilah Black
  Landon Cedrone
  Charlotte Dennehy
  Ella Lanza
- 6 Mia Bratti
  James Godsell
  Jacqueline Heslee
  Kierstin Lore
  Andrew McCartan
  Emma Sordi
  Logan Taylor
  Willa Wang
- Alexander Catalano
  Gianna Cedrone
  Ben Ciuffetelli
  Anna Martinkova
- **8** Michael Byrne

Jack Ceriello
Joseph McCartan
Henry Mercier
Elodie Saliou
Andrew Trinagel

### Academic Honors

- Michaela Burke
  Sabrina Hemley
  Neela Jarmon
  Siena McGill
  Jovana Moy
  Frank Prestia
  Ben Segal
  John Stair
- 6 Camden Carter Wilder Finkel Nathan Trocchio
- James Belfi
  Nile Jean
  Samuel Laserson
  Paris Prestia
  Devin Sweeney
- 8 Xilin Cheng
  Daniel Gambella
  Wenzheng Li
  George Mercier

High Effort Honors

- **5** John Michael Allegra Ella Lanza
- Mia Bratti
  Jacqueline Heslee
  Kierstin Lore
  Emma Sordi
  Logan Taylor
  Willa Wang
- James Belfi Gianna Cedrone Ben Ciuffetelli Anna Martinkova
- 8 : Michael Byrne : Elodie Saliou : Andrew Trinagel

# Effort Honors

5 Lilah Black
Michaela Burke
Landon Cedrone
Charlotte Dennehy

Jenna Gambella Chloe Gayle Neela Jarmon Siena McGill Jovana Moy Frank Prestia Ben Segal John Stair

- 6 Camden Carter
  Wilder Finkel
  James Godsell
  Huan ran Liu
  Andrew McCartan
- Alexander CatalanoNile JeanSamuel LasersonDevin Sweeney
- Jack CerielloDaniel GambellaJoseph McCartanGeorge MercierHenry Mercier

# : Citizenship Honors

- 6 Mia Bratti
  Kierstin Lore
  Emma Sordi
  Logan Taylor
  Willa Wang
- James Belfi
  Gianna Cedrone
  Ben Ciuffetelli
  Anna Martinkova
- 8: Elodie Saliou

# **SPRING 2019 HONOR ROLL**

High Academic Honors

- John Michael Allegra
  Ian Black
  Lilah Black
  Landon Cedrone
  Charlotte Dennehy
  Ella Lanza
  Ben Segal
- 6 Mia Bratti
  Kierstin Lore
  Andrew McCartan
  Emma Sordi
  Logan Taylor
  Willa Wang

- Alexander CatalanoGianna CedroneBen CiuffetelliNile JeanSam Laserson
- Michael Byrne
  Jack Ceriello
  Joseph McCartan
  Henry Mercier
  Elodie Saliou
  Andrew Trinagel

# Academic Honors

- Michaela Burke
  Jenna Gambella
  Neela Jarmon
  Siena McGill
  Jovana Moy
  Frankie Prestia
  John Stair
- Camden CarterWilder FinkelJames GodsellJacqueline HesleeNathan Trocchio
- James Belfi
  Anna Martinkova
  Paris Prestia
  Devin Sweeney
- 8 Nicholas DiStefano
  Daniel Gambella
  Wenzheng Wayne Li
  George Mercier
- High Effort Honors
  John Michael Allegra
  Charlotte Dennehy
  Ella Lanza
  Siena McGill
- 6 Kierstin Lore Emma Sordi Logan Taylor Willa Wang
- 7 James Belfi Gianna Cedrone Ben Ciuffetelli Anna Martinkova
- Michael Byrne Henry Mercier

: Elodie Saliou

# Effort Honors

- Ian Black
  Lilah Black
  Michaela Burke
  Landon Cedrone
  Chloe Gayle
  Neela Jarmon
  Jovana Moy
  Ben Segal
- Mia Bratti
  Camden Carter
  Wilder Finkel
  James Godsell
  Jacqueline Heslee
  Huan ran Liu
  Andrew McCartan
- Alexander Catalano
  Nile Jean
  Sam Laserson
  Devin Sweeney
  Christian Thomas
- 3 Jack Ceriello
  Daniel Gambella
  Joseph McCartan
  George Mercier
  Andrew Trinagel

# Citizenship Honors

- 6 Mia Bratti
  Kierstin Lore
  Emma Sordi
  Logan Taylor
- James Belfi
  Gianna Cedrone
  Ben Ciuffetelli
  Sam Laserson
  Anna Martinkova
  Devin Sweeney
- Michael Byrne
  Daniel Gambella
  George Mercier
  Henry Mercier
  Elodie Saliou







## Foreign Language Awards

## SPANISH LANGUAGE AWARDS

The National Spanish Exam is used to determine student proficiency in high school Spanish courses; highest scorers in each level are recognized at the chapter (state) levels and national levels. Students are recognized in the following categories: Gold, Silver, Bronze, and Honorable Mention

### **Seventh Grade**

Bronze award winner
Ben Ciuffetelli

## Eighth grade

Honorable Mention winners
Daniel Gambella
Joseph McCartan

## **FRENCH LANGUAGE AWARDS**

## **Grand Concours**

Organized by the American Association of Teachers of French, Nassau Chapter, this competition consists of a listening comprehension segment and a multiple choice segment done in a limited time.

### **Seventh Grade**

*Bronze Medal*Anna Martinkova

Honorable Mention winner Sam Laserson

## **Eighth Grade**

Silver medal winners
Elodie Saliou
Jack Ceriello
Drew Trinagel

## FRENCH POETRY COMPETITION

Each year the American Association of Teachers of French conducts a French Poetry competition. The competition was run differently last year and students were recognized for their excellence but the AATF chose not to distribute any particular prizes. East Woods students represented us well and we are very proud of them!

East Woods students who participated were:

## **Eighth Grade**

Elodie Saliou/Famous Poem: Déjeuner du Matin, Jacques Prévert

Jack Ceriello/Original Poem: Les Prix (Graduation)

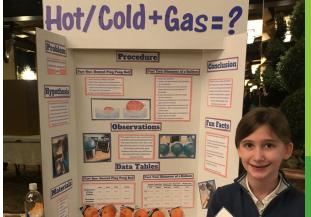
## **Seventh Grade**

Sam Laserson/Famous Poem: La Nuit, Anne Hébert

Anna Martinkova/Original Poem: Mon Bel Été à Klanicna (My beautiful summer in Klanicna)







## **Science Awards**

## DÉJEUNER DU MATIN, JACQUES PRÉVERT

Il a mis le café Dans la tasse Il a mis le lait Dans la tasse de café Il a mis le sucre Dans le café au lait Avec la petite cuiller Il a tourné Il a bu le café au lait Et il a reposé la tasse Sans me parler Il a allumé Une cigarette Il a fait des ronds Avec la fumée Il a mis les cendres Dans le cendrier Sans me parler Sans me regarder Il s'est levé Il a mis Son chapeau sur sa tête Il a mis Son manteau de pluie Parce qu'il pleuvait Et il est parti Sous la pluie Sans une parole Sans me regarder Et moi j'ai pris Ma tête dans ma main

Et j'ai pleuré.

## Fifth Grade (tie)

: John Stair - *Music and Blood Pressure* : Siena McGill - *The Quality of Bottled Water* 

## Sixth Grade

• Kierstin Lore - Hot/Cold + Gas =?

## Seventh Grade

James Belfi-Does the Dyslexia Font Work?

## Eighth Grade

Winner--Andrew Trinagel Honorable Mention- Michael Byrne

## **OVERALL WINNER OF THE SYMPOSIUM**

Gianna Cedrone--*Are Microban Polymer-Based Chopping boards Safer than Plastic Chopping Boards?* 







## **Sports Awards**

## FALL ATHLETIC AWARDS 2018 JV Girls Soccer

MVP: Neela Jarmon MIP: Michaela Burke Sportsmanship: Mia Bratti

## **JV Boys Soccer**

MVP: Andy McCartan
MIP: Ian Black
Sportsmanship: Brendan Sweeney

## **Varsity Boys Soccer**

MVP: Daniel Gambella MIP: Devin Sweeney Sportsmanship: Ben Ciuffetelli

## WINTER ATHLETIC AWARDS 2019 JV Girls Basketball

MVP: Ella Lanza MIP: Charlotte Dennehy Sportsmanship: Riley Lore

## **Varsity Girls Basketball**

MVP: Elodie Saliou MIP: Kierstin Lore Sportsmanship: Anna Martinkova

## JV Boys Basketball

MVP: Logan Taylor MIP: Wilder Finkel Sportsmanship: Blake Doan

## **Varsity Boys Basketball**

MVP: Christian Thomas MIP: Wenzheng Li Sportsmanship: Xilin Cheng

## JV Ice Hockey

MVP: Andrew McCartan
MIP: Camden Carter
Sportsmanship: John Michael Allegra

## **Varsity Ice Hockey**

MVP: Michael Byrne MIP: Daniel Gambella Sportsmanship: Jack Ceriello

## **SPRING 2019 ATHLETIC AWARDS**

## **JV Softball**

MVP: Kierstin Lore MIP: Veronika Martinkova Sportsmanship: Jenna Gambella

## **JV Lacrosse**

MVP: James Godsell MIP: Huan ran Liu Sportsmanship: Blake Doan

## **Varsity Baseball**

MVP: Henry Mercier
MIP: George Mercier
Sportsmanship: James Belfi

## **Junior Varsity Track and Field**

MVP: Mia Bratti
MIP: Wilder Finkel

Sportsmanship: Logan Taylor

## Varsity Track and Field

MVP: Anna Martinkova MIP: Elodie Saliou Sportsmanship: Ben Ciuffetelli

Gongeatulations





## **GREEN AND WHITE TEAM AWARD**

The Green and White teams are made up of students in the 5th - 8th grades. Throughout the year the teams enjoyed spirited competition in both scholarship and athletics. The cumulative scores have been tracked all year, with final points being added in the last week.

White team captains, Elodie Saliou and GeorgeMercier, received the cup for their team.

## White Team!

# NYSSMA and All County Awards

## **NYSSMA:**

Blake Doan - piano Wynne Wang - piano Angela Heslee - piano Landon Cedrone - piano and trumpet Gianna Cedrone - piano and clarinet Veronika Martinkova - piano Evan Singh - piano Amber Zhou - piano and violin Wesley Wu - piano Brayden Bratti - piano and voice Siena McGill - voice Jacqueline Heslee - cello Ella Lanza - voice Emma Sordi - voice Anna Martinkova - voice Andrew Trinagel - bass clarinet

## **PEAK Festival:**

Brayden Bratti Blake Doan Riley Lore Veronika Martinkova Wynne Wang

## **Division 3 All County Chorus:**

Michael Byrne Anna Martinkova

## **Division 3 All County Band:**

**Andrew Trinagel** 

## **Division 2 All County Chorus:**

Emma Sordi

## **Division 1E All County Chorus:**

Michaela Burke Charlotte Dennehy Ella Lanza

## **Division 1E All County Band:**

Landon Cedrone

East Woods School is deeply grateful to all of its alumni for their continued commitment and support. You reflect the very best of East Woods!

## **Alumni News And Notes**

## Catching Up With Your Classmates

Alumni of East Woods School play a vital role in our history, traditions, and excellence. The Board of Trustees, Head of School, administration, faculty, and staff highly value and appreciate the ongoing relationship of the school with its graduates.

OUR ABILITY TO REMAIN CONNECTED WITH EAST WOODS ALUMNI IS GREATLY FACILITATED BY LIFELONG FRIENDSHIPS THAT WERE BORN WITHIN THE SCHOOL WALLS AND ON ITS FIELDS.

## : 1956

Rosina Dixon '56 says she and her husband Dick will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on July 4th 2020. They enliven their retirement by taking walking trips to Europe and visiting their 5 grandchildren.

## 1957

were also there.

Patty Billman Frothingham '57 says they celebrated David's 80th with the whole family at Cuttyhunk Last summer! Playing golf here with Meredith Luce and seeing Susie Page in Hilton Head keeps the East Woods connection alive and well!

**Jeff Miller '57** tells us he attended **Marshall** Bartlett's funeral service in Summit NJ on September 21, 2019. In remembering his father, his son Stephen said Marshall had spoken fondly about his East Woods School years and remembered his class, 1957, was the smartest group of people he was ever associated with. **John Rousmaniere '64** and **Sandy Roosevelt**: live in Nashville, Tennessee.

**John P. Rousmaniere '58** is still happily living in the city on Morningside Heights. He gets out to Oyster Bay regularly on his new book project, a history of Seawanhaka Corinthian Yacht Club.

### 1961

Bradford G. Weekes III '61 tells us he retired from Donaldson Lufkin and Jenrette in 2000. He lives in Oyster Bay Cove, has 2 sons and 6 grandchildren and says Life is Good.

## 1963

**Margo Davis '63** tells us she traveled in 2019 to Italy, Greece, New York City and Colorado. From Italy she saw her niece dance at Alvin Ailey studio in NY City, toured Greece on sailboat. Now she's back in San Diego.

Hester Eggert Weeden '63 says their son Douglas Weeden married Annparker Hammock at Brick Church NYC on June 15, 2019. They now



Back row l-r past parents: Michael Kolodner, George Howard, Mary Alice Kolodner, Barry and Dick Grace, Alums Lexie Howard '63, Robin Senior '68. Front row: past parent and head of school's wife Jeanne Ferrer, Past Aunt Vicky Howard, past parent Patricia Bell-Thomson at the Cold Spring Harbor Beach Club.

## · 1964

Joe Rousmaniere '64 tells us four Pages and a Rousmaniere hiked a section of the Vermont Long Trail in mid September.

Sarah Wilbar Sprayregen '64 says she is enjoying life in VT and with her 4 grandchildren. She is still energized by her work at the UVM Foundation.

#### 1965

Sandy Jaques '65 says she has missed so much of her preschool teaching, that she is back to working at what she loves and knows best. She can't wait for her new adventure with her little friends.

## 1966

Cammy Lindsay '66 tells us she has a granddaughter! Genevieve was born October 30, 2019 in Denver. She says she is blessed to have both her sons living in Colorado now.

**Janet von Briesen Peña '66** tells us The Peña's are well. Their older son Austin and wife Cate are expecting a baby boy at the end of September, 2019. Little Justin, turning 5 in November, is thrilled to be getting a brother. Austin is still in Real Estate at Blackstone, and Cate is almost finished setting up her lab at Princeton. They have very busy lives.

Travis is in Houston working for the same energy consulting firm. This year, work has taken him to Germany, the Netherlands and Abu Dhabi. His daughter Evelyn, now in Kindergarten, visits every third weekend from Louisiana, and we rendezvous-vous with them as often as possible.

Ernesto and I are fine—almost. Janet is currently : Patty Frothingham '57 with family.

hobbling around on crutches and in a boot. She broke her ankle while on vacation in August but, despite the inconvenience, they had a wonderful three weeks in and around New York City and



Left to right: Roger Page, Arthur Page, Bob Page, Rick Page, Joe Rousmaniere '64.









Christie Luce McNicol '71 and Eileen Smith Oakford '71.

in the Berkshires. Earlier in the summer, they enjoyed a fabulous one-week 45th anniversary celebration in Utah, visiting two National Parks in Moab, and spending several days in Park City with family and friends. (Thank you Southwest Airlines for the great credit card benefit program!)

## 1967

Abram Claude '67 says he is now a
grandparent of a 10 month old granddaughter,
Persephone Grace.

## 1968

**Tom Gimbel '68** says he has been a global investment and risk manager for 4 decades. He also spent 5 years building a diversified farmland company listed on the New York Stock Exchange, while dedicating all available time to his wife and family plus several healthcare and charitable organizations.

**Meredith H. Luce '68** and her husband, Rusty Billingsly are retired and living in Savannah, GA on Skidaway Island.



Back row L to R: Guy Riegel '73, Tim Lee '73, Bill Riegel '70, Bob Lindsay '69, Bill Sheeline '69, Danny Freeman '06, Jamie Townsend '68, Molly Miller '06, Jeffrey May '06, Lucy Wallace '06. Front row Clare Luce Abbey '74, Samantha Kerr '05, Christie Luce McNicol '71, Michael McCloskey '06, Chauncey Kerr Hamilton '02, Campbell McNicol Mumford '06, Jillian Doyle '05, Laura Ott '06, Lianna Murphy '06.





Warren Kraft '73 Clare Luce Abbey '74, Ian Johnson '73.

Mrs. Nancy Pirtle, Wendie Pirtle Russell '73 Jeremy Pirtle Burnett '76, Liz Powers Clothier '73.

Marc S Rosenthal '68 says 2018 was a year of changes. He married Marya Malkovich just before Labor Day, second marriage for us both, went from 1 son to 2 sons and 2 daughters with a grandchild in a few seconds. Professionally he

was appointed Chair, of the American College of Emergency Physicians Disaster Preparedness and Response Committee. He continues to be active as an Emergency Physician and EMS physician, as well as a Disaster Physician with the Dept. of Health and Human Services, Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response. They also continue to sail and race on the great lakes.

## 1969

**Bill Denby '69** says they moved into their new home in San Diego. The boys are grown, fully engaged in their work. They travel, play tennis, golf and socialize.

## 1971

Christie Luce McNicol '71 had a very busy year planning daughter Campbell McNicol's '06 wedding which took place on Saturday September 7, 2019. Campbell and Henry Mumford were married on the lawn of the Cold Spring Harbor Beach Club with the reception following at the Piping Rock Club. There was a wonderful turn out of EWS friends and family at the celebration. Sisters Meredith Luce '68 and Clare Luce Abbey '74 were joined by Jamie Townsend '68, Bob Lindsay '69, Bill Sheeline '69, Doug Arthur '69, Bill Riegel '70, Guy Riegel '73, and Tim Lee '73. They all danced until well after midnight.

In March Christie was able to catch up with **Elly Dwyer McKenna '71** in Hobe Sound FL and then in July with **Eileen Smith Oakford '71** when Eileen was visiting her brother **John Smith '69** on Long Island.

## 1973

Liz Powers Clothier '73 reports that her son, Wick, was married in 2019 to Taylor Smith, squash professional tournament coach



Wendie Pirtle Russell, Liz Powers Clothier, and Linda Gay Powers '73 alumnae celebrating a milestone birthday.



Eleanor Perkins, Bredt Handy, Kate Rousmaniere and Louisa Campbell, class of '73, and Art Rousmaniere, Class of '72.





Art Rousmaniere '72 wife Jennifer, Rem Myers '74 and wife Susan.

Tailer Senior Mora '94 sends a picture of Anouk Kakoulides, daughter of Socrates Kakoulides '94, signing the cast of Felix Mora, son of Tailer and Andres Mora.

at Ox Ridge Equestrian and Racquet in Darien
Ct. Taylor is an editorial producer with The
AtlanticMedia group. Daughter Christie is at a
law firm in NYC that specializes in entertainment
law. Her client services list is fun. Chip is coowner of Executive Search firm in Rosemont PA.
I am still a bad tennis player with limited eye
hand coordination!

**Kate Rousmaniere '73** completed her 8 year term on Oxford Ohio's City Council, serving 4 of those years as City Mayor. She was then elected

to a 4 year term as Oxford Township Trustee. She is in her 27th year as an Education professor at Miami University, Oxford Ohio. She lives with her husband of 16 years and near 4 teenaged step grandchildren. Lots of numbers there: Thanks to East Woods math!

### 1974

**Cynthia Mayer Benfield '74** tells us she is happily settling into their new home that they down-sized into and still fit their children and pets.





Daughter of Lauren Griffin (Bell-Thomson) '94, Nelly (Born Eleanor James, 2/21/19 at 6lbs 9 oz and 19" long) and her cousin Thalia - daughter of Lauren's brother Sean Bell-Thomson '92.

Rem Myers '74 All is well with the Myers! Still living North Shore of Boston and working at the Wealth Management division of UBS in Boston. Wife Susan busy working at the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem. We are fortunate that our kids are close by. Son Remmy is teaching in NYC at Spence. Daughter Ellie is an attorney at Nutter and son. Hank is at MFS Financial and both living in Beacon Hill. Youngest son Hutch is at the Engineering School at Northeastern. Over the past few years they have thoroughly enjoyed racing and cruising with former band mate and



Heather Senior '96 with husband Jamison, son Finn and daughter Izzy.

rhythm guitarist, **Art Rousmaniere '72** and wife Jennifer on their sail boat "Band Wagon". That's Art having a Rum & Coke-(Still thinks he's at Milton!) Ticketyboo and Cheers to everyone!

**Lisa Glen Pence '74**, is the assistant Headmaster at the Green Hedges School, a progressive K-8 school in Vienna, Virginia. Her oldest, Cem, got married this past summer, which made for a great family reunion.

## 1977

**Léonie Glen '77** says she is still teaching Latin at the Dover-Sherborn Middle and High Schools in Dover, MA, and currently serving as the department head for the Middle School World Language department.

### 1979

**Tracy Denney Hritz '79 and Robin Gimbel Senior '68** taking a sip of wine from a fountain meant to fortify pilgrims along the Camino De Santiago, Spain - May 2019.

## 1981

**Melissa Glen, '81**, lives in Ridgefield, CT, and wears many hats, but keeps her artistic side busy with graphic designs of all kinds.

## 1984

**Julie Glen Truax '84,** is the Director of Development at the Regional Plan Association of NY, a non-profit that works to improve NYC's environment and affordability.

#### 1994

**Lauren Griffin (Bell-Thomson) '94** tells us she recently bought a house with her husband Kiernan in North Haven, CT in April 2019. Their daughter Nelly is almost 9 months and starting to crawl all over the place. Time for some baby



Tracy Denney Hritz '79 and Robin Gimbel Senior '68 taking a sip of wine from a fountain meant to fortify pilgrims along the Camino De Santiago, Spain - May 2019. We walked the last 110 km in the fall of 2018 and the first 110 km in May 2019.







Milena Duke Holmes '02 (center) and husband, DR, with their daughter and Chauncey Kerr Hamilton '02 (far right) and friends.

gates! She was recently baptized in the Catholic Church and **Kate Randolph'93** is one of Nelly's Godmothers. We hope to make a trip back to the hilltop in the spring and would love to get together with other alums in the area.

## : 1996

**Chard Weir '96** says he and his wife Maggie are eagerly expecting a third daughter in early October to join Tabor (14) and Kit (2). In August they settled into a more permanent residence in



Reese Hamilton. Perrin Hamilton, Chauncey Kerr Hamilton '02, the minister, Milena Duke Holmes '02 and Natasha LaBranche Goodwyn '02.



Seanna Senior '03 (middle).



: Olivia Dreizen Howell '01.





Kelly Walsh '03 marries Collin Dolph.

Tinker Lindsay, Bob Lindsay '69, Cammy Lindsay, Alec Lindsay '04, wife Julia, Roddy Lindsay '00, Jared Greenman '04, Duncan Lindsay '07, Ian Hogg '04, Pitch Lindsay '02.

Prospect Heights, Brooklyn. One that can handle 'Izzy. Heather continues to serve teens and their the increased family size...he hopes. 'families through her husband's mental health

**Heather Senior '96** is living in Nashville, TN adult workshops that focus on reclaim: with her husband Jamison, son Finn and daughter intuition by healing relational trauma,

Teddy Townsend '03 their mother Mary Gay Townsend and Zoe Townsend '05.



Julia and Alec Lindsay '04.

Izzy. Heather continues to serve teens and their families through her husband's mental health centers, Newport Academy. She is also creating adult workshops that focus on reclaiming our intuition by healing relational trauma, launching in spring 2020.

## : 1997

Fern Senior '97 is living in Oyster Bay Cove with her wife, Kristin. Their son, Hudson is in the pre-k at EWS and their other son, Blake will be joining the pre-nursery class this winter. Fern recently celebrated Abby Weir's '96 birthday with other EWS alumni David Scorposki '96, Remsen (Weir) Dooley '98 and Julia (Deming) Vaughn '98.

#### 1999

Roz Mays '99 is a full time personal trainer and pole dancing instructor; her life is basically bouncing from gym to gym, sweaty and hungry. When she's not in sneakers, she's usually spending too much money on food in Brooklyn with Paul Carter '99. Her father Bobby is still loud, her mother still cranks baked goods in her sleep, and she and Lindsay make fun of both of them for it.

Andres H. Oranges '99 says he and his wife Christina and their son Anthony welcomed Alessandra Elizabeth to the world on April 7. Earlier this year Andres was promoted to Chief Operating Officer at the French Investment bank Société Générale and was named to the 2019 list of 40 under 40 list of top finance executives.

**Remsen Weir Dooley '99** has Twin daughters -5 years old and a son - 4 years old.

#### 2001

Olivia Dreizen Howell '01 lives on LongIsland with her two sons, Weston (6) and Wyatt





Campbell McNicol '06 married Henry Mumford.

Danny Freeman '06.

(3). She owns Howell Media House, a full service social media and influencer management company and works with brands and people both local and globally. She still talks to **Dodie Press** and **Debra Wenof** and sends much love to her former EWS colleagues, too!

### 2003

**Seanna Senior '03** is still living in Seattle and working for Amazon. She changed teams in January and is now a Product Manager for Alexa on Fire TV. Outside of work, she has been taking advantage of all the adventures the Pacific Northwest has to offer, from skiing, to fishing, to climbing Mt. Rainier!

**Teddy Townsend '03** is a Vice President at Sewaya Partners.

**Kelly Walsh '03** married Collin Dolph May 4, 2019 in New York City.

## 2005

**Zoe Townsend '05** is an Executive Assistant at Citadel.

### 2006

Henry Mumford at the Cold Spring Harbor
Beach Club on Saturday, September 7th. To
say that this wedding had a very strong EWS
presence - from bridal party to the guests - should
come as a surprise to no one. Campbell was
lucky enough to have **Samantha Kerr '05** at
her side as co-Maid of Honor extraordinaire,
along with a tight-knit crew of bridesmaids
that included **Chauncey Kerr Hamilton**'02, Lianna Murphy '06, Laura Ott '06
and Lucy Wallace '06. Other familiar EWS
faces within the extended bridal party included
ushers, Jeffrey May, and **Hammy Wallace '09** 

who actually did double-duty that afternoon by also walking his God Mother and Mother of the Bride, **Christie McNicol '71** down the aisle as the wedding ceremony kicked off.

Later in the night, more familiar faces that could be found on - or at least nearby - the dance floor included **Alex LaBranche '06, Michael** McCloskey '06 who made a casual crosscountry drive to Cold Spring Harbor directly from California in order to make the wedding before permanently relocating to North Carolina, Molly Miller '06 who was recently accepted to and has now enrolled in graduate school at Cornell University, **Danny Freeman '06** who is now an Emmy Award-winning San Diego-based newscaster for NBC, and Jillian Doyle '06 who is gearing up for her upcoming wedding to the aforementioned Jeffrey May as though her Executive role at CAA doesn't already keep her busy enough.

**Danny Freeman** has been nominated for two Emmy Awards by the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. Campbell tells us, from what she can gather, one nomination is for his reporting work on covering some kind of political debate while he was at NBC in San Diego, CA, and the second nomination is from his work on what they label as a "single story" in Bakersfield, CA, - also with NBC - where he is now.

## 2008

**Ashley Friedman '08** is currently living in LA and has graduated culinary school. She is doing many private affairs. She just spent 10 weeks (Fall 2019) in Tuscany learning the language and culture while teaching. She looks forward to returning to Italy soon.



Zoe Townsend '05 Faith Townsend '15 and Teddy Townsend.



Kimberly Sabio '12.

## 2010

Juliette Alexandra Lee '10. Juliette teaches as a marine science instructor at the Catalina Island Marine Institute. She is a NAUI Rescue Diver and aspires to attend graduate school focused on marine resource management and policy. Juliette remains close with East Woods classmates Megan Walsh, Pete Hopkinson, and Nathaniel Hogg and other East Woods alum: So A Ryu, Catalina Feder, and William Sheeline.

#### 2011

**Courtney Friedman '11** tells us she has graduated from Pace University in NYC with her Master's in Education. She is currently the Education Director of an Early Childhood Facility. She has moved to Brooklyn and is looking forward to employment with the NYC Board of Ed.

Nathaniel Hogg Board of Ed.
'11 in the Peace
Corps, teaching Nathaniel In Ethiopia.
Peace Corps

*Corps, teaching* • **Nathaniel Hogg '11** is volunteering with the in *Ethiopia*. • Peace Corps as a teacher.

**Megan Walsh '11** graduated Providence College in 2017 as a Psychology major and will complete her masters in the Spring of 2020 at LIU.

## 2012

**Kimberly Sabio '12,** graduated from McGill University in Montreal, Canada. Kimmie double majored in Music Performance (trumpet) and Philosophy. This summer she will be training and performing at the Berlin Opera Academy. She will be applying to graduate schools in the fall.

**Spencer Woods '12.** Spencer is enjoying his senior year at the University at Buffalo and is very involved with the school. Spencer represented his fraternity, Lambda Chi Alpha, at the 57th Annual General Assembly and Leadership Seminar in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida and learned valuable skills for chapter improvement and passed key legislation governing Lambda Chi's international chapters. Spencer also spearheaded collecting 189 pounds of food to donate to the Food Bank of Western New York. After graduation he plans to sit for the Chartered Financial Analyst Level 1 exam and intends to pursue law school in the future.

#### 2015

**Faith Townsend '15** is currently at Beacon College in Florida.

## **FORMER FACULTY**

Jane Greenleaf: The Greenleaf family sends a big hello to EWS! We have been taking a big trip down memory lane since the passing of our wonderful mother, Jane Greenleaf, and have unearthed so many fond reminders of our many years at East Woods. Mom was such a big part of the school, and shared so much of her enthusiasm, time, and giving spirit. Victoria, Jim, and Jennifer send warm regards.



# In Memoriam

East Woods School remembers with sadness our friends who passed away this year

Marshall Bartlett '57
Ernesto Colón, past parent
Richard Hambrook '09
Robert P. Morse, past parent, past Trustee
JoAnn S. Whelehan, past parent
Francine Wood, past faculty member

George Dorr O'Neill, a member of the founding families of East Woods School, passed away on June 27, 2019 at age 92. Mr. O'Neill graduated from St. Mark's School and Harvard College. He was a Midshipman in the Merchant Marine Cadet Corps. He started his career working at Chase Manhattan Bank and spent 13 years at Train & Cabot. He later founded and was chairman of Meriwether Capital, as well as chairman of Capewell Components Company, Segrest Holdings, Tonka Water Company and Wood Pro, Inc. He served as a Commissioner of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. Mr. O'Neill served as a trustee of WNET,

Colonial Williamsburg, Vassar College, Webster College, East Woods School and the Center for Educational Innovation-Public Education Association, Mr. O'Neill was a trustee of the Incorporated Village of Oyster Bay. He was a cofounder and former president of the Community Foundation of Oyster Bay and the Youth and Family Counseling Agency of Oyster Bay-East Norwich. A family man, he was actively involved with his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. He was an avid biker and golfer. As a devoted member of St. Dominic's parish in Oyster Bay, he rarely missed a weekly mass. He was predeceased by his wife of 67 years, Abby M. O'Neill, devoted father of six children: George D. O'Neill, Jr. (Erica) of Lake Wales, Florida; Abby O. Caulkins (Charles) of Chappaqua, New York; David M. O'Neill (Connie) of Greenwood Village, Colorado; Catharine O. Broderick (Kevin) of Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan; Wendy H. O'Neill (David Rayner) of Sarasota, Florida and Peter M. O'Neill (Katie) of New York, New York. He is also survived by 18 grandchildren, six greatgrand-children, and loving nieces and nephews.

## **Lunar New Year Celebration**

The Lunar New Year luncheon this year was a fun-filled gathering of parents and children. There were activities, delicious food, and a special tribute. Mrs. Laura Kang welcomed families who celebrate the Lunar New Year as guests enjoyed Chinese and Korean food. Mrs. Kang also gave special recognition to East Woods Trustee, Mr. Wang Ji, for his generosity and kindness to East Woods. The day was a wonderful community celebration.







## East Woods School Alumni/ae Gather

East Woods School alumni/ae gathered at the Cambridge, Massachusetts home of Betsy McIntyre '73 and Dave Corrsin last November.

It was a wonderful evening of cocktails, conversation, and delicious food. Mrs. Laura Kang, Head of School, welcomed the attendees and told them how grateful she is for their enduring fondness for East Woods.

The Boston event was a continuation of our annual alumni/ae gatherings which began a number of years ago in New York with events hosted at The New York Yacht Club and in Palm Beach last spring with an event hosted by Robin Gimbel Senior '68.

A important driving force behind our alumni/ae efforts is Christie Luce McNicol '71, whose spirit and energy is second only to her love for East

Woods. We are grateful to Betsy and Dave, Robin, Christie and all of our alumni/ae attendees who continue to hold East Woods in a special place in their hearts. All of our graduates are wonderful representatives of our mission and values. We look forward to seeing you at future events!

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

East Woods School Alumni/ae Reception The New York Yacht Club Wednesday, November 4, 2020

All are welcome!







## **Annual Report of Giving 2018-2019**

## Letter From the Head of School

Winter 2020

Dear East Woods School Community,

Support for East Woods School comes from many people and in many forms throughout the year. As you have just seen in the pages of this edition of On the Hill, parents, faculty and staff, alumni/ae, grandparents, past parents, and many friends make up the large group of people who care deeply about East Woods and the students we educate. Individuals in each of these groups give so much of themselves to support our core mission to provide an educational experience for our students that is founded in academic excellence and strength of character. Your enduring support of the East Woods School mission and values continues to provide the foundation upon which we continue to grow. My deep thanks to each one of you for the important role you play in our success.

Your gifts of words, wisdom, and wealth support our ongoing initiatives to enrich and enhance our program with our eye always on the success of our students. This year we have expanded and developed our robotics program. We competed in a regional robotics competition, and we were the only independent school represented. At the competition, our team's robot performed better than sixty percent of the other teams' robots. We also won the Core Values Inspiration Award in the FIRST LEGO League experience. In addition, we are in the second year of offering advanced coursework in mathematics and phonics while also offering support in phonics and reading for students in small group settings. We are in the planning stage to offer Earth Science next year and to offer a vocabulary, writing and/or geography-based enrichment program. We continue to work as a school community on the core concept of community – especially in terms of diversity, equity and inclusion. Last, our Board of Trustees is launching its efforts for the school's next strategic plan. Certainly, we have a lot to be proud of at East Woods School!

I offer a special note of thanks to our alumni/ae whose gifts to the annual fund have grown significantly over the past few years. In addition, I am so grateful to our faculty and staff, 100% of whom continue to support our annual fund, year after year. You are at the core of our community and are vital to the success of our students. For your commitment, I am very grateful.

Sincerely,

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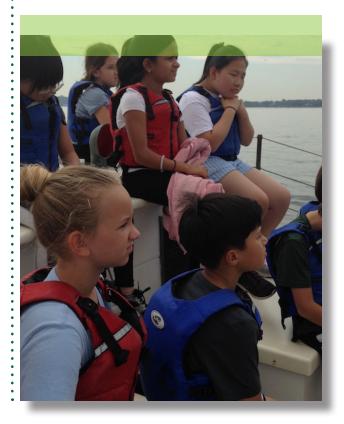
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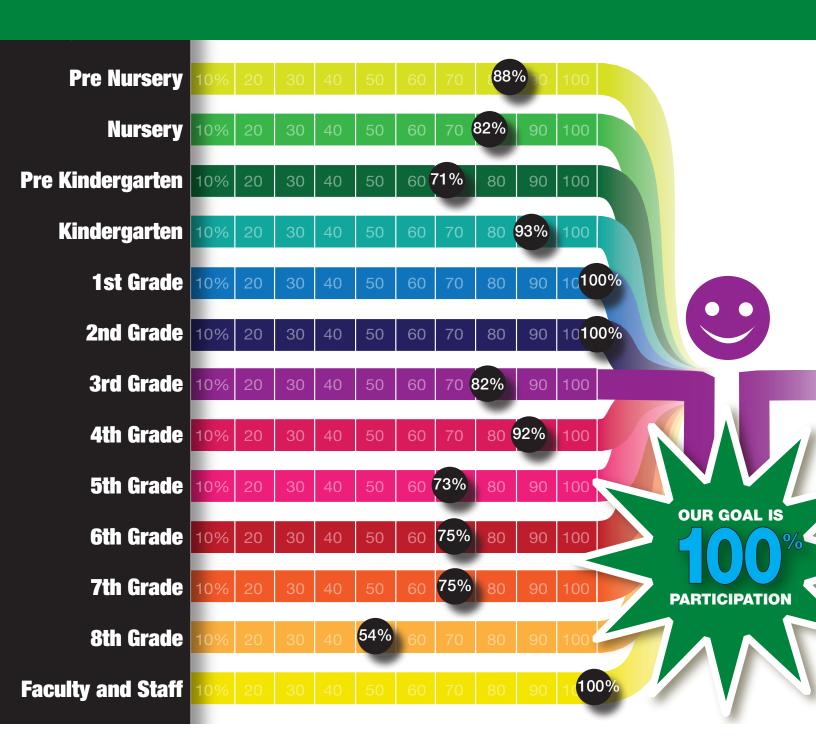
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Fine Photography by Stephanie

**FLEX Studios** 

Gino's of Commack

Gold Medal Gymnastics

Gramercy Park Hotel

Karyn Michael Events, LTD

Kyma

Major Food Group

The Mill River Club

The Muttontown Club

Organic Krush

The Paramount

Rest Easy Pet Control

Riccobono Construction

Son's & Co. Woodworking

Taryn Laughlin Coaching LLC

Twice is Nice Interiors

With gratitude to all those who supported the 7 2nd Anniversary Soirée Dinner Dance and Auction and the Spring Fair weekend.

## 100% annual giving participation

## Faculty, Staff and Administration

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Mr. Branden Andrade

Mr. Ryan Antovel

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Mrs. Christina Barrett

Mrs. Kate Bedard

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Mrs. Jill Werblin

Ms. Chase Zuzzolo

Ms. Paige Zuzzolo



## Memorial, Honorary Gifts And Bequests

*In memory of Mrs. Beverly Hanson* Mr. Marvin Bethea '75

*In memory of Mrs. Frances R. Storrs '57* Ms. Nancy Storrs '65

In honor of Mr. Wayne Huneke

Mr. Theodore A. Panebianco '95 and Mr. Steven

: Nickels Panebianco

In honor of Ms. Julia Page '63

Mr. John Rousmaniere '58 and Mrs. Leah

Rousmaniere

**Bequests** 

Estate of Ed M. Lamont

## Gifts by Corporations and Matching Funds

Rising Stars, Inc.

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: Gifts for Capital Projects

Mr. and Mrs. James L. Dolan

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Dr. George Kakoulides '90 and Ms. Jessica Brassler

: Dr. and Mrs. Kevin J. Mercier

## Special Gifts and Gifts In Kind

Buildings and Grounds, Drama Program, Lunch on the Go Program, Marketing, Music Program, Special Events, Technology, Yellow Cote Players

Mr. Ryan Antovel

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony

J. Cedrone

The Dolan Family Foundation

Mr. and Mrs. Micah Finkel

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Mrs. Robin Senior '68 and

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Mr. and Mrs. Brian Sweeney

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# THE FUND FOR EAST WOODS

What is it? Why should I give?

of East Woods boys and girls benefit from your gift.

of your dollars directly support our students.

# Cost-Tuition= \$3,500

The cost to educate each East Woods student is greater than the tuition we charge. The Fund for East Woods helps to pay this difference.

## Why doesn't tuition cover all of the education cost?

Our Board of Trustees and Head of School strive to keep a competitive tuition level and to deliver the best possible program. This means keeping tuition as low as possible and asking parents and alumni to make a gift to close the gap.

Our Goals

100%
PARTICIPATION
\$400,000



## How could my contribution make a difference?

- \$5,000 buys one SmartBoard
- \$1,000 buys five Chromebook tablets
- \$500 buys the rights to perform the Upper School musical
- \$50 buys art supplies



CURRENT **ALUMNI** 

**TRUSTEES** 

**FACULTY** & STAFF

**PARENTS** 

**GRANDPARENTS** & FRIENDS

## How much should I give?

**EVERY** gift counts toward our goal. All we ask is that you do the best within your means. It's for your child and our students and we have only one chance to give them the best education there is.

## Can I pay over time?



You may make monthly gift payments as long as the full amount of your gift is made by our year-end, June 30th.

JUNE



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