

On Exhibit



Anthony Smith Jr.

January 4-February 5; Artist Talk: January 20

Painter Anthony Smith Jr. uses layers of paint, collage, text and found objects to create vibrant narrative works filled with whimsy, morality and a tinge of foreboding. Viewers are invited to explore his work in worlds of play and discovery, where they might form connections from familiar imagery woven into each piece. Based at the Banana Factory Art Center in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, Mr. Smith uses art to tell stories within stories.

On the Cover:

When the entire Blair community came together in person this fall for the first time since March 2020, students' joy at being reunited was palpable. This issue's cover captures the excitement of Soccerfest, a beloved autumn tradition in which students deck themselves out in Blair wear and face paint before rushing the field to cheer on Blair soccer players as they take on crosstown rivals. This year, the girls' varsity squad battled local high school Kittatinny in a game under the lights during Blair's first Community Weekend.

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Blair Celebrates the 50th Anniversary of the Reinstatement of Coeducation

In September 1970, Blair welcomed its first female students to campus in more than five decades, as the School returned to its coeducational roots. Read the recollections and stories of both alumnae and faculty as they share the experiences of the first young women on campus since 1915.



The Return of Blair Athletics: A Photo Essay

View the start of Blair's fall athletic season through the lens of photography teacher Tyson Trish.

Kate Stottlemyer '95 Helps Grow Her Family Business

Blair alumna Kate Stottlemyer '95 brings her family's entrepreneurial roots to new heights as company president of Tweed, a flourishing gift shop in Richmond, Virginia. Kate combines her strong business acumen with a passion for art and a work hard/ play hard attitude to bring success to her business, even during a pandemic.



173rd Commencement

This year's graduation brought an extra dose of sweetness as family and friends gathered on campus to honor their graduates. The special ceremony acknowledged the tremendous challenges faced by the class of 2021, as well as their incredible talents.



The Five Fundamentals of Living & Working at Blair

Throughout last year, students, faculty and staff worked together to develop and implement a set of community norms. These Fundamentals express Blair values while holding community members to a standard of living and working together. Learn about the Fundamentals and how they were developed through an in-depth, collaborative process.

Alumni Weekend 2021

Gathering from near and far, Blair alumni/ae reunited on the campus that first brought them together. Festivities included a cocktail party, sports and celebrations of Blair's Alumnus of the Year and Citation of Merit recipients.



Communications Hail & Farewell

With this issue of the *Bulletin*, we welcome two new members to the communications team, Director of Communications Andee Ryerson and Senior Writer/ Editor Adele Starrs P'21 '25. We wish former *Bulletin* editor-in-chief, *Suzy Logan '99*, all the best in her new role in the Head of School's office. Finally, we bid farewell to Assistant Director of Communications and *Bulletin* Senior Editor Joanne Miceli, who retired from Blair in May. We thank Joanne for her outstanding work on the *Bulletin* (including numerous stories she wrote for this issue), the website and a plethora of School communications during her 10-plus years at Blair and wish her happiness as she writes her next chapter!

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Hearty congratulations (and thanks!) to the folks who shared their stories and pictures, and to the team that put together this edition of the *Bulletin*! I really enjoyed the format changes, pictures and in-depth stories—they illustrate the most important aspect of Blair: the people who bring life to the beautiful buildings and campus.



The more years I have (75 tomorrow!) the more I appreciate the folks who have added meaning to my life. So, I'm glad to see these stories bring Blair to life for our Blair community. And, hopefully, inspire new students and their families to benefit from the caring, supportive and personal attention that Blair's teachers, administration and support staff provide.

This edition was a page-turner for me, read it cover to coververy unusual! Congratulations again to the members of the Blair community for sharing their stories and pictures, to the design/editorial contributors who conceived, designed, refined and organized the content, and to all who supported and encouraged this new view of life at Blair.

Sincerely,

Peter Nystrom '65

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SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

What do you think about the stories in this issue of the *Blair Bulletin*? Let us know—your letter may be published in the next issue. Please send your comments to bulletin@blair.edu.

In the winter/spring 2021 *Bulletin*, *Carrie Giddins*

Pergram '92's name is misspelled in the table of Skeptics speakers. We sincerely regret the error and extend our apologies to Carrie. We thank her for her many years of service as a class rep, former member of the Board of Governors and frequent Society of Skeptics speaker.





As I sat down to write this in my office in Locke Hall, it was wonderful to look out at Meerwarth Courtyard and see the faces of so many smiling students and faculty engaging with one another and enjoying all that is best about Blair in the fall. The start of our 174th year has been both exciting and energizing because signs of routine life at Blair are everywhere as we learn to coexist with COVID-19.

In many ways, this year is a bridge: It does not quite look like campus life pre-pandemic in 2019, but it also looks very different from 2020. A year ago, the cover of the Blair Bulletin showed the class of 2021 attending Convocation on Hardwick lawn, masked and sitting in circles six feet apart as the rest of the community watched the ceremony remotely. To kick off the 2021-2022 school year, the entire student body gathered in the same place-but without masks or distance, given our community's high vaccination rate and the fact that Blair is fortunate to have the resources to invest in mitigation strategies to keep everyone safe and well.

Whereas last year, we strove to get through the school year without closing, in 2021-2022, our faculty and staff are hard at work delivering on every aspect of the quintessential Blair experience. It is definitely a time to reset; if the last two years have taught us nothing else, it is how important building relationships and connecting with people are to a robust learning environment, and these will be priorities for us in the months ahead.

While some remnants of 2020 linger-we started the year hosting School Meeting and Chapel outdoors and are still wearing masks indoors-so many beloved Blair traditions are back to how they used to be and, as a result, the little things seem more meaningful. On the first day of fall athletic competition in September, four teams delivered big wins over local rivals, an especially impressive accomplishment given that they have not competed at Blair in almost two years. Parents are back on campus and, after so much time behind masks, we can finally see one another's smiles as we say hello on outdoor walkways. All of that said, perhaps it is no surprise that students loved the return of the ice-cream machine, waffle maker and panini press in the dining hall!

It was terrific to see the Society of Skeptics kick off in mid-September in person, and our classes are again engaging in discussions about a wide range of topics around Harkness tables. Field trips are once again possible, and our photography class has loved getting off campus to enjoy the fall beauty of our corner of rural New Jersey. Virtual lab partners are a thing of the past, and our performing arts classes even look forward to welcoming a professional conductor to rehearse with our ensembles and work one-on-one with our musicians. Of course, health and safety are always a priority in everything we do on campus and beyond.

What distinguishes a Blair education is the balance of our warm and welcoming community and the rigorous curriculum that

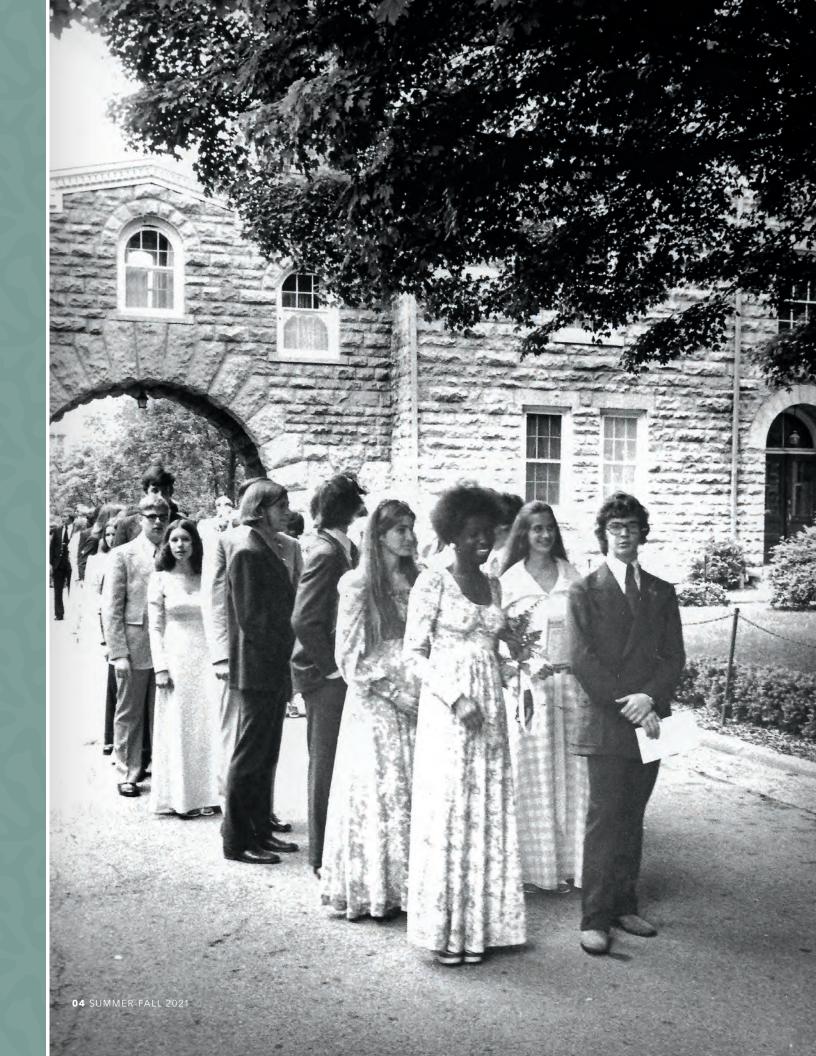
allows students to step outside their comfort zones, take smart risks and expand their horizons. We are purposeful about adding rich academic experiences and connecting our current students with experts in a host of industries, and one way we are doing that is with a new monthly speaker series that features young alums who share their experiences with our community.

Beyond giving a glimpse of campus life today, you will see that this issue of the magazine spotlights the experiences of some of Blair's first female students following the reintroduction of coeducation 50 years ago. As we commemorate that milestone and look forward to celebrating our 175th anniversary in 2023, I hope you enjoy reading these recollections of this critical time in our School's history. One thing I have learned during my time as Head of School is that we can learn much from those who came before us, and I thank these alums for taking the time to educate us about Blair in the 1970s.

My personal priority in the year to come is to leave my desk and be present and immersed in our community. I also look forward to hitting the road to connect with members of our extended Blair family. The best part about being Head of School has been getting to know you and learning from your Blair stories, and I can't wait to do more of that at upcoming receptions and events. Until then, I hope you will join us in being grateful for our Blair relationships and connections and embracing all that is best about our school in the year to come!

Peter G. Curran

Peter G. Curran
Head of School



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OF THE REINSTATEMENT OF COEDUCATION

RECOLLECTIONS & STORIES OF ALUMNAE & FACULTY

In September 1970, Blair welcomed its first female students to campus in more than five decades, as the School returned to its coeducational roots. The community marked the 50th anniversary of the reinstatement of coeducation throughout the 2020-2021 school year with website and *Bulletin* articles, as well as a Society of Skeptics panel discussion and a virtual Women's Symposium to celebrate the growth of opportunities for female students at Blair over the last 50 years.

We continue the celebration here with a look back at those first few years after girls rejoined Blair's student body. Alumnae and former faculty members shared memories and stories with us, and their words, excerpted in the following pages, help bring that pivotal time to life. We are grateful to each of the contributors to this *Bulletin* feature for giving us the opportunity to experience and learn from their stories, as well as to the staff of Timken Library, for providing the accompanying images from the archives.



Aileen (Madden) Gaumond '73

here are many stories, and mostly good ones. The staff/ faculty made us feel special and gave the girls a chance to fit into this tight community. That is what made it work. In a way, though, they were flying by the seat of their pants and had to change rules to make them fit this new situation on a regular basis.

Don't try this one at home. The thing to know is that *Cathi (Fleet) Robinson '74* loved pancakes. We were not supposed to be cooking in

our rooms (with good reason), but Cathi and I were hungry. All we had was some pancake mix, and a coil for heating water. We whipped up the mix and attempted to cook the pancakes on this coil. It did work, in a way, but we had very small spiral-shaped pancakes that were only cooked on one side. Bon appétit.

There was one problem with this cooking adventure that we didn't foresee. It caused a huge amount of smoke in the room even with the

windows open. Well, after a bit of time there was a knock at my door. We scrambled to get rid of the evidence and opened the door, and there was [former language teacher] Mr. Landa! He, of course, asked if we were cooking in the room. I do believe we did admit to it. However, as a consolation, we probably lost some weekends. I don't remember the punitive damages for sure, but there were some.

Connie Fletcher-Hindle '74

n September 1970, I started my freshman year at Blair as a day girl, along with my older cousins, Nancy (Fletcher) Love '71 and Judy Fletcher '72. We were following in the footsteps of my father, John Fletcher '45, his brother (Nancy and Judy's father), Lucian Fletcher, Jr. '41, and many other male relatives who attended the Academy.

The three of us and **Ruth (Risdon) Turner '71** carpooled every morning.
Nancy, a senior with her driver's license, pulled into the driveway, horn honking, scooped me up and invariably got us to school a little late! I loved the excitement and hearing the stories shared by the upperclassmen on those drives and was reassured to arrive at Blair with built-in friends and family support.

It is fun to remember the days of the '70s, when Blair opened its doors to 26 day girls on a campus full of boys! In fact,

the ratio of boys to girls was 10:1, and being one of the few girls was, at times, daunting. As a 13-year-old freshman, there were many opportunities and obstacles. Luckily for me and the other girls, Blair wisely hired [day girls' advisor] Lois Underwood, a no-nonsense disciplinarian with heart and a wonderful advocate who understood the pressures we all were going through.

I was an athlete, so many of my recollections are of the fledgling girls' sports programs and the mentorship of [former coach] Jan (Mitten)
Hutchinson. Ms. Hutchinson wisely grew the girls' sports programs slowly.
From the very beginning, she made us feel involved with the process and reassured us, "Hey, we are going to do this together!" I felt confident in Ms. Hutchinson's leadership and was able to make a larger contribution than a freshman normally could make. In fact, because there were so few



Connie Fletcher-Hindle '74

girls and no real expectations, we were allowed to try new things. For instance, several girls, including *Mary Beth (Lewis) DiMarco '74* and *Sue Perna '74*, joined the swim team and swam with the boys. For a short time, the girls were encouraged to form a cheerleading squad, and I ran from playing a sport to quickly



We invite alumnae/alumni, parents, faculty and staff members to share stories and photos from the early days of coeducation at Blair. Please visit **www.blair.edu/coeducation-at-blair** to make a submission.



changing into a cheerleading uniform to cheering for the boys' teams. Eventually, the girls' sports program became more robust and organized cheering was phased out.

Beyond sports, I took part in music and theatre at Blair. One of my favorite memories is singing with the formerly all-boys' group, The Tweeds! I performed with the Drama Club in two Gilbert and Sullivan operettas, The Pirates of Penzance and The Mikado. Other opportunities to perform were growing, too. [Former music teacher] Nevett Bartow '50 opened his home at the Old Academy for students to sing or play instruments, read poetry or exchange ideas. Jean Peelor '74 and I almost performed a four-hand piano duet, but I got cold feet! I'm proud to say that students also produced our own "Concerts in the Bowl," fun, casual gatherings that didn't come from the faculty. They came from a grassroots effort by the kids and everyone came together.

Sophomore year, I was happy to be with so many day girls who were also friends from elementary school, including **Dee Garrett '73, Susan (Hughes) Hennessey '74, Kim Frey '74** and Mary Beth. My cousin, Judy, was now a senior living in West Hall and the first Blair girl to become a prefect! We shared drives less frequently, but over the year, I enjoyed seeing how many people were drawn to Judy's wonderful warmth.

Sadly, Judy died tragically soon after graduating in 1972, and I am thankful for our special time together.

While the day girls always stuck together, I became a boarder junior year, which was the perfect transition to living away from home. It was a wonderful step that made each subsequent transition easy. I had a great year with my roommate, B.J. **Johnson '74**, and our Locke Hall house parents, [former history teacher] Jim Masker and his wife, Debbie, who took the girls under their wing. They and other faculty members, including [former Assistant Director of Athletics] Dick Stowell, [former language teacher] Penny Frere (who revealed her sense of humor as a fellow cast member in Pirates and The Mikado), [former math, history, English and music teacher] Jim Mell (director of The Tweeds and my advisor) and [former Assistant Headmaster for Finance and Development | **Dennis** Peachey '62 and his wife, Lynn, Hon. '65 '74 '77, always made us feel supported.

Senior year, my roommate, Jean
Peelor, and I lived in Ivy Hall (some
classmates might remember the fire
escape outside our room?!!!). I had
classes with my now-husband, **Bill Hindle '74**, and I had to keep him
awake in [former English teacher] **Andros Thomson '64's** class. As it turns
out, Bill is an engineer at heart who,
to this day, just isn't interested in the

subject. I, on the other hand, felt very prepared at Connecticut College where I had already read every book in my freshman English class! Bill and I went on to marry and build a life, family and business together. We are proud Blair parents of *Nic Hindle '04* and *Colt Hindle '10*, who are among the next generation of Blair alumni from the Fletcher and Hindle families.

I am grateful to the Blair community for accepting girls and making the transition to coeducation. So many people looked out for me when I was a student. The campus felt cocoon-like then, and I got the same, warm feeling when we took our boys to Blair so many years later.



B.J. Johnson '74



Eleanor Howard '74

lease don't think for a moment that [former Headmaster] Jim Howard chose 1970 for reinstating coeducation to align with my coming of high school age. In fact, I was not of age-or grade-in 1970 (I was only just 13), but the deal was made, and for some reason, my parents were eager for me to be out of the public school, or simply thought eighth grade was superfluous; I'm not really sure. I believe that somewhere in my memorabilia I have the acceptance letter from [former Director of Admission] Duncan Alling welcoming me to the class of 1974 with the caveat that I have some remedial math help along the way, which I sorely needed!

So what was it like to be among the handful of young women admitted that year? It was a blast that first year—I had so much fun with **Connie Fletcher-Hindle '74** and **Janet Lucas-Gaus '74**, among others. (Connie played the role of being a boarder for a month or so while her parents were away—I had a roommate for the duration.) My sister, **Mollie Howard Conklin '71**, joined the fray that year as well, having had less-

than-optimal experience at boarding school, and it was wonderful having her back in our dorm—Sharpe House. I'm sure my experience was quite different from others', as Blair had always been my home. I didn't feel new or out of place, and being so greatly outnumbered by boys was not new, either. We were all day students that year, so the reinstatement of girls was gradual. By senior year, we were a population.

I was never athletic, so I was not disappointed that the women's athletic program was also in its infancy, but I thrived in the music halls and on the stage. A peak experience for me was being in the choir and singing the "Duruflé Requiem" with Mme Duruflé at the organ. This was in spring of 1974, our senior year. [Former music and language teacher] Ralph Kneeream had many impressive French connections, the Duruflés among them, so we were privileged to have the composer's wife with us for this. We performed it in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, and again at the Columbia University Chapel (that time sans Mme D.). Absolutely thrilling. I developed a deep love of music at Blair-forever grateful for that. I'm so happy the arts have continued to grow and thrive.



Cathi (Fleet) Robinson '74

lair Academy afforded many memories and opportunities on both an educational and personal level that I am grateful for in my life. There are too many special experiences to choose just one memory to share as one of the first group of girls to attend since 1915. What I appreciated then, and continue to appreciate today, is the support and respect we all seemed to have for each other as a group.

It certainly goes without saying that teenage years are filled with vulnerable and tender moments, and as we were a small group of girls, we were able to share, listen and grow through any challenges that came our way. I remember us helping each other as a group and felt we accepted each other in ways not stereotypical of high school girls. It was an environment where we saw each other without judgment—or, at the very least, it felt that way. We all seemed to share a bond and camaraderie where we all watched out for each other.

I continue to cherish some conversations shared in my three years attending Blair Academy. We laughed, cried and grew together. I have lifelong friendships from Blair Academy that I keep close today. There are also people that, because of life's changes, I lost touch with over the years, sadly. I believe we, as the first small group of girls to return to Blair, shared a special feeling of community that has never left me. I carry that connection in and to every neighborhood I have lived in since Blair Academy.

The exposure to people from all over the country and from various countries in the world provided a wealth of knowledge in itself. The exposure to our differences and commonalities opened the door to positive experiences. Additionally, I enjoyed getting know dorm parents and faculty on a much more personal level. This led me to participate in a program with [former chaplain] the Rev. Amerman that involved working with children in need. The strength of that connection, and the responsibility of working with a child, stayed with me throughout my years of teaching in various ways.

I am exceedingly appreciative of all the girls, other students, the faculty and the education that Blair Academy contributed for all of us to grow as people. I am certain that today there are many more advantageous opportunities for the female students; however, I am grateful for each and every one of us that were among the first to return to Blair. It is my heartfelt hope that all are well and happy in their lives.



Cathi (Fleet) Robinson '74



Laura (Cochran) Morris '75

came to Blair as a freshman in 1971, the first year women were admitted as boarding students. My grandfather *Lloyd Cochran*, Blair class of 1916, and my father, *James Cochran '48*, both graduated from Blair, so to follow in their footsteps excited me, as I had grown up hearing high praise of the School.

I was a day student, commuting from Hackettstown, and on my very first day arriving with my dad at the Arch, [former Assistant Headmaster and language teacher] Ferd Marcial, Hon. '39, who was my dad's Blair housemaster in East Hall, came over to greet us. He promised my dad he would take good care of me and offered me a place in the guest room of his home any time I wanted to stay over. This small gesture offered me one of the greatest learning experiences of my time at Blair. I stayed with Ferd and his amazing wife, Joan, a great deal, and each time, they invited me to eat breakfast with them before I headed off to class. At their kitchen table, their counsel on all matters molded me, and I received

unconditional love and comfort from them over my four years at Blair.

In addition to the Marcials, I credit [former Headmaster] Jim Howard for his foresight in putting in place an amazing support system for the girls starting this new journey. [Former coach] Jan (Mitten) Hutchinson, [former day girls' advisor] Lois Underwood, [Headmaster Howard's wife] Selena Howard, [former language teacher] Penny Frere-all strong, classy women, full of compassion, character, drive, integrity and lessons to sharethese people guided us, molded us, and provided an enthusiastic and optimistic welcoming of women into Blair's lifestyle. These women showed Blair's determination and commitment to making the integration of women into Blair life a huge success.

I spent the majority of my extracurricular time in sports, so Ms. Hutchinson was the person who molded so much of my Blair experience. She pushed all of us hard, demanded our best at all times, in all things, both on the court or field and off...as athletes, people and good

citizens. She expected high moral character, integrity, good grades and dedicated involvement in Blair life.

Only once did the "dedicated involvement" seem a bit overzealous for me personally. Now that there were girls at Blair, it seemed having cheerleaders for football games would be a great addition, so while there were maybe two girls who had actually cheered before (and were very talented), Ms. Hutchinson grabbed about four of us after field hockey practice one day and pronounced us now cheerleaders! I had absolutely no experience, nor talent for that matter. We would leave directly after our field hockey games, run to the gym locker room, change from our field hockey uniforms into cheerleading uniforms and run over to the football game to engage the crowd in cheerswe hardly had time to practice. I did this for two seasons and don't get me wrong, it was great fun, but my lack of both experience and talent made it clear I was much better suited as a spectator and fan!

Personally, I never felt more profoundly Blair's commitment to

women's complete integration at the School than during my senior year, when they awarded me the Robert Dalling Prize for the student who best represented Blair in athletic competition. This award had always gone to a male recipient and, while it was a wonderful honor, more importantly, it spoke to the complete acceptance of women as equals at Blair. Additionally, that year at commencement, other top honors went to female recipients: Anne Cramer '75 was the valedictorian and won the Headmaster's Prize; Linda (Dobozynski) Pettie '75 shared the

Harold F. Walker Memorial Prize with **John Finelli '74**, and I shared the Blair Trophy with **Mike Kachidurian '75**. To quote Jim Howard in his "Letter from the Headmaster" in the fall 1975 Blair Bulletin, "The 1975 honors list is significant, because it demonstrates not only that girls have come to take an equal part with boys at Blair, but that Blair has accepted their equality."

From my first day on campus, I never felt anything but complete inclusion, a commitment to coeducation, enthusiasm, support and encouragement from the entire administration and faculty in the classroom and in all extracurricular

activities. In addition to the women role models I've mentioned, several male faculty members, including [former Director of Admission] Peter Hahn, Hon. '94, [former Athletic Director] Jon Frere, [former Assistant Headmaster for Finance and Development] Dennis Peachey '62 and [former history teacher] Dick Malley, stand out as people who went out of their way to encourage and challenge me to fully immerse myself. I am forever grateful to so many for their guidance during this wonderful time; it led to a once-in-a-lifetime, transformative experience at Blair.





Linda (Dobozynski) Pettie '75

uring my freshman year (1971), approximately 45 boarding girls lived in West Hall (underclassmen) and South Cottage (upperclassmen). With such a small population of women, one of the positive memories for me is the many friendships the girls established regardless of their class year. My friends were seniors, juniors and sophomores!

Sports may have assisted us in crossing those class designations. Given the limited number of girls, almost all of us had to play a seasonal sport in order to have enough players to make up a team! Title IX was established in 1972, requiring equal rights in education, including sports. Blair having been an all-boys' institution, [former coach] Janet (Mitten) Hutchinson was ahead of the curve and succeeded in providing girls' sports in every season, as well as establishing a cheerleading squad in 1971! In addition, we had JV and varsity teams by my senior year-remarkable!

One would think that attending a school that just began admitting women would offer limited opportunities. I felt, and still feel, the School offered adequate opportunities for girls in those early years, in academics, extracurricular activities, and sports and on governing boards such as the Rules & Discipline Committee (R & D). I was on the field hockey and softball teams, was a cheerleader for four years, participated in dance and theatrical programs, was a member of the Blue & White Key Society and R & D Committee, conducted admission office tours, and participated in alumni programs and phone-a-thon fundraisers. In classes, I never felt that a girl's voice was quieted by a boy's presence.

Another positive and valuable experience for me was the exposure to the diverse group of students, including international students, students from across our country and students of varying socioeconomic backgrounds. I had a scholarship throughout the four years I attended Blair. To this day, having a diverse student body, from what I read on Blair's website, is still a priority for the School.

Even now, I am not sure how the caring faculty and house parents adapted so quickly to being sensitive to the transition of an all-boys' school to a coed institution! But they did! On Blair's website today, it states that the ratio of girls to boys is 51 percent to 49 percent. Simply amazing compared to

1971, when the ratio was closer to 20 percent girls to 80 percent boys!

I remember my house parents, [former language teacher] Scott Landa and [former science teacher] Sue Landa, [former math and science teacher] Tom Hutchinson and [former coach] Jan Hutchinson, and [former history teacher] James Masker and Debbie Masker. I remember so many teachers, including [former English teacher] William Finley, [former science teacher] Laurence Jolene, [former math teacher] Huntley Harrison and [former Latin teacher] Michael Brennan. I have particularly fond memories of [former Assistant Headmaster] Ferd Marcial, Hon. '39, having served as his table foot in the dining hall. He also encouraged me to take my first trip on an airplane!

It is interesting that, when I think back, being female and being part of only 20 percent of the student population do not stand out for me. Instead, Blair Academy was a place where I was able to establish close relationships with a diverse student population, an institution with excellent and caring faculty, and an environment that encouraged and nurtured my personal growth.



MEMORIES FROM FACULTY

Scott Landa '66

Mr. Landa served as a language teacher at Blair from 1970 to 1978. His wife, Sue, was a Blair science teacher from 1971 to 1977.

taught Spanish during those first two years of coeducation and assisted with the drama club, the outing club and in the alumni office. In the first year, it was a new experience for the boys and faculty to have girls on campus for classes and activities. I would say that the transition was pretty smooth. As I recall, [day girls' advisor and wife of former English teacher Charlie Underwood] Lois Underwood had a lot to do with helping to acclimate the girls.

I was an assistant housemaster in Locke Hall in 1970-1971, and since it was a boys' dorm at the time, my responsibilities for helping girls acclimate during the first year of coeducation were minimal. However,

things changed a lot in that regard during the second year. With the School's decision to admit boarding girls in the fall of 1971, Headmaster Jim Howard tapped me and my thennew wife, Sue, to "house parent" the first girls' dormitory, West Hall.

Sue and I were assisted in our house parenting duties by [former coach] Jan (Mitten) Hutchinson. What stands out to me about that first year for boarding girls was that our dorm was a novelty in this previously all-boys' school. Curious boys would want to visit girls using the fire escape after hours, for instance. But, overall, we enjoyed that year. We worked through adjustments for some of the girls who

had not been away from home, which was not unlike working with boys.

Having girls and boys in my classes was a refreshing experience, after having attended Blair for four years during the all-boys' era followed by four years at an all men's university.

For five of my eight years as a Blair faculty member, Sue and I had responsibilities for the girls' dormitories. My fondest memories are the enjoyable interactions with the girls in the dorm, the dining room, the classroom and in the various activities in which we were involved. There were many very good and happy times (and few sad/bad times), and we usually found ways to support and work together. For Sue and me, what stands out even after all these years, are the strong relationships we built with many of the girls—we still stay in touch!



View the April 27, 2020, Society of Skeptics alumnae panel discussion celebrating Blair women at **www.blair.edu/skeptics-panel**.



The Reverand Peter Amerman

Mr. Amerman served as Blair's chaplain from 1969 to 2007.

had been teaching at Blair for one year in 1970, and I was curious to see how athletics for girls and other elements of extracurricular life would work. In many respects, the participation of girls made life more real. Suddenly, there were young women to play female roles in drama and musical events.

[Music teacher] Nevett Bartow '50 was

delighted to have sopranos and altos available to the Blair choir and the glee club. Girls wrote for *The Blair Breeze* and the *ACTA*, took pictures at sporting events, and quickly established themselves as athletes in field hockey, basketball and softball. Blair girls grew into leadership roles in sports, extracurricular activities and academics.

In a few short years, it was difficult to imagine Blair without girls. Looking back, we quietly wondered why we had hesitated to make a move that now seemed so natural. So, all hail to those courageous young women who first stepped on to campus as students the pioneers who ushered us into the modern day.









Blair's Michael Breslin '09 Graces The New York Times Style Magazine

The New York Times Style Magazine featured writer and performer Michael Breslin'09 on its April 2021 cover in an article celebrating "the relationships that helped us endure an impossible year." Michael was featured as a source of inspiration for playwright Jeremy O. Harris. Graduates of the Yale School of Drama, Michael and Jeremy are roommates who challenged and engaged each other artistically during a year like no other. "No teacher challenged me the way that Michael...did," Jeremy says, celebrating his friend as a "grounding force."

A graduate of the Blair class of 2009, Michael is now the creative director of

Fake Friends, a Brooklyn-based theatre and media company. His livestreamed play "This American Wife" was co-produced by Jeremy and premiered online in May 2021 to widespread critical acclaim. The New York Times praised the dark comedy as "a wild genre-bending parody of, and homage to, 'The Real Housewives' franchise." Vanity Fair recently caught up with Michael to discuss the show's origins, and Architectural Digest featured him in a piece about the stately Long Island home he transformed into a virtual theatre to film the production.

A raucous satire, "This American Wife" is the latest in a series of collaborations



Michael Breslin '09

between the creative minds of Michael, Jeremy and Patrick Foley. It follows the success of their 2020 Internet production "Circle Jerk," a finalist for the 2021 Pulitzer Prize in Drama. Information on future rebroadcasts can be found at

www.blair.edu/michael-breslin.



Michael Tobey '12, courtesy of Getty Images.

Former Blair Buc *Michael Tobey '12* **Makes Olympic History**

Born on October 10 at 10 a.m. and weighing 10 pounds, former Blair Buc Michael Tobey '12 has spent his entire basketball career, from high school to professional leagues,

wearing the number 10 on his jersey. Now that he has wowed fans at the Tokyo Olympics, Michael may have just found his new lucky number: 2021.

The Blair basketball standout secured his place in the Tokyo Olympics after helping the Slovenian national team qualify for the games for the first time in team history, a feat covered by a number of national and international media outlets. Named to the Slovenian roster in June, Michael proved key to bringing the national team to this point. As the team's second-leading scorer, he averaged 15 points and 7.5 rebounds per game in the qualifying rounds and scored an impressive 27 points on the July 3 Olympic qualifying tournament in Kaunas, Lithuania. According to Dallas Mavericks' point guard Luka Dončić,

who also plays on the Slovenian national team, Michael's outstanding 12 defensive rebounds proved pivotal in the 96-85 win over Lithuania that secured Slovenia's Olympic berth.

Luka praised his teammate's performance in the clinching game, which included facing off against Lithuanian team and NBA stars Domantas Sabonis and Jonas Valančiūnas. "He's a great defensive guy," Luka told the Associated Press about Michael. "He's really helping us down there."

A 7-foot-tall center, Michael first gained notoriety at Blair and rose to prominence with the University of Virginia's Cavaliers, where he played 138 games, a program record, and made three trips to the NCAA tournament. In 2015, the Atlantic Coast Conference named him the Sixth Man of the Year. Currently, Michael is coming off his third season playing in the EuroLeague for Valencia, Spain.

Michael becomes the second Blair Buc to qualify for the Olympics in men's basketball, joining the elite company of Luol Deng '03, who played for Great Britain in the 2012 London Olympic Games. On behalf of the entire Blair community, we congratulate Michael!

GIFTED
ENTREPRENEUR

Late Stottlemyer '95

HELPS GROW HER FAMILY BUSINESS



The Stottlemyer family (left to right): Thomas, Robb, Kate '95 and John.

Looking for the perfect gift?

Look no further than Tweed (www.tweedathome.com),
Richmond's go-to destination for bespoke gifts that celebrate
life's special moments. At the helm of this flourishing 18-year-old
family enterprise is company president *Kate Stottlemyer '95*,
whose strong business acumen, passion for art and work hard/
play hard attitude—which she developed as a student at Blair—
have all contributed to Tweed's success.

A FAMILY AFFAIR

Tweed's roots stretch back to Sparta, New Jersey, the town 35 miles from Blairstown where Kate grew up with her parents, Carol and Paul Viall, and sister, Elizabeth. Carol owned and operated Sparta Books, a local shop that she purchased in 1984 and built into one of the state's largest independent booksellers. Recognizing her customers' demand for unique gifts and home accents, Carol expanded her retail operation by opening the original Tweed, close by Sparta Books, in 2003.

Kate was a few years out of Randolph-Macon College at the time, having earned a BA in arts management, a degree that combined her love of fine art and art history with a solid background in business. While she had always wanted to join the family business, she loved Virginia so much that she opted to stay in Richmond following her graduation, working for several years in Randolph-Macon's development office before joining her husband, Robb, in the insurance industry.

When the Sparta Tweed was up and running, Kate and her parents decided that Richmond would be a fantastic location for a second store. "I was thrilled to be able to help grow our family's business in Virginia," Kate said, and in 2004, her family celebrated the grand opening of Tweed's 2,000-square-foot Southern branch.

LEADING THE WAY

As vice president of operations, Kate jumped into Tweed's management with both feet, bringing her keen business sense and artistic eye. "When we first opened, I was in the store full-time, and we had a few part-time sales associates," she recounted. It didn't take long, though, before customers' enthusiastic

GIFTED ENTREPRENEUR FATE Stottlemyer 95 HELPS GROW HER FAMILY BUSINESS







Interior photos of Tweed displays.

response to Tweed's expertly curated selection of gifts, home accents and women's accessories, beautifully designed displays, and friendly and welcoming staff propelled the Richmond store's growth, with Kate leading the way.

Today, Tweed is headquartered in Richmond, with a charmingly appointed 6,000-square-foot store in the Shoppes at Westgate, a 2,000-square-foot warehouse, a thriving



The Tweed storefront in Richmond, Va.

e-commerce business and 25 part-time employees, some of whom have been with the company since it opened. Kate, now the busy mom of two teenage sons, became company president in 2017. She leads a four-member management team, selects and buys product for the store, and oversees every aspect of the operation, while her parents, who sold their New Jersey businesses and relocated to Virginia a decade ago, remain actively involved.

What does Kate enjoy most about owning and operating a specialty gift company? "Everything!" she says enthusiastically. "I LOVE retail! It's exciting to attend buying and gift shows and select new and unique items to bring to our market. I love the relationships we have built through this business with customers, vendors and Tweed team members, who have all become part of our family. And I love that we get to help people celebrate the big and small moments that touch, move and inspire us every day through the art and joy of gifting."

Another thing that Kate loves is a challenge, and that's a good thing, since, as a small business owner, she has faced her share of them. "We are always looking for ways to reduce waste, run more efficiently, improve in every way and grow stronger," she said. "When the pandemic hit, we faced many







new challenges since we had to close our store from March 19 to May 15, 2020. Thankfully, our e-commerce website was up and running, and we focused on driving business there. We also worked with customers via phone and FaceTime, and controlled the costs we could control. We are glad to be open again for in-store shopping, and we have used the lessons learned during the pandemic to continue to work more efficiently all the time."

LIFELONG GIFTS FROM BLAIR

Whenever challenges arise—pandemic or not—Kate encourages her team to take things one day at a time, to be unafraid of making mistakes, and to constantly learn and grow. Some of this advice stems from her time at Blair, where she started midyear as a new junior. "At Blair, I learned to work hard, think independently and question wisely," she said, recalling with gratitude how teachers and staff members went above and beyond to help her adjust, settle in

and thrive. "I also learned that it's not always about being perfect, but rather trying your hardest, celebrating your accomplishments and learning valuable lessons from your mistakes."

For students and fellow alumni/ae considering starting their own small business, Kate shared similar words of wisdom. "Do it!" she said. "Do not be afraid of mistakes. Our best lessons are in our worst mistakes. Always keep moving, changing and working to improve. And have fun!"

Kate treasures her Blair experience to this day, for the many people she met from all over the world, for the special moments like building the Peddie Eve bonfire her senior year, and for the friends she still counts among her closest 26 years after graduation. And, as someone whose family business is built on celebrating the special moments of life, she shared a final thought: "My time at Blair—just a year and a half—was too short. That taught me that life's moments are short. So my advice is to jump in, have fun and make the most of every day!"



Shop at Tweed from anywhere in the world by visiting **www.tweedathome.com** or shop in-person at Tweed's flagship store, located at 4035 Lauderdale Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23233.

THE RETURN OF BLAIR

After almost two years of limited competition, Blair athletics have come roaring back to life. In this photo essay, photography teacher Tyson Trish captures our Bucs taking to the field and courts in the action-filled first weeks of school.



















WELCOME, NEW FACULTY & STAFF!

As students and parents returned to Blair's hilltop campus at summer's end, they were greeted not only by the veteran faculty they've come to know and love but also by a number of dynamic new teachers and administrators who joined the School community this year. Read on to meet the newest members of Blair's dedicated faculty and staff.



Chase Palanca '15 joins Blair's admission team as an admission counselor. He completed his

undergraduate degree at Johns Hopkins
University and received his master's degree in education
from the University of Pennsylvania in 2021. From 2019
to 2021, he worked as a humanities teaching fellow
and wrestling coach at St. Paul's School. Mr. Palanca
is excited to share his love for Blair with prospective
families and work with **Ross Gitomer '05** as assistant

wrestling coach. He is joined by his partner, *Haley Chrobock '15*, and lives in West Hall.

Misha Randhawa joined the admission office in 2020 as assistant dean of admission and coordinator of multicultural

student recruitment. She earned a bachelor's degree in global and international studies at the University of Kansas in 2016 and a JD at Texas Southern University's Thurgood Marshall School of Law in 2020. As a law student, Ms. Randhawa served as business editor for the Law Journal on Race, Gender and Ethnicity and as a student representative to the Coalition of Houston Diverse Bar Associations. Her professional experience includes legal internships for a Seward County, Kansas, district court judge and a Houston legal aid office, as well as working as a clerk for a Houston law firm. She also served as a student assistant in the law school's office of career and professional development, where she was involved in many facets of recruitment and hiring, including assisting in the development of programs surrounding minorities in the legal field. Ms. Randhawa is a graduate of Fountain Valley School in Colorado, and she is excited to return to a boarding-school setting and introduce prospective families to the Blair community.

COLLEGE COUNSELING

Batouly Camara '15 returns to Blair

as a college counselor and head girls'

varsity basketball coach. Ms. Camara played NCAA Division I basketball at the University of Connecticut, where she earned bachelor and master of science degrees in sport management. She went on to play in Spain's professional women's basketball league and founded the nonprofit Women and Kids Empowerment (WAKE), which develops partnerships and programs with community leaders, local basketball federations, and global organizations to combat the lack of access, resources and opportunities for young girls. At Blair, she continues in her role as a counselor and mentor to young people, imagining their futures through her role in Blair's college office. She is replacing her own high school mentor, **Quint Clarke '87**,

ENGLISH

10 years of exceptional dedication to the program.

who stepped down as head coach of the varsity team after

Annie Gardner is an alumna of the Lawrenceville School and Dartmouth College, where she earned a BA in English

in 2015. A graduate of the Teach for America program, Ms. Gardner worked for two years in the rural Mississippi Delta at Amanda Elzy Junior High and subsequently taught sixth-grade English at Canyon Ridge Middle School in Texas. She brings to Blair extensive experience in rowing, serving as girls' varsity head coach of the Austin Rowing Club since 2017 where she helped build a competitive program that qualified for Nationals each spring. At Blair, Ms. Gardner teaches English 2 and 3 and coaches the girls' crew team. She and her fiancé, Steve, reside at Lake House, which is adjacent to the Siegel Property.

Cency Middleton works in Blair's academic support center and serves as a member of the English department.

She teaches the senior elective "Great New Books," as well as Blair's health-and-wellness and LEADS programs. Ms. Middleton completed her undergraduate work at Washington and Jefferson College in 2011 and earned a master's degree from the Middlebury Bread Loaf School of English in 2020. She brings eight years' experience to the classroom, working previously as an English teacher at the Abraham Joshua Heschel and the Northwood schools in New York and the Berkshire School in Massachusetts. She looks forward to coaching soccer and skiing at Blair, as well as exploring Blairstown during her regular runs. Ms. Middleton and her partner, Anders, live in Mason Hall.

HISTORY

Anders Fogel teaches history and serves as head coach of boys' varsity lacrosse. A graduate of the Hotchkiss

School and North Park University, Mr. Fogel is completing his master's degree at Middlebury College's Bread Loaf School of English. He came to Blair from Vail Mountain School, where he taught history and English and served as head coach of the boys' lacrosse team and assistant coach of the boys' soccer team. Mr. Fogel began his teaching career at Salisbury Summer School in 2017, and then went on to teach English and coach soccer and lacrosse at New Trier Township High School. A world traveler who has

been everywhere from Norway to Antarctica,
Mr. Fogel lives in Mason Hall with his

partner, Cency.

After receiving her bachelor's degree in history from Huntingdon College, history teacher Anna Raley

worked at St. Paul's School, where she became assistant director of the summer Advanced

Studies Program. Ms. Raley came to Blair from Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School, where she taught humanities and served as head JV volleyball coach and assistant coach of girls' varsity soccer. Prior to that, she taught history and coached basketball and soccer at various levels at St. Michael Catholic High School in Alabama. Ms. Raley earned her master's degree in liberal studies with a concentration in cultural studies from Dartmouth College in 2018. Ms. Raley's partner, Ashlyn, is a registered nurse who works in Blair's Health Center.

The couple resides in Insley Hall.

LANGUAGE

Allan Issenchmidt, a native French speaker, joins Blair's language department as a French teacher. He

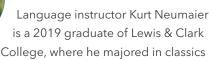
earned his undergraduate degree in applied foreign languages from the Université d'Avignon in France and his certificate in teaching French as a foreign language from the Université Le Mans. Most recently, he taught French at the Tarabya British Schools in Istanbul, Turkey. In addition to his work in the classroom at Blair, Mr. Issenchmidt coaches junior varsity boys' soccer and skiing. He is an avid soccer fan, especially of Marseille's football

club. He and his wife, Blair language teacher

Maria Smith Issenchmidt, reside in Lakeside Hall.

Language teacher Maria Smith Issenchmidt earned her bachelor's degree in French and political science

from Hood College and holds a master's degree in intercultural communication with a concentration in Francophone studies from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. In addition to teaching French at her most recent position at Robert College in Istanbul, Turkey, Mrs. Issenchmidt also taught at Garrison Forest School in Maryland, where she coached field hockey and advised the Model UN team. She and her husband, language teacher Allan Issenchmidt, have settled into Lakeside Hall.



with a concentration in ancient language and minored in religious studies. While at Lewis & Clark, Mr. Neumaier studied abroad in Siena, Italy, and spent several summers leading outdoor wilderness adventures that included whitewater rafting and rock climbing. Prior to coming to Blair, he worked as a substitute history teacher and librarian-in-training for his alma mater, The Hill School in Pottstown, Pennsylvania. Mr. Neumaier has also spent time working as a youth development associate at the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Portland Metropolitan Area. At Blair, Mr. Neumaier teaches Latin, coaches football and boys' JV lacrosse, and lives in Mason Hall.

MATHEMATICS

Meiyi Cheng came to Blair from the BASIS Independent School, where she taught mathematics. Having graduated

from the Punahou School in 2009 and earned her bachelor's degree in management science at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2014, Ms. Cheng now teaches geometry and multivariable calculus at Blair and coaches the debate team. Earlier in her career, she worked in the real estate and banking industries and mentored students as they learned test-taking strategies while teaching SAT mathematics and reading comprehension at Elite Prep. Following her college graduation, she got her start in teaching during a gap year in China. Ms. Cheng resides in Ivy Hall and is excited

to share both her passion for learning and her love of all things *Harry Potter* with her students.

Ross Gitomer '05 returns to his alma mater as a math teacher and head coach of the wrestling program. His teaching and coaching experience includes

10 years at St. Christopher's School in Virginia, where he served as an upper-school mathematics teacher, freshman dean and head wrestling coach. As coach, Mr. Gitomer proudly led St. Christopher's team to win a multitude of titles, including two Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association (VISAA) State Championships, six Virginia Prep League Championships as well as helping secure top-five rankings for the team at the 2016 and 2017 National Prep Wrestling Championships. During his time at Blair, Mr. Gitomer distinguished himself as wrestling team captain and a national prep champion. He was also an NCAA qualifier and ACC champion at the University of Virginia, where he earned his bachelor's degree in government studies and master of education/teaching. Mr. Gitomer teaches algebra

and precalculus, and he is joined at Blair by his wife, Kellyn, and two sons. The family lives in Wayside House on Park Street.

A member of Blair's math department, Will Murray holds dual bachelor's degrees from Miami University, one

in mathematics and statistics and a second in French. In 2021, he earned his master's degree in mathematics from Western Washington University, where he gained classroom experience as a graduate teaching assistant, filling the role of primary instructor for courses in calculus, precalculus and algebraic functions. Mr. Murray has worked in a variety of other positions that include clinical database programmer for a medical laboratory in Cincinnati, Ohio, and an office manager intern for a cycling and adventure company in Camaret-sur-Aigues, France. At Blair, he teaches mathematics and coaches junior varsity girls' basketball and varsity baseball.

ADVANCEMENT

Emma Barnes O'Neill joins Blair's advancement team as director of annual giving. She is a 2015 alumna of Hobart

and William Smith Colleges, where she earned a bachelor's degree in media and American studies and played Division III field hockey. She began her career in advertising in New York City before gaining independent school experience as assistant director of the annual

fund at Noble and Greenough School. A graduate of The Lawrenceville School–where she grew up on campus–Ms. Barnes O'Neill serves as a class representative for both her

alma maters. She and her husband, Terrence, reside in Mount Olive, New Jersey, with their dog, Brodie.

Catie Urfer holds a bachelor's degree in English (2002) and a master's degree in education (2003) from Quinnipiac

University. A former teacher and director at The Giving Tree Preschool and The Buttonwood Preschool, which she co-owned, she is skilled in fundraising, event planning and parent relations. Ms. Urfer joins Blair's advancement team as an advancement associate, and she assists in managing the office's many events and activities. She lives in Knowlton Township with her husband, Doug, and children, Sam and Emma.

COMMUNICATIONS

Adele Starrs joins the communications office as senior writer and editor. Her professional experience includes 20

years as a freelance proofreader and copy editor for Penguin Random House, Inc., and she has served as the mayor of Knowlton Township, New Jersey, since 2015. Having earned a bachelor's degree in English at The College of William and Mary, Ms. Starrs earned her master of science degree from Columbia University in 2021 in human capital management. She is a co-founder, past president and trustee of the Warren County Governing Officials Association and a volunteer with the Land Conservancy of New Jersey and the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area. Ms. Starrs and her husband, Tom, have four children, including

Lily '21 and Brigette '25.

HEAD OF SCHOOL'S OFFICE

Erin Sobczak is assistant to the Head of School, a role in which she provides administrative and project support and plans events for the Blair community. She

is a 2000 graduate of Rutgers University, where she majored in environmental science, and subsequently began her career as an environmental scientist. Over the years, Ms. Sobczak has worked in a variety of roles across industries, including as a senior library assistant at the Warren County Library, as a medical administrative assistant at New Jersey's Premier Health Associates and as an administrative assistant at a paper company in Utah. Her experience also includes public outreach, education, and creating and managing programs as both an outdoor educator and summer nature director at Camp Sloane YMCA in Lakeville, Connecticut, and assistant teacher and assistant director of The Montessori Children's Academy in Convent Station, New Jersey. A longtime volunteer, Ms. Sobczak enjoys mentoring children as a soccer coach and Girl Scouts volunteer. She lives in Hardwick, New Jersey, with her two children.

HEALTH CENTER

Rosalyn Zamora, a registered nurse with more than five years of experience in emergency room trauma

nursing, is Blair's new director of health services. She joined the Health Center staff in August 2020 and was instrumental in helping to develop our COVID-19 health-and-safety protocols and executing the School's COVID-19 testing strategy. Prior to coming to Blair, Mrs. Zamora served as operations manager of the emergency department at Geisinger Wyoming Valley in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania; a registered nurse at Morristown Medical Center; and a clinical nurse supervisor at Pocono Medical Center in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania. She earned her master's degree in nursing leadership and administration from Capella University in 2018, a bachelor of science in health science at Mercy College in 2010 and a bachelor of science in nursing at Rutgers University in 2011. Mrs. Zamora is currently working toward becoming a family nurse practitioner (FNP) at Chamberlain University and expects to graduate in 2022.

2021 ACTA YEARBOOK

DEDICATED TO R. LATTA BROWSE

At School Meeting on May 21, yearbook editors **Belle Laxer '21**, **Kathy Fong '21**, **Xinyi Lu '21** and **Tess Whitehead '21** presented the first yearbook to math teacher and longtime girls' cross country coach R. Latta Browse, to whom the 2021 ACTA is dedicated.

Appointed to Blair's faculty in 1982, Mr. Browse has impacted the Blair community in a variety of ways during his tenure, serving as math department chair, dorm head of Davies, West and Mason Halls, and sophomore class monitor. He has also served as head or assistant coach for myriad sports and is currently head coach of the girls' cross country team.

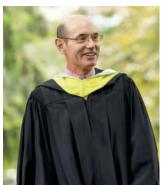
Mr. Browse began his career graduating Phi Beta Kappa in 1978 from Middlebury College with a BA in mathematics. In 1989, he earned a master of arts in liberal studies (MALS) in Islamic studies at Columbia University and, in 1991, received his certificate of advanced study (CAS) in mathematics from Wesleyan University. Before coming to Blair, Mr. Browse taught high school mathematics as a Peace Corps volunteer in Malaysia and as an international baccalaureate math teacher in Belgium.

Mr. Browse is married to Dean of Campus Life and Director of Leadership Programs *Carolyn Conforti-Browse '79*, and they are the parents of *Tyler '08* and *Annelies '13*.

For the printed dedication, the yearbook team gathered testimonials from Blair students, alumni/ae and faculty, each of whom has a special connection with Mr. Browse. Many of the entries highlight Mr. Browse's optimism, dedication to students and the lasting impact he has made on campus.

"Mr. Browse is the most genuine, funny and supportive coach imaginable, and he is so much fun to be around," said *Lily Starrs '21*, *Corrine Wilm '21* and *Jessica Wilm '21*. "Even during seasons when he isn't coaching us, he shows up at our meets and practices. Coach Browse has proven that he truly cares about us, not just







as athletes and students but as people for these past four years, and we couldn't be more grateful to have gotten to know him! Mr. Browse is our biggest supporter, and we are all so lucky to have him in our corners. Thank you for all the bonfires, team dinners, strategy talks before races, deep conversations, and for being such a constant and positive role model. You are one of things we will miss most when we graduate from Blair."

"I always appreciate Latta's honest and frank appraisal of things; he's such a voice of reason and one of my most valuable friends," noted English teacher Craig Evans.

As he accepted his award on Marcial Field, Mr. Browse humbly expressed his gratitude to the Blair community for his nomination. He explained that, to him, this is the greatest honor a teacher can receive.

"You cannot imagine how happy I am to receive this; thank you to everyone," he said. "To the class of 2021, I will always remember you and the year we experienced together."







WEEKEND COVID KEEPERS

While all of us at Blair are happy to leave behind many of 2020-2021's health-and-safety protocols, the pandemic forced our community to creatively reinvent some quintessential traditions and introduce a host of new ones! After planning 28 weekends jam-packed with fun, Associate Dean of Students Rod Gerdsen identified the elements he is looking to incorporate this year: more events taking place outside; an increased focus on the importance of the weekend programming to students' social and emotional well-being; and the addition of three community weekends to the calendar, blocking off times when boarders are required to stay on campus. Of course, Blair will continue beloved activities like fire pits, grill 'n' chills and the ever-popular mall trips. These events and others will continue to infuse excitement into the bustling weekend activity scene this year.

Food Truck Festival	Fall Festival
Faculty Football Tailgate	Halloween Haunted Walk through Siegel Property
International Food Night	The Great Thaw II (winter festival)
Goat Yoga	Blairstock
Black & Latinx Student Union's Block Party	Ultimate Buccaneer Race
And, NEW for this year:	

The Shipyard, Blair's outdoor basketball court





the morning of May 25, as the sun settled on the shining faces of Blair's class of 2021, it became clear that this year's graduation brought an extra sweetness. "Had I known I'd be standing here, addressing you as Head of School back when we were sending many of you your acceptance letters in March 2017," said Head of School Peter G. Curran, "I might have focused...on some of the challenges you would face over your high school career and the self-awareness, empathy, emotional intelligence and resilience you would develop as you navigated what lay ahead."

The morning began as family and friends gathered at tables in the Bowl under a wide blue sky. In keeping with tradition, seniors passed through the Arch one last time with the faculty before joining their families on the field. Standing before the crowd, Blair Trustee the Reverend David Harvey opened the ceremony with an invocation. Mr. Curran welcomed students and families to the event, and senior class speakers *Daniel Siyuan Dai '21* and *Alexandra Andrea Bakulina '21* reflected on the lessons they have learned and how the last year has fostered deeper connections. "We grew closer from six feet apart and had the impossible role as senior leaders and prefects of teaching underclassmen to do the same," observed Alexandra.

Blair administrators took the stage to recognize the outstanding achievements of several faculty members, who were commended for their skill and for inspiring students' love of learning. Likewise, several seniors were honored with prizes for distinguished performance over the course of their Blair journeys (please see page 34 for the full list of prizes awarded at commencement).

Finally, the moment that the last four years had been building toward arrived. As their names were read by Dean of Campus Life and Director of Leadership Programs *Carolyn Conforti-Browse '79*, each senior accepted a diploma and shook hands with Mr. Curran. When the last students had taken their seats, Mr. Curran listed many of the class of 2021's notable achievements, saluting the group's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion and its legacy of leadership. He



Family and friends gathered at tables in the Bowl.

also commended the new graduates' flexibility in responding to the challenges brought on by COVID-19. Recognizing how bittersweet the moment must be for many parents, Mr. Curran thanked them for their support over the last four years.

"The relationships that you have built during your time at Blair are what you will take with you today and in the months and years ahead, relationships that you will carry with you through different phases of your careers and lives."

Above all, he urged the members of the outgoing class to "Build on what you have learned here...Become confident citizens of the world who move their professions forward, give back to their communities and find great personal fulfillment." At the conclusion of the ceremony, **Jenna Madison Van Valkenburg '21** had the honor of accepting the class of 2021 flag from **Michael J. Lieberman '71**, a dedicated Blair alumnus and member of this year's 50th-reunion class.

After the recessional and as the last strains of "Ode to Joy" faded, the graduates joined their families at tables to share a meal and memories from Blair. It had been a morning filled with heartfelt speeches, lighthearted quips, and the cheering of proud parents and faculty. As the first cars began to leave, a few friends stood on the steps of Hardwick Hall for a last photo. Although masks obscured their faces, no one needed to see their lips to know they were smiling. They radiated the joy of a class that had overcome an especially challenging year and, surrounded by friends, emerged stronger on the other side.

Congratulations to the Blair class of 2021! ■



FACULTY AWARDS

Apgar Award for Teaching Excellence:

Science teacher Suzana Markolovic

John C. & Eve S. Bogle Teaching Prize:

Science department chair Kelly Hadden

Riether Residential Life Award:

English teacher Molly Hoyer

Lillian & Samuel Tedlow Teaching Prize:

Math teacher Robin Anthony

Headmaster's Faculty Prize:

Director of Academic Support Allison Leddy

STUDENT AWARDS

Headmaster's Prize: Abney Tessier

Whitehead '21 & Jaylen Tomi Blakes '21

Blair Academy Trophy: **Grace Anderson Hogue '21** & **Sarab Singh Anand '21**

George P. Jenkins '32 Prize: Daniel Siyuan

Dai '21 & Alexandra Andrea Bakulina '21

Appointment to the United States Coast Guard Academy: **Sean Kirk Horner '21**

























Adelphi University

American University

Barnard College (2)

Bates College

Bentley University

Boston College

Boston University

Brown University (2)

Bucknell University (2)

Carnegie Mellon University (2)

Case Western Reserve University

Colby College

Colgate University (2)

College of the Holy Cross

Colorado College (2)

Cornell University (3)

Davidson College (4)

Duke University

Elon University

Emory University (2)

Florida Southern College

Florida State University

Georgetown University

Jacksonville University

James Madison University

Johns Hopkins University

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Lafayette College

Lehigh University (6)

Loyola Marymount University

Lycoming College

Morgan State University

New Jersey Institute of Technology

New York University

Northeastern University

Northwestern University

Nova Southeastern University

Pennsylvania State University

Pepperdine University

Pitzer College

Princeton University (2)

Purdue University (2)

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Santa Clara University (2)

Savannah College of Art and Design

Scripps College

Seton Hall University (2)

Southern Methodist University

Stanford University (2)

SUNY at Binghamton

SUNY at Buffalo

Susquehanna University (2)

Trinity College

Tufts University (2)

Tulane University (2)

United States Coast Guard Academy

University of California, Berkeley

University of California, Los Angeles (2)

University of California, Santa Barbara (2)

University of Chicago

University of Delaware (2)

University of Kansas

University of Maryland

University of Miami (4)

University of Michigan

University of Mississippi

University of North Carolina at

Chapel Hill (3)

University of Notre Dame

University of Pennsylvania (2)

University of Richmond

University of Southern California

University of St. Andrews

University of Toronto

University of Vermont

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Ursinus College

Villanova University (2)

Wake Forest University

Washington University in St. Louis

West Virginia University

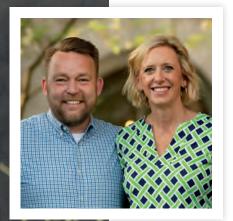
William and Mary

Williams College

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Yale University

Rod & Cassi Gerdsen



For Rod and Cassi Gerdsen, life is all about family. They treasure the time they spend with each other and their children, *Kate '20* and *Jack '24*. Their trips to visit their parents and relatives in North and South Carolina are highlights on their annual calendar. And, for the past 17 years, they've embraced the hundreds of students and colleagues who make up their Blair family, sharing warmth and kindness—not to mention unbridled enthusiasm for marine life and countless homemade brownies—with them all.

It's not surprising that family was the impetus that brought Rod and Cassi to Blair. Having met in 1997 as colleagues at Aiken Prep, an independent day and boarding school in South Carolina, they taught and worked at two other (primarily) day schools after they were married in 1999. Five years later, they were looking for a close-knit, boarding-school community where Rod's vision for their family—inspired by his "amazing" experience as a boarder at Pomfret School—could become a reality. Blair happened to be looking for a biology teacher/boys' dorm head/squash coach, a job description that fit Rod to a T, and one visit to campus sealed the deal.

Rod, Cassi and then-2-year-old Kate moved in to East Hall in the summer of 2004 and "settled right into the community of faculty and kids," according to Cassi. "It didn't take long to feel comfortable at Blair." From there, the Gerdsens dove into their roles on campus and, over the years, welcomed new opportunities to share their passions, interests and talents with the Blair community.

For his part, Rod has always been a lover of learning. This summer, he earned an MEd, his second master's degree, completing the Urban Principals and Leadership Program through Lehigh University. Earlier in his career, he earned a master's degree in marine affairs from the University of Rhode Island, which prompted him to establish Blair's perennially popular marine science course in 2005, at the time only the second science department elective. He has since loved leading long winter weekend trips to tropical destinations, where his passion for all things ocean comes alive. During his tenure, he has also served as an academic monitor, director of annual



The Gerdsens at play.



Rod kidding around with Goat Yoga in April 2021.

giving, admission associate and, for 11 years, dorm head for East Hall's 56 sophomore and junior boys. Currently, Rod teaches biology and marine science, and he brings his excitement for creating the best possible Blair experience to his roles as Associate Dean of Students (aka weekend activities guru) and as dorm head to 36 freshman and sophomore boys in Insley Hall.

Cassi, meanwhile, enjoyed being a full-time mom to Kate and Jack while they were young, not to mention being a "mom" to the boys in East, a role that involved everything from ironing shirts before the prom to sitting down at the kitchen table for heart-to-heart talks. She later became the school photographer, then coordinator of The Blair Leadership Stories Project and head coach of Blair's fledgling volleyball team. She loved each job for the way it afforded her opportunities

to learn and grow in new and exciting ways, and, just as importantly, to deepen her connections to the Blair community. Since 2016, she has served as director of admission application management, a role that allows her to share her love of Blair with prospective families all over the world.

That Rod and Cassi remain devoted to their own family and their Blair family is evident when they confide their favorite part of their family vacations: "Wherever we go, we look up Blair alumni/ae in the area and make it a point to get together," Rod said with a smile.

"We've celebrated our former students' weddings and babies," Cassi chimed in. "The boys—who are now men—are part of our family, and we want them to know that! Meeting up with them is always a highlight of our trips."

Rod and Cassi share more about their lives "outside the classroom" in this Q and A.

Questions for Rod:

Q. What was so powerful about your experience as a student at Pomfret School that it inspired your vision for your own family?

A. I lived in a small dorm the size of Blair's South Cottage. The teacher who oversaw it and his family of four took us in as though we were their own, and we shared their family meals and played with the kids. After our formal dinners, we played tag with the faculty kids and watched over them if their parents (our teachers) were called away for some school business. The fact that these children could interact with students from around the country and the world was a gift, in my opinion, and I wanted to share that with my family one day. I am so fortunate that it has played out exactly as I dreamed: Cassi and I both traveled to China



Rod using a virtual reality headset to give student Jalen Roberts '20 an up-close experience of ocean life.

for admission work—an incredible opportunity. My son's best friend is from Hong Kong, and he traveled there this summer, and my daughter has the travel bug as well, after making friends from Saudi Arabia and Singapore. The cultural connections offered by boarding schools are unmatched, and I'm thrilled that my family has been a part of these connections.

Q. Describe some of your most memorable moments teaching marine science at Blair.

A. Dissecting a six-foot blue shark in front of Bogle Science Center was an unforgettable experience. A student's father accidentally caught the shark off the coast of Staten Island. I drove to the marina there, put the shark in a

seven-foot-long box I had built, packed it with ice and drove back to Blair. The looks I got driving on Route 80 with a huge shark fin poking out of the back of the truck were priceless! The next day, kids were shocked when they walked to class and found me waiting for them outside Bogle with the shark arranged on a piece of plywood on sawhorses, ready for dissection. I did play a trick on them by placing a small Dora the Explorer doll in the stomach and then "discovering" it when we opened up the shark. Most of the kids knew it was a joke, but a few were horrified for a second when they thought it was the remnant of a shark attack! That joke gave me the chance to reinforce the fact that sharks are generally harmless and avoid humans whenever possible. I also have wonderful memories of the many

marine science trips we took over long winter weekends to the Turks and Caicos or Cayman Islands. There, we handled stingrays and sea turtles, snorkeled the crystal clear waters, and my students volunteered in a local elementary school's after-school program.

Q. You have run boys' dorms for 12 years at Blair. What have been some of the joys and challenges of that role, and what do you hope the boys ultimately gain from the experience of living in the dorm?

A. The joys have included thriving on the boundless energy of youth (just walking through the dorm, you get this infusion of vitality and spirit that is unmatched by any other job environment) and forming



Faculty captain Rod cheering on Team Sharpe during the Headmasters' Societies Games.



Director of Admission Application Management Cassi in her office.

relationships that have lasted as our "boys" have become men with families of their own. We've also enjoyed quick and easy access to babysitters, having eager mouths to finish off batches of cookies and desserts, and holding many late-night barbecue and grilling sessions, where the boys open up about everything on their minds. Challenges? The pitter-patter of size-12 feet running down the hallways, smoke alarms going off at odd times of the day and night (you do NOT cook microwave popcorn for 10 minutes!) and the smell, at times, of athletic gear and sweat. When they move out, I hope the boys take with them a greater respect for their hall mates and for their environment, an understanding of how to live and work well with others, and a connection to our family and to Blair.

Q. As Associate Dean of Students last year, you recruited student volunteers to help plan weekend activities during a time when everything took place on campus due to COVID-19 health-and-safety protocols. What was it like working with this "Dream Team," and what were some of the year's most epic weekend events?

A. I was so impressed with the passion of this group of students as they eagerly engaged with me to plan a whole host of very cool weekend activities. No matter how crazy or wacky their ideas, I embraced them all and figured out how we could do them. Goat yoga came up when I told them I wrenched my back and needed to do some stretching. One of the students mentioned her dad had goats walk on his back and that I should try it. Boom! Goat Yoga was born! The Food Truck Festival last fall came from a discussion about one student's summer job in a Philadelphia gyro truck. Finally, as crazy as fireworks sounded at first, I checked into it and made it happen for The Great Thaw. This welcome-tospring event ended with a fireworks

demonstration that rivaled any July
4th display I've seen. And all of those
weekend activities came from the minds
of students.

Questions for Cassi:

Q. In your work as school photographer, you captured on film everything from classes and prom to graduation and sporting events. Now several of your Blair athletic team "action shots" hang in Hardwick Hall. Tell us about some of your favorites.

A. I always loved capturing every moment that parents might miss while their child was away at boarding school. I know, as a mom, I would want to see all of the big and little moments that my child was experiencing at Blair. I loved seeing that some of my photos even made families' holiday cards! One of my favorite photos is one that I captured through pure luck. During a state championship softball







Kate '20 (age 11) with Kris Patane '13 all ready for prom.

game, with two outs in the final inning, I randomly had my camera focused on one of the players. The batter hit the ball high over her head—she jumped and caught it, and I caught the photo! A blown-up and framed image of that game-winning catch now hangs in the athletic director's office.

Q. A former high school and college volleyball player, you became head coach of Blair's volleyball team a couple of years after it was established. What was that experience like for you?

A. I loved working with such an amazing group of girls. After living in a dorm full of boys for 11 years, it was fun to work with strong female teams! I always left practice feeling better than I did when I walked in... Being around the team and getting to spend time with my girls always made me happy and energized. I don't think the girls will ever understand what they gave me in return for coaching them. Coaching is much different from being a player, and I have a new appreciation

for my middle school, high school, club and college coaches!

Q. As part of The Blair Leadership
Stories Project, freshmen and
seniors share a moment when they
made a choice or decision and
remained true to their values. What
did you take away from your years
of photographing and recording
student stories for this program?

A. I feel truly blessed to have been able to work with students as they told their stories. It was just me, the student and the camera in the room. We shared laughter and tears, and every story touched my heart. Filming the freshmen and seniors, I was able to see a group of students bookend their time at Blair. Seeing a student grow and hearing how his or her story developed was something I feel lucky to have shared.

Q. What do you like most about your current work in the admission office?

A. The people! Admission work can be very cyclical, but our admission team

always makes the best of each day. They are some of the hardest-working people I know. I also love meeting and chatting with families from all over the world. Some days when I am feeling a bit homesick for the South, a Southern family walks in or calls and we can chat about The Masters, horse races, favorite beaches and restaurants. Then I get to share with those families that we have been here for however many years and that Blair has been both our home and our family. I always tell them that, without Blair, I could not have stayed away from my Southern roots for so long!

Questions for Rod & Cassi:

Q. Playing games—and keeping running scores!—is something you love to do as a couple and as a family. How does this competitive activity draw you closer and what are some of your favorite games?

Cassi: It's a time that we sit, talk and laugh together!







The Gerdsens relax on their favorite beach in Emerald Isle, N.C.

Rod: And while I decidedly won the Sequence tournament, I think Cassi is WAY ahead in Quixx.

Q. What has it been like to raise Kate and Jack at Blair?

Rod & Cassi: As most Blair faculty with kids can attest, it can be challenging to maintain balance between staying comfortably out of your child's academic, athletic, artistic and social life at Blair and yet also staying involved enough to provide appropriate parental guidance. The reason we are so comfortable with letting our kids find their own way here is that we know all of our faculty colleagues are also our closest friends, and they have known our kids their whole lives and are equally protective of them.

Raising our kids in the dorm for 11 years gave them hundreds of big brothers over the years. Kate even wrote her college essay about her "big brothers" and growing up in East Hall. We have many East Hall "family" stories—babysitting adventures, dorm holiday parties, Kate getting dressed up for prom pics with "her boys," Jack joining the boys to play video games, Kate selling a ton of Girl Scout Cookies (3-year-old Jack also sold some fake cookies to a boy—he knows who he is!).

Some of the East Hall students that Kate and Jack most admired back in the day are here now as faculty members, and we can see how things have come full circle. English teacher **John Redos '09** was Kate's rowing coach, and she chose his wife, science teacher Suzana Markolovic, to be her advisor. Jack chose another East alum, math teacher **Chadd Clairmont '09**, as his advisor. As parents, we are thankful to have former students whom we regarded so highly when they were kids now serving as mentors to our own kids.

Q. As much as you love your life on campus, where do you go to escape?

Cassi: The beach! Having married a marine scientist, beaches are family favorite places. I love sitting on the beach listening to the ocean while Rod

loves going into the ocean. It is always interesting when he pulls something from the sea and then launches into a mini class right there...I wasn't sure if I really wanted to know how a sea cucumber defends itself, but it's hard to turn off the teacher in him!

Q. What superpower would you like to possess?

Rod: I wish I could speak any language at any moment to anyone. Imagine being able to switch from English to Russian to Mandarin to Xhosa to Portuguese. So cool!

Cassi: I wish I could teleport. Sometimes, it would be nice to be closer to our family in the Carolinas. Or take a quick weekend escape to the beach during the New Jersey winters!

Q. For what are you most grateful today?

Rod & Cassi: Our Blair family!



STATE OF ADMISSION

BY DEAN OF ADMISSION TEDDY WENNER '96

hat a year it has been! The Blair admission team faced quite a few challenges in 2020-2021 as we looked to recreate our warm and welcoming in-person experience in a virtual format. Thanks to technology and the assistance of so many in our community—students, teachers, parents and alumni/ae—we were able to offer new virtual experiences that authentically conveyed what makes our School so special. From digital panel discussions with faculty to physically distant golf cart campus tours, 2021 marked the birth of new and creative ways that our admission team shared our community with prospective families.

I am pleased to report that it has been another record-setting year for Blair: In 2020-2021, we achieved an acceptance rate of 18 percent and received more than 1,480 applications for admission, the highest number in School history. There is no question that Blair's reputation continues to grow and that prospective families understand the value of a Blair education. Our balanced approach to a student-centered, academically rigorous education with

superior college outcomes remains the centerpiece of the Blair experience.

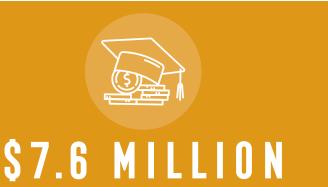
Indeed, a Blair education is about the connection between our students and our faculty, about balancing the rigor of our curriculum with the warmth of our community. Students are at the forefront of all that we do, and we are purposeful about building deep connections among members of our community. We feel deeply that the education students receive outside the classroom is just as important as the education inside the classroom. This message clearly resonated with prospective families this year, and we saw demand for a Blair education rise across the globe. From Kazakhstan to Kansas, Nigeria to New York, Afghanistan to Alabama, Curação to California, and Bulgaria to Blairstown, we are pleased to share that, in 2021, the diversity of applicants reached new heights.

The fact that we were able to live and learn together in person on campus for 28 weeks when so many other schools were unable to fully open is something that positively impacted our admission cycle. Prospective families were impressed by

Blair's ability to be agile and adapt creatively to limitations imposed by the pandemic while, at the same time, continuing to offer their children a first-rate educational experience. This clearly resonated with parents and students alike, and the warmth families felt from every member of our community during their Revisit Day campus tours only deepened this sense of genuine care and connection. During March and April, more than 100 admitted families toured Blair, meeting a member of the admission team down on Park Street, picking up a golf cart with their child's class year proudly displayed on the front, and following six feet behind an admission team counselor and a student tour guide as they drove around campus. Although families were unable to enter buildings, the smiles and waves they received as they toured our beautiful campus truly showcased the spirit of our community.

As we look to reset to a typical admission cycle in 2021-2022, we are excited to carry forward many of the tools we utilized last year. We will continue to offer numerous virtual and in-person opportunities to connect with our community: live dorm and





IN FINANCIAL AID









1,480
1,187
1,187
1,187
2001-02 2006-07 2011-12 2016-17 2020-21
NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS

campus tours, Wednesday information sessions, Zoom interviews and much more. Of course, we are most excited about inviting families to campus and having them see firsthand what makes the Blair experience so transformative—our students and faculty.

We started the last academic year uncertain about the future but united

in our resolve to teach, learn and adapt together. I hope you feel, as I do, that it was an honor to be part of a community that adapted when necessary and whose spirit and dedication to Blair students continued to shine. Together, we set not only admission records in 2021 but also new standards for ourselves in how to grow and face adversity. I am especially

grateful to the alumni/ae and Blair families who assisted us along the way. Now more than ever, your enthusiasm for the School helps us attract and enroll students who will make the most of the Blair experience. We are eager to build upon our successful admission season and look forward, with you, to a new and bright 2021-2022!



Duc Dinh '22

Duc Dinh '22 snapped "On Cloud 9" (above) in Vietnam in 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic forced the country into partial lockdown. During the restrictions, he felt his creative flow was blocked and looked to the day it would be lifted. According to Duc, "I was inspired to create a piece of artwork that almost mimics heaven. I was craving to capture my feelings during the lockdown, but the reality of the situation is this was taken inside my room, so it's not as dreamy as is portrayed. It is important to value what we have at hand, use our creative mind to its fullest and to embrace the situation nevertheless, especially during this period where loss seems to overwhelm its way into everyone's lives."

His other work, featured above, captures Duc's passion for creativity. Recently, he placed first in the people category and third in the color category in a competition hosted by the Photographic Society of America. Congratulations, Duc!

Independent Imagination: Workbook Connects

Blair Artists



As part of Blair's healthand-safety protocols last year, the academic calendar included several weeks of remote learning before and after winter break. Blair's fine arts teachers knew it was important to help their students continue to build art skills during their extended time at home, so they devised a

fun and creative way for students to get hands-on experience in several mediums: Blair's very first art workbook. The workbook served as an independent art study to amplify innovation and imagination among Blair's artists.

According to fine arts department chair Kate Sykes, the department was inspired to find a way for students to stay engaged with their art practice during winter break. They also didn't want students to feel bored and isolated at home where their activity options might be limited.

Art teacher Evan Thomas and photography teacher Tyson Trish worked closely with Mrs. Sykes to design and print the 25-page workbook. It featured a different prompt on each page for various art exercises. Students created their artworks directly in the book or, for more physical exercises such as sculpture, they scanned QR codes that led to instructional videos.

Exercises included ceramics, word association mind-maps, storyboards, various forms of sculpture, drawing, illustration, self-portraits, color memory association and more. Each individual page included a custom hashtag that students could use to share their work with each other and the Blair community.

The workbook featured custom designs by *Elizabeth Montfort '20*, *Marty Dericks '22* and *Irene Jung '21* that students could color or illustrate. A PDF version of the workbook was sent out to the greater School community for anyone who was interested in participating.

"We put it together rather quickly so we could get it in the hands of our art students before they left for Thanksgiving break," Mrs. Sykes noted.

#blaircolorsofimagination

Draw a picture of something over the watercolor swatches that you would like to imagine in these colors



Mrs. Sykes, Mr. Thomas and Mr. Trish wanted to ensure students felt supported in their artistic and creative growth from afar, and the workbook served as an opportunity to provide them with emotional support, creative inspiration and hope. The workbook was also a chance to introduce different artistic styles to keep creative brains active and engaged.

"It does feel like something that we can add to and improve upon, and there are definitely some ways we can get more students more involved," Mrs. Sykes said. "I can foresee us sending art workbooks home with students over the summer for years to come."

Photos Worth a Thousand Words



In early March, the Blair Academy Players presented an original play by *Carson Honor '21*. The Ones Spared tells the story of four scientists contracted by the Department of Defense to develop a supercomputer. Amid Cold War tension in Washington, D.C., the scientists soon question the federal government's motives.



The Blair Academy Players performed *Trifles*, written by Susan Glaspell, in the Wean Theatre on May 6 and 7. Directed by adjunct faculty member Sonia Hanson, the 40-minute drama explored themes of isolation, the justness of law and order, and early feminism.



To close out the season, the Blair Academy Players presented You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown, based on the long-running Peanuts cartoon by Charles M. Schultz. The musical, directed by veteran theatre teacher Craig Evans, told the story of that lovable everyman, Charlie Brown, and featured a six-member, all-female cast.



Blair Academy's fine and performing artists took to the outdoors on April 30 for "A Night With the Stars." The evening offered students, families, faculty and staff the opportunity to celebrate Blair's arts programs by participating in exhibitions and a concert at a variety of outdoor campus venues, including the Chiang-Elghanayan Center for Innovation and Collaboration and the plaza of Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts.

Arts Calendar 2021-2022: The Romano Gallery

Honoring the work and skill of artists is an integral part of every student's Blair experience. This year, the Blair community will once again have the opportunity to explore the work of both student and professional practicing artists on campus through an exciting lineup of shows in the Romano Gallery. Each visiting artist will be available for students to ask questions, engage with their work, and learn more about their process and inspiration. This year's slate of exhibits started off this fall with wood-fired ceramicist Kristin Müller, showcasing her intricate forms inspired by nature.

On the stage, Blair students are already hard at work showcasing their musical and theatrical talents. Whether presenting a sunny musical or insightful drama, the Blair Academy Players and musicians have a variety of exhibitions planned this season that are sure to captivate, entertain and move audiences. We hope you'll mark your calendars and join us at one or more of these events as we celebrate our studentartists during the 2021-2022 school year. Whichever exhibition or performance most appeals to you, it is sure to be delivered with pride and poise!

Music:



www.blair.edu/music

Blair on Stage:

(entire performing arts department)

October 22, 5:30 p.m.

DuBois Theatre, Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts

Fall Concert:

(vocal & instrumental ensembles)

November 19, 7 p.m. **DuBois Theatre, Armstrong-Hipkins Center** for the Arts

Christmas Vespers:

(Blair Chamber Orchestra & Singers)

December 10, 4:30 & 7:30 p.m. First Presbyterian Church in Blairstown

Grandparents' Day Concert: (vocal & instrumental ensembles)

April 20, 10:30 a.m. **DuBois Theatre, Armstrong-Hipkins Center** for the Arts

Spring Concert:

(vocal & instrumental ensembles)

May 6, 7:15 p.m. **DuBois Theatre, Armstrong-Hipkins Center** for the Arts









Theatre



www.blair.edu/theatre

She Kills Monsters

October 28, 29 & 30; 7:30 p.m. Wean Studio Theatre

A play by Qui Nguyen

In this dramatic comedy, playwright Qui Nguyen tells the story of Agnes Evans, who loses her parents and teenage sister, Tilly, in a car accident. Agnes discovers that Tilly was an avid Dungeons & Dragons player and, wanting to understand her sister better, Agnes embarks into the reality and fantasy world that Tilly inhabited by playing a module that her sister wrote. In the process, Agnes uncovers layers to her sister that she didn't know existed. This sensitive examination of one girl's journey through loss comes with homicidal fairies, dark elves and '90s pop.

Mamma Mia!

February 17, 18 & 19; 7:30 p.m. **DuBois Theatre**

Book by Catherine Johnson; Music & lyrics by Benny Andersson & Björn Ulvaeus

Featuring the infectious hits of ABBA's Benny Andersson and Björn Ulvaeus, Mamma Mia! tells the hilarious story of a young woman's search for her birth father. This sunny and funny tale unfolds on a Greek island paradise. On the eve of her wedding, a daughter's quest to discover her father's identity brings three men from her mother's past



back to the island they last visited 20 years ago. This feelgood production, featuring over a dozen songs by the internationally acclaimed band, is the perfect way to bring some sunshine to the last weeks of winter at Blair.

LOVE/SICK

May 19, 20 & 21; 7:30 p.m. **Robert J. Evans Outdoor Theatre**

By John Cariani

Billed as "a darker cousin to Almost, Maine," reviewers call John Cariani's Love/Sick "a collection of nine slightly twisted



VISIT OUR WEBSITE: Because this calendar is subject to change, please check Blair's website for the most up-to-date information available at www.blair.edu/arts-calendar, or call (908) 362-6121. The DuBois Theatre, Wean Theatre and Romano Gallery are housed within Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts on Blair's campus in Blairstown, New Jersey.

and completely hilarious short plays." Taking place on a single Friday night in suburbia, each vignette has its own arc and explores the highs and lows of love experienced by a variety of couples. Whether it is a young couple left breathless by love at first sight or a middle-aged man wondering why the thrill has left his marriage, Mr. Cariani delicately explores the romantic crossroads that shape the life cycle of love. Full of "imperfect lovers and dreamers," Love/Sick has been hailed as "an unromantic comedy for the romantic in everyone." The Blair Academy Players production, to be held in Blair's Robert J. Evans Open Air Theatre, will round out Blair's spring 2022 productions as the school year comes to a close.



Fine Arts



@ www.blair.edu/romano-gallery

The Romano Gallery, Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts

10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday The gallery will close at noon on each show's last day. Receptions and artist talks take place at 7 p.m.

Interpretation & Iteration

August 17-September 18; artist talk September 16

A specialist in wood-fired ceramics, multicultural artist and executive director of Peters Valley School of Craft, Kristin Müller considers ideas and visual language in clay and on paper in this exhibition. Her featured work includes a selection of wood-fired ceramic vessels and prints on paper that explore the aesthetics of the natural world, Wabi-cha aesthetics, gesture and surface design.



Still Resisting [Convenience]

September 21-October 16; artist talk October 14

Artist Heather Palecek uses historical photography processes in experimental ways, collaborating with Mother Nature in each of her projects. Most notably a pinhole photographer, she also works with



cyanotype and lumen printing and digital photography. This exhibition is the second in a 2021 series that speaks about humans' relationship with Mother Nature and cautions against the overwhelming desire for convenience.

Memory Palace

October 19-November 20; artist talk November 18 Natessa Amin '06 brings elements of sculpture and drawing to her highly tactile painting practice. Alongside natural forms, cultural references influence her sensitive abstraction. She frequently incorporates imagery that evokes Indian, African and Pennsylvania Dutch textiles as a response to her family's background



and the place in which she was raised, lending her forms a simultaneously iconic and emotional quality.



Experiments in Artistic Collaboration

November 29-December 18; reception December 2

In this community-based show, groups and pairs of students experiment across and within arts disciplines offered at Blair, finding opportunities to stretch and take bigger artistic risks as they interpret their work through a multidisciplinary lens. The exhibit showcases the results of this experimental journey in art-making at the end of the first semester.



Secret Worlds

January 4-February 5; artist talk January 20

Painter Anthony Smith Jr. uses layers of paint, collage, text and found objects to create vibrant narrative through works filled with whimsy, morality and a tinge of foreboding. In this exhibit, viewers are invited into worlds of play and discovery, where they might form their own connections from familiar imagery woven into each piece.



Shawn Cheng

February 8-March 12; artist talk February 17

Artist and cartoonist Shawn Cheng makes pictures of monsters. Drawing inspiration from mythical traditions from around the world, he creates characters to act out the conflict between the natural and unnatural (i.e., man-made). The monsters in his maximal, visually dense images are awe-inspiring, even beautiful, evoking a sense of wonder, as well as impending doom.



Cadences

March 15-April 23; artist talk April 7

Former Blair fine arts teacher Rita Baragona searches out rhythmic and luminous cadences in her ocean, landscape and flower paintings and sketchbook drawings. In her most recent work, she questions how much impermanence we ignore in codifying nature and paints her subjects as they change, with attention, over time, to flowers as they bloom and wilt or the ceaseless turbulence of waves.

Annual Student Art Exhibition

April 28-May 23; reception May 5

Displaying student work of all different mediums, this show celebrates the accomplishments, hard work and dedication of Blair's talented fine artists.













THE FUNDAMENTALS OF LIVING AND WORKING AT BLAIR

INTRODUCING COMMUNITY NORMS THAT ENABLE US TO THRIVE.

uring the many conversations and interactions that resulted from the events of the summer of 2020, Dean of Strategic Initiatives Leucretia Shaw thought a lot about the ways in which Blair could better express its values and hold community members to a standard for living and working together. The idea of identifying and introducing a series of community "norms" was born. The ensuing guideposts of how we care for and treat one another took shape throughout the fall of 2020, as Mrs. Shaw and a team of students, faculty and staff invited classmates and colleagues to submit suggestions.

The group received hundreds of submissions promoting kindness, dignity, positivity, respect and acceptance, and spent the fall and winter months combing through them and determining which made the most sense for Blair. After much collaborative distilling and wordsmithing, the team shared five norms with a variety of individuals on campus to discern if they captured the spirit of how Blair should function with regard to day-to-day life on the hilltop. The group listened to wide-ranging feedback and refined the norms and its plans for introducing them to the community.

Along the way, an official name and visual for the norms came under consideration, and **Renee Tracey '23** brilliantly

coined The Five Fundamentals. "The name was perfect and truly captured the foundational expectation to which all Blair community members should hold themselves and others accountable," explained Mrs. Shaw. "Regarding the visual, fine arts teacher and Fundamentals Selection Committee member Evan Thomas took to developing a graphic that depicted The Five Fundamentals in a way that pleases the eye while maintaining the importance of each Fundamental individually." Director of Communications Andee Ryerson also lent her artistic perspective to an additional design the group adopted.

The Five Fundamentals were officially introduced to the campus community during School Meeting in early March 2021. Student members of the committee presented each Fundamental one by one and offered thoughts on what it means to live them. In a presentation anchored by words from other faculty committee members, including English teacher Bob Brandwood and Dean of Campus Life and Director of Leadership Programs *Carolyn Conforti-Browse '79*, The Five Fundamentals—See the good; Know yourself & practice honesty; Honor the dignity of others; Show care in all spaces; and Be curious & suspend judgment—made their debut. Directly following the rollout of The Fundamentals and the visual, teachers and students spent advisor block together

"EVERYONE AT BLAIT HAS VALUE AND SHOULD BE UPLIFTED, AND WE SHOULD ALL SHOW CARE FOR EACH OTHER."

-LEUCRETIA SHAW, DEAN OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

discussing them with prompts devised by Mrs. Conforti-Browse and approved by the Selection Committee.

The work of The Fundamentals Selection Committee continued last spring, as part of what the team worked on throughout the months before the March presentation centered on the infusion of The Fundamentals campus-wide. Focusing on how The Fundamentals can best be incorporated into all aspects of school life—academics, residential life, student life, athletics and other areas (which include the work of the admission office and Blair staff, as well as sharing them with members of Blair's extended family)—was a major part of efforts throughout the spring. Additionally, a new Fundamentals Recognition Committee was formed to periodically celebrate nominated individuals who embody particular Fundamentals at School Meeting.

"What I've loved most about this endeavor has been hearing our students' voices," said Mrs. Shaw. "Our five student team members were so honest and willing to shed light on what would and wouldn't speak to students. I give them a huge amount of credit for attending our twice-a-week meetings, sharing their insights and offering input. Without their contributions, we wouldn't have ended up where we did, and their commitment to helping develop The Fundamentals really showed how much they care about the way Blair is and what community members do."

In fact, that sentiment captures exactly the goal of the committee at the start of the norms-creation process:

Articulating a collective sense to the Blair community of how we want to be and developing values for how we live and work in this space together. "Everyone at Blair has value and should be uplifted, and we should all show care for each other," Mrs. Shaw said. "To be committed to making sure everyone is thriving and growing in ways that make sense is a real testament to one's own development as an individual and how we develop as a whole community."



Mrs. Shaw expresses her deep thanks to members of The Fundamentals Selection Committee for all that they have done and will continue to do moving forward:

Barbara Angiolelli, instructional technologist | Bob Brandwood, English teacher | Carolyn Conforti-Browse '79, Dean of Campus Life & Director of Leadership Programs | Eleanor Dana '22 | Sharon Merrifield, former language, mindfulness & health/wellness teacher | Ryan Pagotto '97, Associate Head of School | Patrick Payne '23 | Lorry Perry, Assistant Head of School for Academics & Dean of Faculty | Laura Posner '22 | Leucretia Shaw, Dean of Strategic Initiatives | Evan Thomas, fine arts teacher | Kecia Tillman, registrar | Renee Tracey '23 | Miki Wang '21

BUCCANEERS









- **01** *Aitalia Sharpe '22* showed her track-and-field prowess.
- **02** Girls' lacrosse goalie **Avery Lehman '21** earned all-MAPL honors in 2021.
- **03** Isaiah Marseille '23 practiced his swing on the Blair Academy golf course.
- **04** Top pitcher *Mallory Allen '23* took the field with the girls' varsity softball team.
- **05 Owen Donaghy '21** helped the varsity boys' lacrosse team defeat rival Newton 19-3.
- 06 Pulling in unison, the Blair varsity girls' crew team won the May 2021 MAPL championship. Below is the girls' third varsity boat consisting of (left to right) Renee Tracey '23, Campbell Craig '21, Audrey Zawoiski '24, Peyton Schreiber '22 and Maggie Hayes '23.
- 07 Last year, the boys' first varsity crew boat consisted of (right to left) Sam Junkermann '22, Alex Skida '22, Paul Kazilionis '22, Dylan Zhu '21 and Annalise Fried '22.
- **08** Tennis star *Marc Riera Manzanaro '22* helped the varsity boys' tennis team bring home the 2021 MAPL championship.
- **09** The varsity girls' golf team with *Molly Wu '23*, clinched the 2021 MAPL championship.
- **10** Slugger *Justin Baggett '23* led the baseball team in runs.













Bucs Claim Championships in Historic Spring Athletic Season

By Rhett Moroses '13

The 2021 spring athletic season will hold a special place in School history: Not only did Buccaneer teams compete during a pandemic year, but they also earned Mid-Atlantic Prep League (MAPL) championships along the way.

"I am very proud of our spring studentathletes," said *Paul Clavel '88*, director of athletics. "They faced unprecedented challenges this season due to the pandemic and never backed down. These Bucs overcame incredible adversity and have added to the legacy of Blair athletics."

Girls' Varsity Crew

On May 1, the girls' varsity crew team captured the MAPL championship on Mercer Lake, making a statement by winning four of five races.

To start the day, the girls' novice four achieved a definitive win over the Hun

School. Next up, the girls' third varsity four had their best race of the year, beating Peddie and Hill and giving a fast Lawrenceville crew a true test down the course. The girls' second varsity four were put to the test by the Peddie School over the first 1000m of their race; however, as the conditions worsened, Blair's second varsity locked in and executed the best part of their race, their sprint. They pulled ahead for a nearly four-second win over Peddie.

The girls' first varsity four led immediately off the start and opened the gap for the remainder of their race, rowing a very high standard. The first varsity had a seven-second gap over Peddie by the finish buoy, claiming the title of girls' All-MAPL crew.

The day ended with the girls' novice eight taking to the water, with five

athletes completing their second race. They cruised down the course with a commanding win over their field.

"I am extremely proud of our team's MAPL championship win," said *John Redos '09*, director of crew programs and head girls' rowing coach. "This event means a lot as the result is dependent on the entire varsity program as opposed to the top boat. The work these athletes have put in over the past year, and the way they treat one another, led to a definitive day on the water at Mercer."

Girls' Varsity Golf

On May 5, the girls' varsity golf team secured its sixth MAPL championship in program history. The Bucs won the event with a total score of 165, 15 strokes lower than the second-place Hill School.

Lucy Barton '23 and Chloe Barton '23 both had the lowest score of 40, along with Hill's Lulu Nakagawa. This led to a sudden-death playoff, which Lucy won with a birdie on the third hole. She was crowned MAPL individual champion. Chloe, Molly Wu '23 and







The girls' crew with their championship trophy.

Jassiel Sanchez '24 were each awarded all-MAPL honors, as well.

This MAPL championship marks the girls' varsity golf team's fourth MAPL crown in five years. "This championship win was very impressive," said Mr. Clavel, head girls' golf coach. "Not only did the girls win in tough weather conditions, but they also recorded the lowest overall score for the team this year."

Boys' Varsity Tennis

The Bucs hosted the 2021 boys' MAPL tennis championship on May 15 and defended the home courts by securing

their fourth MAPL title in program history. This marks their second conference championship in the past five years.

All Bucs received a bye in the first round. In the second round, *John*Boellhoff '21 and Nick Harpe '21 swept their opponents 6-0, 6-0. In singles,

Marc Riera Manzanaro '22, Jack

Weber '21, Hagen Shook '21 and Ethan

Turkewitz '22 all won in two sets.

The six players advanced to the championship round, where they secured enough points to clinch the MAPL championship. Jack won the round 6-0, 6-3 to be crowned MAPL champion for the

Bucs. Overall, Blair's team scored 21 points, followed by Lawrenceville with 19 points.

"I'm proud of the team," said Associate Head of School *Ryan Pagotto '97*, head coach of boys' varsity tennis. "I knew we had the talent this year to win the MAPL title, and it was just a matter of the individual players rising to the moment when they needed to, on championship day and in each match. They earned it! What a phenomenal group of young men to work with, and I'm especially happy for the five seniors on the team to have had this win on campus and in front of their friends and faculty."



A scenic view of the ninth hole on Blair's golf course.



Girls' varsity golf.



Boys' varsity tennis after their final matches.



Varsity boys' tennis player *Marc Riera Manzanaro '22* works on his forehand swing.

Mark Lieberman '74 Achieves National Wrestling Hall of Fame Honors

Blair Academy and Lehigh University wrestling legend *Mark Lieberman '74*, *P'01 '02 '03 '07* was recognized for his outstanding accomplishments and contributions to the sport when he was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall of Fame as a Distinguished Member in June. A former Blair Trustee, Mr. Lieberman is a member of the Blair Academy Athletic Hall of Fame's inaugural class of 2016. His National Wrestling Hall of Fame selection marks the latest achievement in his celebrated wrestling career.

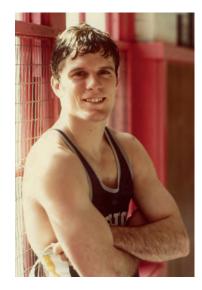
As a Buccaneer, Mr. Lieberman earned national prep championships in 1972, 1973 and 1974 and two-time honors as the tournament's Outstanding Wrestler. He helped launch Blair's freestyle program and won the USA Wrestling Junior National Freestyle championship in 1973 and the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) Junior World Freestyle championship in 1974. At his Blair graduation, Mr. Lieberman received the Headmaster's Prize, the Jamieson Wrestling Prize and the Robert Dalling Prize, an award named for his first Blair wrestling coach and given to the male athlete who best represents the School in athletic competition.

"Mark Lieberman is acclaimed as Lehigh University's greatest overall wrestler, if combining all styles," lauds his National Wrestling Hall of Fame citation. His achievements at Lehigh include two undefeated seasons, winning the NCAA championships in 1978 and 1979 at 177 lbs., and a runnerup finish in 1977 at 167 lbs. He was the first wrestler in Lehigh's history to win four Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association (EIWA) championships. Mr. Lieberman was the first NCAA champion produced by Blair Athletic Hall of Fame member and legendary USA Wrestling Coach of the Year Tom Hutchinson. His wrestling achievements also include World Cup gold and silver medals, a Pan Am Championships gold medal and three USA Wrestling National Freestyle Open Championships, including winning the Outstanding Wrestler and Most Falls awards. In 1978, he was named the USA Wrestling Athlete of the Year.

Distinguished Members of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame are those who have achieved extraordinary success in national and/or international competition; coaches who

have demonstrated great leadership in the profession and who have compiled outstanding records; or contributors whose long-term activities have substantially enhanced the development and advancement of the sport.

During the weekend of June 4-5, Mr. Lieberman was inducted into the National Wrestling Hall



of Fame along with fellow Distinguished Members Bruce Burnett, Dremiel Byers and Bill Zadick. The inductees also included Meritorious Official Tim Shiels, Order of Merit recipient Gary Abbott, Medal of Courage recipient Gary Chopp and Outstanding American Carl Eschenbach.

"This group has accomplished and done so much for wrestling, and they continue to give back to our great sport," said Lee Roy Smith, National Wrestling Hall of Fame executive director. "We are proud to honor these remarkable individuals."

A proud and deeply loyal Blair alumnus, Mr. Lieberman is part of a Blair legacy that includes many family members who share his dedication to the School. His brother, fellow Lehigh alumnus and renowned wrestler *Michael Lieberman '71*, was Blair's first NCAA champion. He was inducted into Blair's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2017. Their sister, *Marianne Lieberman '79, P'17 '19*, served two terms on Blair's Board of Trustees. In addition, Mr. Lieberman and his wife, Deborah, are the parents of Trustee *Maria Lieberman Smalley '01*, *Thomas Lieberman '02*, *Nicholas Lieberman '03* and *Kevin Lieberman '07*.



Read the National Wrestling Hall of Fame announcement at www.blair.edu/mark-lieberman.

Athletic Hall of Fame: Two Years' of Inductees Celebrated Over Alumni Weekend

In a picturesque ceremony in the Bowl on the morning of Saturday, August 14, five athletes, two coaches and two teams were officially inducted as the 2020 and 2021 Athletic Hall of Fame classes. Blair established the Athletic Hall of Fame in 2016 to recognize the men and women who have distinguished themselves and Blair on the athletic fields, or who have contributed to the development of athletics at the School. To be

considered for membership, nominees must have exhibited the highest caliber of athletic accomplishment at Blair and have been outstanding members of the community in the areas of scholastic achievement, citizenship, integrity and moral character. These two classes exemplify these characteristics, which was clearly shown by the love and support showered on them throughout the ceremony.



Founding coach of girls' athletics at Blair, Jan (Mitten) Hutchinson is surrounded by her former student-athletes.



Golfer **Chris Nallen '00** gets inducted into the 2020 Athletic Hall of Fame.



Tri-sport athlete and former Blair Board of Governors member *Janet (Jones) Harrington '76* gets inducted into the 2020 Athletic Hall of Fame by *Carolyn Conforti-Browse '79*.



Wrestling coach Tom Hutchinson and his former Blair and Lehigh University student-athletes.



To read more about our inductees, please visit www.blair.edu/ahof-2020 and www.blair.edu/ahof-2021.



Alumni/ae, family and friends celebrate the 2020 and 2021 inductees.



Members of the 2020 and 2021 Athletic Hall of Fame (left to right): **Chris Nallen '00**, **Janet (Jones) Harrington '76**, Jan (Mitten) Hutchinson, **Melissa Henderson Koenig '84**, **Steve Mocco '01** and Tom Hutchinson.



Paul Clavel '88 congratulates **Carolyn Conforti-Browse '79**, head coach of the 1988 girls' softball team.



Winner of 11 varsity letters, multi-sport athlete **Melissa Henderson Koenig '84** addresses the audience.



Paul Clavel '88 with heavyweight wrestler and former Olympian **Steve Mocco '01**.



Jan (Mitten) Hutchinson discusses her experience coaching girls' field hockey, basketball and softball at Blair.



Athletic Hall of Fame: Named in Honor of Legendary Coach Tom Hutchinson



Coach Tom Hutchinson, standing in front of the Athletic Hall of Fame wall named in his honor

In a memorable ceremony following this year's Athletic Hall of Fame inductions, Director of Athletics *Paul Clavel '88* announced the naming of the Athletic Hall of Fame in honor of legendary Blair coach and mentor, Tom Hutchinson. While his athletic accomplishments are numerous and impressive, Mr. Clavel noted that what most Blair alumni/ae remember about "Coach Hutch" is his care for and dedication to every student. During his tenure at Blair from 1972 to 1982, Coach Hutch served as a math and science teacher and head varsity wrestling coach. While at Blair, he was named "1981 National Coach of the Year" by USA Wrestling and, under his leadership, the Bucs won their first-ever national prep team championship in 1974. At Blair, the coaches' locker rooms in Hardwick Hall and now the Athletic Hall of Fame are both named for Coach Hutchinson to honor and celebrate the profound impact he had in shaping the lives of each student he taught, coached and interacted with as a member of Blair's faculty.







or the Blair Academy community, Alumni Weekend is a cherished moment of annual celebration. It's a time when friends and classmates return to a campus that holds many memories, reunite with old friends whom they may not have seen in years, make new connections with graduates from other classes, and most importantly, share their stories. This year, in particular, even more friends were reunited as we brought back two classes for Alumni Weekend.

"It was so nice to return to campus and see all my favorite spots and people!" shared **Zoe Brown '15**. "Catching up with friends and teachers was a treat—it's always wonderful to hear what everyone has been up to. It's amazing what everyone has accomplished in five years, yet in some ways, visiting campus made me feel as if graduation was just yesterday."

In what promised to be an outstanding celebration of camaraderie, former students reunited for a single-day celebration on August 14, with festivities kicking off the night before to honor the two 25th- and 50th-reunion classes.

On Friday evening, members of the graduating classes of 1970, 1971, 1995 and 1996 came together for dinner and cocktails under the stars at Sharpe House. *Jerry***Bamel '70 enjoyed reuniting with his classmates for such a meaningful reunion. He shared, "Back in the late 1960s it was a challenging time for both the nation and Blair. Many friendships were formed at Blair, and we then went on to our

own paths. The 50th Blair reunion is a milestone in our lives and is a chance to catch up with some of those friends who I've thought about over the years and to reflect upon some of the knowledge, skills and abilities I learned as a fresh-faced sophomore 15 years of age, 50 years ago...The Blair campus today is vibrant, active, stimulating and, I'm sure, challenging for students. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to visit and reflect upon my life."

Alumni Weekend continued on Saturday as Head of School Peter G. Curran welcomed everyone to campus and honored *William Y. "Bud" Bogle III '45* as Alumnus of the Year and awarded Martin Miller and Wayne "Razz" Rasmussen, two of Blair's longest-standing faculty members, Citations of Merit. Guests then attended the 2020 and 2021 Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony. As Saturday continued, families enjoyed the traditional lunch picnic followed by a variety of activities for recreation enthusiasts from coed softball game to a hike through the Siegel Property. In addition, the class of 2020 had the opportunity to gather and reconnect with a special gathering and presentation on Sharpe House lawn.

"Alumni Weekend 2021 promised to be a relaxing day on campus to enjoy time together," said Director of Alumni Relations Shaunna Murphy. "We put together an event that brought out everyone's Blair spirit, and we hope that attendees had a wonderful time!"

ALYMNI WEEKEND 2021





BLAIR ACADEMY 2021 ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

WILLIAM Y. "BUD" BOGLE III '45

Bud Bogle graduated from Blair Academy 76 years ago, yet his passion for the School is as profound and strong as ever. It is evident in his 19 years of dedicated service as a class representative and in his continued, enthusiastic presence at Blair events on campus and beyond.

Bud is the eldest of the three Bogle brothers, including the late twins, **David C. Bogle '47** and Chairman Emeritus of the Blair Board of Trustees **John C. Bogle '47**, who



came to Blair with the help of scholarship aid to complete their high-school educations. A varsity soccer player and "one of the best-natured fellows on First East," according to the 1945 *ACTA*, Bud established friendships during his year at the School that he has sustained through more than seven decades.

Bud's love for Blair has inspired his generous philanthropic support of the School over the years, and he is an especially proud member of the John C. Sharpe Society of planned givers. We are honored that he has become involved in the Bogle Brothers Scholars Program since his brother, Jack's, passing, and in so doing, has shared his passion for Blair with the current generation of students. The Bogle Scholars, in turn, have had the privilege of meeting a man who has modeled kindness, humility, service to the nation and to others, a strong sense of faith, and love of family and friends throughout his life—qualities to which every Blair graduate should aspire.

Bud is truly one of the School's most loyal alumni/ae, and we are grateful for all he has shared with Blair for three-quarters of a century. In naming him the 2021 Alumnus of the Year, we honor his exceptional dedication to the Blair family, past, present and future.











BLAIR ACADEMY 2021 CITATIONS OF MERIT

MARTIN S. MILLER, PHD

Since joining Blair's history faculty in 1980, Martin Miller, PhD, Hon. '81, has inspired generations of students. His expert tutelage of the Society of Skeptics for 35 years is, undoubtedly, the crown jewel of his many Blair achievements. Yet, he brought the same depth of intellectual generosity and curiosity that shaped Skeptics into a lecture series of national renown to his roles as a teacher, coach, mentor, advisor, Blair ambassador and friend. Always learning, caring deeply for others and ever humble, Marty represents the best of the Blair ethos.

As a former history teacher and department chair, Marty's influence remains with his students long after they graduate. Outside of academics, Marty's guidance in the art of international diplomacy as director of Blair's Model UN built upon the skills students learned in his classroom, and his love of sport fueled his relentless drive as Blair's cross country coach for 40 continuous years. In addition, he founded and deftly co-edited the *Blair Review*, the beloved publication that connects the Blair community through the poignant personal stories of alumni/ae, faculty and friends. His wealth of historical knowledge and nuanced perspective broadened horizons well beyond the Blair "bubble" and taught students how to be citizens of the world.

We proudly present this 2021 Citation of Merit, Blair's highest honor, in gratitude and celebration of Marty's extraordinary dedication and contributions to the Blair community.

WAYNE G. RASMUSSEN

Wayne Rasmussen, known by one and all as "Razz," was the School's longest-serving faculty member when he retired in 2020, a deeply respected member of our community for a remarkable 43 years. More impressive than the length of his service are its breadth and depth, as he was involved in nearly every aspect of Blair over the years–from academics and the arts to athletics and student life–and, in all that he did, he shared his gifts, pursued excellence and selflessly brought out the best in students and colleagues.

Razz's impact in the classroom spans two disciplines, as he taught chemistry and math during his tenure. He also brought his talents to Blair's athletics as a football coach and videographer, as well as the enthusiastic coordinator of Blair's annual British golf exchange. However, it was in his role as technical director of the School's theatre program that his dedication to Blair students was most visible. His finely honed stagecraft, sound and lighting skills made Blair Academy Players' productions shine.

We are delighted that Razz and his wife, Linda, have remained in Blairstown and continue to be involved in the School community. The wonderful relationships Razz has forged are a testament to the depth of his caring, and his legacy of generous service will inspire Blair teachers for years to come. This 2021 Citation of Merit, Blair's highest honor, proudly recognizes Razz's four-plus decades of dedication to the School and all that he is to the Blair family.





The Class of 2021 Celebrates Old Traditions & Starts a New One

Blair is a community rich in tradition, and a few years ago, the senior class gift to Blair started as a way for graduating students to come together one last time and leave their mark on campus. Seniors and their parents joined forces to raise funds, and the Senior Class Council designated them to a scholarship for future students. This year, the class of 2021 upheld that tradition, with parents and students raising \$139,842 for a future Blair Buc. "This is a wonderful opportunity that allows future students to attend Blair who otherwise wouldn't have the opportunity," said Susan Long, assistant director of advancement for parent relations.

A yearlong effort, the Class of 2021 Scholarship campaign started in the fall with a kickoff pizza party under the tent on Hardwick Commons lawn and culminated at the Senior Prize Assembly on May 21, where advancement ambassadors *Jasneen Meghadri '21* and *Jonathan Wong '21* presented the class gift to Head of School Peter G. Curran. Ninety-eight percent of the senior class contributed to the student portion of the gift, which totaled \$1,946.

Having upheld an established tradition, the class of 2021 then sampled a new one—the inaugural Senior Dinner, hosted by the advancement office and Board of Governors President *Robert Van Stone '69*. Stretched out at round tables scattered beside Blair Lake, seniors sat next to friends while tucking into a delicious meal of chicken Parmesan and

tortellini on May 22. At each place rested a gift to remember the campus where students had spent the last four years, a silver tray etched with the Blair seal. Mr. Van Stone welcomed the class officially to the alumni/ae association and encouraged students to keep Blair close and come back to visit. "As you become alumni/ae this week," Chief Advancement Officer Craig Hall added, "remember this hilltop. Keep in touch with classmates and faculty. Get involved and care for this school."

The dinner kicked off a series of activities in the seniors' final week at Blair and marks a wonderful new tradition to add to graduation week. "It was a great introduction into the alumni/ae society," said *Jessica Wilm '21*. "It let us know how welcome we are."

Blair Honored Loyal Supporters at Leadership Recognition Event

The School honored a number of its most steadfast and generous benefactors at the May 19 virtual Leadership Recognition Event. During this special online gathering, Head of School Peter G. Curran and Board of Trustees Chair Doug Kimmelman P'12 '13 '15 '22 acknowledged more than 30 honorees whose exceptionally generous support of students, programs and campus projects has helped to ensure an outstanding Blair experience for current Buccaneers, as well as future generations.

During the event, Mr. Curran and Mr. Kimmelman updated attendees with the latest news from the School. "I'm so proud of the momentum, the success, the enthusiasm and the vibrancy that have grown at Blair over the past half-dozen years," Mr. Kimmelman said, enumerating the many recent campus improvements that have added tremendously to students' educational experience. Thanking Mr. Curran for his leadership and his fellow Trustees for their vision and generous philanthropic support, Mr. Kimmelman also expressed special gratitude to the evening's honorees for being "all in" members of the Blair family. "You are a special part of our beloved School," he said.

Mr. Curran then moderated a conversation among student panelists, who shared their perspectives on campus life during the pandemic. *Mallory Allen '23*, *Carson Canale '24*, *George Gan '22*, *Grace Hogue '21*, *Carnegie Johnson '23*, *Gabriel Ramirez '22* and *Ava Satasi '23* each spoke about the challenges and silver linings of living and learning at Blair this year. In addition, *Kara Henry '21* spoke with gratitude about her Blair experience and read the names of this year's leadership honorees (see sidebar on page 69).

A highlight of the evening was the induction of former Trustee *Alexander J. Sloane '70* and his wife, Jeanne V. Sloane, into the John C. Bogle '47 Circle of Benefactors, an honor that acknowledges extraordinary dedication to Blair Academy. The Circle of Benefactors is named for the late Chairman Emeritus of the Blair Board of Trustees *John C. Bogle '47*, a man whose philanthropy, leadership and service to his alma mater profoundly impacted the School.

A Trustee for more than a decade and class representative since 2007, Mr. Sloane has given back to Blair enthusiastically and generously over the years, counting the School among his



top philanthropic priorities. His many gifts include the Sloane Tennis House and three named tennis courts; the Hardwick Hall clock tower named for beloved history teacher Paul White; and three endowed scholarships that provide the opportunity of a Blair education to deserving students each year.

Most notably, Mr. Sloane has included a significant bequest in his will for Blair Academy, intended solely for the support of scholarship aid. This transformative gift will fully fund the Blair educations of hundreds of deserving students through the Sloane Scholars Program. This and all of Mr. Sloane's giving to Blair have been inspired by his desire to share his success with the institutions that believed in him during his own student days and to ensure that the opportunity of a boarding-school education is readily available to boys and girls from all backgrounds who will truly benefit from the experience.

Mr. Sloane received a bronze replica of one of the pillars that stands at the entrance to Blair Academy, a symbol of the School's gratitude for his foundational role and inspirational support. He graciously thanked Mr. Curran and spoke about his love for Blair, describing how he came to the School following in the footsteps of his grandfather, Ward Chamberlain, Blair class of 1899, a recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross during World War I. "Blair was a great experience for me in so many ways and, through my philanthropy, I am giving back to Blair what Blair gave to me," Mr. Sloane said. He also expressed his admiration and his enthusiastic support for the "awesome" students whom he has been honored to know through the Sloane Scholars Program. "They have all been so enthusiastic and appreciative of the opportunities at Blair—I know they will take something from their experience here."

Mr. Curran thanked Mr. Sloane and all of the evening's honorees for their generosity and dedication to Blair. "I am so grateful for your support and leadership, especially during this unprecedented year," he said. "The individuals on this Zoom are some of Blair's most steadfast and generous benefactors, and we are so excited to recognize more than 30 honorees this evening. Whether those gifts funded students, faculty, campus facilities or programs, we are so fortunate to have such dedicated supporters to move Blair forward."

Blair Academy Leadership Honorees:

John C. Bogle '47 Circle of Benefactors

Mr. Alexander J. Sloane '70 & Mrs. Jeanne V. Sloane

2020

Mr. & Mrs. Martin L. Holton III P'20

Mr. Taylor King & Mrs. Heather King '92

Ms. Pamela A. Kirby P'20

Mr. Jun Liu & Mrs. Jinhua Shen P'22

Mr. & Mrs. Steven R. Losa '58, P'84

Mr. Jian Ni & Mrs. Hai Yi Lu P'20 '25

Mr. & Mrs. Donald J. Resnick P'92

Mrs. Maria & Mr. Gregory Savettiere P'17

Dr. & Mrs. Raymond B. Schaefer '64

Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Ullman P'20

Mr. Jun Won & Mrs. Yoon Hee Choi P'22

Mr. Qing Yao & Ms. Ye Chen P'23

2021

Anonymous

Mr. Leiming Chen P'24

Mr. Liang Gan & Mrs. Hong Xiang P'22

Dr. & Mrs. Bruce D. Holenstein '78

Mr. & Mrs. Paul J. Holenstein '80

Mr. Jia Huang & Mrs. Xiaolan Zhang P'23

Dr. Yadong Jiang & Ms. Lei Wang P'20

Mr. Charles K. Kellogg P'22

Ms. Linda Loi P'24

Mr. Seungchan Park & Mrs. Eunji Yang P'21 '24

Mr. Hui Sun & Ms. Yiwen Sun P'23

Mr. & Mrs. Hobart D. Van Deusen '54

Mr. Guangming Wang & Ms. Yikun Zhao P'23

Mr. Kuo Wu & Mrs. Jing Li P'24

Mr. Hong Yan & Mrs. Yingling Wei P'24

Mr. Jun Zhang & Ms. Bei Zhu P'18

Mr. Hui Zhao & Ms. Jianbei Chen P'24



View of the Crew Training Center from Main Street in Blairstown.

Blair Opens New Crew Training Center

Rowing director and head girls' coach *John Redos* '09 is excited that Blair crew teams will be hard at work indoors this winter as they look for a break from the chilly temperatures and blustery winds on Lake Paulinskill. While the School always had an ergometer room in the basement of Hardwick Hall, this year Blair athletes will train in the Crew Training Center (formerly the Park Street maker space), a state-of-the-art facility especially designed and constructed to facilitate training over the winter months.

With construction recently finished, the Center is the latest campus enhancement to be completed as part of Blair's 2018-2025 Strategic Plan, *All In*. This new facility, along with the J. Li Golf Training Center and winter sports complex, reflects Blair's continuing commitment to provide student-athletes with the resources, equipment and support necessary to excel at the highest levels. The fact that Blair is only one of a handful of high schools in the United States to offer such a training center speaks to how much the School is prioritizing the growth of its rowing program.

The Crew Training Center features dedicated weight- and ergometer-training areas, as well as an eight-seat sweep/sculling tank, which allows rowers the opportunity to practice year-round in optimal conditions. "Indoor tank facilities are rare," said Coach Redos, "and adding this resource enables our program to take training and competition to the next level. The Crew Center is going to be an invaluable asset to Blair rowing."

Blair already enjoys a strong rowing tradition, with the boys' and girls' crew teams winning a multitude of titles and championships in recent years. In 2021, the girls' team made Blair history, earning the silver medal in the Scholastic Rowing Association of America (SRAA) National Championship. The team also consistently dominates the Mid-Atlantic Prep League, winning MAPL championships in 2007, 2008, 2013, 2016, 2018 and 2021. The up-and-coming Blair boys' team similarly brought home titles in 2007 and 2008, and Coach Redos fondly recalls celebrating those

victories with his teammates during his days as a Blair athlete.

Coach Redos believes that the indoor facility will allow Blair to become more competitive with club teams, honing athletes' skills by providing opportunities to improve in an individual setting. In addition to allowing rowers to practice at times convenient to their class schedules, the Center will also provide coaching staff with the ability to provide live instruction and demonstrate at close range. "With an indoor tank, coaches will be able to tap the rowers' oars and guide the coxswain in a way that is impossible when they are out on the water," said Coach Redos. Athletes, who cannot usually study their performance in real time, will also be able to fine-tune their technique by using mirrors and video recordings to monitor progress.

The new Crew Training Center has been partially funded through generous gifts from the Blair community. Donors in the early phase of the project gave their vote of confidence in the future of Blair athletes, and the School is now reaching out to the larger community of parents, alumni/ae and friends to support renovations to the existing building, the eight-person rowing tank, upgraded strength training equipment, new ergs and future operations. Naming opportunities are still available. Those interested in honoring a family member or loved one, paying tribute to someone who helped them or simply supporting this new stage of growth for the next generation of Blair athletes through a named gift should contact Chief Advancement Officer Craig Hall at hallc@blair.edu or (908) 362-2032.

Prominently located at the base of Blair's campus on Park Street, the premier Crew Training Center was dedicated on Friday, October 22, over Family Weekend.



The Center's interior while under construction.

Scholarship Memorializes Robert 'Bobby' Neff Jr. '82

Robert "Bobby" Neff Jr. '82 attended Blair for his freshman year only, yet he later came to champion values that he associated with the Blair experience, including personal integrity, self-sufficiency, team loyalty and a strong work ethic. When Bobby passed away unexpectedly last December, his parents, Robert A. Neff Sr. '49 and Julie Ebers Neff, established a scholarship in his memory to provide the opportunity of a Blair education to young people, preferably those who share an appreciation of those values.

The Robert "Bobby" Neff Jr. Memorial Traditional Values Scholarship memorializes Bobby and the ideals that he



incorporated in his life, along with his patriotism and pride in his military service. According to Mr. Neff Sr., his son was a "dedicated loner" who enjoyed being on his own and exploring remote locations, such as the Colorado mountains or the Louisiana bayous. He was an inexhaustible source of information about animals, all of which seemed to trust him instinctively. And, although he did not graduate from Blair, Bobby saw the impetus that the Blair experience provided in the lives of his brothers, *Phillip Neff '83*, who passed away in 2007, and *Will Neff '08*.

Mr. and Mrs. Neff Sr. believe deeply in the importance of education, and this marks the third scholarship they have established at Blair, along with The Captain August Martin Memorial Scholarship and The Henry Heguy Memorial Scholarship. "Blair does a wonderful job of teaching a worthwhile curriculum, serving as family for its students, and showing young people how to be important in their own lives and in the world," Mr. Neff said. "I hope that the students who benefit from this scholarship will be part of a generation of young adults who have a solid foundation—such as the one Blair provides—upon which to build successful lives."

TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT



Marcos Alvarado '99

Blair welcomes to the Board of Trustees President and Chief Investment Officer at iStar and Safehold *Marcos Alvarado '99*, who has served on Blair's Investment Committee and spoke about his career and experience as part of the Finance Summit in 2020. At iStar and Safehold, Mr. Alvarado is responsible for overall strategy and operations, as well as overseeing investments and driving growth across the company's diversified \$7 billion investment portfolio.

Throughout his career, Mr. Alvarado has closed more than \$25 billion of investments across all parts of the capital structure. He was previously head of acquisitions and business operations for Cadre, a technology-enabled real estate investment platform, and managing director at Starwood Capital. Formerly, Mr. Alvarado served as vice president in Lehman Brothers' Global Real Estate Group. He started his career in Morgan Stanley's CMBS group. A resident of Brooklyn, Mr. Alvarado holds a bachelor of arts degree from Dartmouth College and is father to two young children, Annabel and Nico.



Cassandra Davson '90, P'22

Cassandra Davson '90, P'22 brings to the Board her experience as an engaged alumna and as proud mom to **Laila '22** and Mason, who will be applying for admission to Blair next year. Mrs. Davson studied political science at Lehigh University before transferring to Rutgers University, where she focused on business management. Subsequently, she worked for more than 14 years in the mortgage industry as an area sales leader for Key Bank (the 13th largest bank in the country at the time) Champion Mortgage Company.

Mrs. Davson earned President Club status and was a top seller for six years in a row, funding millions of dollars of loans per month. Through her leadership, she helped to revolutionize the core lead acquisition model that led to \$60 million in new business. She was also a fixture in a principal role in Champion Mortgage's national commercial campaigns from 1998 to 2005.

Mrs. Davson also worked in human resources as a senior training-and-development specialist, concentrating in sales, leadership, technical skills, soft skills and new-hire onboarding. Mrs. Davson and her husband, Egan, believe family is paramount. In recent years, she has made caring for her family her focus, while also pursuing personal writing projects. Since 2020, Mrs. Davson has engaged with various Blair constituencies as a part of the School's diversity, equity and inclusion work, parent fundraising efforts, prospective and new parent admission support, and the Black Alumni/ae Task Force. She looks forward to continuing to support those efforts in the months and years ahead.



Meena Grizzetti P'20 '22 '23

Meena Grizzetti P'20 '22 '23 joins the Blair Board with years of experience as an advisory board member of the Academy of St. Paul in Ramsey, New Jersey, and as chair of the school's Advisory Board Finance Committee. As mom to three Blair Bucs, she has gained a valuable perspective of current school life and the many reasons why a Blair education is so transformative. A longtime volunteer and member of Blair's Parent Fund Group, Mrs. Grizzetti has done much to engage fellow parents, encourage their support of Blair and build connections across the extended Blair family.

A dedicated volunteer outside of Blair, she has also worked extensively with the Young World Day School and Mahwah Raiders Soccer Club. Her professional experience includes serving in the Corporate Finance Group for Richard A. Eisner & Company and as controller for Bluefly.com. Mrs. Grizzetti earned her bachelor's of accountancy degree from George Washington University in 1990. She and her husband, John, live in Mahwah, New Jersey, and have four children: Joseph, *Neela '23*, *Alexander '22* and *Sejal '20*.



Kyle D. V. Mason '97

In addition to offering his perspective as an alumnus and the uncle of four Blair Bucs, *Kyle D. V. Mason '97* has spent much of his career working in boarding and day independent schools across the United States. Most recently, he has served as the director of outreach at the Cate School in Carpinteria, California, where he is responsible for recruiting families and stewarding them to become lifelong supporters of the school. As head track-and-field and speed coach, he enjoys getting to know students and sharing with them his passion for music, travel and working with young adults.

After graduating from Boston College in 2001 with a degree in communications and education policy, he worked at the Newark Boys Chorus School before returning to Blair as a counselor in the admission office from 2003 to 2005. A world traveler, his early career experiences took him from Blairstown and Newark to Africa and Thailand. Throughout his travels and professional experience, Mr. Mason remained committed to teaching the value of service through education, and that was one of his guiding principles as a member of Blair's Board of Governors from 2004 to 2010. During his tenure on the Board of Trustees, Mr. Mason looks forward to continuing Blair's diversity, equity and inclusion work and serving as a member of the Black Alumni/ae Task Force. He and his wife, Carla, live at the Cate School with their son, Cayey, and they have returned to Blair as frequently as possible to visit with nieces and nephews, *Mark Jones '15*, *Madison Jones '19*, *Morgan Jones '21* and *Olivia Thompson '22*.

TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT



T. Chandler Hardwick III

After 24 years as Blair's 15th Head of School, T. Chandler Hardwick III brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to his role as Trustee. From 1989 to 2013, Mr. Hardwick and his wife, Monie, lived in Sharpe House and served as teachers, advisors and mentors to several generations of Blair Bucs. In addition to focusing on the day-to-day operations of the School, the Hardwicks (Mrs. Hardwick was the head of the advancement office for 10 years) significantly grew the School's endowment, support of the Blair Fund and capital projects, and expanded campus acreage; Mr. Hardwick also successfully raised student admission goals and standards. During Mr. Hardwick's tenure as Head of School, Blair completed a campus master architectural plan that led to the construction of Tracy Hall (1993), Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts (1997), Annie Hall (1999), Hardwick Hall (2009) and Blair Commons (2009). The 1990s and 2000s also saw many renovations take place across campus: Memorial Hall became Timken Library (1998), the Romano Dining Hall was remodeled (2000) and Insley Hall expanded (2001). The School's state-of-the-art athletic facilities opened in 2009, followed by the pedestrian campus in 2010. Beyond the physical growth of the campus and community, the Hardwick years might be best characterized for the careful building of a student-centered philosophy at the center of Blair life and for the support of a strong faculty and administrative culture that sustained that philosophy. Mr. Hardwick also worked closely with Board Chairs John C. Bogle '47, William Timken '53 and James Jenkins '66 to expand and deepen the Blair Board's connection to the School and their service as Trustees.

Before coming to Blair, Mr. Hardwick worked at the Taft School for a dozen years as an English teacher and dormitory head, also serving as dean of the freshman and senior classes and was the director of the summer school. Prior to Taft, Mr. Hardwick completed his undergraduate work majoring in philosophy from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, in 1975, and earned a master of arts degree in English from Middlebury College in 1983. During his Blair years, Mr. Hardwick was on the boards of several independent schools and served as vice chair of the New Jersey Association of Independent Schools, the president of the Mid-Atlantic Prep League (MAPL) and a member of the board of Chris Craft Industries, a Fortune 500 company. After leaving Blair in 2013, the Hardwicks have worked with a host of nonprofits and school leaders on strategic planning and issues, executive coaching, board organization and Trustee function, while following national educational trends at Greenwich Leadership Partners and Hardwick Consulting Group.

The Hardwicks currently live in Okatie, South Carolina, residing in a private community that has had Mr. Hardwick serve as president of the governing board for the last four years, eliciting his observation that managing 500 adult homeowners could be much more complicated than working with Blair students and faculty. In addition to community work, the Hardwicks have enjoyed connecting with Blair parents and alumni/ae of all class years, as well as spending time with their three daughters and three grandsons. Their Blair dog, Charlie, continues to be part of the family as she approaches 14.

Welcome to the Merrifield Meditation Garden

Welcome to the newest corner of Blair, the meditation garden, named in honor of longtime member of the Blair community, Sharon Maguire-Merrifield. Ms. Merrifield, the proud mother of *Rebecca '10* and *Graham '14*, came to Blair in 1986 and worked in a number of roles, including as a member of the admission and advancement teams, a language and LEADS teacher, and basketball coach. Over the past 35 years, Ms. Merrifield formed many deep connections at Blair, none more so than with Trustee Robin J. Scheman P'10 '14, who met Ms. Merrifield when their daughters were in ninth grade. Ms. Scheman describes her friend as someone dedicated to growth and giving to others, saying, "Sharon has given herself as an advisor, teacher, coach and parent to so many at Blair. So many people who have come through Blair have been touched by her in one way or another."

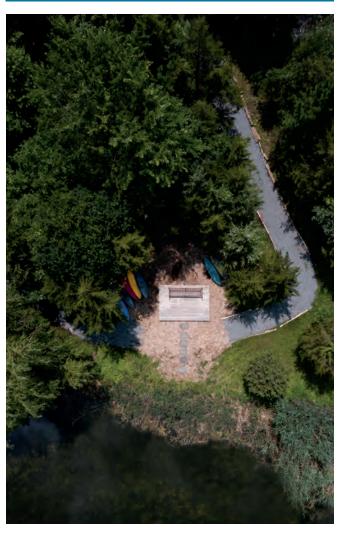
Thanks to the generosity of many in the Blair community, a portion of the Siegel Property has been transformed into a meditation garden in honor of Ms. Merrifield's dedication to the practice of mindfulness and meditation. "Sharon is an amazing gardener and always leaves her patch of earth nicer than before she touched it," Ms. Scheman says. She hopes that those who use this quiet corner of Blair will take that lesson to heart and learn from Ms. Merrifield's example. "I hope they will learn from her. Use this space and appreciate nature. Take a breath." The meditation garden is nestled into a clearing beside the woods and includes a platform, bench and flowers. It overlooks the calm water of Lake Genevieve and is open to students, staff and all members of the Blair community.



Sharon and her son, Graham '14.

"I hope my example was one of embracing stillness, practicing gratitude and skillfully employing the 'power of pause.'"

-Sharon Maguire-Merrifield



Aerial view of the new garden beside Lake Genevieve.



Classmates Honor Dennis Wm. Peachey '62 with Newly Named Scholarship

When Blair's former Assistant Headmaster for Finance and Development *Dennis Wm. Peachey '62* passed away last year after a long battle with Parkinson's disease, his classmates wanted to honor their friend of more than half a century, as well as Mr. Peachey's indelible legacy of leadership and service to the School. After some discussion, the members of the class of '62 landed on the perfect tribute: They renamed the scholarship that Mr. Peachey himself had a hand in establishing at their 50th reunion to The Class of 1962 Dennis Wm. Peachey '62 Scholarship.

"Dennis was so much a part of our class and so well-regarded by everyone," said longtime class representative *Mark Gottesman '62*, describing how Mr. Peachey grew and maintained personal connections to their classmates throughout his lifetime. "Couple that with his distinguished Blair career and deep involvement with the School and its students for so many years, and we knew that incorporating his name into our class scholarship's name would be a meaningful way to remember him."

Soon after Mr. Peachey's 2006 retirement, his classmates celebrated the former business and advancement office leader's 37 years of service to Blair by dedicating Peachey Plaza at their 45th reunion. Renaming the class scholarship helps to memorialize Mr. Peachey's role as a beloved mentor to countless Blair students, especially since the scholarship directly impacts students' lives by helping to provide the gift of a Blair education to those who might not otherwise be able to afford it.

Beginning this fall, the recipients of The Class of 1962 Dennis Wm. Peachey '62 Scholarship will learn about Mr. Peachey's Blair legacy when they read the scholarship's description, and Mr. Peachey's classmates will be reminded of their cherished friend when they receive "their" student's annual letter. For years to come, Blair connections will continue through the scholarship that is newly renamed for Mr. Peachey, a man who treasured his Blair connections.

Inaugural Women's Symposium Unites Generations

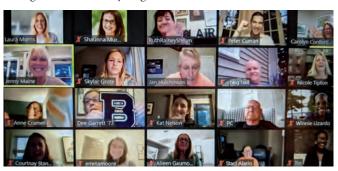
Generations of Blair women came together in June for the inaugural Blair Women's Symposium, a unique, two-part virtual event. Hosted by alumnae and female faculty members, the series touched on a variety of topics around leadership, grit, empowerment and motivation, and it gave over 50 Blair women of all ages and backgrounds a special opportunity to connect with and celebrate one another.

Director of Alumni Relations Shaunna Murphy knew from the get-go that the Women's Symposium would prove popular with members of the community. "It was an amazing chance for women to network with, learn from and inspire one another," she said, noting that the speakers for each session were experts in their fields. "The panelists highlighted some of the many opportunities available to women and empowered them to have the confidence to achieve their dreams."

The Symposium opened on June 10 with "Blair Girls' Athletics: Stories from Athletes & Coaches," moderated by Blair's Dean of Campus Life and Director of Leadership Programs *Carolyn Conforti-Browse* '79. That evening, attendees learned about the evolution of girls' athletics at Blair and shared stories from the playing fields, ski slopes and athletic courts.

The Female Founders Panel, held on June 17 and moderated by Blair Trustee *Ashley Thompson '08*, was an open discussion with entrepreneurs and founders of businesses and nonprofits. Topics that evening included women's empowerment, work/life balance, leadership and community, among others.

"The Women's Symposium event brought together a diverse mix of successful women leaders, and it was an honor to hear their stories and experiences," Mrs. Murphy said. "Through the discussion of topics relevant to today's issues, the panelists educated, inspired and encouraged attendees to reflect on their own goals and how they might achieve them."



Blair Women's Symposium Panelists:

Blair Girls' Athletics:
Stories from Athletes & Coaches

- (moderator) Carolyn Conforti-Browse '79,
 Dean of Campus Life & Director of Leadership
 Programs & head varsity softball coach
- Jan (Mitten) Hutchinson, founding coach of girls' athletics at Blair in the 1970s & member of the Blair Athletic Hall of Fame class of 2021
- Jenny Maine P'13 '17, Hon. '77, former director of alumni relations & founding coach of the girls' soccer program
- Laura (Cochran) Morris '75, first alumna from the '70s to be inducted into Blair's Athletic Hall of Fame (class of 2017)
- Nicole (Nicusanti) Tipton '93, inducted into Blair's Athletic Hall of Fame with the inaugural class of 2016
- Winnie (Adrien) Lizardo Orbe '06, inducted into Blair's Athletic Hall of Fame with the inaugural class of 2016
- Skylar Grote '16, national-level wrestler

Female Founders Panel

- (moderator) Trustee Ashley Thompson '08, founder & CEO, MUSH
- Shanen Aranmór '90, founder, Weld Like a Girl
- Batouly Camara '15, founder, Women and Kids Empowerment (WAKE), author, speaker, head coach of Blair's girls' varsity basketball team & college counselor
- Kate (Laufer) Gorenstein '98, founder & president, KLG Public Relations
- Marianne Lieberman '79, P'17 '19, owner/CEO, Maple Springs Vineyard
- To watch the recordings, visit www.blair.edu/womens-symposium.

Veteran Faculty & StaffRecognized for Service Milestones

Blair honored two devoted members of the community for their many years of service to the School and its students at the Opening of School dinner in late August. Bookstore manager Reanne Mauriello was recognized for her 25-year milestone as a dedicated member of the School's staff, and Dean of Strategic Initiatives & Associate Dean of Admission Leucretia Shaw, who was appointed in 2010, was recognized for her contributions to the School.



Honoring the Dedication of Blair Teachers: **Steckel**

House Gets a Makeover

On June 11, Blair celebrated the transformation of Steckel House into a new, two-family faculty residence with an open house and dedication ceremony. Many in the community remember the single-story structure, built in 1958, as the home of history teacher Dr. Martin Miller, Hon. '81, and his wife, Micheline. Before retiring in 2020, Dr. Miller dedicated himself to Blair, working for 40 years as a history teacher, coach, mentor

and friend to all. The house's original name, however, dates back to an earlier instructor—World War I veteran Charlie "Cap" Steckel, who faithfully served Blair Academy for 30 years as a dorm head, coach and math teacher.

Standing before a small gathering of faculty and Trustees at the dedication, Head of School Peter G. Curran paid homage to both previous community members, christening the new



View of the newly renovated, two-story faculty residence from the Blair golf course.

building the "Steckel & Miller House." Mr. Curran thanked members of the Romano family for supporting the renovation and Blair's mission to retain and attract faculty who are experts in their fields and deeply engaged with students. "Elevating our faculty housing at Blair is critical," Mr. Curran said. "It makes it possible to attract incredible teachers and coaches who are student-centered and love what they do." He noted that the newest inhabitants of the house, the families of language teacher Tim Devaney and Dean of Admission *Teddy Wenner '96*, are deeply student-centered. They have already used the renovated space to give students a home away from home, hosting team dinners and advisee meetings, bringing new life to the old quarters.

Mr. Curran closed the brief ceremony by thanking Blair Trustee *DJ Romano '74, P'04 '07 '10*, vice chair and treasurer of Blair's Board, and father to three remarkable Blair graduates. The renovations were made possible by the generosity of the Romano family: Mrs. Kathryn Romano P'74 '76 '85; DJ '74 and Cathy P'04 '07 '10; *David P. Romano '76* and Alice Romano P'14; and *Ms. Nina A. Romano '85* and Anthony Rizzo P'14.

The new Steckel & Miller House overlooks the Blair golf course and can be viewed to the east as one approaches the Bogle Science Center. It stands not only as a beautifully renovated home but also as a tribute to those who, like "Cap" Steckel and Dr. Miller, have dedicated their lives to Blair students.



The front view of Steckel & Miller House.



Built in 1958 as a faculty residence, the original home featured a single story.

MEMORABLE BLAIR EXPERIENCES INSPIRE

PLANNED GIFTS FROM 1973 ALUMNAE

Aileen Gaumond '73 and Rose Mary Herbst '73 entered Blair as new juniors in the fall of 1971, one year after the School reinstated coeducation. Both from New Jersey, Aileen was a boarding student with a public school background, while Rose Mary was a day student who had attended all-girls' schools. At Blair, both women found an educational experience so impactful that it has not only stayed with them throughout their lives but also inspired them to join the John C. Sharpe Society of planned givers to help ensure that the Blair experience continues for future generations.

Although having girls on campus was a novelty in the early '70s, that didn't pose a problem for Aileen or Rose Mary. "Girls were definitely in the minority, but we were accepted at Blair and treated the same as the boys—and that was great!" Aileen recalls. That experience alone stood her in good stead when she became one of the first women in Colorado to earn a master electrician license: Throughout her career in the trade, she was unfazed to work with many more men than women, and equal treatment for herself and everyone on a project was simply her expectation.

Aileen regards her Blair experience as the best thing in her life. "I wasn't a stellar, follow-the-rules kid, but there were faculty members who accepted me just as I was, supported me and built my self-esteem," she said. "Living in a community atmosphere—with just enough rules—while getting an outstanding education turned me around. The entire mix was the perfect combination for me, and I'm grateful for it to this day." Rose Mary's memories of her years on campus include studying physics and algebra 2 with dedicated teachers who helped her succeed; performing in a Blair Academy Players' production her junior year;

and frequently attending music teacher Nevitt Bartow's "Gas of the Week," a gathering of student poets, musicians and artists that always included lots of interesting, friendly people. In fact, that friendliness is something she continues to treasure about her Blair experience today.

"I go to Alumni Weekend almost every year, and I always meet the most pleasant people! I love that you can strike up a conversation with anyone, no matter what class they are in," she said. "The education I received at Blair was superior, and I learned so much that I've brought through my life. To my mind, though, Blair is just the friendliest, most pleasant place around, and I hope it always stays that way."

Inspired by this enduring camaraderie with fellow Bucs to include Blair in her estate plans, Rose Mary would like her gift to support endowed scholarship aid, which will truly benefit future students. In addition, she says, "I hope the campus always stays as beautiful as it is, and that the quality of the faculty and staff remains top-notch. I especially hope students have an educational experience that is as good in every way as mine was and that it gives them all they need for the future."

Aileen views her estate gift as a way to give back to the School that gave her so much. She has designated half of it for the Blair Fund to support School operations and half for the Dennis Wm. Peachey '62 Endowed Scholarship to honor the late former Assistant Headmaster for Finance and Development **Dennis Wm. Peachey '62** and his wife, Lynn, Hon. '65 '74 '77, both of whom mentored her during her student days.

"My idea is what goes around comes around," Aileen said. "My Blair experience truly fulfilled my needs as a

student, and I am happy to do a little bit to help the School continue to help fulfill students' needs for years to come."

Aileen and Rose Mary join their classmates, *James Houston '73, Stephen Kole '73, Melinda Shumway '73* and Dr. *Andrew Heinze '73*, as members of the John C. Sharpe Society of planned givers.



Aileen Gaumond '73.

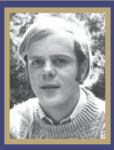


Rose Mary Herbst '73.

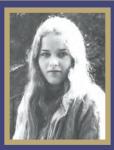
Aileen and Rose Mary join their classmates, James Houston '73, Stephen Kole '73, Melinda **Shumway '73** and **Andrew Heinze '73**, as members of the John C. Sharpe Society of planned givers.













Senior portraits of the class of 1973's John C. Sharpe Society members. Left to right: Rose Mary Herbst, Stephen Kole, James Houston, Aileen Gaumond, Melinda Shumway and Andrew Heinze.

HONOR THE lifelong friendships MADE AT BLAIR BY JOINING THE JOHN C. SHARPE SOCIETY



The class of 1973 celebrating its 45th reunion.

🔁 ach fall, Blair welcomes a new group of students who will grow and mature together through shared experiences. During this transitional time, classmates build many lifelong friendships that endure regardless of the numerous paths taken after leaving Blair. Like many other classes, the class of 1973 is All In, especially when they are all together!

As you recall your or your children's Blair friends or mentors, please consider making a provision in your will or estate plan to honor the power of the positive influences you found on Blair's hilltop. For more information about joining the John C. Sharpe Society of planned givers, contact Velma Anstadt Lubliner, assistant director of advancement for capital & planned giving, at (908) 362-2041 or lubliv@blair.edu.



"He found a campus of 11 acres; he leaves a campus of over 300 acres. He found buildings few in number, poorly equipped; he leaves a large group of buildings finely equipped for every school purpose. He found a school provincial in type of 100 pupils; he leaves a cosmopolitan school of 300 boys. He found a school of only local repute; he leaves a school famous throughout the country."

-Albert Myrick Freeman, on the legacy of Dr. John C. Sharpe, Headmaster 1898-1927

The John C. Sharpe Society of planned givers embodies the spirit and ensures the vision of Dr. John C. Sharpe, one of Blair's most influential headmasters. Planned gifts are the cornerstone of Blair's endowment, and membership in the John C. Sharpe Society reflects a special commitment to the School's future.

Following is a roster of members:

Anonymous Mrs. Sarah D. Calley

1939

Mrs. William T. Reilly*

1942

Mr Archer N Martin II Mr. David K. Pansius Mr Jonathan F Pansius Mrs. Robert G. Rouse

Mrs. M. Michael Lobsitz*

Nancy Strickland LaFountain Mr. Philip E. Paulus

1945

Mr. William Y. Bogle III Mr. Richard P. Rubenoff

Mr. Herbert J. Siegel

1947

Mr. William N. Davies

Mr. James K. Meneely, Jr. Mr. David D. Wakefield

1949

Mr. E. Harrison Eudy, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Neff

1951

Bob and Lynne Kiley

1952

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce M. Dayton Mr. William R. Martens Mr. Alan R. Mills

1953

Mr. William R. Timken Mrs. Thomas W. Hoff

1954

Mr. Donald H. McCree, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Hobart D. Van Deusen

1955

Anonymous Robert R. Burn

1956

Mr. Myron Ashkenas Mr. Peter M. Black Mr. Lars T. Carlson Mr. Raleigh Chinn, Jr. Mr. Nelson P. Cohen*

Mr. Stewart H. Cole

Mr. Courtney R. Fritts* Mr. John D. Hatfield Dr. Herbert M. Tabak Eric and Suzanne Walther Mr. Richard A. Young

1957

Mr. and Mrs. James H. G. Naisby Dr. William G. Ovens, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Melvin A. Tabak

1958

Mr Steven R Losa Mrs. Zoe S. Pappas

1959

Mr. Peter K. Austin Mr. Theodore A. Doremus, Jr. Mr. C. David Howell Margaret S. O'Kane

1960

Mr. and Mrs. Philip W. Koebig III

1961

Mr. Stephen E. Barr Mr. Frank H. Briggs, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W.

Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan E. Paul Mr. Howard E. Steilen, Jr.

Mr. Marc W. Suffern II*

1962

Anonymous Dr. Samuel R. Barnett Mr. Richard L. Doremus Mr Mark Gottesman Mr. Willard H. Johnson, Jr. Mr. Dennis Wm. Peachey* Mr. Jon L. Ten Haagen

1963

John and Cheryl Alden The Hon. John D. Case, Jr. Mr. Brian N. Clayton Mr. L. Carter Crewe III Mr. Durfee L. Day, Jr.

Mr. Donald C. Hazard*

Mr. Douglas Henderson Mrs. Sarah M. Seubel Mr. Donald K. Usher, Jr. William Staniar and Jennifer Wildrick Family Trust

1964

Dr. Dennis E. Bradford Arthur and Lori French

Mr. Andros B. Thomson*

Mr Paul D Vartanian Mr. and Mrs. Frank D. Yuengling III

Cheryl Clutsam Mr. J. Jeff Corwin Mr. William W. Durland* Mr. Robert M. Lay Mr. Robert S. Weiner*

1966

Mr. James P. Jenkins

1967

Mr. Gregory U. Auger II Mr. J. Lawrence Snavely

Art and Marylou Ambrose

1969

Mr. William R. Bellas, Jr. Michael Cormany Cleavenger Mr. Donald B. Fedor Mr. Jay W. Rubin Robert Van Stone and Marian Darlington

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey D. Karp Alexander and Jeanne Sloane

Mr. H. Craig Stem

1973

Aileen Madden Gaumond Dr Andrew R Heinze and Mrs. Mary Jane Heinze Ms. Rose Mary Herbst Mr. James G. Houston Mr. Stephen G. Kole Mrs. Melinda M. Shumway

1974

Mr. Alan H. Gardiner Ms. Sandra L. Scannelli Mrs. Denise Stocker Current Warren L. Youngblood

Mrs. Jennifer A. Woltjen

Mr. John S. Marhefka Mr. Keith H. Rauschenbach and Dr. Joseph Cassidy, Jr.

Mr. Harry D. Gates Mr. Richard T. Luzzi

Steven and Lin Jastrabek Marianne Lieberman and Carolyn Grant

Mr. Scott D. Jones

Mrs. Sandra Olsen Braun and Mr. Dennis A. Braun

1982

Mr. William H. Abbott Roger D. Gershman

1984

Mrs. Kristine C. Lisi

1986

Ms. Linda M. Fellows

1990

Mr. Ned Montenecourt

1993

Mr. Hyun Seok Hwang and Dr. Katharine Miao Greg Romagnoli

Ms. Melissa L. Guyre

1997

Mrs. Victoria P. Bailey Mrs. Christy L. Burkart

Niki Applebaum

Dan and Brady Seals

2004

Mr. Emmanuel Bello

Elliott W. Anderson

Faculty

Mr. William W. Finley*

Mr. and Mrs. T. Chandler Hardwick III

Friends

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Parents

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* Charter Member

Mrs. Colleen McNulty

Mr. John E. Skvarla III

The John C. Sharpe Society Advisory Council is an important volunteer effort for the gift planning program that aims to grow Blair's endowment, ensuring the future financial stability of the School. Blair is grateful for the service of the members of this committee, who advise, advocate and advance planned giving at Blair Academy.

Mr. John E. Alden, Jr. '63 Mrs. Victoria P. Bailey '97 Mr. Roger D. Gershman '82



Thank You From the Board Chair

Dear Blair family,

It is hard to believe that my son,

Scottie '22, is well into his final year
at Blair and that my tenure as Board
Chair will conclude next year. It has
truly been a privilege to see my four
children grow and thrive here over the
last dozen years, and it has been an
honor leading the School forward in
this role.

When I came to campus in August to drop Scottie for prefect training and help him set up his room in Insley Hall, it was wonderful to see the school year starting much more like 2019 than 2020. By all accounts, our students are thrilled to be experiencing all that is best about Blair together on campus and in person. I couldn't be prouder of our students, faculty and staff for their ability to adapt and double down on our mission that is so critically rooted in the importance of relationships and connection. Under the leadership of Head of School Peter G. Curran, someone who authentically embodies this mission as a person and as an

"I couldn't be prouder of our students, faculty and staff for their ability to adapt and double down on our mission that is so critically rooted in the importance of relationships and connection."

educator, Blair's future has never looked brighter.

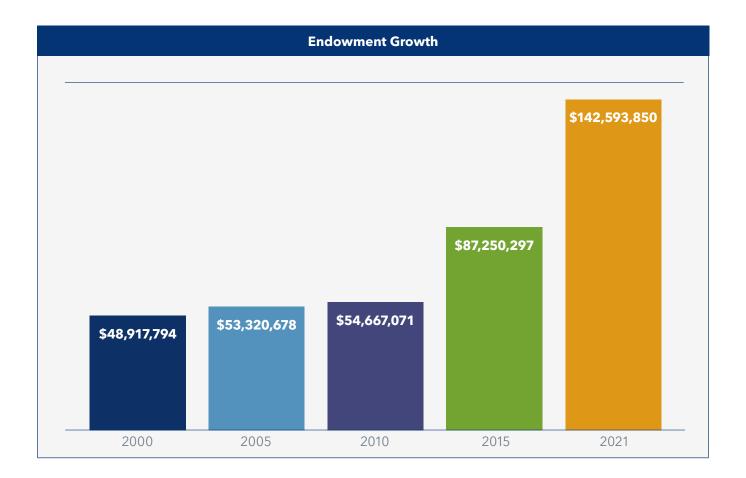
Despite the widespread disruption and disconnection experienced by so many last year, Blair was able to welcome students from 26 countries to live and learn together for 28 weeks during the 2020-2021 school year. More than that, our dedicated faculty and staff worked tirelessly to maintain a strong sense of community as they adapted so many quintessential Blair moments and traditions to COVID-19 health protocols to keep everyone safe and well. The grounds of our beautiful hilltop campus have never had more use as students took full advantage of all 463 acres and spent more time outside on our front hill, on our golf course and, certainly, at the Siegel Property and Lake Genevieve. When the weather allowed, the community still came together for outdoor School Meetings, concerts, theatrical productions and art shows, and cheered the Bucs to victory during a competitive spring athletics season. And we were able to celebrate the class of 2021 at a festive outdoor Baccalaureate and commencement ceremonies, which was a wonderful way to close the school year.

All of this clearly impressed prospective families from around the world, as our admission office received a record-breaking 1,480 applications for enrollment. To put this in perspective, we are fully enrolled for

2021-2022 and our admission office only admitted 18 percent of those who applied, which, when you consider that this was Blair's first-ever "all virtual" admission cycle, is an incredible feat. Anyone who visits Blair feels the rigor of our classes, warmth of our community, and close connections among students and faculty, and the admission office was still able to share this with families on Zoom, through emails and phone calls, and, of course, through personalized golf cart tours of campus last March and April. Clearly, the future of Blair is in good hands with our capable admission team.

Our financial position is also strong, with our endowment reaching a record \$142.5 million and our advancement team raising a record-setting \$3 million for the Blair Fund and \$5.48 million for capital projects and the endowment. These gifts will support everything from faculty professional development and Blair's integrated science research program to financial aid and campus enhancements, including our new Crew Training Center and The Shipyard (the student-named outdoor basketball court). The classes of 1997 and 2021 further added to our financial-aid budget by creating class scholarships that will offer deserving students the opportunity to attend Blair for many years to come.

The advancement office also deserves much credit for engaging so many of our alumni/ae and



parents during a difficult year, not only connecting on countless calls and Zooms but also launching a series called Blair Connects, which virtually brought together members of the Blair family for conversation, networking, and community around topics ranging from poetry and positivity to investment banking and the entertainment industry. We hope to offer more in-person events as part of these industry-specific events in the coming year, and the advancement team will no doubt

incorporate Zoom into their efforts as they resume in-person visits and travel. It was gratifying to see that parent and alumni/ae giving increased to 81 percent and 26 percent, respectively, and I know this can be attributed to the vision, support and positive energy of our leadership team, the dedication of Blair faculty and staff, and the generosity of every donor who has helped move Blair forward.

As Board Chair and dad to three (soon to be four!) Blair graduates, I continue to be deeply inspired and moved by the love that our students, parents, alumni/ae, faculty, staff and friends have for this institution. Thank you for your steadfast and dedicated support; its impact will be felt for a long time to come as Blair continues to invest in its Strategic Plan's priorities and looks ahead to celebrating its milestone 175th year in 2023.

With much gratitude,

Doug Kimmelman P'12 '13 '15 '22

"Thank you for your steadfast and dedicated support; its impact will be felt for a long time to come as Blair continues to invest in its Strategic Plan's priorities and looks ahead to celebrating its milestone 175th year in 2023."

Endowment & Capital Gifts Received

July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021

Scholarships	
Alfred A. LaFountain '44 Memorial Scholarship	\$15,000.00
Anne V. Clayton Memorial Scholarship	\$1,000.00
Bogle Brothers Scholars Program	\$507.00
Bolton Family Scholarship	\$1,000.00
Captain August Martin Memorial Scholarship	\$2,800.00
Ciancia Family Scholarship	\$2,000.00
Class of 1951 Scholarship	\$348.00
Class of 1954 New Horizons Scholarship	\$10.00
Class of 1960 Scholarship	\$2,000.00
The Class of 1962 Dennis Peachey '62 Memorial Scholarship	\$89,915.80
Class of 1964 Scholarship	\$1,025.00
Class of 1965 Scholarship	\$3,000.00
Class of 1966 Scholarship	\$3,400.00
Class of 1993 Scholarship	\$19,233.82
Class of 1997 Scholarship	\$15,250.00
Class of 2019 Scholarship	\$285.00
Class of 2020 Scholarship	\$275.00
Class of 2021 Scholarship	\$139,842.28
Clifford L. and Joan B. Cramer Scholarship	\$16,942.00
David T. and Candida C. Low Scholarship	\$2,200.00
George P. Jenkins '32 Scholarship	\$2,500.00
Gerard and Margery Thomas Scholarship	\$500.00
Grohowski Family Scholarship	\$30,000.00
Henry Heguy Memorial Scholarship	\$2,500.00
James and Selena Howard Memorial Scholarship	\$1,868.70
Katharine D. and Philip E. Paulus '44 Scholarship	\$100,000.00
Kurt W. Socha '06 Memorial Scholarship	\$1,050.50
Martin Krugman Memorial Scholarship	\$2,000.00
Miller Family Scholarship	\$306,918.13
Mollie Howard Conklin '71 Memorial Scholarship	\$1,568.70
Nicholas S. Battelle '60 Scholarship	\$25,000.00
Robert M. Lay '65 Scholarship	\$2,000.00
The A. Jon Frere Scholarship	\$6,100.00
The Alexander J. Sloane Scholars Program	\$282,368.06
The Dennis Wm. Peachey '62 Scholarship	\$128,000.00
The Herbert J. Siegel '46 and John C. Bogle '47	¢07,000,00
Scholarship Fund	\$96,000.00
The Holenstein Family Scholarship	\$25,000.00
The Jimmy Scholarship Fund	\$10,020.22
The Robert "Bobby" Neff, Jr. Memorial Traditional Values Scholarship	\$60,105.00
Theodore John Martineau, Jr. '84 Memorial Scholarship	\$10,000.00
Wildrick Family Scholarship	\$1,000.00
Willard H. Johnson '62 Scholarship	\$3,750.00
Total Scholarships	\$1,414,283.21
Prizes	
Headmaster's Prize for Faculty Endowment	\$100,000.00
Lee Rose Memorial Trophy	\$500.00
Total Prizes	\$100,500.00
Enrichment	
Black Science Fund	\$500.00
Blair LEADS	\$20,000.00
Class of 1969 Faculty Wings Fund	\$19,764.35
James R. Kelley Sabbatical	\$200.00
Nevett S. Bartow '50 Fund	\$570.00

Professional Development	\$15,000.00
Total Enrichment	\$56,034.35
Teaching	400,00000
Class of 1962 Teaching Fellow	\$775.00
Class of 1963 Faculty Chair	\$13,808.00
Total Teaching	\$14,583.00
Other Endowment	\$14,303.00
Bugen Fund for Financial Assistance	\$1,000.00
Class of 1968 Society of Skeptics Endowment Fund	\$6,082.80
Dalling Wrestling Fund-Endowed	\$50.00
Diversity & Inclusion	\$187,550.00
Endowed Academic Support	\$250,000.00
Faculty Compensation Endowment	\$1,007,500.00
Girls Basketball Fund	\$20,000.00
Headmaster's Discretionary Fund	\$4,000.00
Hobart and Nancy Van Deusen Tennis Fund	\$20,000.00
ISR-Robotic Initiative	\$75,000.00
J. Ronald McLean Memorial Fund	\$1,000.00
John I. Blair Operations	\$5,000.00
Peachey Fund	\$5,550.00
Restricted Squash Fund	\$250.00
Robert L. Marcalus, Jr. '65 Tree Fund	\$1,200.00
Ryan Andrews Newton '08 Global Service Award	\$755.00
Sigety Summer Institutes	\$400,000.00
Unrestricted Squash Fund	\$250.00
Total Other Endowment	\$1,985,187.80
Endowment Unrestricted	4 1/1 00/101100
Endowment Unrestricted	\$65,000.00
Total Unrestricted Endowment	\$65,000.00
Total Endowment	\$3,635,588.36
Capital Unrestricted	
Capital Unrestricted	\$7,366.67
Total Capital Unrestricted	\$7,366.67
Capital Restricted	
Athletic Facility Fund	\$50,000.00
Bogle Hall Renovations	\$878,687.65
Chiang-Elghanayan Center for Innovation and Collaboration	\$138,957.01
Crew Capital Fund	\$184,000.00
Faculty Housing	\$283,250.00
General Building Fund	\$67,516.67
Global Initiatives	\$5,000.00
Golf Course Renovations	\$500.00
Health & Wellness Center	\$76,000.00
Pending Donor Designation	\$44,000.00
Pool Restoration Fund	\$25,000.00
Unrestricted 2015 Project Fund	\$60,493.92
Unrestricted Project Fund	\$19,835.00
Winter Sports Complex	\$8,000.00
Total Capital Restricted	\$1,841,240.25
Total Capital	\$1,848,606.92
Grand Total	\$5,484,195.28

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1848 Society

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Mr. Hong Yan and Mrs. Yingling Wei
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"I am so grateful to all the current parents, past parents, friends and alumni/ae who have helped move the Blair athletic program forward and made the student athletic experience the best it can be. Their support has allowed Blair to provide the opportunities, equipment and facilities needed to help each team and student-athlete reach their goals. The impact of this support is immeasurable, and I want to thank everyone for their generosity! Go Bucs!"

-Paul Clavel '88, Director of Athletics

Old Academy Society

Members of the Old Academy Society contributed leadership gifts of \$50,000 to \$99,999.

Anonymous

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Man Lauria VIII Liana and Man Manada C M Tana

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Members of Insley Society contributed leadership gifts of \$25,000 to \$49,999.

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Members of the Ivy Society contributed leadership gifts of \$10,000 to \$24,999.

Anonymous

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Members of the Locke Society contributed leadership gifts of \$5,000 to \$9,999.

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Mr. Pichate Viprakasit and Dr. Tarachtida Viprakasit

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Dr. and Mrs. Donald J. Weinstein '62

Mr. and Mrs. James Youngelson '53 Mr. Juying Zhang and Mrs. Tianling L. Guo

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The 1848 Society Committee is a group of committed alumni volunteers who give generously of their time and resources and work to encourage leadership giving to Blair. They are dedicated to providing the financial support

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"Thanks to generous donors, I have been able to plan weekend activities for students that have included food trucks, carnival rides, outdoor movies and even fireworks! In our recently renovated Bogle Science Center, we offer cuttingedge technologies in the classrooms, enabling students to experience labs that have otherwise only been available at the college level. All of these opportunities make for an unforgettable and impactful Blair experience for our students."

-Rod Gerdsen, Associate Dean of Students & science teacher

Clinton Society

Members of the Clinton Society contributed leadership gifts of \$3,000 to \$4,999.

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Jewish Community Foundation of MetroWest NJ

Ms. Megan C. Kellogg

Mr. Gwang Woo Kim and Mrs. Heeju Yun

Mr. Gerald C. Kinne '47

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Mrs. Sandra L. Olsen Braun '81

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Mr. Robert J. Rand '62

Mr. James R. Richart '62 and Dr. Deirdre Kramer

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Mr. Brent Robinson and Mrs. Deborah Robinson Mr. Joseph Schultz and Mrs. Kristen Schultz

Mr. Daniel H. Smith '09

Mr. Howard Sysler and Mrs. Robin Sysler

Mr. Gang Wu and Mrs. Xiaoyi Ning

Parent Fund Group 2020-2021

The Parent Fund Group is a group of dedicated parent volunteers who give generously of their time and resources by helping raise unrestricted funds for the School.

Mr. Kurt Baker and Mrs. Gisele Baker

Mr. George Couri and Mrs. Judy Couri

Mr. Egan Davson and

Mrs. Cassandra Davson '90

Mr. Samir Desai and Mrs. Nilam Desai

Mr. Matthew Dragonetti and Mrs. Jennifer Dragonetti

Mr. Dwight Eyrick and Mrs. Sujata Eyrick

Mr. Adam Gimbel and Mrs. Alexandra Gimbel

Mr. Michael Glickman and

Mrs. Stephanie Glickman

Mrs. Meena Grizzetti and Mr. John Grizzetti

Mr. Whitney Hamlin and Mrs. Elizabeth Hamlin

Mr. Michael Harpe and Ms. Deborah Winshel

Mr. Michael Higgins and Mrs. Erin Higgins Mr. Mark Jones, Sr. and Mrs. Kirsten Mason-Jones

Mr. John Kim and Ms. Eileen Kim

Mr. Peter Lee and Mrs. Amanda Lee

Mr. Michael Neary, Sr. and Mrs. Claudia Neary

Mr. Seungchan Park and Mrs. Eunji Yang

Mr. Peter Santoro, Jr. and Mrs. Chasity Santoro Mr. James Thompson, Jr. and

Mrs. Kristen Thompson

Mr. Richard Walker and Mrs. Suzanne Walker

Mr. Man Wu and Mrs. Yan Zhan

Mr. Arthur Zinn and Mrs. Martha Zinn

Founder's Society

Members of the Founder's Society contributed leadership gifts of \$1,848 to \$2,999.

American Century Investments Foundation

Mr. Willard A. Anderson II '88 and

Dr. Robin Anderson

Bank of America

Mr. Christopher Barrington '66 and Ms. Janet Schlembach

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Bell, Jr. '59

Dr. Jon Bertoldo and Mrs. Edythe Bertoldo '79

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas S. Blankley, Jr. '71

Mr. and Mrs. Robert H. Bolte '58

Mrs. Mary Rose Chesnutt

Mr. Chi-Kin Chiang '86

Mr. Sam C. Chou '93 and Mrs. Anna W. S. Chou '94

Mrs. Yolanda Ciancia

Dr. Frank Ciminello and Dr. Nicole Anderson

Mr. and Mrs. Brian N. Clayton '63

Mr. R. Latta Browse and

Mrs. Carolyn Conforti-Browse '79

Mr. Philip Coviello

Ms. Singleton A. Cox '90

Mr. Xi Dai and Ms. Faye Tian

Mr. Craig Dana, Jr. '87 and Mrs. Sarah Dyer Dana

Mr. James-Christian S. Davin '97

Mr. Samir Desai and Mrs. Nilam Desai

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Donnelly

Mr. Dennis A. Drazin '69 and Ms. Nona Balaban

Mr. Kean Driscoll and Mrs. Bridget Driscoll

Mr. and Mrs. L. John Dughi, Jr. '65

Mr. Christopher Elliott, Sr. and Mrs. Winn Elliott

Mr. Robert Franz and Mrs. Jill Franz

 $\operatorname{Mr.B.}$ Graeme Frazier IV and $\operatorname{Mrs.Elizabeth}$ Frazier

Fribourg Family Foundation

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Mr. Lenard Garriques and Mrs. Kathleen Garriques

Mr. Mark Garvie and Mrs. Krista Garvie

Ms. Aileen M. Gaumond '73

Mr. Clifford S. Gelb

Mr. Joshua B. George '89 and Ms. Daina Nadler

Mr. Michael Glickman and Mrs. Stephanie Glickman

Mr. and Mrs. Madison F. Grose

Ms. Joli L. Gross

Mr. Youli Han and Ms. Chunmei Li

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Mr. John D. Hatfield '56

Mr. Michael Hayes and Mrs. Michele Hayes

Mrs. Mardon Heller

Ms. Eleanor T. Howard $^{\prime}74$

Mr. and Mrs. Peter S. Humphrey $^{\prime}62$

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Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Lay '65

Mrs. Elizabeth Layton and Mr. D. William Layton '65

Mr. Jonathan A. Lee '20

Mr. Richard Lee and Mrs. Katherine Lee

Mr. Zachary Lehman and Mrs. Amy Lehman

Mr. Jingzhe Li and Ms. Kaiyan Chen

Mr. Frank Liu and Ms. Qing Zhao

Ms. Jessica C. Lowndes '15

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Mr. Hua Lu and Mrs. Fang Yang

Mr. Robert Mangino and Mrs. Michelle Mangino

Mr. James Morris and Mrs. Kristine Morris

Mrs. Laura C. Morris '75

Mr. Michael Neary, Sr. and Mrs. Claudia Neary

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Mr. George M. Pettie and Ms. Linda Pettie '75

Ms. Caitlin Pinkard '08

Ms. Jena Pinkard '07

PSEG

Mr. and Mrs. Peter T. Reardon

Mr. James F. Redfern, Jr. '85

Mr. Paul D. Ressler '93

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W. Rose, Esq. '51

Mr. and Mrs. William L. Russell III '59

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen J. Ruzika

Dr. Darren Sacks '84 and Dr. Laura Covucci-Sacks '84

Ms. Lisa J. Scheller '77

Mr. Rommel Nacino and Mrs. Lisa Selesky-Nacino '85

Mr. William Sheridan and Mrs. Clare Sheridan

Mr. and Mrs. David P. Sleeper '54

Mr. and Mrs. Barry H. Smith '67

Mr. Frederick Smith and Mrs. Dorothy Smith

Stocker Bus Co., Inc.

Mrs. Denise Stocker Current '74

Mr. Stephen Taylor and Mrs. Janet Lucas-Taylor

Mr. William Thompson and Mrs. Kristen Thompson

Mr. and Mrs. H. Robert Tiffany III '56

Title On Demand

Mr. Michael van der Veen, Esq. and

Mrs. Marion van der Veen Ms. Marian H. Darlington and

Mr. Robert L. Van Stone '69

W. Bryce Thompson Foundation

Mr. Andrew Walker and Mrs. Christina Walker

Mr. Teed J. Welch

Mr. Allen Whittemore, Jr. and Mrs. Mary Whittemore

Mr. Christian K. Wolfe '85 and

Mrs. Amelia C. Wolfe '85

Mr. Qi Zheng and Mrs. Yuedan D. Dai

Young Leaders

Young donors who have graduated from Blair within the last 15 years can make leadership gifts and join the 1848 Society at the "Young Leaders" level.

Mr Apaar S Anand '18

Ms. Aurora R. Bertoldo '21

Mr. Max W. Bonzulak '17

Ms. Olivia Cruz '19

Mr. Patrick J. Donaghy III '18

Mr. Lucas A. Economacos '21

Mr. Andrew W. Furciato '21

Ms. Nami C. Hoffman '18 Mr. Jonathan Januszewski '13

Ms. Eleni Kedros '16

Mr. Timothy M. H. Launders '20

Mr. Michael J. Madara '19 Mr. Domonic A. Mata '20

Ms. Madeleine M. McNamara '20

Mr. Cristobal J. Newman '19

Ms. Thao P. Nguyen '21

Mr. Shaoyang Ni '20

Ms. Hannah L. Ochtera '17

Mr. Maxum J. O'Halloran '19

Mr. Ju Uhn Park '14

Mr. Arjun N. Peruvemba '14

Mr. Patrick A. Plum '21

Mr. Edward W. Riker '14

Mr. Christopher Sabaitis '12

Ms. Audrey K. Sacks '20

Ms. Cornelia R. Sigety '19

Ms. Elizabeth B. Sigety '20

Mr. George L. Sigety '21

Mr. William H. Sigety '18

Mr. Charles W. Stafford '17

Mr. Joseph A. Stockhausen '20

Mr. Tys M. Sweeney '17

Mr. Max D. Thorsheim '18

Ms. Samantha Tsang '19

Mr. Michael E. Uglum '18 Ms. Ellen G. Whittemore '20

Blue & White Club

Members of the Blue and White Club contributed gifts of \$1,000 to \$1,848.

Anonymous

Mr. Eric Abraham and Mrs. Regina Carroll

Mr. Elliott W. Anderson '08

Mr. Steve Andrasek and Mrs. Anna Andrasek

Animal Mansion Veterinary Hospital

Ares Operations, LLC

Mr. Bruce H. Augustadt '67

Mr. Ralph P. Balzac '49

Dr. and Mrs. Samuel R. Barnett '62

Mr. and Mrs. John P. Bartlett '66

Ms. Nancy M. Beaujeu-Dufour '19

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Benaguista

Mr. and Mrs. Brian L. Berger '62

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Mr. Nianbin Bo and Mrs. Xia Chen Mr. and Mrs. Michael G. Bolton

Mr. and Mrs. Edward L. Brown '79

Mr. Richard E. Canale

Ms. Sarah Carroll

Mr. and Mrs. Gary H. Cheng '89

Mr. Jeffrey Clausen and Mrs. Rebecca Austill-Clausen

Mr. and Mrs. Sean T. Collins

Mr. and Mrs. Kevin S. Cook '86

Mr. J. Jeffrey Corwin '65 Mr. and Mrs. John A. Counihan

Dr. and Mrs. G. Michael Craig '69

Mr. Steven Crystal and Ms. Hillary Seitz

Mr. Anthony F. Daddino and Mrs. Susan J. Bevan

Mr. Ricardo De Zulueta '09 Mr. and Mrs. Todd A. Detrick '84

Mr. and Mrs. David A. DiGioia '83

Mr. Jia Dong

Mr. and Mrs. William K. Doppstadt '50

Mr. Matthew Dragonetti and Mrs. Jennifer Dragonetti

Mrs. Gay and Mr. Michael Ebers-Franckowiak Ms. Marlyn Echevarria

Mr. and Mrs. H. Henry Elghanayan '58

2020-2021

BY THE NUMBERS

292

Total number of first-time donors

\$8,542,469

Total dollars raised

\$102,584

Amount raised through gifts of \$100 or less

586

The number of \$100 gifts made

2,404

Total number of donors

592

The number of young alumni/ae donors (classes of 2000-2020)

\$192,134

Amount raised by young alumni/ae (classes of 2000-2020)

78

The number of gifts received of \$25,000 or more

Mr. and Mrs. George J. Ernst, Jr. '92

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Eubank

The Rev. and Mrs. William F. Feus '84

Mr Dennis W Flores '07

Mr. Gregory Folli and Mrs. Leslie Folli

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur M. French '64

Dr. and Mrs. Michael H. Gewitz '66

Col. and Mrs. D. Peter Gleichenhaus '56

Dr. Loren Godfrey

Mrs. Sandy A. Godfrey

Dr. Bogdan Gogioiu and Dr. Adina M. Ion

Ms. Elaine Gordon

Mr. Mihir Goswami and Ms. Seema Mohanty

Greater Houston Community Foundation

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Mr. and Mrs. Craig C. Hall

Mr. Jun Han and Mrs. Meijun Cui

Ms. Kelly L. Hart '06

Mr. and Mrs. William J. Harvey, Jr. '48

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Mrs. Constance D. Fletcher-Hindle '74

Mr. and Mrs. David C. Hull, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Hunt '85

Mr. Antonio Iannitelli and Mrs. Barbara Iannitelli

IBM

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Dr. Barbara L. Inkeles '90

Mr. Charles H. A. Inkeles '88

Dr. David M. Inkeles

Mr. and Mrs. John J. W. Inkeles '93

Ms. Laura J. Inkeles '97

J.P. Morgan Charitable Giving Fund

Dr. and Mrs. Aron M. Jeffrey '94

Mrs. Edina Jennison

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Mrs. Donna Kampschuur '03

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Mr. and Mrs. James Kelley, Sr., Hon. '51 '89

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Mr. Christopher Mack and Mrs. Kelley A. Mack '01

Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas R. Marcalus

Mr. and Mrs. William R. Martens '52

Mr. Graham N. McConnell '10

Mrs. Colleen McNulty and Mr. Michael McNulty

Mr. Robert D. Merrilees

Mr. and Mrs. David E. Mester

Mr. Yakubu Miles and Mrs. Maria Miles

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Dr. Wendy Bedenko Moore and

Mr. James Moore, Hon. '93

Mr. and Mrs. James H. G. Naisby '57

Mr. and Mrs. W. Brandt Nako '78

Dr. Jonathan Nasser and Dr. Kimberly Estler

National Christian Foundation

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Mr. and Mrs. John Peng

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Mr. and Mrs. Andrew M. Price '02

Mr. and Mrs. Roy J. Redmond '75

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Mr. Lawrence Roche and Mrs. Gina Roche

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Dr. and Mrs. John F. Rose, Jr. '46

Dr. Michael J. Sayers

Dr. and Mrs. Raymond B. Schaefer '64

Dr. Patrick Schamberger and

Mrs. Elizabeth Schamberger

Mr. and Mrs. David H. Sculnick, Esq. '66

Mr. Aidan P. Smarth '20

Mr. Ronan T. Smarth '18

Mr. and Mrs. Sean P. Smith '86

Mr. and Mrs. Christopher B. Snavely '96

Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Solar

Dr. Nizar Souayah and Mrs. Sonia Souayah

Mr. Sami Souayah '22

Dr. Charles B. Stillerman, M.D.

Ms. Kelly B. Stillerman

Storis Inc

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Mr. and Mrs. Dean G. Tanella '78

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Mr. and Mrs. Paul D. Vartanian '64

Mr. Kevin Viravec and Dr. Diana Williams

Dr. Suzanne Walther and Dr. Eric Walther '56

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Mr. and Mrs. Courtney West '64

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth W. Whitney, Sr. '42

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Mr. and Mrs. Peter G. Wilds '59

Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Wilt III '84

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel C. Wong

Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Worthington Mr. Raymond C. and Mrs. Heather A. Yee

Mr. Robert R. Young, Jr. '65

Annual & Capital Fund Total	No. of Donors	%	Total Giving
Alumni	1,667	26%	\$2,932,177.68
Current Parent	374	81%	\$4,405,411.80
Parents of Alumni	170	6%	\$304,377.27
Friend			\$483,389.60
Estates			\$219,533.34
Matching Gift Company			\$28,229.10
Foundation			\$2,648,507.50
Corporation			\$146,404.34
Alumni and current parent totals include matching gift company giving	To	tal	\$8,542,469.00

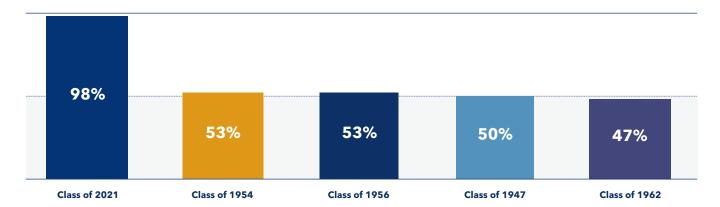
• Alumni and current parent totals include matching gift company giving.

• Current parents who are also alumni are recognized in both categories.

• Foundation giving has also been credited to the category of the donor who directed the gift.

• Friend totals include gifts from grandparents and former and present faculty and staff. • Note: The numbers in this publication are not audited and are for recognition purposes only.

Leading Classes for Participation



^{*} Top-five list includes the classes of 1946 to 2021.

The Blair Honor Roll-Giving by Class

Listed below are all donors who contributed to either the Blair Fund or a capital or endowed fund during the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

1940

Mr. William C. Myers

1942

Class Rep: Robert M. Fuller

Mr. Robert M. Fuller* Mr. Archer N. Martin II* Mr. Kenneth W. Whitney, Sr.*

1944

Nancy Strickland LaFountain, Hon. '44*

1945

Class Rep: William Y. Bogle III

Mr. William Y. Bogle III Mr. Ronald A. Engelhardt* Mr. Jack A. MacNair

1946

Mr. Andrew Davlin, Jr.* Dr. John F. Rose, Jr.* Mr. Herbert J. Siegel* Mr. Frank J. Spitalny*

1947

Class Reps: Elmer A. Bannan Arnold C. Schneider, Jr.

Mr. Elmer A. Bannan*
Mr. Donald E. Carey*
Mr. Anthony E. DeMasi*
Dr. Laurence W. Goodman
Mr. Gordon Granger
Mr. Gerald C. Kinne
Prof. Christian H. Moe
Mr. J. Mitchell Reese, Jr.*
Mr. Alfred M. Schmidt, Jr.
Mr. Arnold C. Schneider, Jr.

1948

Class Rep: Martin S. Simon

Mr. William H. Culviner Mr. William J. Harvey, Jr.* Mr. James G. Ling Mr. James K. Meneely, Jr.* Mr. Martin S. Simon Mr. David D. Wakefield*

1949

Class Rep: Robert A. Neff

Mr. James L. Aberle Mr. Ralph P. Balzac* Mr. Howard I. LeVine Mr. Robert A. Neff* Mr. Mark H. Schaul, Jr.*

1950

Class Rep: Eugene Krohn

Mr. Howard A. Aronson* Mr. William K. Doppstadt Mr. Donald E. Freudenheim* Mr. Bruce R. Goddin* Mr. William P. McElwain

1951

Class Reps: Robert E. Kiley Frederick W. Rose, Esq.

Anonymous
Mr. Donald C. Beck
Mr. Bruce K. Byers*
Mr. G. William Hamilton*
Mr. Roger W. Hatfield
Mr. Eugene W. Holland
Mr. James Kelley, Sr., Hon. '51 '89*
Mr. Robert E. Kiley
Mr. C. Thomas King, Jr.*
Dr. William Kraut

Mr. Rodney W. Kruse*

Mr. Frederick W. Rose, Esq.* Mr. Charles T. Rosen Mr. Robert H. Stark*

1952

Class Rep: Robert M. Lerner Mr. Richard H. Bower

The Rev. Charles L. Cureton III
Mr. Bruce M. Dayton
Mr. Edward Feldman*
Mr. Edwin R. Janes*
Mr. Richard A. Kahn*
Mr. Robert M. Lerner*
Mr. William R. Martens*
Dr. Peter W. McKinney*
Mr. Alan R. Mills
Mr. V. Robert Tedesco*

1953

Mr. Randal K. Beck* Mr. Richard Frank* Mr. Alan W. Noyes* Mr. William R. Timken* Mr. James Youngelson*

1954

Class Rep: Hobart D. Van Deusen Dr. Albert R. Casazza*

Mr. M. Michael Galesi Mr. Thomas N. Griffith Mr. Bruce B. Haselman* Mr. Paul M. Heagy* Mr. Theodor H. Horstmann Mr. Robert N. Hunziker*

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Mr. David P. Sleeper*
Mr. Raymond E. Soriano*
Mr. Hobart D. Van Deusen*

1955

Class Reps: George H. Brooks Robert R. Burn Gene A. Losa

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Dr. John A. Beisler
Mr. George H. Brooks
Dr. Truman B. Brown
Mr. Robert R. Burn*
Dr. John R. Burton*
Mr. Richard V. Huebner, Jr.*
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Mr. Lance G. Minnich*

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Mr. Paul F. Paffendorf* Mr. Anthony C. Rohrs* Mr. Max W. Rush Mr. David R. Stanton

Mr. Takis J. Theodoracopulos

Dr. David E. Wells

1956

Class Reps: Nelson P. Cohen Courtney R. Fritts

Prof. Richard T. Barber Mr. Bradford A. Benson Mr. Peter M. Black* Mr. Richard Bottelli* Mr. Barry I. Budlong*



"I'm thankful to be able to take classes that are unique and interesting to me, such as marine biology and psychology. I've learned more about myself and discovered passions made possible by the Blair experience."

–Sara Liuzza '21

Mr. Douglas S. Campbell* Mr. Lars T. Carlson* Mr. Raleigh Chinn, Jr.* Mr. Nelson P. Cohen* Mr. Stewart H. Cole* Mr. Philip S. Detjens* Lt. Col. Courtney R. Fritts* Col. D. Peter Gleichenhaus* Dr. James E. Hansen II* Mr. John D. Hatfield* The Honorable Nicholas B. Moehlmann Mr. H. Robert Tiffany III* Dr. Eric Walther* Mr. Richard A. Young, Esq.*

Class Rep: James H. G. Naisby

Mr. Edward H. Cliff* Mr. H. Mason Fackert III Mr. John S. Jorgensen* Mr. Edward S. Magee, Jr.* Mr. James H. G. Naisby* Dr. William G. Ovens, Jr.* Capt. Donald S. Parsons, Jr.* Mr. Robert C. Pearl Mr. Jerre S. Riggs, Jr. Mr. Melvin A. Tabak* Mr. Hillel N. J. Weintraub Capt. Henry S. Woodruff III*

Class Reps: Norman E. Beatty Peter J. Cleary Mr. Mahlon Apgar IV*

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1959

Class Rep: William L. Russell III Mr. Peter J. Anstatt* Mr. Lyle K. Antonides* Mr. Peter K. Austin* Mr. Joseph E. Bell, Jr.* Dr. Frederick G. Bergmann* Mr. Richard C. Clow

Mr. W. Hunt Dumont Mr. Samuel S. Durland CMC, CPEna, NER* Mr. Rufus A. Fulton, Jr.* Mr. David C. Gallagher* Mr. Peter L. Gulick Mr. James M. Lower* Mr. Lawrence W. Ring Mr. William L. Russell III* Mr Louis K Schwarz III* Mr. Robert F. Shaw* Mr. F. Albert Weaver* Mr. Peter G. Wilds* 1960

Class Reps: Philip W. Koebig III Willard S. Mahood John W. Meinig

Christopher H. Swenson Mrs. Dorothy G. Battelle, Hon. '60* Mr. Barry B. Boyce* Mr. Bowman Brown Mr. Craig U. Dana, Sr.* Mr. John M. Emptage* Mr. H. James Griffith* Mr. Philip W. Koebig III* Mr. Edward H. MacKay III* Mr. Willard S. Mahood

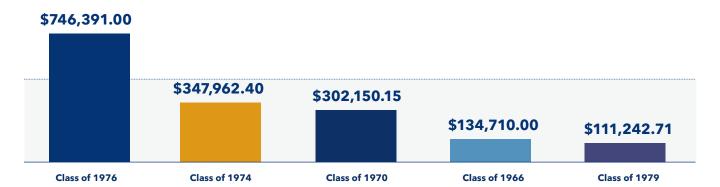
Mr. Anthony P. McCoy

Mr. John W. Meinig*

Mr. Arnold H. Selengut* Mr. Christopher H. Swenson* Mr. Geoffrey H. Wood*

1961 Class Rep: Frank H. Briggs, Jr. Mr. John F. Ahrens* Mr. Richard C. Bostwick* Mr. Frank H. Briggs, Jr.* Mr. Bruce B. Clark* Mr. Frederick W. Everett* Mr. David A. Garcia* Mr. John W. Gist, Jr.* Mr. Kenneth N. Gudernatch* Mr. Lee P. Johnston Mr. C. Thompson Kaulfuss Mr. Stuart G. Miller* Mr Herbert M Mores Mr. Jonathan E. Paul* Mr. John E. Perez* Mr David H Permar* Mr. Robert L. Schuldenfrei* Mr. Howard E. Steilen, Jr.* Mr. Marc W. Suffern II* Capt. Malcolm P. Taylor, Jr.* Mr. Emile F. Vanderstucken III Mr. Douglas B. Vogt Mr. Peter A. Williams*

Leading Classes for Financial Support



^{*} Top-five list includes the classes of 1946 to 2021.

1962

Class Rep: Mark Gottesman

Mr. Charles T. Akre, Jr.*

Mr. Frank R. Barnako, Jr.*

Dr Samuel R Barnett*

Mr. Andrew Berger*

Mr. Brian L. Berger*

Mr. Richard L. Doremus*

Mr. K. Thomas Elghanayan*

Mr James A Fox*

Mr. John H. Gibbon*

Mr. Mark Gottesman*

Mr. Harley E. Hoyt*

Mr. Peter S. Humphrey*

Mr. Willard H. Johnson, Jr.*

Mr. Timber R. Kirby

Mr. Mitchell D. Landy*

Mr. Gerald L. Manning

Mr. Fernando Marcial, Jr.*

Mr. William J. McKinley III

Dr. Donald H. Mershon*

Mr. Charles M. Newman

Mr. Edwin R. Phillips

Mr. Robert J. Rand*

Mr. James R. Richart

Mr. Creed R. Terry*

Dr. Donald J. Weinstein

Mr. Paul D. White

1963

Class Reps: L. Carter Crewe III William S. Wildrick

Mr. John E. Alden, Jr.*

Mr. Roger A. Blair*

Mr. Raymond F. Burghardt, Jr.

Mr. William S. Cashel III*

Mr. Brian N. Clayton*

Mr. L. Carter Crewe III*

Mr. Durfee L. Day, Jr.* Mr. Lawrence S. Driever, Jr.*

Mr. Thomas C. Dunworth*

Mr. Robert D. Fulton*

Mr. Alan B. Greenstein*

Mr. Donald C. Hazard*

Mr. Douglas Henderson*

Mr. Paul Jacobs*

Mr. Wm. Mitchell Jennings, Jr.*

Mr. Kenneth L. Konner, Esq.*

Mr. Bradford W. Lawrence II

Mr. Barry E. Parker*

Mr. Donald K. Piermont, Jr.*

Mr. John A. Seddon, Jr.

Mr. Thomas Summers, Jr.*

Mr. Peter C. Taylor

Mr. Robert C. Turner'

Mr. Donald K. Usher, Jr.*

Mr. William R. Widmaier*

Capt. William S. Wildrick, USN Ret.*

Mr. Alan M. Woolf*

1964

Mr. Christopher A. Bengtson*

Dr. Dennis E. Bradford

Mr. Gary W. Coppin

Mr. William B. Cramer, Esq.*

Mr. Ralph A. Eskesen, Jr.*

Mr. Arthur M. French*

Mr. Thomas B. Frystock, Jr.

Mr. James B. Heath*

Mr. Clark W. Heckert*

Mr Franklin A Hedberg*

Mr. Roderick B. Henderson*

Dr David F Johnson Jr*

Mr. Robert V. Johnston

Mr. John V.O. Kennard

Mr. Stephen B. Kina

Mr. Charles W. Potter II

Dr. Raymond B. Schaefer*

Mr. Joel Z. Silver*

Dr. William B. Solomon*

Mr. Andros B. Thomson*

Mr. John Vail

Mr. Paul D. Vartanian Mr. Courtney West*

Mr. R. John Young, Jr.*

1965

Class Rep: Don Jay Smith

Anonymous

Dr. David P. Allen

Mr. G. Jack Benge, Jr.*

Mrs. Cheryl N. Clutsam, Hon. '65*

Mr. J. Jeffrey Corwin*

Dr. Steven L. Driever*

Mr. William W. Driver, Jr.*

Mr. L. John Dughi, Jr.

Mr. William W. Durland Dr. Richard M. Gladding, Jr.

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Anonymous Mr. Christopher K. Banket Mr. Emmanuel Bello* Mr. Mark C. Bogart Ms. Jessica A. Cicchino Ms. Carolyn R. Davis* Mrs. Samantha C. Doheny Ms. Courtney L. Fields Mrs. Kathryn L. Hanson Mr. Nicholas C. Hindle Mrs. Caroline A. Interrante Mr. Andrew S. Kaskel* Mrs. Carly E. Kaskel* Ms. Cara F. Levy

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Mr. William A. McAndrew Ms. Molly V. D. Mesnard* Mrs. Claiborne C. Moses* Ms Martine D Romano Mrs. Cristina M. Sciarra Mr. Todd Tamagnini* Ms. Jessie R. Wilburn Dr. Jin-Sae Yoo*

2005

Class Reps: Christopher J. Gatsch Mary J. Hall Martha C. McCauley Kathryn H. Nelson Julian F. Swayze

Anonymous Ms. Staci N. Alario* Ms. Lauren E. Anderson* Mr. Jonathan R. Carroll Ms. Deborah M. Clarke* Ms. Stephanie J. Collens* Ms. Alexandra M. Eliopoulos Ms. Courtney Fairclough Mr. Matthew D. Fields Mr. Robert Gilbert* Mr. Ross E. Gitomer Mr. R. Tyler Grespin Dr. Elizabeth A. Hall Ms. Mary J. Hall Mrs. Marian M. Hass Mr. Ty W. Johnston* Dr. Avishek R. Kumar* Mr. Justin Lubliner* Mr. Rvan A. Lutz

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"The combination of people and opportunities makes the Blair experience meaningful and has challenged me in many ways. I'm thankful for all of the people who have impacted me and helped me to mature and grow into a better version of myself."

–Miki Wang '21

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2006

Anonymous

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2007

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Mr. Robert B. Cruice Mr. Colin B. Daddino* Ms. Arlana Egan* Mr. Jeffrey W. Ernsting* Mr. Christopher Z. Eu Mr. Dennis W. Flores* Ms. Dominique D. Frasier Mr. Jameson R. Gay Mr. Alexander G. Imperatore Ms. Zoe Jameson Mr. Dixon B. Jelich* Mrs. Alexandra K. K. Kilgore Mrs. Alexandra R. Lavorato* Mr. Kevin M. Lieberman* Ms. Kara Liebowitz Mr. Max Mathies Ms. Elisabeth P. Mayer Mr. Craig M. McConnell Ms. Jena Pinkard* Mr Michael G Pouliot* Mr. Alexander M. Rice Mr. Michael S. Russell Mr. Kyle S. Ruzika Mr. Brendan S. Schaffer Mrs. Natalya Schluechter* Mr. Cooper A. Smith Ms. Taylor C. Willis*

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Ms. Carter L. Ford	Ms. Emily A. Collins*	Mr. Joseph Park	Lucy V. C. Drinkwater
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Mr. Michael DeTogni*	Mrs. Alexandra S. Sweeney*	Miss Genie Lavanant*	Ms. Chelsea Starkman
Ms. Maeve A. Fahey*	Mr. Matthew T. Thees		Ms. Morgan G. Valeo*
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-Niki Applebaum '01, Dean of College Counseling

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Anonymous

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"I am most grateful to the donors who made possible the amazing school trips to London and Austin I took as a freshman. I grew so close to fellow freshmen and made two great junior friends during the musical tour of London. That week was one of the best in our high school careers!"

–Jon Wong '21 (right)

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Mr. and Mrs. L. Nelson Behmer

Mr. Jonathan J. Blanco '21

Mrs. Carmen D. Blanco

Mr. Johannes P. Boellhoff '21

Ms. Emma Rose van der Veen '21

Mrs. Eve Bogle

Mr. Robert R. Young, Jr. '65

Mr. Ronald G. Bowman '83

Ms. Lynda J. Bowman

Mr. Brett Campbell

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel F. Martin '97

Mr. Nathaniel J. Castimore '20

Mr. Maxum J. O'Halloran '19

Ms. Lucy P. Clayton '21

Mr. R. Latta Browse and Mrs. Carolyn Conforti-Browse '79

Mrs. Cristianna Cooke-Gibbs '80

Ms. Jama Toung

Ms. Victoria A. Crow '20

Dr. John Crow and Mrs. Claudette Crow

Mr. Abraham David

Mr. David E. Greenberg '93

Ms. Laila C. Davson '22

Mr. Victor L. Davson

Ms. Amanda G. Devine '11

Mr. and Mrs. Colin Devine

Mr. Douglas Potter Eaton

Mr. Charles W. Potter II '64

Mr. Matt Farrell

Mr. Ivan B. Reyes '21

Ms. Maiya P. Gibbs '15

Ms. Jama Toung

Ms. Angela P. Han '24

Mr. Jun Han and Mrs. Meijun Cui

Ms. Patricia Haviland

Ms. Diane Haviland and Mr. Ken Greene

Mrs. Mary J. Heinze

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Mr. Maxwell Hvolbek '12

Ms. Emily A. Collins '11

Ms. Elaine Jeffries

Mr. Thomas E. McLean '73

Mr. Edward C. Lehr '15

Mr. Jeffrey B. Graupe '02

Mr. Robert M. Lerner '52

Mr. Richard A. Kahn '52

Mrs. Elizabeth N. McDowell '00

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Mr. Joseph McKenna '14

Ms. Emily A. Collins '11

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Ms. Elizabeth D. Montfort '20

Ms. Jacqueline J. Montfort

Dr. Wendy Bedenko Moore

Mrs. Christy L. Burkart '97

Ms. Emia Musabegovic '20 Dr. Aida Musabegovich

Ms. Ina L. Musabegovic '22

Dr. Aida Musabegovich

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Ms. Kelsey A. Vella '11

Mr. Matthew K. Neuffer '21

Mr. R. Latta Browse and Mrs. Carolyn Conforti-Browse '79

Mr. James W. O'Connor III '20

Ms. Katherine H. O'Connor '16

Ms. Hannah L. Ochtera '17

Mr. Dalton Davlin and Mrs. Jenny Davlin

Mr. David Paris

Ms. Jaclyn H. Paris

Ms. Jenna Park '21

Mr. R. Latta Browse and Mrs. Carolyn Conforti-Browse '79

Mr. Patrick A. Plum '21

Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Mauceri

Mr. Ethan W. Rackleff '21

Mr. John C. Weber III '21

Mr. Michael G. Richardson '21

Mr. and Mrs. Mervyn Richardson

Ms. Ava J. Roche '21

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Ms. Allison O. Roecker '23

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph M. Carbonaro

Mr. Zachary A. Rubin '18

Mr. Jay W. Rubin '69

Mr. Thomas D. Santiago '20

Mr. and Mrs. George F. Stradar, Jr.

Ms. Mackenzie N. Schreiber '24

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Marshall

Ms. Peyton E. Schreiber '22

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Marshall

Ms. Abigail M. Schwartz '21

Dr. Benjamin M. Schwartz

Ms. Adriana G. Scialla '22

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Mr. Don Jay Smith '65

Mr. G. Jack Benge, Jr. '65 Mr. Robert R. Young, Jr. '65

Ms. Samantha J. Stoddard '22

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Ms. Dianya Tan '21

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Ms. Olivia P. Thompson '22

Ms. Kari D. Mason

Ms. Samantha M. Tilney '08

Mr. Christopher Z. Eu '07

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Ms. Renita Gordon-Tracey

Ms. Emma Rose van der Veen '21

Mr. Robert S. Walker '21

Mr. John J. Veronis

Mr. Clifford S. Gelb Ms. Alexandra Peltz-Gelb

Mrs. Lauren S. Veronis

Mr. Clifford S. Gelb

Ms. Alexandra Peltz-Gelb

Ms. Elizabeth T. Walker '15

Mr. Robert S. Walker '21

Mr. Robert S. Walker '21

Ms. Elizabeth T. Walker '15

Mr. Thomas E. Walker '21 Ms. Elizabeth T. Walker '15

Mr. Andrew J. Wang '24

Mr. George Wang and Ms. Song Han

Ms. Miki M. G. Wang '21

Mr. R. Latta Browse and

Mrs. Carolyn Conforti-Browse '79

Ms. Corrine A. Wilm '21

Mr. R. Latta Browse and

Mrs. Carolyn Conforti-Browse '79

Ms. Miriam Prescott Woltjen

Mr. Lawrence Lepak and Mrs. Jennifer A. Woltjen '75



1942	Kenneth W. Whitney Sr. May 9, 2021 Davidson, North Carolina	1956	Thomas W. Heller July 22, 2019 Whittier, California	1989	Timothy G. Millett August 5, 2021 Waverly Township, Pennsylvania
1944	Robert Brinkerhoff April 1, 2021 Portland, Oregon		Frederick W. McCollum December 27, 2020 Ennis, Montana	2002	Christopher M. Jonckheer August 14, 2021 Miami, Florida
	C. Nelson Winget June 8, 2021 Riverside, Connecticut		John H. Oostdyk March 4, 2021 Asbury, New Jersey		Natalie M. Schmid June 2, 2021 Washington, D.C.
1947	Arnold C. Schneider August 2, 2021 Newtown Square, Pennsylvania		Herbert M. Tabak March 22, 2021 Breckenridge, Colorado	Former	Faculty John E. Arnedt March 2, 2021 Jensen Beach, Florida
1949	John A. Ross April 21, 2020 Cheshire, Connecticut	1966	John S. Snyder October 2020 Bethlehem, Pennsylvania		Laird G. Carlson August 14, 2021 Mancos, Colorado
1951	Herbert F. Fisher May 29, 2021 New York, New York	1968	Eric A. Goberman August 7, 2021 Bloomfield, New Jersey	Former	
1952	Charles L. Cureton III August 29, 2021 Wooster, Ohio	1977	Carl D. Gandel April 7, 2021 Charlotte, North Carolina	Past Par	Naples, Florida
1955	Truman B. Brown August 18, 2021 Williamsville, New York Stephen S. DeLisio August 7, 2021	1986	Abram M. Patterson III June 8, 2021 Atlanta, Georgia		August 21, 2021 Sparta, New Jersey
	Anchorage, Alaska				

1942

Kenneth W. Whitney Sr. "Whit" came to Blair for one year and was a proud and loyal member of his class. He matriculated to Lehigh University in 1942; World War II interrupted his education, and he spent two and a half years in the U.S. Army. Whit received a Purple Heart for injuries suffered during the Battle of the Bulge. After recuperating, he continued his studies at Lehigh and received a bachelor of science in civil engineering in 1947. Whit began work as an engineer for EBASCO Services and then D. S. Warfel Associates, Inc., where he served as president for 12 years until retiring in 1987. The Whitney family was one of 13 families to begin a new mission church, St. Thomas Episcopal Church, in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Whit served as a lay deputy to the Episcopal Church's national convention and as a board member of the General Theological Seminary in New York City and the National Cathedral

Association in Washington, D.C. He was also very dedicated to Rotary International, serving in many leadership roles. Whit was predeceased by his beloved wife of 62 years, Ora, and his second wife, Charlotte. He is survived by his son, daughter, granddaughter and great-grandson.

1944

Robert Brinkerhoff. A Blair Buc for one year, Bob served two years as a radioman in the United States Navy. He completed his chemical engineering degree at Princeton University and worked in the R&D departments at Lever Bros. and Amway Corporation. Bob enjoyed biblical studies, history and current events. His hobbies included collecting stamps, listening to big band and classical music, and gardening. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Barbara Ann, seven children, 13 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

C. Nelson Winget. Nels was vice president of this class and a four-year honor roll student. According to the 1944 ACTA, "He is the most popular and dependable fellow." He matriculated to Cornell University in January 1944 and graduated with a degree in economics in 1949. Nels joined the Army Air Corps, completing basic training in Biloxi, Mississippi, and serving in Colorado, Hawaii, and with occupation forces in Japan shortly after V-J Day in 1945. He joined a filmstrip and slide duplicating company, Color Film Corporation, as a salesman with a mandate to grow the business. After spending nearly four decades at Color Film and rising to president, Nels retired in 2001. He was a lifelong downhill skier, an avid fisherman, a sailor who owned a Flying Scot, a canoeist and, into his 90s, an ardent open water swimmer. In retirement, Nels and his wife, Gay, spent many happy years at their home in Riverside,

Connecticut, traveling, relishing walks and swimming at Greenwich Point, and spending extended time with their family. He is survived by Gay, his beloved wife of 64 years, their four children, nine grandchildren and two greatgrandchildren.

1947

Arnold C. Schneider. A loyal member of the class of 1947, Arnie earned his undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering from Lehigh University and a master's degree from Stevens Institute of Technology. He served in the Army during the Korean War. Arnie worked as an engineer at AMF, Curtiss-Wright and General Electric Co. (GE). After retiring from GE, he became a physics teacher at Malvern Prep and an adjunct professor at Widener University. He was a writer who continually shared updates as a Blair class rep, an inventor and photographer. At the Church of the Good Samaritan, he served as a rector's warden, vestry member, evangelism leader and lay minister leader. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Dorothy, three sons and six grandchildren.

1949

John A. Ross. John, known to most of his classmates as "Jack." attended Blair for one year, where he was a wrestler and a member of the baseball team. Jack worked in the family business, Ironbound Heat Treating Co., and was an accomplished metallurgist. He elevated the company's reputation as a leader in vacuum heat treatment and one of the cleanest heat-treatment shops. Jack was a past president of the Metal Treating Institute (MTI) and was the recipient of the MTI Legend Award and the MTI Heritage Award. An avid outdoorsman, Jack enjoyed fishing, hunting and sports. He and his wife, Phylis, retired to their home on Martha's Vineyard and quickly became involved in the community. Jack served on the board of Windemere Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, and was an active member of the Edgartown Federated Church and Farm Neck Golf Club. Later, the couple moved to The Villages in Florida, where they enjoyed

warm weather, golfing and a community filled with friends. He was predeceased by Phylis and is survived by his four children and many grandchildren.

1951

Herbert F. Fisher. Herb came to Blair for one year and was a member of the dramatics club and ACTA and a teammate on the football, basketball and baseball teams. He earned a bachelor's degree from Cornell University in 1953, graduated from Yale Law School in 1958 and went on to create the Real Estate Group at a law firm (formerly known as Winthrop, Stimson, Putnam & Roberts). Herb continued his career in private practice until his retirement in 2019. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Lilian, two daughters and two grandchildren.

1952

Charles L. Cureton III. During his one year at Blair, Charles was a member of the band and choir. He graduated from Maryville College, and in 1960, was ordained as a Presbyterian minister following his graduation from Princeton Theological Seminary. Until his retirement in 2001, Charles served Presbyterian churches in Smyrna, Delaware; Arlington, Virginia; Garden City, New York; Charlottesville, Virginia; and Matawan, New Jersey. For the past 20 years, he served as parish associate at First Presbyterian Church in Wooster, Ohio, and a celebration of the 20th anniversary of his ministry, teaching and counsel, as well as his recently published book of prayers, was held virtually in July. Charles had a deep love of religious and political history, classical and choral music, Christian education and travel. Predeceased in death by his beloved wife, Mary Ann, he is survived by his two children and two grandchildren.

1955

Truman B. Brown. The 1955 *ACTA* notes that "Beck" was involved in the *ACTA*, *The Blair Breeze*, and the Blue and White Key Society. He was also a member of the choir, glee club and swimming team. He majored in economics at Cornell

University, receiving his bachelor's degree in 1959, and he earned a doctorate in history from the University at Buffalo in 1985. Beck taught Advanced Placement history and economics at Amherst Central High School for 27 years. In 2012, he was honored by the Amherst Central Alumni Foundation, which named him a distinguished educator emeritus. A sailing enthusiast, he often served as a crew member at the Buffalo Canoe Club. Beck and his wife, Barbara, enjoyed cycling and took many bicycle trips overseas, riding through Europe with International Bicycle Tours. Beck is survived by his wife, three children and two grandchildren.

Stephen S. DeLisio. A two-year Blair Buc, Stephen was a member of the choir, glee club, soccer team and golf team. He attended Emory University and Albany Law School, and graduated with a master of law from Georgetown University before moving to Fairbanks, where he enjoyed a long career as a lawyer with specialization in trial work and litigation. Following his retirement from DeLisio, Moran, Geraghty and Zobel in 1993, Stephen devoted his time to serve as the metro director of Christian Business Men's Committee (CBMC) and as a lay pastor with Anchorage Bible Fellowship (ABF). He was actively involved in ABF's prison ministry and loved traveling with family, golfing and reading. Stephen is survived by his wife, Margaret, three children and six grandchildren.

1956

Thomas W. Heller. Tom spent 30 years with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Metro Bureau-Vice Detail in Los Angeles, California. He studied at Emory University and was a veteran of the United States Army. Following his retirement from law enforcement, Tom spent 15 years volunteering with the American Red Cross, Disaster Relief Services, traveling around the country to provide logistical aid for large disaster relief efforts. Tom was a three-year Blair Buccaneer and a member of the choir. He is survived by his wife, Mardon, two daughters and grandchildren.

Frederick W. McCollum. Fred attended Blair for three years, during which he was a member of the football team, a varsity swimmer, and a member of the rod and reel club. He attended the University of North Carolina and had a successful career as a Realtor. A world-class angler and always in search of the next big fish, he traveled the world on fishing excursions to New Zealand, Mexico, Chile, Argentina, the Yucatan, Alaska and the Amazon River. Fred is survived by his daughter, Virginia, and two granddaughters.

John H. Oostdyk. John was a three-sport athlete during his time at Blair and a member of the student council. He earned a degree from Colgate University and went on to work for the family trucking business until his retirement. John is survived by his high school sweetheart, Outi, three daughters, six grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Herbert M. Tabak. A loyal Blair alumnus and former Alumni Board of Governors member, Herb enjoyed many memorable Alumni Weekends. He participated in the camera club, international society and press club, and ran winter and spring track. Herb matriculated at New York University and LaSalle University and received an MBA and PhD from California State University. Following his two years in the Air Force, he became a commercial pilot of both airplanes and hot air balloons. Herb was a historian and author of several books, including Where's the Runway? and No Whining, a gut-wrenching yet humorous account of his eight-week journey through Craig Hospital's spinal cord injury rehabilitation program. He had a consulting business and was a member of several aviation organizations. Herb served on the board of directors of the Colorado Independent Publishers Association (CIPA) and on the board of the CIPA Education & Literacy Foundation. He is survived by his daughter, grandson and his brother, Melvin A. Tabak '57.

1966

John S. Snyder. "Sandy" came to Blair as a freshman and spent four years on campus. He attended Washington University and had a career in the media industry at WLTV-Channel 39. He is survived by his wife, Anna, and his daughter.

1968

Eric A. Goberman. A four-year Blair Buc, Eric was a member of the choir, glee club and president of the band. The computer pioneer and avid mathematician graduated from the University of Florida with a bachelor's degree in math. He was a senior project manager at GE Global Exchange Services for 41 years. Eric was a proud Freemason, self-taught woodworking artist, black-belt karate enthusiast, a pianist and guitar player. His biggest passion was his family. He is survived by his wife, Janice, two daughters and five grandchildren.

1977

Carl D. Gandel. Carl deeply appreciated his five years at Blair, during which he was a member of the track team, captain of varsity cross country, and a two-time winner of the cross country trophy. He went to Wesley College and was fluent in Spanish. A loyal alumnus, Carl stayed in regular contact with classmates, former faculty and the alumni office. He enjoyed life in Charlotte, North Carolina, where he worked for UPS for 20 years. Carl is survived by his two daughters.

1986

Abram M. Patterson III. Abe played soccer and ran track during his time at Blair. He attended both Virginia Military Institute and the College of William and Mary and received a bachelor's degree in economics. He continued his education at the University of South Carolina, earning a master's in international business studies. A world traveler, Abe lived in Paris and Madrid and was fluent in French and Spanish. A consummate

thinker and reader, he was member of the Entrepreneurs' Organization of Atlanta, where he continued to expand his mind. Abe is survived by his parents and his two children.

1989

Timothy G. Millett. A two-year student, Tim graduated from Blair and received his bachelor of science degree from Penn State. Tim established TGM Realty, through which he owned and managed properties in Clarks Summit and Scranton, Pennsylvania. Together with his father, Tim founded The Pines Senior Living in Clarks Summit, where he served as administrator. Tim was a member of the Church of St. Gregory, Clarks Green, Glen Oak Country Club and the Greater Scranton Board of Realtors. His pastimes included skiing, golfing, and attending his children's school and sporting events. He is survived by his wife, Katie, two sons, and many family members.

2002

Christopher M. Jonckheer. Chris was a valuable member of the Polk County Fire Rescue in Florida, where he served as Polk Fire's public information officer. He will be remembered for his hard work, humor, gift of storytelling and willingness to help. During his time at Blair, Chris was a three-season athlete, participating on the football, ice hockey and baseball teams. He is survived by his wife, Susan, and their 2-year-old daughter, along with his mother, father and brother. His Blair legacy includes his grandfather, August A. Jonckheer '54; his father, Willem A. Jonckheer '77; brother, Jonathan A. Jonckheer '07; and many other relatives, including **Deborah A.** Jesurun '74, Margareth G. Petit '74, Patricia J. Jonckheer-Martijn '81, Joelle M. Petit '09 and Christelle C. Petit '13.

Natalie M. Schmid. An active and involved student during her two years at Blair, Natalie served as a class officer and participated in the Blair Academy Players, Singers and the tennis team.

She continued her studies at Brown University, serving as the campus life chair and on the council of students. She was a young entrepreneur who launched her own line of accessories after her passion for knitting and crocheting, called N.O., a couture line of fox fur and mink, while still in college. Natalie graduated college with a focus in business management, and worked as a financial advisor with PNC Investments, Morgan Stanley, Smith Barney and Wells Fargo. She had a passion for traveling and a kindness that touched the heart of many. She is survived by her parents, her fiancé and four siblings.

Former Faculty

John E. Arnedt. John was a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, where he received a bachelor of arts and master of arts in music. He continued his studies at the San Francisco Theological Seminary, where he received a master of divinity and was ordained as a Presbyterian minister. A dedicated educator, John was the chair of Blair's music department from 1981 to 1991. John's career included working as assistant pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church in Newark, New Jersey; a teacher in the Newark Public Schools; pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Branchville, New Jersey; director of the Sussex County Oratorio Society; founder and director emeritus of The Water Gap Singers; organist and choir director at Panther Valley Ecumenical Church; and lifelong composer and arranger of choral and instrumental music. His musical compositions-whether for piano, bassoon and trumpet, or full choir and orchestra-were as beautiful as they were difficult to play and sing. Predeceased by his first wife, Eloise "Tish," he is survived by his beloved wife of more than 20 years, Susan, his children, including Joshua J. Arnedt '89, Anna Ring '90 and many grandchildren.

Laird G. Carlson. A graduate of Princeton University, Laird was a Blair English, algebra and geometry teacher from 1968 to 1970. A dedicated educator, he continued to teach at the Stowe School in Vermont. A true adventurer, he found joy while clamming on the tidal flats of Nova Scotia, swimming and sailing off Peaks Island, Maine. Laird had a passion for animals and music. He was generous with his time and talents, volunteering to teach blind people to Telemark ski, supporting his local community public radio station, KSJD, and editing and publishing CellDoor, a twice-yearly newsletter written for and by prisoners. He is survived by his wife, Claudia, many family members and friends.

Former Staff

Ernest R. Wrzesinsky. Ernie worked in the Blair business office from 1989 to 1996. At the age of 17, he entered the United States Air Force and was stationed at Loring Air Force Base in Limestone, Maine. In 1962, he enlisted in the New Jersey State Police Academy's 59th class and worked on a variety of assignments during his illustrious 28-year career. Ernie retired with the rank of major, in charge of special and technical services. He attended Rutgers University, the University of Virginia and the FBI Academy, and graduated with honors in 1980 from Trenton State College with a bachelor of science degree in accounting. He was a dedicated volunteer to many organizations in the communities where he lived. He was a member of the Stanhope Fire Department, Warren County Rotary and Knowlton American Legion Post; fire commissioner of Blairstown Township; captain of the Frye Island Fire Department; officer and chairperson of the Frye Island Zoning Board of Appeals; Frye Island Comprehensive Plan Committee member, with a focus on fire, rescue, police, disaster and

emergency planning; and an active parishioner of St. Ann's Catholic Church in Naples, Florida, and Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Windham, Maine. He is survived by his loving wife of 58 years, Lorraine, daughters, Beth and **Joanne L. Wrzesinsky '94**, and three granddaughters.

Past Parent

David M. Inkeles. A proud Blair parent and generous supporter of the School, David was often seen on campus for events throughout the years. He graduated magna cum laude from Yale College and served in the United States Army. He earned his medical degree from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and completed his ophthalmological residency at Montefiore Medical Center. David joined Eye Physicians of Sussex County, where he practiced as an ophthalmologist, including surgical operations at the practice's ambulatory surgical center. He was a runner and ran nine marathons, including the New York, Boston and London marathons. An avid outdoorsman, he loved camping and hiking, and was an enthusiastic world traveler, visiting more than 50 countries. Predeceased by his beloved wife, Margery, he is survived by his children, Charles H. A. Inkeles '88 Barbara L. Inkeles '90 (former faculty), John J. W. Inkeles '93 and Laura J. Inkeles '97, and one grandchild.



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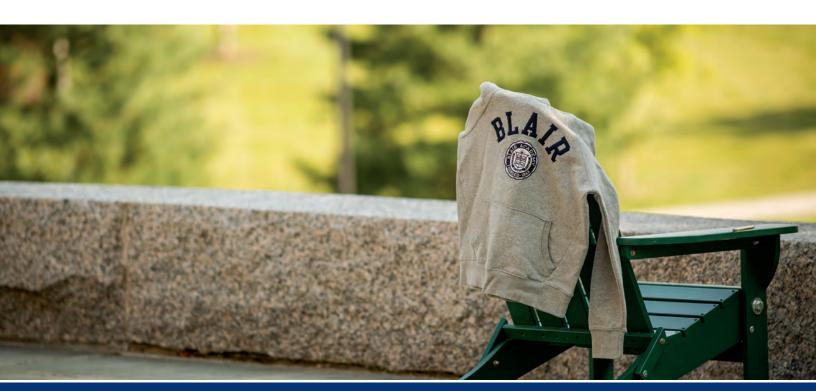
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