



From One Blazer to Another



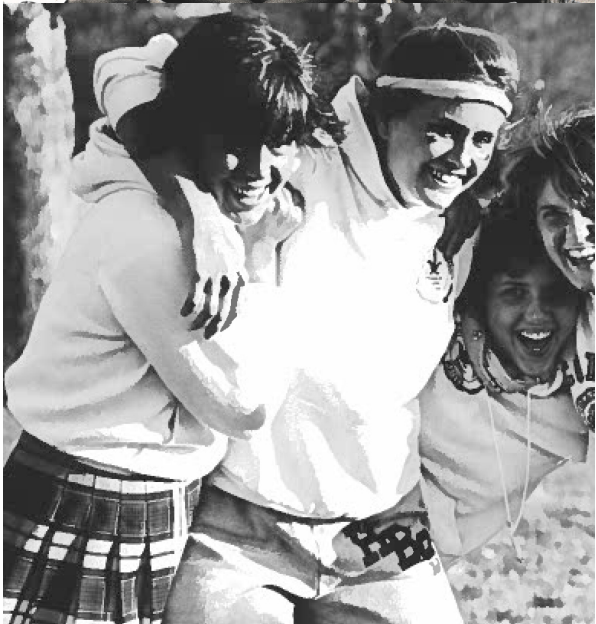


I would like to dedicate this book to the incredible Class of 2020. This was a class full of amazing scholars, artists, athletes, musicians, and leaders. This is my sixth year at Hathaway Brown and I am so grateful to have spent these years learning alongside such brave, talented, and strong women. Over the past year, we have proven to be more than well-equipped to rise boldly to the challenges of our times. I am so proud to be a member of the remarkable Class of 2020. Thank you to the Strnad family and the Strnad committee for the opportunity and support. This book would not be possible without the alumnae who took the time to speak with me about their HB experiences, my Strnad mentors Libby Stineman and Tyler Zeleny, and the Office of Alumnae Relations.

- Harleigh Markowitz '20



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How do you believe your HB experience has shaped you into the woman that you are today?

I believe that my HB education has shaped me in that it gave me the ability to think critically. HB not only taught me what it meant to be a strong woman, but a strong person as well. Coming out of HB, I felt like I was ready for anything.

Lisa Murtha

**Class of 1988
Cincinnati, OH**

Journalist & Freelance Writer

Lisa Murtha is a freelance writer and journalist who currently lives in Cincinnati, Ohio. During her time at HB, she was very involved in music and played both the piano and the flute. She also participated in the school musicals and played on the field hockey team. After graduating from HB in 1988, she went on to study at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, and earned her Bachelor's Degree in English with a concentration in creative writing. In her early career, she worked in television and film production before becoming a full-time journalist. She enjoys writing about architecture and real estate as well as large feature articles for Cincinnati Magazine. In December of 2019, Ms. Murtha began writing a new column profiling interesting and inspirational people around Cincinnati. In her free time, she also writes for HB's alumni magazine

“The more open you are to exciting and new opportunities, the more you will discover and the more you will grow as an individual.”

What is your favorite failure and what did you learn from it?

After I graduated from college, I wanted to work for CNN. It was my dream. I worked so hard and I tried everything that I could, but I couldn't get a job there. It was devastating. Looking back, I now see that sometimes you can want something so much that's just not right for you, but you don't know it at the time. That job wasn't meant to be.

“I didn't get my dream job, and it's the best thing that could have happened to me.”

What advice do you have for current HB students?

Be open to anything. Explore new and exciting opportunities. Follow your passion, and if you don't have one yet, that's ok. You are always learning in life.

“Relying on the love and support of family and friends will help you overcome any difficult situation.”

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

Stay positive. You guys have so much going on in your lives and in the world around you. There’s so much coming at you. Remember to slow down. Remain optimistic as you try to navigate the world around you. Most importantly, continue to move forward in the midst of the chaos and don’t forget to have some fun.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

My time at HB experience gave me so much confidence in who I was and the confidence to feel good about the decisions I make and my stances on various issues. My time at HB helped me learn that what I have to say is worth saying. HB also gave me the ability to take in and dissect information and then determine the best way to respond.

What brought you back to HB?

I came out of difficult situation in my previous career with this beautiful opportunity to give back to my alma mater and be more aligned with what I’m passionate about. I had to go through a difficult time to figure out what I truly wanted.

Dana Capers serves as the Director of Alumnae Relations at HB. During her time as a student at HB, she was a member of the Moving Company dance club, played volleyball, and served as Class President. After graduating from HB in 1986, she went on to study at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio, where she majored in organizational communication. She also attended Cleveland State University and earned her Master’s Degree in Urban Studies.

Dana Capers

**Class of 1986
Cleveland, OH**

**Director of Alumnae Relations,
Hathaway Brown School**

“I believe that faith, family, and friends are the three pillars of a successful and fulfilled life.

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

One of my favorite HB memories is helping plan Carnival my senior year. It was an event where we all really bonded and it was a time where we came together, worked together, and put all of our differences aside to do something for the community. It was the last hurrah of our HB career and we had a lot of fun.





How you do feel that your HB experience has shaped you into the woman you are today?

My main takeaways from my time at HB are the value of relationships and the power of cultivating and maintaining these relationships over time, whether it is from a friend or a networking perspective. HB also taught me to almost be hyperaware of the common pitfalls or challenges that women face in the working world. HB taught me to find my voice, which is especially important in finance and banking which tend to be very male-dominated industries. I learned how to approach problem solving, create a thesis, and convey my opinions and ideas. HB gave me the confidence to speak up, even in front of intimidating audiences.

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

Try not to pass up opportunities to volunteer, go into the city, try new things, meet new people, and find new hobbies. Be open, embrace all of the fun things that come with college and with life, but always be aware and appreciative of the opportunities you are given and make sure you always apply yourself.

“Stay hydrated and stay humble. Live an active, healthy, and happy lifestyle. Don’t take anything for granted.”

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

As an athlete, winning the state championships three years in a row was extremely memorable and exciting. Another great memory that I have is traveling to Italy with Global Scholars my junior year. It was one of the coolest experiences I’ve ever had and to go abroad at such a young age was an amazing opportunity.

Beth Brzozowski

**Class of 2014
Chicago, IL**

**Senior Analyst,
Oak Street Real Estate Capital**

Beth Brzozowski is a Senior Analyst at Oak Street Real Estate Capital in Chicago, Illinois. She graduated from HB in 2014. During her time at HB, she was a Global Scholar, Business & Finance Fellow, soccer player, and basketball player who helped lead HB to become 3x back-to-back state champions. After graduating from HB, she attended the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton Business School and played for Penn’s women’s basketball team. After graduating from Wharton, she moved to New York City and worked as an investment banker before moving to Chicago to become a Senior analyst.

Laura McKenna works as a Portfolio Manager and Principal at Select Equity Group, an investment firm in New York City. During her time at HB, she was a three season athlete and played field hockey, basketball, and lacrosse. She also served as the President of the Order of Willing Service which planned Carnival. After graduating from HB in 1984, she went on to attend the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia, where she studied both English and Spanish. She then received her MBA at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She currently lives in Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

Just go for it, whatever it may be. As it relates to being a woman in finance, don't be afraid. You are very well-prepared and you have a very valuable voice and perspective to add to any meeting or conversation.

“There is always the opportunity to have a positive impact, regardless of what the situation may be.”

What is your mantra or words that you live by?

My mom used to always tell me that tomorrow is a new day. It's a great relief to think that each day is a fresh start to improve in some way or an opportunity to correct mistakes from the past.

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

I have so many amazing memories at HB it's hard to pick just one. The over-arching theme of my memories at HB are the fantastic people at HB, particularly the faculty. I have great memories of conversations about life with two of my favorite teachers. Both of them taught English.

Laura McKenna

**Class of 1984
Cleveland, OH**

**Portfolio Manager, Principle,
Select Equity Group**

How do you feel that your HB experience has shaped you into the woman you are today?

HB was instrumental in giving me confidence. When I first came to HB in seventh grade, I was really shy. At my previous school, I was a really nervous person and was so afraid of speaking up in front of my classmates. Once I arrived at HB, the all-girls environment was so different from what I was used to and was so supportive that I was able to come out of my shell and try new things. I got involved in student government, which is something I never would've had the confidence to do before coming to HB. It's like night and day looking at the level of confidence I had before and after coming to HB.





What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

My favorite memory from my time at HB is defending my thesis at the end of senior year. It was the perfect culmination of all of the work I had done at HB in Global Scholars, Economics, and learning the process of writing and researching. My freshman year English teacher was on my thesis committee and she was able to see how much my writing had improved throughout my time in the Upper School. It made me feel so proud of myself and my work and was a really a great way to cap off my experience at HB.

Reilly Doak

Class of 2015
Atlanta, GA

Teach for America

Reilly Doak is a teacher who is currently teaching world history to ninth graders at a Title I low-income school district in Atlanta, Georgia, through Teach for America. She graduated from HB in 2015 before attending Emory University where she majored in International Studies. During her time at HB, Reilly was a Global Scholar and traveled to Cambodia through the Center for Global Citizenship, was involved in the Osborne Writing Center, and played on HB's soccer and lacrosse teams. Once her two year commitment at Teach for America ends, she is planning on attending law school.

“At the end of the day, do the best you can with the time that you have.”

What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

Recognize that although certain things may come easy to you, they don't come easy to everyone. Just because you're good at something doesn't mean it's easy, it just means that you're good at it. Note what your talents are and what you're passionate about and move forward with that knowledge. Also, try to remember that everyone's path is different. Be patient with yourself. I would also strongly suggest to take at least one business class in college. Whenever you get hired for a job, you are being hired by a business. Even if you aren't specifically interested in business, those classes will make you well-rounded and serve you well when you are in the job market and entering the workforce.

“Try to find balance in everything that you do.”

What made you want to become a teacher?

Honestly, I never saw myself going into education, but I have an innate interest in social justice and I believe that education is an important avenue to self-empowerment.

“People open doors for other people. Make connections and maintain those relationships.”

Kathleen Adams

**Class of 2006
New York, NY**

**Restaurant Owner,
Angel of Harlem**

**Founder,
Momma’s Hip Hop Kitchen**

Marketing and Advertising

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

Really treasure the rest of your time and all of your memories at HB. This may be the last time your entire class will be together in the same room. Just because you won’t be physically together everyday doesn’t mean you can’t stay connected with one another. Embrace the moment, embrace the friendships, and stay in touch. Network, make connections, and find internships. Have fun and do what makes you happy.

Kathleen Adams is an entrepreneur, co-owner of the New York City restaurant Angel of Harlem, and co-founder of the non-profit organization Momma’s Hip Hop Kitchen, which is a multifaceted hip hop event that is designed to showcase female artists, specifically women of color. She was a lifer at HB and graduated in 2006. During her time at HB, she was very involved in the dance program and was a member of the Moving Company. She also danced outside of HB at various studios around the Cleveland. She was also very involved in activism throughout her time at HB and was a member of the City Club Youth Council, volunteered for Planned Parenthood of Greater Cleveland, and spoke at conferences and attended other workshops with the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network (GLSEN). After graduating from HB, she went on to study at Fordham University in New York City where she majored in both Women’s Studies as well as Urban Studies and later earned her Master’s Degree in Urban Studies. She currently lives in the Harlem neighborhood of NYC.

How you do feel that your HB experience has shaped you into the woman you are today?

It was at HB where I learned to be independent, self-sufficient, and intellectually curious. HB taught me how to be a leader.

“Cherish the HB sisterhood. It’s something special.”





Fallon Gallagher is a journalist and the Associate Producer to Tom Costello at NBC News in Washington, D.C. During her time at HB, she played on the tennis team, wrote for the school newspaper, took various photography classes, and was a Strnad Fellow. She graduated from HB in 2014 and then went on to study at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, where she majored in journalism and political science.

How you do feel that your HB experience has shaped you into the woman you are today?

It wasn't until I left HB that I realized how important it was to attend an all-girls high school. The girls can do anything mentality meant so much to me. HB taught me that you could be amazing and successful not even though you are a girl, but because you are a girl. It was really interesting for me when I went to college and realized that a lot of girls that didn't go to an all-girls high school felt very uncomfortable raising their hands and speaking up in class. That fear felt so foreign to me. It never occurred to me to not raise my hand because I could be wrong. So what if I was wrong? This confidence really helped me succeed in college and beyond.

“You're going to make mistakes. It happens to everyone. Don't fear them. Try to lean into them.”

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

I loved my mentor group at HB. Our group was this hodge-podge group of people and although we weren't super close in the beginning, we all became really great friends by the end of high school. I really looked forward to mentor time each week.

Fallon Gallagher

**Class of 2014
Washington, D.C.**

**Associate Producer to
Tom Costello,
NBC News**

What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

Take initiative. People are usually more than willing to help you, but you have to be the one to ask. No one will do it for you. Also, figure out what's important to you and try to prioritize your values. Knowing what is important to you is critical in being able to achieve your goals. If you know who you are and are comfortable with yourself, it will be so much easier to navigate relationships with other people whether it is with a friend or a colleague. Enjoy the moment, but also be excited for the next chapter of your life. Be open to new possibilities and take advantage of new opportunities.

Libby Stineman is an Upper School teacher at Hathaway Brown School. She is also the mom of two girls and the founder and owner of Milk and Cookies. During her time at HB, she was involved in soccer, basketball, and lacrosse. She graduated from HB in 2003 and then went on to study at Colgate University where she majored in both Political Science and Education. She then went on to receive her Master's Degree from John Carroll University. Now, she is a history teacher in the Upper School and the Dean of the Class of 2020.

“It’s from failure that we learn the most and become the people that we are meant to be.”

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

HB has shaped me in countless ways. It has shaped me into the educator, the friend, and the mom that I am today. I am always discovering new ways that HB has impacted me. I don't think that's ever going to stop. HB gave me the confidence to go out of my comfort zone, take risks, and try new things. Becoming an entrepreneur is something I would have never dreamed of being able to do. HB taught me to go out there and ask questions, advocate for myself, and to always believe in myself and my abilities.

“HB is and always has been home. Coming back just felt right.”

Libby Stineman

**Class of 2003
Cleveland, OH**

**Upper School Teacher,
Hathaway Brown School**

**Founder and Owner,
Milk and Cookies**

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

My favorite memory from HB was the comraderie. I had a really unique class in that we were all very close. We used to always play card games in the senior room. Everyone felt so comfortable around each other.

What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

Never doubt yourself, your worth or your capabilities. You will be put in situations and have experiences where you will doubt yourself, and that's normal, but always remember how smart and capable you are. It's never a failure to ask for help or to have tried and failed as long as you're willing to learn from your mistakes.





What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

The field hockey team won the state championship my senior year which was really exciting. I also have really memories from lacrosse trips during spring break every year.

“Don’t be afraid to recreate yourself as many times as you need to.”

Isabel Ballard

**Class of 2009
Cleveland, OH**

**Graduate Student,
Case Western Reserve University**

Isabel Ballard is a full-time graduate student working to earn her Master’s in Social Work at Case Western Reserve University’s Jack, Joseph, and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences. During her time at HB, she was played both field hockey and lacrosse, played the flute in HB’s orchestra, and was a member of Gold Key. After graduating from HB in 2009, she attended Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, where she majored in American and Cultural Studies.

What is your favorite failure and what did you learn from it?

I have done a lot of work recently reframing what failure means to me. Now, I try to think of failure as a push in a new direction. There was a very pivotal point in my life when I was deciding whether or not to keep playing lacrosse at Bates. Playing at the collegiate level was a level of intensity that I’d never experienced before. After coming home from studying abroad the first semester of my junior year, I decided not to play anymore. Lacrosse had been such a huge part of my identity for so long, and I had to learn who I was without it. A few months passed and I really missed being on a team. I grew up horse-back riding and decided to join my school’s equestrian team. It was one of my favorite experiences. We traveled to other universities in New England to compete and it was so much fun. I absolutely loved it.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

HB really taught me how to be strong-willed and independent. HB instilled in me the mentality that I could do anything and I was taught to set high expectations for myself. I also learned the important of community.

“Just keep smiling. Stay positive. Look to the bright side. Find the silver lining.”

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

My HB experience influenced me in so many ways. It ultimately led me to move back to Cleveland so that my daughter could attend HB and have those same experiences. HB gave me an incredible foundation. I learned how to think critically, work quickly and efficiently, and how to communicate with others. These skills were invaluable as I graduated from college and needed to learn to navigate the world of journalism. HB teaches girls how to be hard working, accountable, and reliable. I believe that HB exposes its girls to the world beyond Shaker Heights in wonderful ways, and that when you leave HB, you are armed with an education that allows you to be successful in any career or industry you choose.

Catherine Levy

**Class of 1993
Cleveland, OH**

Journalist

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

I was commencement speaker at my graduation. We were a small class but we felt like we gave our all to HB. It was really special for me to be able to honor my class in that speech.

“Don’t sit back and watch the world go by. Do what you can to be a valuable member of society.”

Catherine Levy is a journalist and the President of the Alumni Association at HB. During her time as a student, she was very involved in the literary magazine, served as Vice President of the student body, was involved in helping plan Carnival her senior year, was an editor of the yearbook, and played both field hockey and lacrosse. She also volunteered at a nursing home where she ran a current events group for some of the women that lived there and did news broadcasts for them. She was involved in Model UN and pursued a Strnad Fellowship in Creativity where she started the World Affairs Club at HB. After graduating from HB in 1993, she attended Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont, where she studied political science. She then went on to work for 60 Minutes on CBS News.

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

Always remember where you came from. You may not feel it now, but over time you will be so grateful for the amazing education that your parents gave you. The incredible gift of an HB education is incomparable. Always remember that you are an HB girl. Try to honor the community from which you came.





“Don’t be shaken if things don’t go according to plan. Take a step back, find your footing, and then keep moving forward.”

Anna Reighart is a consultant and student who currently lives in Boston, Massachusetts and graduated from HB in 2011. During her time at HB, she was a member of the soccer team, played the piano, and was a ballet dancer. After graduating from HB, she attended the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton Business School. She worked at a consulting firm for three years before going back to school. She is currently working to earn her MBA from Harvard Business School. After graduating from business school, she is planning on staying in Boston and will be returning to her prior consulting firm, Bain & Company.

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

I think in society and especially at the universities that HB girls tend to go to, there is a ton of pressure to build your resume and find a job, and while that’s certainly important, don’t forget to find time to pursue other interests. Also, always be confident and trust that you are well-prepared. The world can be intimidating. Don’t be afraid to ask questions. I promise you, your questions are valid.

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

I have so many great memories from HB. My all-time favorite memory was winning the state championships in soccer. Playing in the state championships my senior year was particularly memorable. I had such a great experience and it was so much fun to be a part of a team. I also remember really enjoying Carnival my senior year. My best friends were co-chairs and I was involved in planning the 5k race. I loved that weekend and I have such fond memories from Carnival.

**Anna
Reighart**

**Class of 2011
Boston, MA**

**Consultant,
Bain & Company**

**MBA Student,
Harvard Business School**

“HB taught me the importance of having a strong and supportive group of female friends that always have your back.”

“HB made me feel so prepared for college and beyond. We truly learn not for school but for life.”

Amy Porter

**Class of 2001
Cleveland, OH**

**Pediatrician,
Rainbow Babies & Children’s
University Hospitals**

Amy Porter is a pediatrician who specializes in pediatric complex care and palliative care. She is currently a fellow in pediatric complex care at University Hospital’s Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital here in Cleveland. During her time at HB, she was a member of the Science Research and Engineering Program and worked in a genetics lab at Case Western Reserve University. She also played field hockey and lacrosse for HB throughout middle school and high school. After graduating from HB in 2001, she attended Princeton University in Princeton, New Jersey, where she majored in anthropology. After graduating from college, she went to South Africa to work for an NGO that provided peer-based psychosocial support to pregnant women and new moms with HIV before earning her MD/PhD at Harvard University.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

I started at HB in Kindergarten. At a very young age, HB taught me how to engage with the world, explore, and ask questions. In college, I had the confidence to walk up to anyone and engage in conversations, ask questions, make requests, wonder, and do all of the things that I needed to do in order to be successful. I felt so empowered from my time at HB and that has served me well throughout my life. HB provides its students with endless empowerment and the capacity to engage and reflect and question the world around them.

“Don’t make things more complicated than they need to be. It will yield much more happiness for everyone involved.”

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

Don’t go into college with any pre-conceived notions about what you want to do with your life. Anything is possible. The world is your oyster. You can do and achieve anything you that you want, but remember that what you think you want to achieve now may not be the same thing you want to achieve in six months or six years. Be sure to check in with yourself.





How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

HB gave me the confidence that I didn't know I had. HB helped me feel comfortable using my voice and sharing my opinions in front of a room full of people regardless of their gender. There was never the implication that I could or couldn't do something because I was a girl. I grew up knowing that I could do whatever I wanted, and that mentality is something that most women miss out on growing up and really struggle with as adults. Most importantly, HB taught me to dream big, be ambitious, and be unstoppable. I have big dreams for myself. I want to start a biotech company, conduct research, and become a professor here at MIT or Harvard. I am who I am today because of HB.

Kate Koch

Class of 2010

Boston, MA

**MD/PhD Student,
Harvard Medical School, MIT**

“Find something that you're so excited and so passionate about that you can't sleep at night.”

What was your favorite failure and what did you learn from it?

When I was in college at MIT, I was the first woman to play on the men's hockey team. It was our first game of the season against Harvard. In the first half of the game, I let in five goals and was pulled out by the coach. I was so embarrassed and humiliated. People were so excited for me and I felt like I let everyone down. I didn't want to get back on the ice, but I did. I decided that I was going to work harder and be better. During times like these, you have to find a way to pick yourself up off the ground, dust yourself off, and say “I can do this.”

“Work hard, but don't forget to have fun.”

Kate Koch is a researcher and a student who is currently pursuing her MD at Harvard Medical School and her PhD at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Before graduating from HB in 2010, she was involved in the Science Research and Engineering Program at HB, played ice hockey, was a member of the Spanish Club, and was interested in photography. She then went on to attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where she studied Biology. After graduating from MIT, she received the Marshall Scholarship and went to study at Oxford where she earned her Master's Degree in Radiation Biology. Now, she is a graduate student focusing on cancer genetics and tumors and is currently engineering cell therapies for various types of cancer.

Lauren Harlow is a middle school Spanish teacher, sixth grade advisor, and the Middle School World Language Department Chair at HB. Before graduating from HB in 2004, she played field hockey, basketball, softball, and lacrosse. She was also a Carnival committee chair, helped coordinate after-prom, was the secretary of the World Affairs Club, participated in Model Congress and Model United Nations, and tutored elementary school students. She then went on to study at Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont, where she studied both Spanish and French. She also earned her Master's Degree in Spanish from Middlebury. After graduating she taught at a school in Greenwich, Connecticut, before returning to HB.

“Know that it’s ok to take a step back when your plate is too full.”

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

Use your connections. I remember being a senior year in high school thinking I should never ask for help. HB has an incredible alumni network and most likely so will the college you attend. Those connections are everything. They are a great way to get your foot in the door. Also, stay in touch with your HB sisters. Some of my best friends are my friends from HB. The memories you have and the experiences you share all contribute to the things that bring you together.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

First and foremost, I am an excellent writer because of HB. I didn’t realize how much of a gift that was until I entered the professional world. HB also taught me the importance of character and integrity.

Lauren Harlow

**Class of 2004
Cleveland, OH**

**Middle School Teacher,
Hathaway Brown School**

What advice would you like to share about being a working mom?

It can be really hard sometimes. Try to keep everything in perspective.

What was your favorite failure and what did you learn from it?

During my senior year at HB, I was planning on doing a Strnad. I had a really cool idea for a project that I was so excited about. More than halfway through my senior year, I had done nothing. It was impossible to manage my workload. I met with a teacher at HB who I really trusted and respected and she told me to resign. I had never quit anything before. I felt such a relief being able to take a step back. You just can’t do everything.





How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

My HB experience has everything to do with who I am today. There was such an emphasis on leadership and that belief that girls could do anything. Since HB is an all-girls school, I was really able to focus on my passions and what I loved to do and not have to focus as much on the social situation. HB cultivated this idea that you can pursue what you really love and are passionate about and you can be successful at anything. This is the core from which I operate right now. HB provided an environment where being strong was a positive attribute and being a strong woman was one of the core tenets at HB.

“If you follow your heart, you will never be disappointed.”

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

My biggest piece of advice would be to always follow your heart. I know a lot of people say it, but the truth of the matter is that if you can get in touch with your true self and your desires, you will discover what you are passionate about and find the things that truly speak to you. This will ultimately help you figure out who you really are. Take away as many distractions as possible. Find time to explore nature, meditate, reflect, get close to your heart. The most important thing is to get in touch with your core.

“Take enough space from the influences around you to find your own voice in this world.”

Victoria Colligan

Class of 1987

Cleveland, OH

Palm Beach, FL

Author, Poet, Designer

Victoria Colligan is an author, poet, designer, and entrepreneur with homes in both Cleveland, Ohio, and Palm Beach, Florida. She specializes in writing poetry, but she is also the author of two books about female entrepreneurs that are written for female entrepreneurs. She also has her own collection of capes that she designs for various festivals made from different fabrics that she designs herself. During her time at HB, she played both tennis and lacrosse, was very involved in the making of the literary magazine and all things writing, was a Strnad Fellow, and was a member of ski club. After graduating from HB in 1987, she went on to study at Brown University where she majored in both comparative literature and Hispanic studies. Additionally, she is a mother of two current HB students.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

I feel that my HB experience shaped some of the characteristics that I exhibit today such as a strong work ethic, being highly motivated, being very determined, and demonstrating resiliency. Also, I really cherish community and I think that stems from my time at HB. I look back at my time at HB with such fondness and I am increasingly appreciative of all of the amazing resources and opportunities that HB has to offer.

Claire Danes

**Class of 2014
Washington, D.C.**

**Results Reporting Analyst,
Millenium Challenge Corporation**

What was your favorite failure and what did you learn from it?

I didn't get into my top choice school and I just remember feeling so crushed. Shortly after, I got into Notre Dame, which was pretty high up on the list of schools I liked. Looking back, that was always the place for me. I had the best experience at Notre Dame. Everybody is going to experience rejection. You can't hide from it. Just remember that at the end of the day, you're going to end up where you're supposed to be.

Claire Danes is a Results Reporting Analyst at Millenium Challenge Corporation, a United States foreign aid agency. During her time at HB, she was on the soccer team, played the violin in the orchestra, was a Global Scholar and traveled to India with the Center for Global Citizenship on a Harriet Mullin Barry Fellowship program, was a Business & Finance fellow, and enjoyed volunteering. After graduating from HB in 2014, she attended the University of Notre Dame in Notre Dame, Indiana, where she studied both Political Science and Economics. She currently lives in Washington, D.C.

"It's how you respond to situations and make the most of the cards you're dealt that shows true character."

What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

One of the smartest things I did during college was pursue lots of internships. College is a great time to explore different fields or subject matters that you may find interesting. The best way to explore those fields is through internships or assistant research opportunities. Also, try to keep in mind that figuring out what you don't like and aren't interested in is just as important as discovering what you do find interesting. There is a lesson to be learned there as well. Try new things and narrow down your interests as you go.





What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

I was really involved in making year-book while I was at HB. My senior year, my friends and I created this secondary senior space in the art room where we would hang out.

**Jess
O’Rielly**

**Class of 2002
Cleveland, OH**

**Corporate Partnerships,
Cleveland Browns**

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

It’s really important to know how to sell yourself. Look inward, find your strengths, and be thoughtful and coherent in how you speak about them. The easiest way to determine your strengths is to think about the last time something went wrong. What did you do? How did you fix the problem? Was is that you knew how to advocate for yourself and others? Did you know how to manage your time well? Find those characteristics and distill them into strengths. It can be really uncomfortable to talk about yourself in a positive way. Practice it and get good at it early in life. You’re only helping yourself. Being able to sell your own strengths will help you in anything you are trying to pursue for the rest of your life.

What is your mantra or words that you live by?

Balance is key. You need balance in all aspects of your life. If you’re having too much fun, you’re probably not being very productive. If you’re overly-productive, you’re most likely missing out on some fun. Working too hard can be great at times, but that’s not what you want to remember from your time at college. It’s also really important to make time to see your friends and family. Balance is everything.

“Burnout is real, and when it happens, you need to look around, find the resources that can help you, and turn to your friends and family and the people that love and support you.”

Jess O’Rielly works for the Cleveland Browns in corporate partnerships. She graduated from HB in 2002 and then went on to study at Middlebury College in Middlebury, Vermont, where she majored in American Studies with a concentration in film and media. During her time at HB, she played field hockey, basketball, and softball. She was also a member of Gold Key, a Strnad Fellow, served on the yearbook committee, and was very interested in photography.

“It may take you some time to figure out what you want to be, and that’s ok.”

What made you want to come back to HB?

It felt like home. I came to HB my sophomore year and I had a really rough transition. My dad died a week after I started HB. I missed a week of school to sit Shiva and I was so scared to come back. The only person I really knew was the admissions person. I remember the warmth and kindness she showed me when I came back. I wanted to serve in this role specifically because I want girls that are new to HB to know that they always have at least one person who knows them, is rooting for them, and really cares about them.

Jill Calo

**Class of 1985
Cleveland, OH**

**Upper School Admissions,
Hathaway Brown School**

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

You don’t have to know what you want to do when you graduate from HB or even when you graduate from college. That knowledge only comes from experience.

Jill Calo is the Director of Upper School Admissions at HB. During her time at HB, she played on both the volleyball and softball teams, was very involved in the theater program, and participated in many of the school musicals. After she graduated from HB in 1985, she attended The Ohio State University where she studied political science and philosophy. In addition to serving as the Director of Upper School Admissions, she has recently taken on a new role as the Ninth Grade Dean.

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

My favorite memories as a student at HB all revolve around the sisterhood. There were 44 girls in my graduating class, and we were a small enough group where everyone was very close with one another. We had so much fun together. I also have really great memories of all of the amazings teachers I had at HB.

“Different people have different strengths.”

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

My HB experience gave me a lot of confidence in who I am. HB made me believe that I could do anything I wanted if I put my mind to it. HB gave me the foundation to be successful not only in the classroom, but in life.





Diana Basali is an Internal Medicine Resident at the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio. During her time at HB, she was on the swim team and was captain her senior year, was a Global Scholar, and worked at a breast cancer research lab at the Cleveland Clinic through the Science Research and Engineering Program. After graduating from HB in 2010, she attended Case Western Reserve University where she majored in both Biology and Psychology. She then went to medical school at Loyola University of Chicago. She hopes to work in cancer medicine.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

My HB experience shaped me in so many ways, both indirectly and directly. HB really encouraged and motivated me to be very best version of myself. I learned the importance of friendship. My friends from HB were the people at my wedding. They are my friends for life. I never would have met them without HB. They are the people that I go to with problems and the people that motivate me to be a better person. It's so exciting that we are there to support each other in the next stages of our lives.

“Follow your passions and surround yourself with the people that support you in those endeavors.”

“Use your resources and your connections to build relationships with people that will help get you further in life.”

Diana Basali

**Class of 2010
Cleveland, OH**

**Internal Medicine Resident,
Cleveland Clinic**

What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

Do what you're passionate about or else it's going to be ten times harder to accomplish what you want to accomplish or achieve what you want to achieve. When I was in college, someone told me that if you don't like and aren't passionate about what you are studying, you're not going to enjoy spending the rest of your life working in that specific field or industry. I also recommend that you stay in touch with people, whether that's your friends or former teachers. Don't forget to stay close with your family. They are a great source of support for you when you need them

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

My HB experience shaped who I am in so many ways. The first is probably teaching me to be confident in myself as a person and as a woman. At HB, you're surrounded by so many supportive and inspiring women, and it's easy to take growing up in that type of environment for granted. The world can be really sexist. HB taught me that I can achieve anything as long as I have confidence in myself.

What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

Treasure the friends you made at HB. Enjoy the time you have left when you're all in the same place and try to maintain those relationships. Also, it's really easy to lose yourself in college, especially your first year. It's going to feel like everything is up in the air and you don't know what's going to come next. Try to lean into that discomfort and enjoy the fact that you don't know what's going on. That's what makes life interesting.

“You can determine what success means and looks like to you in your own way. That is a great mentality to carry with you not only in college, but in life as well.”

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

I was a lifer at HB, so I have so many amazing memories it's hard to pick just one. A memory that really stands out to me is college t-shirt day senior year. It was so fun to be able to celebrate everything that we had been working for all of these years. The pool jump is also a really distinct memory. After we jumped, there was a few seconds where we were all underwater and it was completely silent because no one could hear anything. It was so special because this was one of the last moments we were all together as a class.

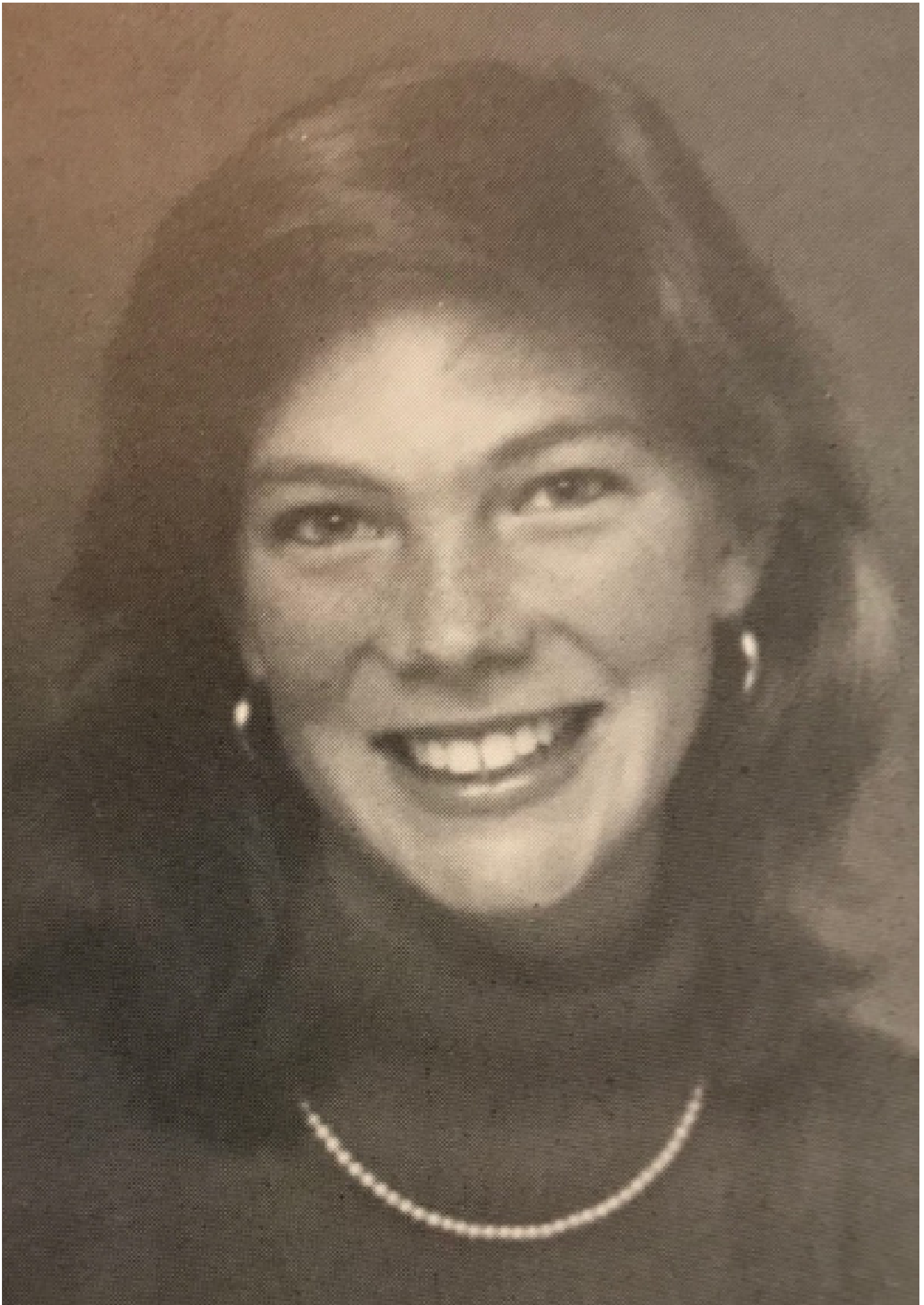
Maya Razmi

Class of 2018

Harvard University Cambridge, MA

Maya Razmi is currently studying global health and health policy at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Before graduating from HB in 2018, she participated in Model UN and mock trial, was a member of the speech and debate team, was a Global Scholar and a Business & Finance Fellow, and she worked in a biomedical engineering lab at Case Western Reserve University where she studied targeted drug delivery in cardiovascular systems through the Science Research and Engineering Program. She was also involved in the writing center and wrote for the newspaper and literary magazine.





Senior Photo 1983



What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

My advice is to take many risks in your life. Some people are innate risk takers and others are more cautious, so take risks at your own pace. More importantly, try and put blinders on and not compare yourself to others. Everyone is on a different timetable. Wherever you land in college or your first job is not where you will end up for the rest of your life. Some people will find success early on, but it can take some time for others.

Connie

Searby

Class of 1983

Cleveland, OH

Reporter & Field Producer

What was your favorite failure and what did you learn from it?

At the end of my junior year, I ran for Head of Student Council and lost. I felt so sad and dejected. I've realized many things from that over time. The first is that no matter how hard you work and how badly you want something, you may not get it. Second, don't let a failure stop you from trying again. Third, when you reach for difficult things, there are failures, and many times it's because there are people that are just as worthy of the opportunity as you are.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

I feel that I'm very close and attuned to my friends that are women, and I think I develop deep bonds with other women because of all of the friendships that I made and the sisterhood that we shared at HB.

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

IDEO really stands out to me as a wonderful time of togetherness. I also have fond memories of the relationships I formed with my friends and teachers.

“As they say, life is a marathon, not a sprint. Remember to pace yourself.”

Connie Searby was a reporter and a field producer. She has four kids and currently lives in Cleveland, Ohio, with her family. During her time at HB, she was a varsity athlete and played field hockey, basketball, and lacrosse. She was involved in multiple productions, was in the singing ensemble, and served as Class President. She was also a member of Boosters Club, the athletic support club, and a member of Gold Key. After she graduated from HB in 1983, she studied English literature at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire.

“HB emboldens women, and it is so important that we remain assertive in the spaces that we want to dominate.”

Skylar Luke

**Class of 2015
Washington, D.C.**

**Law Student,
Georgetown University**

Skylar Luke is a graduate student at Georgetown University's Law School in Washington, D.C. During her time at HB, she was the President of the Black Cultural Awareness Group (BCA), served as a Service Learning Officer, was a Global Scholar and traveled to Italy through the Center for Global Citizenship, tutored fourth grade students on weekends, and was very involved in community service. After graduating from HB in 2015, she attended Georgetown University and earned her Bachelor's Degree in Culture and Politics.

What is your mantra or words that you live by?

I really believe in the importance of giving back. There is no prescribed method or way to do so. You just have to do what you feel is right.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

HB really taught me the importance of learning for life. Everything that I have done and accomplished so far is because I had HB as my foundation. HB also taught me the importance of friendship. There is such a special bond between HB students that wherever you end up geographically, there is still that HB connection. That strong alumni network usually begins at the college level, and it is very rare for those types of alumni connections to be held at a high school. This is something that I love about HB.

“As long as you are always trying your best and working your hardest, good things will come your way.”

What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

One thing that has always worked in my favor is that if you are interested in a specific field or subject matter and you meet a professional or an adult working in that field, stay in touch. If someone gives you their business card or their phone number, they're not giving you their information just to do it. They want to help you. Stay in contact with those people. You never know what connections they might have. It doesn't have to be long or formal. Send them an update or ask to meet for coffee. This is so important moving forward in life.





“The world is all about change and evolving and moving forward, but it is so important not to lose sight of the past.”

What is your favorite failure and what did you learn from it?

At my previous firm, someone who I worked very closely with and greatly respected said to me “If you don’t speak up, there’s no point in being in a meeting. I know you have a lot going in your head and you know the right answer, but you never say anything. Your career will come to a massive halt if you don’t start talking.” I realized that he was totally right. I needed to find a way to be comfortable inserting myself into the conversation. I came up with a rule for myself where I had to say something during the first five minutes of a meeting. It didn’t have to be meaningful, but I had to say something. I still do that today. When I am facing a failure, I try to reframe it as I may have failed to achieve a certain outcome or goal, but I didn’t fail in the effort. Would I make that same effort again? I think failure is a lot like running a race. You may not win, but there are still lots of benefits from training and competing. Your body is stronger and healthier and there is the psychological benefit of knowing that you tried. Just because you didn’t win doesn’t mean you wouldn’t do it all over again.

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

Just stick with it. I really believe that you have to keep pushing yourself. You have to get out there and try and then try again and again and again.

**Jill
Goodman**

Class of 1984

New York, NY

**M&A Banker,
Foros Group**

Jill Goodman is a Mergers and Acquisitions Banker at an investment banking company called Foros Group in New York City. She came to HB her sophomore year and graduated in 1984. During her time at HB, she served as an editor for *Specularia*, took photography classes, and played softball. She then went on to study at Rice University in Houston, Texas, where she majored in Economics as well as English. After graduating from college, she attended law school at the University of Chicago.

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

My favorite memory from my time at HB was graduation. It was a moment in time that represented moving forward in our lives but was also deeply rooted in tradition.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

Leaving HB, I went to college with so much confidence in myself and my abilities. HB was such a warm and close-knit environment. I was never afraid to share what I was thinking or ask questions. At HB, I always felt comfortable raising my hand in class. These skills have helped me feel confident and comfortable speaking up in my college classes. I also believe that serving as Senate President made me much more comfortable with public speaking, approaching new people, and asking for help.

Ally Persky is currently attending Washington University in St. Louis in St. Louis, Missouri, where she is playing on the women's tennis team. Before she graduated from HB in 2017, Ally was Senate President her senior year, a member of HB's varsity tennis team, a Global Scholar, and a Business & Finance Fellow.

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

One of my favorite memories from my time at HB was the talent show my senior year. My best friend entered the talent show and I had no idea what she was going to do. She came up onto the stage with Whoppers and a tape measurer. They played a song and someone else rolled the Whoppers down the tape measure and into her mouth. It was so ridiculous and stupid but the entire auditorium was laughing and it made everyone so happy.

“You need to be able to pat yourself on the back and know that as long as you worked hard and did your best, you’ve done everything you could possibly do.”

Ally Persky

Class of 2017

Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO

What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

College can be really challenging at times. Remember the skills you learned during your time at HB. HB teaches you how to work hard, learn, think, and communicate. You will be more prepared going into college than most people. During the times when things are difficult or overwhelming, remember what HB taught you. My second piece of advice is that you know more than you think you do and you're smarter than you think you are. Not everything is going to come easy to you. That's just life. Try to focus on your personal growth and learning.





“We need more kind, empathetic, and supportive people in this world.”

Bailey Wells is the Manager of Marketing Strategies at Progressive Insurance here in Cleveland, Ohio. During her time at HB, she was very involved in service learning, helped plan Carnival her senior year, and played soccer, basketball, and lacrosse throughout high school. She also interned in a biology lab at Case Western Reserve University through HB’s Science Research and Engineering Program. After graduating from HB in 2004, she went to New York University in New York City where she studied entertainment business and writing. She then went on to receive her MBA from Northwestern University.

Bailey Wells

**Class of 2004
Cleveland, OH**

**Manager of Marketing Strategies,
Progressive Insurance**

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

Demonstrate respect, empathy, and kindness with whomever you end up interacting with. Extend kindness to people. Those skills will carry you very far. People remember how you make them feel.

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

When I was at HB, in the mornings and during free periods, my friends and I would usually hang out in one of our teacher’s classrooms. There was a general level of comfort and familiarity as well as respect and trust between teachers and students. This set the tone for how HB girls were able to leave HB with a degree of confidence. We were never treated as children at HB, and a result, we did not go into the world acting as such. I also have really great memories from Carnival my senior year. We had a pirate theme and everyone had so much fun. Everyone participated and it was such a great way to give back to the community. It was also really nice because everyone got to do something that played to their strengths. The star-athletes were the ones who organized the race. Those that were very social and outgoing organized the dance. The girls who enjoyed volunteering worked with the service learning group. It was a wonderful way for everyone to pay homage to everyone else by allowing everyone to do what they do best.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

Quite simply, HB molded the foundation of who I am today. At HB, you are taught that you have a voice and you are expected to use it. After leaving HB, I never felt unprepared or unsure of myself. This is all a testament to all of the the trust HB had in me that I was able to have trust and believe in myself.

“Have a theme song that plays in your head when you walk into a room that reminds you of how great, amazing, and deserving you are.”

Camille Seals

**Class of 2002
Philadelphia, PA**

**Assistant Head of School,
The Agnes Irwin School**

Camille Seals is the Assistant Head of School for Academics and Inclusive Excellence at The Agnes Irwin School outside of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. During her time at HB, she played basketball and field hockey, ran track, was very involved in student government and was class president, and served as President of the Black Cultural Awareness Group (BCA). She graduated in 2002 and then went to Spelman University in Atlanta, Georgia, where she majored in English. She then got her Master's Degree at Tufts University in Boston, Massachusetts. Before moving to Philadelphia, she was the Director of the Aspire Program and Director of the Center for Multicultural at HB.

What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

Take care of each other and take care of yourselves. Behave yourself and make good choices. Always try to put things into context. Your high school and college experiences help inform your future, but they don't have to determine it. If you make a mistake, dust yourself off, forgive yourself, and keep moving forward. If you face tremendous success, take the time to celebrate and use it to inspire others. Take advantage of every single opportunity you are given. Come back to HB. Give back to the school so it can continue to exist for girls for years and years and years to come.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

My HB experience was so formative for me. The most important thing that I took away from HB was an understanding of my own voice. The teachers that I had at HB taught me how to be a leader, and those skills have served me over and over again in college, graduate school, and in my professional career. So much of my confidence and my willingness to stand up for what I believe in and use my voice came from my time at HB.

“You have to have the strength to keep going and persevere until you get what you desire.”





What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

I really loved going to school in an all-girls environment. One of my favorite memories from HB was intersession, a two week period where we could fully immerse ourselves in a subject that we thought was interesting. My first year, I did a law-related program. My senior year, I worked with The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland. Both experiences convinced me to go to law school and become a lawyer.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

My all-girls education, both in high school and in college, had such a profound effect on me. The sense of empowerment that I felt at HB is something that will last forever.

“Failure is survivable and learning that you can surviving failure makes you stronger.”

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

I really regret that I went to college believing with preconceived notions of what I wanted to do when I graduated. If I had given myself the opportunity to take full advantage of my liberal arts education, I may have found something that I was better suited for. Give yourself the opportunity to find what it is that you love.

“Take the time to figure out what it is that you love.”

Ginger Van Wagenen

**Class of 1974
Cleveland, OH**

Trial Lawyer

**Former President,
Board of Trustees**

Ginger Van Wagenen is a retired lawyer and was the president of HB’s Board of Trustees from 2011 to 2014. She practiced law for twenty years before becoming a full-time mom and a non-profit volunteer. After graduating from HB in 1974, she went on to study Government at Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts. After graduating from Smith, she attended law school at Case Western Reserve University.

What is your mantra or words that you live by?

Make it a great day. Most people say have a great day, but I believe this is much more intentional. We used to always tell this to our kids, because we have the ability to make each day a great one.

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

Nearly all of my favorite memories from HB revolve around my friends. I had a wonderful group of friends that I am still extremely close with today. I remember sitting at the lunch table together laughing and making fun of each other. HB was the first time I had friends that felt like family,

“If you put your mind to something, you can do it. Don’t let anyone tell you otherwise.”

Abby McCord

**Class of 2001
New York, NY**

**Director of Business Development.
Wall Street Journal**

What advice would you like to share about being a working mom?

It’s all about balance. People gave me a really hard time when I stepped down to working part-time after having my first child. It was really hard for me to reconcile my emotions, my identity, and my professional life. You should never feel like being a stay-at-home mom isn’t enough. That can be enough.

Abby McCord is a proud mom and serves as the Director of Business Development at the Wall Street Journal. She began at HB in ninth grade and immediately felt that HB was somewhere she could feel comfortable being herself. During her time at HB, she played tennis and lacrosse and took photography classes. She graduated from HB in 2001 and then went on to study Economics at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. After graduating from college, she moved to New York City and worked for JP Morgan for a little while before realizing that wasn’t what she was truly passionate about. She then moved to Washington D.C., and worked for the World Bank focusing primarily on microfinance. After a few years, she decided to go back to school and earned a MBA from Yale University. After completing graduate school, Ms. McCord recognized that she was really passionate about the news and moved back to NYC where she began working for the Wall Street Journal.

“You are worthy of being treated with respect.”

How you do feel that your HB experience has shaped you into the woman you are today?

The most important thing I took away from my HB experience was a new level of self-confidence. The exposure to high-quality education and high standards in academics taught me to rise to the occasion.





“When all else fails, call one of your best friends from HB. There’s nothing like a life-long friend. Some of my dearest friends in the world are the friends I made during my time at HB.”

Judith

Bryan

**Class of 1972
Cleveland, OH**

Presbyterian Minister

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

Someone once told me that you can do everthing, but you just can’t do it all in one decade. Remember that what you start out doing may not be what you do for the rest of your life. Grant yourself the time to enjoy each phase of your life. It’s really all about savoring where you are. Trust your passions and let them guide you, and if they can’t be your main line of work, make sure your passions are still a part of your life.

Judith Bryan is a retired Presbyterian Minister. Before she graduated from HB in 1972, she was very involved in the modern dance program at HB, she played on the basketball team, and did lots of volunteer work during her free time. She then went on to earn her Bachelor’s Degree in French at Queens University of Charlotte in Charlotte, North Carolina. She also got a Master’s Degree in Social Work and a Master’s Degree in Divinity. Before entering the Ministry, she taught French to elementary school students and then became a school social worker. Throughout her adult life, she lived in Charlotte, North Carolina, and Rochester, New York, before moving back to Cleveland.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

I think what is most significant about my HB experience is that the students and faculty helped me see myself as both curious and creative. These are qualities that have made me a lifelong learner and explorer. Not for school but for life, indeed. I learned the rich values of friendship at HB and the importance of strong bonds that go on throughout the years. My HB education is the greatest gift my parents ever gave me.

“As you set your goals, have some patience and trust that doors will open as they should.”

“Trust yourself. You are the only person who knows what you truly want in life.”

McKenna Ritter

Class of 2016

**University of North Carolina,
Chapel Hill, NC**

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

Something that I’ve been working on lately is paying attention to what I’m passionate and excited about and what makes me happy. It’s not easy, but I’m really learning to trust myself. Things are complicated. Life can be complicated. Everything is a work in progress. Try your best to stay in tune with yourself. By knowing yourself at a deeper level, you will be able to handle all of the stress and pressure that comes with life and take care of your mental health.

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

My favorite memories from HB all involve hanging out in the writing center when I had free time. I also loved attending the Young Writers and Artists Festival every year.

McKenna Ritter is a student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. She is studying English and comparative literature with a concentration in creative writing. Before graduating from HB in 2016, she wrote for the school newspaper and literary magazine, participated in Service Learning, and worked in a neuroscience lab at Case Western Reserve University through the Science Research and Engineering Program. She was also a Global Scholar and traveled to Peru, Senegal, and Cambodia with the Center for Global Citizenship. She hopes to earn her MFA or a PhD in creative writing and teach one day.

“I’m really trying to pursue my passions and care a little less about what other people think.”

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

Before I came to HB, I had never been fully encouraged to explore the things that peaked my intellectual curiosity. HB is where I came into my own personhood. It was where I discovered what I believed in not only politically, but on a spiritual and social level as well. HB gave me the space to pursue what I loved and was passionate about with the respect and trust of my family, my teachers, and my classmates. This gave me a really good sense of self and the ability to express myself.





Helen Butler currently serves as the President of Hathaway Brown School's Board of Trustees. During her time as a student at HB, she played tennis, was involved in making the yearbook, was a member of Senate, and was a Strnad Fellow. After graduating from HB in 1987, she went on to study at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut, where she received her Bachelor's Degree in History and was involved in the teacher preparation program. After college, she taught at a school in New York City before returning to Cleveland.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

HB encouraged me to be curious, to love learning, and to live the motto of learning not for school but for life. I really took away a sense of desire to do my part in making the world a better place, and for me, that is focusing on education. My lasting impression from HB is my devotion to service and girls education.

What is your favorite failure and what did you learn from it?

Almost everything that I've learned about failure I learned during my time at HB. You can turn anything into something that you learn and grow from, although it might not always be what you thought you wanted to learn. Just because something didn't turn out as you expected or had hoped for, doesn't mean that you can't still learn from it. Always ask yourself, what can I take away from this and how can I use this experience to learn and grow?

“Travel to exciting and interesting places, try new things, continue to learn, and make the world a better and more beautiful place for all.”

Helen Butler

**Class of 1987
Cleveland, OH**

**President,
Board of Trustees**

What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

I hope that every senior embraces the motto of learning for life. This has been really helpful to me. In the world we are living in today, most of you will have to reinvent yourself at some point in time in a way that my generation didn't need to. You need to be learning new skills all of the time. Lean into new experiences and be open to what interests, inspires, and surprises you.

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

I did a Strnad my senior year where I made a cookbook. One afternoon, all of my friends came over and cooked with me and we served a meal to the faculty as a way to say thank you.

“Forgive yourself at night and then try to recommit yourself in the morning.”

Margot Slamkowski currently serves as the Director of Digital Operations for Target at their headquarters in Minneapolis, Minnesota. During her time at HB, she played both soccer and softball, was co-president of the world affairs club, was on student council, and was very involved in the foreign language department. After graduating from HB in 2004, she attended Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. where she studied international politics. She then went on to get her Master’s in Education at the City University of New York before working for Teach for America. She also received her MBA from the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan.

What was your favorite failure and what did you learn from it?

When I was doing Teach for America, I was teaching third and fourth grade in the Bronx in New York City. I only had eight weeks of training before I had a whole classroom full of kids that I was responsible for. Like anything, teaching is something that takes a long time to master. You have to learn as you go, and I made lots of mistakes. There were some days when I got frustrated or forgot to teach part of a lesson. This taught me to be very outcome-driven and how to react to various situations and be flexible and resilient.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

HB really taught me how to think critically, be a problem solver, and communicate effectively. These skills helped me in college and beyond. Having met people with various educational backgrounds, I can really see the value that my HB education added to my life and my career.

Margot Slamkowski

**Class of 2004
Minneapolis, MN**

**Director of Digital Operations,
Target Corporation**

“I really appreciate the strong foundation that HB gave me.”

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

Try to visualize what you want your life to look like in five years, ten years, and so on. Think about all of the experiences you want to have in both your personal and professional lives. Think about what interests you and what makes you happy. Ask yourself what you can learn from the people around you. This is a really exciting time in your life, and it goes by fast.





Amaia Calhoun is a student at Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia, where she is studying economics and Spanish. During her time at HB, she played lacrosse, was a Global Scholar and travelled to Panama with the Center for Global Citizenship, was a Business & Finance fellow, served as a member of the Hathaway Brown Student Investment Group, and spent lots of time volunteering. She graduated from HB in 2019.

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

I came to HB when I was in first grade, so I like to think that I pretty much grew up there. I was at HB for a long time and I really loved all of the little traditions we had like Serendipity Day in Primary School, Hootenannies in Middle School, and IDEO in Upper School.

**Amaia
Calhoun
Class of 2019**

**Spelman College
Atlanta, GA**

“When you are going through a difficult time, lean on the people around you for support.”

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

When you are first transitioning into college, you have all of these ideas of what you think it’s going to be like. Try to keep in mind that there will never be a perfect situation. There is always going to be something that you wish was different or something that could have been better. That’s just life. Take advantage of those less than ideal circumstances and try to learn and grow from them. Try to make the best out of your current situation. Enjoy these last few months and your last summer at home with your family and friends.

“Keep in mind that everything happens for a reason and that good can come from bad situations.”

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

I felt extremely prepared going to college in an academic sense. I knew how to study and how to take notes effectively because of my time at HB. I feel very confident in talking and participating in class. The transition to college has been easier for me than some of my friends because I know how to manage my time and I know what to do if I’m having trouble. I really attribute my readiness for college and my academic success to my time at HB.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

The critical thinking and analytical skills that I've learned at HB have been essential to my career. I don't think I would be able to do what I do for a living if I hadn't learned to go through complex material and come up with my own analysis. HB also taught me the importance of working collaboratively. This skill proved to be very useful in my professional life.

Lissy Rand

**Class of 1987
Cleveland, OH**

**Vice President
Grant Making & Strategy,
Deaconess Foundation**

What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

Don't wait for someone to ask you. This was a really hard lesson for me to learn. I remember in my class at HB there were a lot of people who wanted to do everything right and wanted to please everyone. The problem with that is reluctance to push forward and the tendency to wait until someone asks you something or a specific role comes your way. My advice is don't wait until someone gives you permission. Start acting within the bounds of what's acceptable and just go for it.

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

One of my favorite memories from HB was the Junior Play, where the junior class wrote the holiday play for the seniors. The entire class came together and it was so much fun.

What is your mantra or words that you live by?

Be yourself. It does not work for me to try and be anyone else. I do my best work when I'm true to who I am. It takes time and lots of confidence, but be genuine to who you are.

Lissy Rand is the Vice President of Grant Making and Strategy at Deaconess Foundation in Cleveland, Ohio. During her time at HB, she was very involved in both the newspaper and literary magazine. After graduating from HB in 1987, she went on to study at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, where she majored in History and pursued a minor in Women's Studies. She has two graduate degrees, a Master's in Social Work from the University of Michigan and a Master's in Public Health from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

"Failure is inevitable. Whatever you choose to do, you are going to face failure. There's no way around it. It's simply part of life."





Claire Yohann is a student at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, where she is playing volleyball and earning her Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry. She graduated from HB in 2018. During her time at HB, she played both club and high school volleyball. She was captain of the volleyball team both her sophomore and junior years. She was also a Global Scholar, President of the Classics Club, and worked in a computer science lab at Case Western Reserve University where she was coding images of the heart to simulate what various heart conditions may look like on an MRI.

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

My favorite memories from HB are spending time with my friends and hanging out in the senior room or sitting at the atrium tables. I loved helping plan Carnival and I really cherish the moments of everyone being together in the same place.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

From an academic perspective, HB taught me so much about managing my time and doing my work efficiently. HB taught me a lot about the value of diversity and acceptance and treating others with respect. My teachers taught me how to go about interacting with adults and my friends really helped me grow as a person. HB helps you become the person that you're meant to be. They teach you how to be confident and that you should be proud to be a woman. I absolutely love HB.

“You can be excited about the future and while still cherishing the time you have left at HB.”

Claire Yohann

Class of 2018

**Emory University
Atlanta, GA**

What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

Really try to cherish the moments you have left with your friends at home and at HB. It will be really hard to recreate those moments once everyone leaves for college. You will never be able to go back to this stage in your life. Enjoy every moment, whether it's Carnival or prom or just hanging out in the senior room. The things that seem so small and simple you'll wish you could go back and do all over again. I would give anything to just hang out in the senior room or at the atrium tables with my friends for the afternoon. Don't wish your time at HB away. It's inevitable that you are excited about this next chapter in your life, but try your best to stay in the moment. It can be really hard at times, but I promise, you're going to miss HB.

Danielle Jones is a graduate student getting her PhD at the University of Chicago. During her time at HB, she worked in a cystic fibrosis lab at Case Western Reserve University through HB's Science Research and Engineering Program, danced, played on the softball and volleyball teams, was a Global Scholar and traveled to Cambodia with the Center for Global Citizenship, participated in TRUST, and was a member of the Black Cultural Awareness Group (BCA). After graduating from HB in 2013, she attended Dartmouth University in Hanover, New Hampshire, where she majored in both English and African American Studies.

What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

Try to be open-minded. A lot of us at HB pick subjects that we really like in high school and try to set up career paths for ourselves. Be open to anything, whether it is a new major or a new hobby or interest. You might find something that you are just as passionate and even more excited about.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

I am so grateful for my all-girls education. HB really shaped my confidence as a woman in various academic spaces. In college, I wasn't expected to speak up and share my voice in the same way I was at HB because I am a woman. HB also taught me how to study. My HB education prepared me very well for college and life beyond.

“Be open to new opportunities. There is so much out there that we can't even imagine.”

Danielle Jones

**Class of 2013
Chicago, IL**

**PhD Student,
University of Chicago**

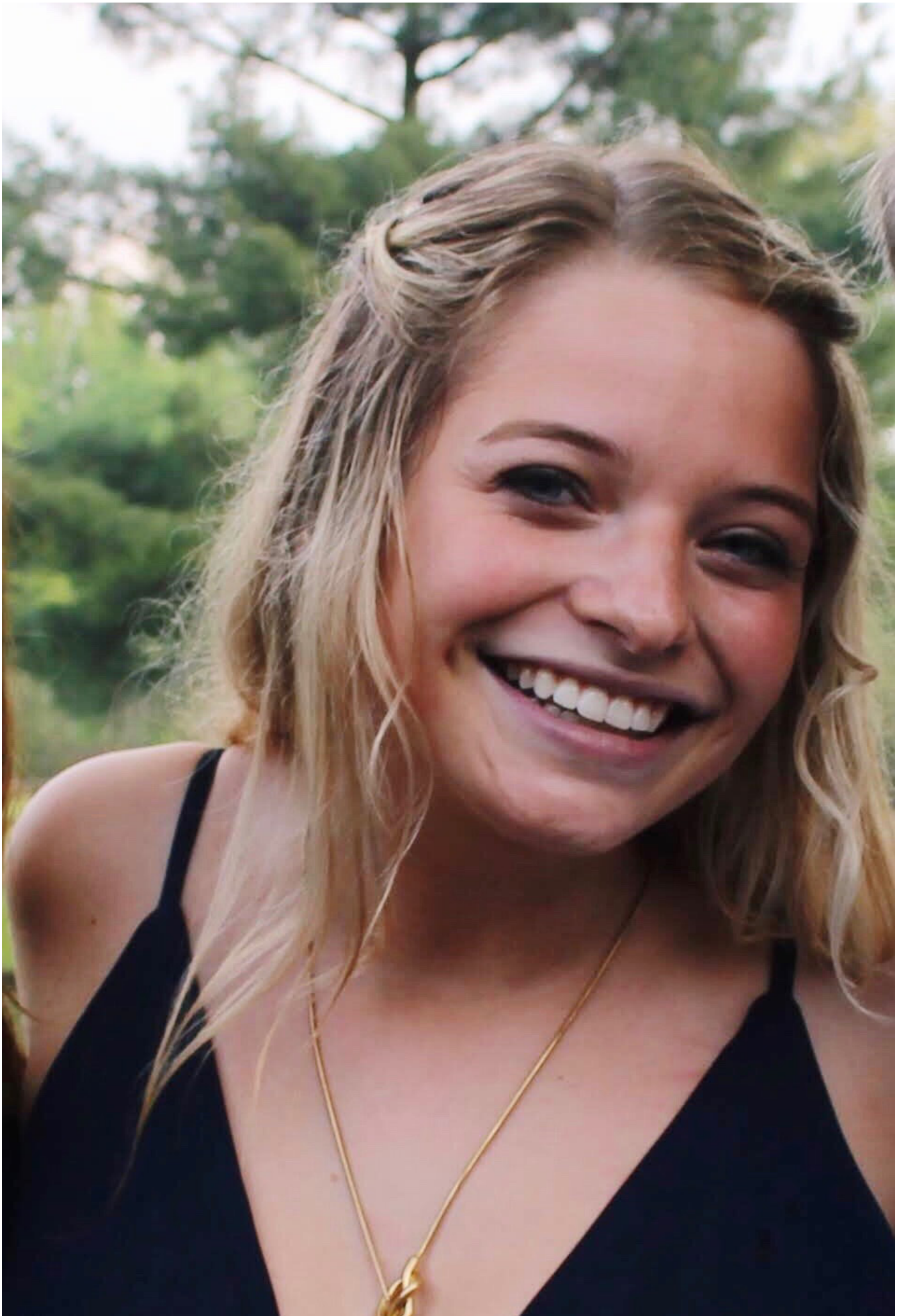
What was your favorite failure and what did you learn from it?

When I first got to college, I wanted to be a biology major on the pre-med track. I took my first biology class and I struggled a little bit. Something just didn't feel right. This forced me to reevaluate and ask myself if this was what I really wanted to do. I decided to take some different classes and I found English and African American Studies, which I was even more passionate about.

What is your mantra or words that you live by?

Speak up for what you believe in. Share your opinions rather than live with the regret of what could have happened if you decided to speak up and share your thoughts.





Sophie Weyn is a student at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. She is majoring in International Studies with a concentration in international development. During her time at HB, she played varsity soccer, served as Senate President her senior year, was a Global Scholar and traveled to Zambia with the Center for Global Citizenship, and was very involved in the writing center. She graduated from HB in 2019.

Sophie Weyn

Class of 2019

**Miami University
Oxford, OH**

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

My HB experience had a lot to do with building my self-confidence and knowing my capabilities. HB helped me discover my academic interests and the subjects that I am really passionate about. Most importantly, HB equipped me with skills that I will need to tackle whatever obstacles or challenges lie ahead.

“The relationships you form with your teachers and peers are so special and unique to HB.”

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

For me, the last day of classes for seniors was really memorable. It's this culmination of all of your years there. Since I was Senate President, I lead the class as we ran down the halls for the pool jump and that was such a special moment. Another really great memory that I have from HB is participating in the EC Global Scholars Program when I was a junior. This was a program where Upper School students went to an EC classroom once a week for a couple of weeks and create a curriculum and teach about a certain country. I decided to focus on Zambia, since that is where I traveled with Global Scholars. I enjoyed the mentorship aspect of the program and it was so special to be able to connect my early years at HB with the work that I had done in high school as a Global Scholar.

What is your mantra or words that you live by?

It's so cheesy, but I always tell myself to keep calm and carry on. There are times when I just need to take a step back and try to remind myself that everything will be ok in the end.

What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

There is so much pressure to have this perfect transition to college. It's ok if it takes time for you to adjust. You can feel sad or lonely or anxious. Take whatever feelings or emotions that you have as they are. Everyone finds their place and their people.

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

My favorite memories from my time at HB all revolve around athletics. I loved being a Blazer. I played field hockey, basketball, and lacrosse my freshman year, and then I played basketball and lacrosse sophomore through senior year. I loved lacrosse so much that I decided to play in college at the University of Michigan.

Noelle Frazier

**Class of 2003
San Francisco, CA**

**Location Strategies,
Sephora**

Noelle Frazier is a Senior Analyst for Location Strategy and Analytics at Sephora. She currently lives in Chicago, Illinois, but will soon be moving to San Francisco, California. During her time at HB, she was very involved in Blazer Athletics and played field hockey, basketball, and lacrosse. She also interned at an architecture firm through the Science Research and Engineering Program. She graduated from HB in 2003 and went on to attend the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan, where she studied sociology. She then went on to receive her MBA at Case Western Reserve University here in Cleveland.

“Just do it. Be sure to take advantage of new opportunities and learn about different industries.”

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

Take random classes in lots of different fields that you may be interested in. It’s always fun and you learn something new even if it’s not necessarily what you want to do as your career.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

HB instilled in me this desire to continuously try to learn new things and improve my skillset. I always remember the HB motto of “We Learn Not for School But for Life.” HB teaches girls to have a very strong work ethic and that has definitely served me well throughout my life.

What was your favorite failure and what did you learn from it?

When I graduated from college and was first starting off in my career, I chose the wrong path. I was working in construction management and I just didn’t really enjoy what I was doing, but I stuck with it for a few years before I decided to go back to school. I went to business school at Case Western Reserve University where I got into strategy which is the field that I work in today.





Isha Lele is a student at the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business in Ann Arbor, Michigan, where she is studying finance and information technology. She graduated from HB in 2018. During her time at HB, she was a member of the speech and debate team, a member of the tennis team and served as Senate President her senior year. She also participated in Mock Trial, Model UN, Academic WorldQuest, and was a Business & Finance Fellow, a Global Scholar, and a Strnad Fellow. She was involved in the writing center and served as an editor for the school newspaper and wrote for the literary magazine. Outside of school, she did lots of volunteer work and served on the City Club of Cleveland's Youth Forum Council holding panels and various discussions on topics such as immigration and affirmative action. After graduating from college, she hopes to attend law school and then work for the US government as a policy advisor.

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

One of my favorite memories from HB is jumping into the pool with the rest of the senior class on college t-shirt day. When we sang the alma mater before jumping into the pool, I stood on the diving board since I was Senate President that year. My entire class just started chanting my name and it was so heartwarming. As we ran through the halls, I remembered how lost I felt my first day at HB when I couldn't find my classroom and how comfortable I had become. It was really the perfect culmination of my HB experience.

What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

Be open to new opportunities and experiences. Say yes to joining a new club or taking a class outside of your major. Also, don't forget the lessons that you learned at HB. In college, it is easy to get lost in yourself. Don't forget to be grateful for where you are and for the people that helped you get there. Remembering where you came from and thanking the people that helped you can help you stay true to yourself and your goals.

Isha Lele

Class of 2018

University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI

“There is no other place in the world I look back at with so much happiness and warmth than HB.”

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

HB really shaped my confidence in who I am as a student, a learner, and an individual. HB made me feel so confident not only in my intelligence and academic abilities, but my ability to live on my own, be independent, and meet new people.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

HB definitely helped me find my voice. My teachers and classmates showed me that girls and women can speak up in the workplace and have opinions and not be judged for them. HB taught me that it's ok to express myself and my feelings and the importance of having healthy friendships and relationships.

“I always tell myself that when you look good, you feel good.”

What is your mantra or words that you live by?

I always tell my students to try to purposefully make mistakes. In order to learn and grow, you have to make mistakes. Make all of the mistakes you can when you're young and use those lesson to grow as an individual.

What was your favorite failure and what did you learn from it?

When I was first applying for jobs, I had a really hard time finding a teaching job. I had to think outside of the box and try to figure out what I would do if I couldn't teach. During that time, I had to remember what I learned at HB about navigating tough situations with an unwritten curriculum. Fortunately, I ended up getting a job and everything worked out, but it pushed me to think about my future and come up with a plan of action in case it didn't work out.

Katie Barrett is a teacher who lives in Cleveland, Ohio. During her time at HB, she played volleyball for four years and served as President of the Latin Club. After graduating from HB in 2010, she went on to attend Miami University on Oxford, Ohio, where she studied early childhood education. She is currently teaching third graders at Gesu Catholic School in University Heights.

Katie Barrett

**Class of 2010
Cleveland, OH**

**Third Grade Teacher,
Gesu Catholic School**

What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

While you are still at HB and at home with your family and friends, relish in every moment whether it is good or not. I would also ask you to look at the world as a completely new space with new opportunities. You have so much potential. Don't pigeon-hole yourself into one career path. Doors can open up for you when you least expect it. In that first year of college, take as many classes in as many different subject areas as you can. You never know which one is going to stick with you. My last piece of advice would be to always make sure you look your best and make your outfits look presentable.





How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

HB taught me about independence and the importance of leadership. I was the President of the freshman class at Smith and have taken on various leadership positions throughout my life. That must have something to do with Hathaway Brown. I also had an amazing French teacher at HB who I really loved and was the source of my continuing interest in speaking French.

Clara Rankin

**Class of 1934
Cleveland, OH**

**Founder,
Hopewell Community**

What is your favorite failure and what did you learn from it?

I've never really dwelled on failures or shortcomings in my life. I like to think that I've never failed. I've only made mistakes and learned from them. I try to reframe failures as feelings of inadequacy. I remember feeling like that at various times when I was in college. My parents were such great supports for me. They gave me this sense that I could be myself and be absolutely independent. I am so grateful for my family.

Clara Rankin is a member of HB's Class of 1934. During her time at HB, she was very interested in French and served as the President of the Order of Willing Service, a group that planned fundraising events to raise money for various charities and other organizations. After graduating from HB, she attended Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts, where she studied history and French. After returning to Cleveland, she served on the boards of the Cleveland Institute of Music and the Cleveland Museum of Art. Later in life she founded Hopewell, a therapeutic community for adults suffering from mental illness.

"I really try to put a lot of emphasis on looking for the good in everything."

What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

Turn on the curiosity valve. Follow your interests and explore more than you have ever explored before. You've already explored and used your capacity for being inquisitive a lot at HB, and the variety of opportunities to do so are even bigger in college.

What is your mantra or words that you live by?

I believe it's important to remember your inner-strength and to look at what is good and what is working rather than being absorbed by what is not good and not working.

“There will always be challenges in life. You have to persevere.”

Caitlin Kiechle

**Class of 2003
Milwaukee, WI**

The United States Patent and Trademark Office

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

I always credit HB for encouraging me to explore engineering. I had always liked math and science, but I didn't know what to do with those interests. My teachers encouraged me to try engineering, and that led me down the path of what I ended up pursuing. I really appreciated HB's emphasis on math and science. I'm not sure I would have ever thought of exploring or trying engineering if I had gone to a different school.

What is your mantra or words that you live by?

You will come across challenges in both your personal and professional lives. I've faced challenges both working at the patent office and being at home with my kids. You need to keep persevering.

What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

It's ok if you don't know what you want to do right away. It's ok to give yourself some time to figure it all out. When people are asking you what you want to do and what you want your career to be, it's ok not to have a concrete answer. I'm still figuring out what I want my next steps to be. Take some time to figure out what excites you and what you are passionate about.

Caitlin Kiechle is a member of HB's Class of 2003. She lives in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with her family. She worked for the United States Patent and Trademark Office for ten years and is now at home raising her two daughters. During her time at HB, she played lacrosse, tennis, and basketball. She also worked in an astrophysics lab at Case Western Reserve University through HB's Science Research and Engineering Program. After she graduated from HB, she went on to study at the University of Notre Dame in Notre Dame, Indiana, where she majored in chemical engineering.

What is your favorite failure and what did you learn from it?

I decided that I wanted to study chemical engineering pretty early on in college. The courses I needed to take for my major were really challenging, so challenging that I seriously considered dropping my major. I tried to stay with it, and it was really hard hard, but I did end up graduating with my degree in chemical engineering. Never quit.





How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

As a woman working in a very male-dominated field, I can see that HB really shaped my confidence. Everything I know about who I am as a person really began at HB. When I got to college, I never hesitated when it came to speaking up in situations inside or outside of the classroom. I see girls at HB and who they are becoming and I see so much of myself in them. I love seeing their confidence grow and watching them recognize just how much they can achieve.

What was your favorite failure and what did you learn from it?

As someone who works in sales, I face failures every single day. I am told no at least once a day. There's been plenty of times in my career when I've gone into a sales pitch or a meeting super confident and then was told no. The important thing is to always bounce back. That no is going to get you to the next yes.

What is your mantra or words that you live by?

There are six words or phrases that really helped shape me and that I continue to impress upon others. The first is to always have a positive attitude. The second is to have a strong work ethic. The third is leadership. The fourth is passion for your craft, whatever that may be. The fifth is openness to learning. The sixth is awareness. These attributes really drive who I am as a person.

“As you enter the professional world, try separating yourself from the competition. That is ultimately what will help you succeed.”

**Taylor
Laurer**

**Class of 2004
Cleveland, OH**

**Director of Membership Services,
Cleveland Browns**

Taylor Laurer is the Director of Membership Services and oversees the ticket sales department for the Cleveland Browns. During her time at HB, she was very involved in athletics and played volleyball for HB as well as basketball. After graduating from HB in 2004, she attended St. Louis University in St. Louis, Missouri, where she studied business and earned her degree in business administration with a concentration in human resources. After college graduation, she moved back to Cleveland and began working for the Cleveland Cavaliers. She then came back to HB to work in the Advancement Office for two years before joining the sales team at the Cleveland Browns.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

HB really taught me to be confident in my abilities, how to advocate for myself, and how to build a network and make connections with people and then use those connections in a meaningful and productive way. I learned how to be a source of support for others and the importance of sisterhood. I love HB. That’s why I wanted to come back to HB and why I wanted to enroll my kids here.

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

It’s perfectly fine to not know what you want to do, and if you do know, it’s perfectly fine to not know how to do it. Always remember who you are. Lean on the people that who you can be yourself around. Lean on your HB sisters, your friends, and your family members for support. There will be moments in your life when you feel lonely and insecure, and when you do find yourself in those moments of failure and insecurity, always remember who you are.

“I tell myself every day that half the battle is just getting up and showing up, because once you’re there, everything else will fall into place.”

What is your favorite failure and what did you learn from it?

When I first started out working in engineering after college, I was the youngest, the only woman, and the only person of color. During that time my biggest failure was not knowing how to navigate the corporate world. Situations would come up and I didn’t know how to tap into the skills that I learned from my time at HB. This made me stop and regroup to reinstall that level of confidence.

Leah Jackson

**Class of 1999
Cleveland, OH**

**Director of the IDEA Lab,
Hathaway Brown School**

Leah Jackson serves as the Director of the IDEA Lab, Director of the Center for Technology & Invention, and the Upper Diversity Liaison at HB. She began attending HB in fourth grade. During her time as a student at HB, she was President of the Black Cultural Awareness Group (BCA), a Strnad Fellow, a member of Gold Key, a member of Mu Alpha Theta, and was involved in the dance department. After graduating from HB in 1999, she went on to study Industrial Engineering and Business at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois.





What advice do you have for this year's graduating class?

Take some time off this summer. You have three months to sleep and relax and make up for all of the late nights and studying throughout high school. Try to take some time to do absolutely nothing. It is so healthy. HB can be intense and really competitive at times. Give yourself a break and celebrate your hard work.

Emily Gaudiani

**Class of 2013
New York, NY**

**Marketing,
PepsiCo**

Emily Gaudiani is a member of HB's Class of 2013. During her time at HB, she was a member of a rowing team outside of school, swam on the HB swim team, helped with planning Carnival her senior year, was a member of Gold Key, helped put together HB's literary magazine, was a Global Scholar, and was involved in community service. After graduating from HB, she attended Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts where she studied Classics and Spanish. She currently works for the marketing department at PepsiCo in New York City and will begin law school in the fall at the University of Michigan.

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

The trips I went on with the Center for Global Citizenship are some of my favorite memories from HB. I went to Cambodia my junior year and Italy my senior year. They were both amazing experiences. I also have great memories from my senior year at HB. We were all really close with each another. I remember we had a party on November 1st when the first round of college applications were due and everyone in the grade was there. Everything we did as a grade was really fun and very inclusive. This made saying goodbye to HB so much more difficult.

"It is so important to take time to take care of yourself."

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

HB taught me the value of strong female friendships and women helping other women. HB teaches you that there are some things that women face in the workplace that men don't, and that you should be aware of those things and always make sure that you have people that are looking out for you. HB teaches girls that you can do anything you want and you can do it all, and I think that's so important for young women to hear. When the world is giving you reasons to fail, HB is giving you reasons to succeed, and I think that's really special.

Katherine Chapman is the Assistant Director of Enrollment Management for Grades K-8 at HB. During her time as a student at HB, she was very committed to athletics and played volleyball, basketball, and ran track. She was also involved in Service Learning and enjoyed tutoring young kids, was interested in photography, and worked as a Junior Teacher at the Aspire Program. After graduating from HB in 2004, she went on to study at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, where she majored in social studies education. She worked as a teacher and as a consultant before coming back to HB to work in the Office of Admissions.

“Capitalize on all of the experiences and unique opportunities you’ve had at HB and then use them as motivators as you move on to the next stage of your life.”

What is your mantra or words that you live by?

Staying positive and always looking on the bright side of situations has carried me through all challenges in my life. There is a lot of uncertainty in the world and becoming ok with that is a process. Trying to find the good in every challenging situation or circumstance has always stuck with me and is what I teach my kids.

“I’m so grateful that I grew up at a school that gave me the grace to make mistakes and then learn and grow from them.”

Katherine Chapman

**Class of 2004
Cleveland, OH**

**Middle School Admissions,
Hathaway Brown**

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

Know that HB will always be your home and a resource to you. Know that in addition to your family and friends, you also have HB as part of your support system. Also, please remember to give back to HB. Once you’re settled, come back to speak and mentor current HB students. Stay in touch. Remember the advice from your teachers and what you learned from your time at HB. It’s not until you leave HB and go off to college that you realize how unique and special your high school experience truly was.





“Always put your best foot forward. Don’t compare yourself to others and don’t take things too personally.”

Madeleine Danes

Class of 2016

**University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI**

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

My HB experience had such a huge impact on me. My high school years were very transformative, and I felt like HB had provided me with the foundation to excel in college and beyond. When I got to college, I was very confident in my abilities and I felt very comfortable speaking up in class. I attribute many of my character and personality traits to HB such as my independence and drive. I also think the people that I surrounded myself with at HB definitely helped shape who I am. HB taught me how to be efficient with my time, work under pressure, and rise to the occasion. I loved my time at HB, and looking back, I wouldn’t have done it any differently.

Madeleine Danes is a member of HB’s class of 2016 and is a recent graduate of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan, where she studied economics and sociology. During her time at HB, she played both soccer and lacrosse, played the cello in the orchestra, and was involved in the Center for Global Citizenship and the Center for Business & Finance. She is planning on working as a paralegal or in legal research before attending law school.

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

My favorite memories are the ones I made with my friends. We were all so close and we really stuck together all four years of high school. I have great memories of getting to school early and sitting at the atrium tables. I was really able to see the value in an all-girls school in that I was able to build genuine and true friendships that will last forever.

“Be open-minded.
When a door closes,
two more will open.”

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

You are in such a unique position right now. My advice to you would be to try to take advantage of new opportunities because you never know what’s going to happen in life. Try new things. Meet new people. Experience all that college has to offer. Don’t stress too much. There is so much out there waiting for you.

“Some of the biggest mistakes I’ve made have resulted in the most important lessons I’ve learned.”

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

My dad died at the very beginning of my junior year. When I came back to school a few weeks later, everyone was so kind and supportive, even the people I wasn’t friends with and didn’t know that well. It felt like the whole school rallied around my sister and I during that difficult time which was so remarkable and special.

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

I came to HB as a freshman. Growing up, I had always been the type of kid who was very comfortable in her own skin, but it was almost as if I came out of middle school shrinking back into myself. I got so wrapped up in appearances and things that didn’t really matter. HB gave me the freedom to not worry about that stuff in order to find my voice and become the strong woman I am today. My four years at HB felt like four years of having a safe space to discover who I was and who I wanted to be in this world. HB gave me permission to be a strong, independent woman. I love that at HB, being a strong woman wasn’t just accepted, but expected of you.

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

You’re never as old as you think you are. There is always so much out there to learn. Talk to people who are older than you and take their advice. Don’t be afraid to start over if you need or want to do so. You can change your mind and try new things. You don’t have to stay on the path you think you should be on. Some of the happiest people I know are the ones that haven’t taken non-traditional paths.

Tory Mateo

Class of 2004

Cleveland, OH

Organizational Development Consulting

Tory Mateo is a consultant here in Cleveland, Ohio. She first started in project management before she moved into organizational development consulting. During her time at HB, she played soccer and was team captain, played softball, was a Strnad Fellow, served as Vice-President in Senate, was a member of Gold Key, and was very involved in community service. After graduating from HB in 2004, she attended Stanford University in Stanford, California, where she majored in American Studies, an inter-disciplinary major that combined elements of Political Science, History, and Urban Studies.





How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

Growing up in an environment with teachers that are so invested in you and care about you so much and where you never feel limited by gender dynamics gave me this sense of freedom and empowerment. HB also taught me the importance of friendships and relationships.

What advice do you have for this year’s graduating class?

Going into your freshman year of college, don’t peg yourself as just a STEM or humanities person. Don’t box yourself in that way. It will change the way you perceive others and the way others perceive you and give you a limited understanding of the multi-faceted way people think and approach things. It seems like a lots of skills and talents and interests are solidified by the time you get to college, but that is not always the case. College is an amazing time to experiment and try new things. Don’t be afraid to step out of your comfort zone and try something new.

Archer Frodyma is a student at Yale University located in New Haven, Connecticut, where she is majoring in Political Science. She graduated from HB in 2018. During her time at HB, she was a Global Scholar and travelled to India with the Center for Global Citizenship, was a Service Learning Fellow, was a member of GROW, and was a Strnad Fellow. She was also involved in the orchestra, HB Singers, and solo voice in the Vocal Arts Department.

What is your favorite memory from your time at HB?

I loved attending the Young Writers and Arists Festival every year, Those days were so special. I really valued that I attended a school that really appreciated creative writing and the arts and was willing to have an amazing program every fall that was dedicated to them. It felt like this magical space for me to create and meet amazing artists doing their craft out in the world.

**Archer
Frodyma
Class of 2018
Yale University
New Haven, CT**

“HB taught me to be fearless in pursuing my passions in life.”

What is your mantra or words that you live by?

I really try to look at everything in shades of grey rather than in black and white. There are always multiple sides to every issue, every story, and every perspective. Taking that sentiment into everything that I do is helpful in my academics pursuits as well as in life in general.

Torrey McMillan is the Director of the Center for Sustainability at HB. She also serves as the Director of the Strnad Fellowship in Creativity and teaches wellness. During her time at HB, she was a three-season athlete and played lacrosse, basketball, and field hockey. She also started the environmental club called The Lorax and served on student council. After graduating from HB in 1990, she attended Princeton University in Princeton, New Jersey, where she studied ecology and evolutionary biology and obtained her teaching certificate. She also received her Master's Degree at the University of Michigan from their School of Natural Resources.

Torrey McMillan

**Class of 1990
Cleveland, OH**

**Director of the Center
for Sustainability,
Hathaway Brown**

“We can all be hypocritical at times, but I try to live my life each day as best as I can according to my values.”

How do you feel that your HB experience shaped you into the woman you are today?

First and foremost, HB taught me how to write. I don't love writing, but HB taught me how to be a good writer. The writing skills I learned at HB have served me incredibly well in my life. I occasionally teach college students, and I cannot believe the incredible gift that HB gave me by teaching me to write at a very young age. HB has truly made a lasting influence in my life. I never had any doubts about chasing my dreams and doing what I wanted. I had some amazing teachers that helped to support and fuel my passions. I was a lifer at HB, and I am so glad that I always had HB as that special presence in my life.

“Life is not always a straight line path, and that's ok.”

What made you want to come back to HB?

I work in a very niche position. Most schools don't offer sustainability courses, and I always knew that was what I wanted to teach. I came to HB because it had the job that I really wanted. I had always been watching what was happening at HB and all of the amazing things going on here. I was on a nationwide job search, and HB had both the job and the culture that I wanted to work in. It just so happened to be that the place that had everything I wanted happened to be my alma mater.

