



*Defined by excellence. Supported by tradition.*

SPRING 2018

# AROUND THESE HILLS

A publication for alumni and friends of **Ottawa Hills Local Schools**



PLAYFUL PRODUCTION OF  
**PETER PAN**  
**A BIG HIT**

» Full story on page 7

DISTINGUISHED  
ALUMNI AWARD  
**NOMINATIONS**  
**DUE MAY 1**

» Full story on page 3



## DONATIONS LIGHT THE WAY FOR STUDENTS' SUCCESS



**A**s we watch OH students continue to reach for the stars, we are reminded of the importance of giving back to our young leaders.

Since 2013, the Ottawa Hills Schools Foundation has been supporting innovation and excellence. The Foundation is not just saying the right things, they are doing them.

Today, as we are \$55,000 from reaching our goal of raising \$1 million dollars for the Foundation, we want to share the impact donations have already made on OH students and how they will continue to support their future.

Contributions have helped fuel students' curricular, extra-curricular, and super-curricular programs. They have helped bridge STEM education between elementary and junior/senior high school students. Donations have helped bring the gift of music, song, and dance to our performers. And they have helped students learn how to be aware of their minds, hearts, and spirits, helping them lead healthier and happier lives.

A commitment to the Ottawa Hills Schools Foundation is a commitment to an institution that continues to prove its value and impact, and propel us further forward – keeping Ottawa Hills among one of the most premier school districts in the nation. Join us in supporting the Ottawa Hills Schools



Foundation, and help to boldly advance our students as national and global leaders. Given the right opportunities, they will continue to move the world forward.

Sincerely,

Steve ('66) & Mickey Swigart  
and John ('96) & Shanie Swigart



### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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The mission of the Ottawa Hills Schools Foundation is to permanently enhance and extend the unique experience of excellence that defines Ottawa Hills Schools.

**SUPPORTING THE OHS  
FOUNDATION IS EASY!**

Visit the Foundation's website at  
[ohschoolsfoundation.org](https://ohschoolsfoundation.org)  
to contribute online or use  
the attached giving envelope.

# Nominate an OH Grad for DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

The Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes Ottawa Hills Schools attendees who have made a meaningful contribution to society, and whose accomplishments, affiliations, and careers have honored the tradition of excellence at Ottawa Hills.

Nominees will have:

- Made significant accomplishments while maintaining high standards in personal integrity and character;
- Exhibited outstanding leadership in his or her field;
- Been of service to his or her community and humanity through local, state, national, or international organizations; and/or
- Demonstrated exemplary accomplishments in the following areas: arts, education, government, science, business, or public service.



If you would like to nominate yourself or an individual for the 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award, please complete the online application found at:

[ohschoolsfoundation.org/distinguishedalumni.php](https://ohschoolsfoundation.org/distinguishedalumni.php).

Nominations will be considered by a committee of Ottawa Hills alumni, faculty, and district officials. The Distinguished Alumni recipients will be recognized on Friday, September 28, 2018 at a dinner reception and during halftime ceremonies of the home football game that evening.

Nominations may be emailed to Erica Silk at [esilk@ohschools.org](mailto:esilk@ohschools.org) or mailed to Ottawa Hills Schools Foundation, 3600 Indian Road, Ottawa Hills, OH 43066.

Applications for the 2018 award must be received by May 1, 2018.

## Donations to the Ottawa Hills Schools Foundation Help Students REACH FOR THE STARS!



**MATT SHERMAN**  
Senior  
Performing Arts

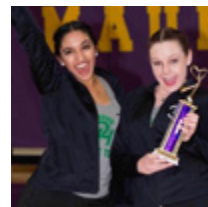
"One of my biggest passions is theater. If I weren't able to participate in theater,

I don't know what I would do with myself—it is such a large part of my life, and it's what I plan to do for my career. Fortunately, at OH we have been able to put on some excellent performances thanks to the Foundation, and I am extremely grateful for their support."



**EMME DEMILT**  
Sixth  
Grader  
STEM

"Science Olympiad camp was really fun. I learned so much about food science and other sciences. We even had a competition, and we won!"



**PRIYA BHATT**  
Sophomore  
Dance Team

"One of my favorite things about dance team is the sense of camaraderie we develop as the season progresses,

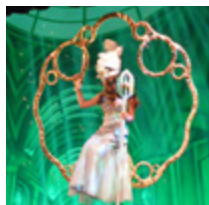
especially at our UDA camp, which was supported by the Foundation. As a group, we laugh together, learn together, have fun together, and grow together. I love all of the girls dearly and consider them some of my closest friends."



**WILL RAND**  
Senior  
Agora

"The Agora experience is one of the greatest gifts that Ottawa Hills Schools

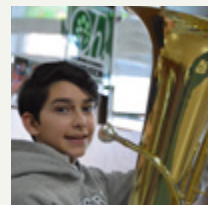
offers for students. The 2016 Agora offered 10 extraordinary workshops that allowed students to 'walk a mile in the shoes' of people they never would have interacted with otherwise. Because of the intricate details of the week, we would not have been able to put together the experiences shared by students without the help of the Foundation."



**EMMA MCLEAN**  
Freshman  
Performing  
Arts

"I think flying in

*The Wizard of Oz* was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and I'm glad the Foundation made it possible. How often does a person get to fly in a giant golden bubble? At first it was a little scary with having nothing more than a dog leash keeping me up, but by the last showing, I was sad to see my bubble go."



**ADAM BERK**  
Eighth Grader  
Tuba Player

"I like playing the tuba because it is a louder-volume instrument and creates a big sound.

Not too many people play the tuba and I like being unique." *Michael Leeds, Instrumental Music Director, adds:* "The tuba is critical to achieving a good core to the sound of an ensemble. There is no sound lower, and it provides that fundamental platform of pitch upon which all other instruments reside. Without a tuba, our sound is 'bass'less. I thank the Foundation for funding the purchase of a new tuba for our instrumental music program."



## William Heiles Class of 1954

Bill Heiles, a Professor of Music at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, says the Ottawa Hills learning environment helped propel him to great heights as a piano performer and professor. He notes, "My memories of growing up in Ottawa Hills are very positive. The teachers were wonderful. They made the subject matter enjoyable. My time as a student at Ottawa Hills gave me a fundamentally positive attitude about education. It was a good learning environment."

The Heiles family, father Eugene, mother Julia, and brother Carl, moved to Ottawa Hills in time for Bill to become a member of the kindergarten club. "I suspect my parents wanted to make the move because of the schools," he shares. He remembers, "I did skip a grade in elementary school. It was a gut-wrenching experience because I had formed many friendships with my second-grade classmates. I had an entirely new group of people to adjust to. In the end, I came out with very close friends in both of those classes."

Bill's brother Carl ('57), known as "Buck" to many, migrated to science at a young age. He is a Professor Emeritus at the University of California, Berkeley, with specializations in interstellar matter, radio astronomy, and numerical analysis.

But Bill took another route. Music – especially piano – became his passion.

After graduating from OH, Bill went to the Oberlin Conservatory of Music as a piano major. He says, "My dream was to perform and teach. I didn't think of myself as becoming a famous concert performer, but I liked teaching when I was young."

Bachelor's degree in hand, Bill then studied music for two years in Munich as a Fulbright scholar. "After the Fulbright Scholarship, I still needed to do graduate work in piano in order to be a teacher at the university level. I wrote the man who had been my teacher

at Oberlin and he suggested I apply to the University of Illinois. There, I could study with Soulima Stravinsky, son of Igor Stravinsky. I was the first person at the University of Illinois to earn a Doctor of Musical Arts in piano performance."

Bill taught at Western Michigan University from 1964 to 1968 before returning to the University of Illinois. He is now the longest-serving professor in the school of music.

The harpsichord has also become one of Bill's specialties, drawing his attention because of his love of the music of Bach. "When I was a kid, he was probably my favorite composer to play, along with Chopin," he notes. "I heard recordings of Bach's music on the harpsichord and was quite taken with it. The harpsichord sheds a new light on his works. It's a beautiful sounding instrument and feels wonderful to play."

At times, Bill performs with his wife, Anne, an accomplished violinist and violist who served on the faculties of California State University Fresno, University of the Pacific, Northwestern University, and the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago.

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*"My time as a student at Ottawa Hills gave me a fundamentally positive attitude about education. It was a good learning environment."*

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As he thinks to the future, Bill shares, "I'm long past the age of retirement, but I enjoy the teaching. It's inspiring. The quality of students tends to make me optimistic about the future."

And he's quick to point out he had good role models during his time at Ottawa Hills to emulate in his own classroom. "The faculty at Ottawa Hills, every one of the teachers I had, were exactly what I think a teacher should be. They knew how to communicate to students effectively. They were enjoying their work, and therefore, the students enjoyed it, too. It was a wonderful community to live in and an excellent school. I've always been grateful for those years."



# For The LOVE Of The GAME



COACH LINDSAY AND KYLE AT THE 2010 STATE TOURNAMENT

**OHHS Head Basketball Coach John Lindsay loves the game so much, he has spent the last 31 years coaching. Beginning as a coach of his nephew's youth basketball team and continuing today, Coach Lindsay has enjoyed all aspects of coaching – the game, the kids, and the parents. And that same love of the game has been passed down to his son, Kyle ('03).**

In 1988, Coach Lindsay started his teaching and coaching career at Cardinal Stritch High School. But it was in Deerfield, Michigan in 1991 where he earned his first head coaching position. After four years, Coach Lindsay realized he was missing something. "My kids were young and the commute from Toledo to Deerfield was long," he explained. "I was missing them growing up, and I knew it was time to find something closer to home."

While still a teacher at Deerfield, Coach Lindsay learned of a volunteer assistant coaching position at OH. He took on the role – on one condition, he wanted to bring his young sons with him to practice. In 1996, Coach Lindsay joined the OH faculty as a business teacher and the basketball staff as the junior varsity coach. He was named OH's head basketball coach in 1997, where he continues to coach today.

KYLE LINDSAY, HEAD COACH ADRIAN COLLEGE



## MENTORING SON AS PLAYER AND COACH

When Coach Lindsay speaks of his family and coaching, his love for both is evident. He has watched from the stands as his children participated in sports such as soccer and tennis, but what a special opportunity it would be to coach his son, Kyle, at OH. To have this happen, however, the Lindsay Family would have to move to Ottawa Hills and Kyle would have to change schools. "It was one of the greatest decisions we ever made," Coach Lindsay said. "But from the beginning, I warned Kyle he would have to earn his starting position on the team. And to his credit, he did. No question."

On the basketball court, Coach Lindsay characterized his son as a hard worker, competitive, and an outstanding leader – wonderful qualities he would see as his son turned from player to coach.

After graduating from Adrian College in 2009, Kyle began his coaching career at OH where he spent two seasons with his dad as an assistant coach. "My dad fostered my love of the game when I coached with him," Kyle explained. "He allowed me to give a lot of input and try things as a young and eager coach."

Under Coach Lindsay's guidance, the Green Bears were conference champions and appeared in the state tournament in 2010. "One of my favorite memories with my dad was going down to the OHSAA final four each year to watch games," Kyle noted. "We always talked about how great it would be to make it there some day. And in 2010, that dream came true."

Kyle also admires the way his dad keeps in touch with his players throughout the years. Former player



COACH LINDSAY, WITH ASSISTANT TIM REISER

Pete Kadens ('96), added, "Next to my parents, there isn't a single person who has been more critical to my development as a human being than Coach Lindsay. He taught me the art of humility; he gave me the gift of understanding the cause and effect relationship between hard work and results, and he empowered me to be a leader on and off the basketball court. I'm still good friends with Coach today, 22 years after I graduated from OHHS."

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*"Next to my parents, there isn't a single person who has been more critical to my development as a human being than Coach Lindsay." Pete Kadens ('96)*

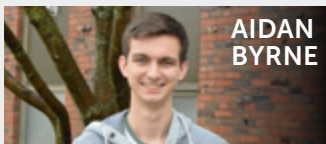
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Kyle was named head coach at Adrian College in 2016. "My dad showed me it's easier to get through adversity knowing someone has your back. I've tried to do that with my players. No matter how tough times get or how hard we push and challenge them, they know we believe in them."

## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2018

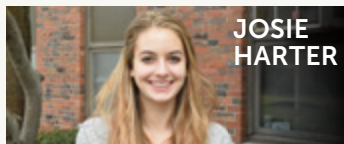
### NATIONAL MERIT FINALISTS

These academically talented high school seniors are among 15,000 finalists in the National Merit Competition, making them eligible for one of 7,500 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$32 million.



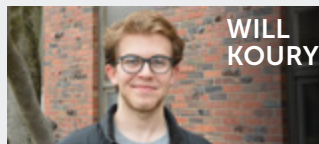
**AIDAN  
BYRNE**

Reflecting on his time at Ottawa Hills, Aidan says: "The faculty are really a wonderful resource, and they truly care about their students' success. I don't believe that I would have accomplished half as much in school, Model UN, or cross-country without the mentorship of my teachers and coaches."



**JOSIE  
HARTER**

Josie will attend Northwestern University as a chemical engineer. She says, "Ottawa Hills taught me to find joy in things I never thought I could. I never thought I would like physics, excel in volleyball, or be a part of a business club. But I did. This was due in large part because of teachers like my chemistry teacher Mrs. Hafemann. She encouraged me and helped me discover my own unique motivating qualities."



**WILL  
KOURY**

Will looks forward to studying computer engineering next year. Reflecting on his time at Ottawa Hills, Will says, "The greatest part of my educational career has been interacting with my teachers. Without the connections I have formed with some of them over the past six years, I would not be the student or person that I am today."

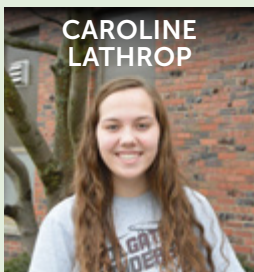


**URVISH  
PATEL**

Urvish will continue his education at Case Western Reserve as a biomedical engineer. "I learned the value of hard work and the importance of higher education at Ottawa Hills. One of my fondest memories is when I put multiple Swedish Fish at strategic locations in Darrin Broadway's room and observed how long it took him to find each one. My OH education means the ability to leave the world in a better state than I found it."

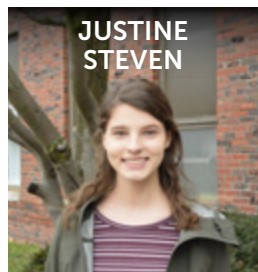
### NATIONAL MERIT COMMENDED SCHOLARS

These students placed among the top 50,000 scorers of more than 1.6 million students who entered the 2018 National Merit Scholarship competition by taking the 2016 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.



**CAROLINE  
LATHROP**

Caroline looks forward to majoring in psychology next year. "Every day I have been pushed by teachers and peers to work harder, think critically, and strive to be the best I can be," Caroline says. "I am beyond grateful for the unique environment that the teachers have provided for us to think, grow, and innovate."



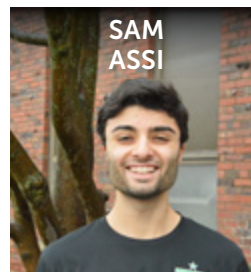
**JUSTINE  
STEVEN**

Justine will continue her education at The University of Toronto, majoring in biomedical engineering. On attending OH schools, she says, "The education I received has inspired me in many ways. Seeing my teachers and peers strive to be their best provided me with constant encouragement to be the most successful I can be."



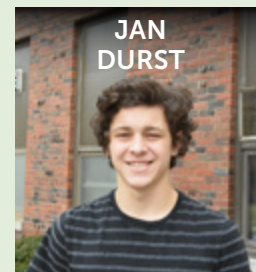
**RANDALL  
JOHNSON**

Randall will attend Duke University as a biomedical engineer major. He explains, "The faculty and staff always help students find a way to make things happen. Whatever the goal, passion, or idea, there is support and encouragement. They help us not only to excel within the curriculum, but also to grow beyond it."



**SAM  
ASSI**

Sam looks forward to studying biomedical engineering next year. Regarding his time at Ottawa Hills, Sam says, "Through both my academics and athletics, I have learned invaluable lessons at Ottawa Hills. One of my fondest memories is winning my Elite Eight match against Lexington to send the tennis team to States."



**JAN  
DURST**

Jan will study computer or electrical engineering in the fall. He explains, "At Ottawa Hills, I learned how to effectively manage my time so that I could study and participate in many extracurricular activities. Some fond memories of my time include playing for the varsity soccer team and being a member of the Chess Club."



# Oh, What a Night in CHICAGO!

On a beautiful Friday evening in February, more than 60 Ottawa Hills High School graduates and friends gathered together at the home of Samantha (Kabat '93) and Mat Schwalm in Lincoln Park. It was the perfect atmosphere for graduates ranging from the Class of 1959 to the Class of 2017 to connect to a place everyone holds near and dear to their hearts. All in attendance agreed that there is something special about being in a room full of people who share a common bond through Ottawa Hills.

The evening was topped off by a spectacular performance by the OHHS Choraliers under the direction of Donna Tozer Wipfli and accompanied by Steve Wipfli. Anne Wiley ('85) says, "It is always wonderful to connect with familiar faces and meet new alums who share the Village connection. I was especially moved by the program delivered by the Choraliers, who sang some old favorites, including *Home Again*, and indulged our request for *Sleigh Ride*! What an exceptional group of young people who are clearly benefiting from OH educational opportunities. I felt considerable pride in the tradition of excellence that continues for these students."



Lela Day ('09), Betsy Ankney ('05),  
Noreen Hanlon, Jennie Backoff ('08)



Samantha (Kabat '93) Schwalm



Ben McMurray, Principal, Jim Kropp ('76),  
Sachin Jhunjunhwal ('93), Matthew VanTine ('76)

## STUDENTS DELIGHT AUDIENCES WITH **PETER PAN**



This winter, *Peter Pan* made an appearance on the Ottawa Hills stage as 160 elementary, junior high, and high school students came together to present this year's Acting Out production.

Under the guidance of Elementary Music Teacher and Director Kimberly Manchur and OHHS English Teacher and Artistic Director Darrin Broadway, every fourth through eighth grader, whether on the stage or lining the auditorium aisles, entertained audiences with their enthusiastic acting and singing. All who got to experience these outstanding performances left knowing OH has amazing educators and terrific kids who do great things. The Ottawa Hills Schools Foundation was proud to be a Title Sponsor of *Peter Pan*.





## Ottawa Hills Local Schools

Ottawa Hills Local School District  
3600 Indian Road  
Ottawa Hills, OH 4306

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Don't forget to  
share the OH News!

To join the mailing list, OH friends  
and alumni should contact Erica  
(Gatchel) Silk '89.

[esilk@ohschools.org](mailto:esilk@ohschools.org) | 419-214-4838

ALUMNI CAN ALSO REGISTER ONLINE AT:  
[ottawahillsschools.org/content2/ohalumni](http://ottawahillsschools.org/content2/ohalumni)



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Ottawa Hills Local Schools  
Alumni Association

# GREEN BEAR BALL 2018



**APRIL 21, 2018**

**FIFTH THIRD BUILDING,  
ONE SEAGATE**

PROCEEDS FROM THIS  
BIANNUAL EVENT WILL  
FUND NEW PIANOS FOR THE  
DISTRICT – A GIFT THAT WILL  
BENEFIT STUDENTS K-12 FOR  
GENERATIONS TO COME.



Additionally, a portion of the funds will be directed  
to the Ottawa Hills Boosters to support the district's  
athletic programs.

You can become a sponsor, purchase tickets,  
or register to bid on auction items for this event:  
[gbb2018.home.qtego.net](http://gbb2018.home.qtego.net).

For additional information, contact event Chairs  
Julie Hagenbuch: [hagenjk@bgsu.edu](mailto:hagenjk@bgsu.edu)  
and Lisa Dewhirst: [lbdewhirst@yahoo.com](mailto:lbdewhirst@yahoo.com).

Open for MORE NEWS from  
**AROUND THESE HILLS!**