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Friends

MAGAZINE FALL 2021

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On the Cover
Lisbela Jenkner
Guimaraes '30 paints
in the Lower School
art classroom, by
Anthony La Fleur.

Thank you for believing in Sidwell Friends.

This year and every year, we give thanks for all the ways our community participates each day. Together we can look towards a bright future. When you give to the annual fund, you ensure that each day at Sidwell Friends is a meaningful experience for our students.

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Anthony LaFleur

Silent Partners

The head of school reflects on the beauty and community of quietude.

BY BRYAN GARMAN

The week after Homecoming, I visited a kindergarten classroom in which the teacher, Cassie Quash, presented the students with two queries to guide their journaling: “What does silence feel like? What does silence look like?” To prepare for the writing exercise, we closed our eyes, sat silently, and shared our experiences with one another. “Silence feels like a leaf floating down from a tree,” said one student. Another observed, “It feels like floating on your back in a gentle stream.” The activity reminded us that in the manner of Friends, silence provides an opportunity to rest the mind, collect our thoughts, and renew spirits.

The beginning of the year has brought with it a flood of emotion, sorrowful and joyful, and silence has served as an anchor. When we learned in September that Mikey Wood '23 passed away, we descended deeply into silence, seeking desperately to still the troubled and traumatic waters (see “Grief Is a ‘Long Journey Without a Destination,’” on page 16). Mikey’s parents, Jennifer and Mike Wood '93, helped us begin to heal by urging us to celebrate their son’s life rather than focus on his death, advice our students courageously embraced. During several Meetings for Worship, silence dampened their waves of grief. Students celebrated Mikey’s kind and irrepressible spirit, reflecting on friendships and summoning the compassion to comfort and care for one another. Amid the sorrow, silence allowed us to moor ourselves in community. Our sorrow persists, and we continue to hold the Woods in the Light, but the love that we found for Mikey and one another reminded us of the centrality of relationships to the Sidwell Friends experience.

During the first Upper School Meeting for Worship of the year, silence opened way for me to express gratitude for the small but meaningful interactions we have on a daily basis. As we gathered in the Robert L. Smith Meeting Room for the first time since the pandemic began, I told them how much I appreciated being with students in that space, how meaningful it was to greet them as they entered, how joyful it is to speak with them in the Sledge Garden, which, along with the Lubar Courtyard, has become an even more popular hangout in the COVID world.

We began to open the campus to the broader community at Homecoming, which, despite afternoon storms, buoyed everyone’s spirits (see “You Can Go Home Again,” on page 8). Alumni gathered in the Fan Zone, where they reconnected with one another and remarked about how energizing it was to see students enjoying themselves. Students staffed tables to advertise and support clubs, from the South Asian Student Association to the Robotics Club to *The Oat* (the long-established and still thriving satiric newspaper). They grooved all day long in the jazz band and excelled in athletics. Parents braved the heat to grill hamburgers for the annual Black Student Union fundraiser and parents from the crew team had their annual chili sale. Lower and Middle School students ran joyfully about the campus, sporting their Sidwell Friends gear, eating too much candy, and rooting for our teams. And the Admissions Office welcomed more than 100 prospective families on campus, where soon-to-be applicants witnessed the sense of community that defines Sidwell Friends.

The pandemic has not yet ended, and winds of change and challenge will no doubt come our way again. To be sure, students and adults alike find themselves in a transitional moment: Together, we are recalibrating expectations and recovering from the dislocation and trauma that the pandemic has wrought (see “Grad Interrupted,” on page 45). As we navigate the complexities and emotional strain that define this moment, we should remind ourselves of the power and promise of silence, which serves as a refuge for reflection and regeneration, which allows us to step outside of the frenzy, to reconnect with humans and our humanity, and to appreciate our tradition and the small but important rituals that define it. I am grateful for the little things that make us who we are. And as I sit in silence and write this letter, I am aware of how grateful I am to be in friendship and partnership with all of you. ✨



“As we navigate the complexities and emotional strain that define this moment, we should remind ourselves of the power and promise of silence.”





ON CAMPUS

CULTURE CLUB

¡Educación, Comprensión, Celebración!

Hispanic Heritage Month wrestles with history to create global citizens.

This fall, the Sidwell Friends community celebrated the diversity of Hispanic and Latinx cultures during Hispanic Heritage Month—a recognition that can continue at home. “But it’s beyond just taco night!” says

Silvana Niazi, the Señora Guillermina Medrano de Supervía Endowed Faculty Chair for Spanish and Latin American Studies. “It’s a good opportunity to make some space and time to think more about Latin America or the Caribbean, whether it’s through food or music or dance, or thinking about contributions that individuals have made. Any of those lenses works; it just depends on what your family’s interests are.” While Hispanic Heritage Month puts history, culture, and contemporary issues in the spotlight, Niazi says keeping them in mind year-round is a shared responsibility, especially for people living in the Americas. “We are a hemisphere of Americans, and we have a sense of community; our histories are very much intertwined, for better or for worse,” she says. “When we wrestle with those histories, we can start to think of ourselves more broadly as global citizens. When we do that, we can go beyond the confines of Hispanic Heritage Month and explore how the histories and present-day realities of the region are part of our daily lives.” You can find Niazi’s Latin American Studies Resources, including family and Lower School resources, upcoming events of interest, and books and other publications on the School’s Equity, Justice, and Community page: sidwell.edu/ejc.



Niazi

STAY FRIENDS

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8th grade Latin

CLASS ACTS

Roman Holiday

Dress for the ancient Roman you want to be, not the contemporary American you are.

Think the Middle School is no place for a toga party? Think again. In **Lauri Dabbieri**’s Latin classroom, 20 custom togas hang on the wall. Unlike in *Animal House*, however, these have a decidedly educational purpose. “We really want to convey the sense of Romanitas, of being Roman,” says Dabbieri, who has created togas with her Latin classes for nearly 30 years. The classes also make mosaics and bullas, gold charms intended to keep children safe. Typically, the students receive their togas when they begin taking Latin in 7th grade. “Over the course of the two years, the students add words that describe them to their togas,” Dabbieri said. “They start with a verb of something they like to do. When we learn a new verb tense, they add something they used to like to do, or something they will be able to do in the future. When they leave the Middle School, they’ll be able to take their togas with them as a visual representation of what they did in Latin class.” Like many things, though, last year’s toga presentations were delayed—until now. “In 7th grade, we didn’t get to do any of the projects because we were on Zoom,” said **Lindsay ’26**, who is in her second year of Latin. The togas are decorated with the students’ names, the names of their classmates (who sign each other’s garments like yearbooks), and their chosen verbs. Both Lindsay and her friend **Maina ’26**, being teenagers, chose “sleep” as their preferred activity. This year, the students say, the togas felt particularly special because they were so long in coming. “Latin class was great without the togas,” said Maina. “But the togas are an extra bonus.”

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Challenge Accepted

Two exceptional donors; one extraordinary endeavor to renovate the new Upton campus.

In June, while students of all divisions celebrated being together at the end of a difficult year, two Sidwell Friends donors quietly gave the School a new reason to cheer. Together, they set a new standard for philanthropy: These two generous (and anonymous) friends each contributed \$10 million to the Upper School renovation project. The largest gifts in the School's 138-year history, these funds will transform the Upton Street building into an inspiring new Upper School and pave the way to unify the campus and bring the Lower School back to the District.

"I'm truly moved by the generosity of these donors and their confidence in Sidwell Friends," says Head of School **Bryan Garman**. "They recognize that we have an unprecedented opportunity to improve the educational experience of our students and to strengthen the School for generations to come." After seeing the extraordinary ways that faculty, staff, alumni, parents, and friends contributed their time, talents, and resources this pandemic year,

the donors didn't stop with a onetime donation; they spurred a philanthropic challenge for the entire community. "These gifts are an investment of hope, of confidence, and of vision for Sidwell Friends, now and in the future," one donor explains. "We are eager to welcome others to join us in this critical time in our School's history and help to generate another \$20 million to advance this needed transformation." And with that, the Sidwell Friends Challenge was born. The Challenge is a one-to-one fundraising effort calling on community members to match this record generosity: The goal is to raise an additional \$20 million for the renovation by early 2022.

That's \$40 million of the \$60 to 70 million the Upton Street property renovation requires. The renovation will bring to life an architectural design created to deepen students' intellectual, social, and spiritual growth—from the science garden to the robotics suite to quiet study nooks. In addition, the building will house community

meeting spaces, a new Fox Den, dining commons, library commons, and two centers—the Center for Teaching and Learning and the Center for Ethical Leadership—which will foster academic excellence and ethical engagement for students across divisions.

Depending on the success of the fundraising challenge, renovations are slated to begin in 2024 and the Upper School opening is scheduled for the 2026/27 academic year. "We invested in this challenge now because we know that now is the time for instrumental change at Sidwell Friends," one of the Challenge donors says. "The infusion of support from this community will jumpstart the construction timetable, yet the impact of these gifts will go much further than the walls of our campus." The goals have been set, the Challenge made, and for the donors, one question remains: "Will you join us in this transformative venture?" To learn more, contact **Tara Arras**, assistant head of school for advancement, at arrast@sidwell.edu.



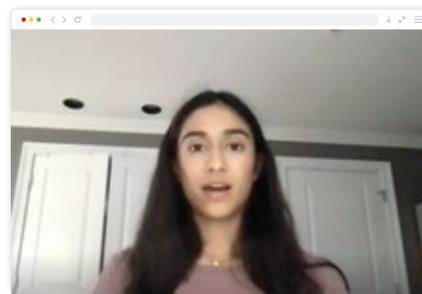
JUST CAUSES

Over The Line

A student group supports refugees seeking safety across borders.

When **Kaeya Patel '22** took a trip to McAllen, Texas, in 2019, the reality of the immigration crisis came into sharp focus. "I worked at a clinic the Humanitarian Respite Center," she says. "Even though these migrants had already crossed the border, the quality of living was not very good. People were vying for space, hidden in corners. ... They looked very upset, and they were considered the lucky

ones because they had crossed the border." When Patel returned to the DC area, she brought her work with her. "I wanted to continue my work and especially help migrants that hadn't crossed the border," she says. "And not only did I want to help with the migrant crisis at the U.S. border, but with humanitarian crises all over the world." So, with two other students she co-founded the Refugee Support and



Patel '22

Awareness Club at Sidwell Friends, which works with local organizations to support refugees worldwide; the organization recently furnished an apartment for a refugee family in the area.



Homecoming

2021

You Can Go Home Again

Homecoming 2021—live and in person!

Students, parents, faculty, and alumni gathered for the Sidwell Friends 2021 in-person Homecoming festivities. Upper School students celebrated at School in the preceding week with a day of games on Quaker Day and a Friday pep rally. They also dressed up for Spirit Week's theme days; even after 18 months of elastic waistbands, "Pajama Day" was a hit. The merriment continued outside the Kogod Arts Center, where the Upper School jazz band serenaded the crowd while student clubs raised money with games of Mario Kart, snacks, souvenirs, and the opportunity to give someone a "shout out" with a

portable microphone. Parent groups got in on the action, grilling food, selling swag, and passing out temporary tattoos and stickers celebrating Sidwell Friends, and in particular the newly formed PA Pride affinity group. Due to looming clouds, the start of the football game was moved up and many student groups switched into hawk mode, selling bags of chips and popcorn in the stands. Alumni enjoyed the view from the Fan Zone, where they cheered on the Quakers and ate hot pretzels, chicken wings, and nachos. "There was just an air of joy around," says **Anna Wyeth**, the

director of alumni engagement (see "Five Questions With..." on page 13). "Especially because people were able to be on campus who hadn't for a long time." As the football team took the field, the cheering in the stands whipped up with the wind, but even when the skies darkened and the rain started to fall, enthusiasm stayed high. "Sure it rained," says **Caleb Morris**, the athletics social media and operations assistant and assistant football coach. "But I don't think it dampened anyone's spirits."



Photos by Anthony LaFleur and Freed Photography

CLASS ACTS

The Write Code

The Lower School's robot uprising.

Ari '32 is having some trouble with a robot. "I want him to be like, 'Whoohoo! Yay!' for like two minutes," he explains. "I tested it out and it works, but not so good." "And with that, Ari goes back to his iPad to continue coding. This isn't a computer class, though—Ari and the rest of **Joyce Bidi-Olagunju's** 2nd grade class are telling personal stories. It's a unit that Bidi-Olagunju (also known as "Ms. Joyce") began developing a few years ago using "Spheros," small, ball-shaped robots that roll, spin, light up, and make sounds. After receiving a 2019 Principal's Grant to develop a curriculum connecting coding and writing, Bidi-Olagunju now uses the Spheros in the classroom to blur the lines between science and art.

Students write a personal narrative, design a path to illustrate their journey, and then use iPads to code their Spheros. "My story is about going to Disney World to celebrate my birthday," **Alina '32** says. Thus, her



Bidi-Olagunju with a student

Sphero travels on a map she made from her "house" down to Florida, with stops that mirror her family's real trip. When her Sphero gets to Disney World, Alina's code tells it to turn green to show how happy it is. Bidi-Olagunju says that even her most reluctant writers are now interested in "actually revising their work, and students who find writing easy are met with the challenge of computational thinking." That's why **Chloe '32** and

Emmi '32 are at a table revising their stories. Chloe is writing about the time her family first met their dog, Koda. "At the end, I'm going to make my Sphero bright red because I was, like, red-zone excited when we got my dog," Chloe says. The kids are also ensuring their stories have a variety of elements, so the Sphero has enough to do. "We need to put more things in the story, like more characters and more emotion words," says Emmi, who is writing about a birthday outing for pizza.



Writing to code

Moving from writing to coding and back again is one of the activity's key lessons. "It's called 'digital tinkering,'" Bidi-Olagunju says. "It's this idea of building through the doing and not having the design fully formed; it's so good for children's brains." She says those moments when kids "mess up" are when the growth occurs. "Your brain loves that discomfort because that's where it's getting stretched." Given the number of whirring, blinking balls tumbling along the classroom floor—sometimes heading where they should, sometimes not so much—there is plenty of sweet brain-stretching going on.

IN MEMORIAM

He Lived With Kindness

Officer Andre Newman

By Bryan Garman

Officer **Andre Newman**, a longtime and highly regarded member of the Sidwell Friends School Security Team, died in November due to injuries sustained in a car accident. I reached out to his wife, **Shirleen Newman**, to express our community's condolences and deepest gratitude for her husband's extraordinary service. Shirleen shared that Andre loved working at the School; in fact, a fellow employee said he recently told her that he hoped to write a history of Sidwell Friends one day.

Andre Newman joined Sidwell Friends in 2002. A former supervisor of the night shift, he more recently took on midday responsibilities, including dismissal. He especially took pride in his meticulous documentation of security incidents and his keen investigative skills, which he honed through the coursework he completed for a master's degree in education and security management. He was a lifelong learner who drew upon the School's professional development resources to deepen his understanding of the field. An engaging and thoughtful friend, Andre also had a wide range of personal interests, including music—he was the son of the great jazz and



Newman

rhythm-and-blues saxophonist David "Fathead" Newman.

Above all, Officer Newman lived with kindness. A year ago, he responded to neighborhood concerns about a homeless man who was vehemently espousing his political views on the Upton Street property. Newman approached the matter with equanimity and compassion, learning about the individual's situation in order to provide a peaceful and productive solution for all. Newman emptied his own wallet of \$16 so the man had some walking-around money and then used his credit card to buy the man lunch. Such acts of compassion and humility came naturally to Newman, who let his life speak by truly embodying the values Sidwell Friends promotes in our students every day. Please join me in thanking the Newman family for Andre's remarkable service and in holding them in the Light. Officer Newman invested himself fully in the Sidwell Friends community and will be deeply missed.

CLASS ACTS

The Upper School Travel Agency

Students plan a virtual China trip.

Travel to China is still out for now. But the students in **Qihui Tang's** Chinese IV class at least got a sense of visiting the country during a recent lesson mixing language, culture, and geography. The students planned a 10-day, three-stop trip to China. It wasn't about finding the cheapest flight or the most luxurious hotel, though—it was about a virtual immersion into a unique nation. **Lydia Johnson '25** and her team opted for a trip to Beijing, Chongqing, and Shanghai. For the Chongqing leg, they decided on a resort hotel, a museum, and some temples. "And I definitely want to go to the town square to eat hot pot," Johnson says. She says the project is inspiring: "I haven't been to China, but I want to, and I want to be able to communicate with people while I'm there." Tang hopes the Chinese program as a whole lets students to do just that—not only so they can visit the Forbidden City or the Great Wall, but so they can improve cultural understanding. "The class," Tang says, "is about giving students the chance to discover the diversity of China."



Ahmad and Getachew's diyas

CULTURE CLUB

A Thousand Points of Light

Upper School students **Nyla Ahmad '24** and **Kidist Getachew '24** led an independent art project to create and install a thousand ceramic vessels in the courtyard near the Art Gallery. "Diwali is a significant annual holiday in India, and is celebrated around the world," wrote the artists in a statement. "This installation is constructed from ceramic *diyas* that signify the victory of good over evil, dispelling darkness with light."

GOOD SPORTS

GET YOUR GAME ON

Sidwell Friends athletes, alumni, and coaches earn plaudits at home and internationally.

SUMMER WRAP-UP

“Athletics is an essential component in the student experience at Sidwell Friends,” says **Keith Levinthal**, David P. Pearson '52 Director of Athletics. Not only for the physical health benefits, but for the leadership skills, camaraderie, and spirit that emerges at every level, whether it's a Lower School game of tag or a competitive varsity match. “It is my personal mission,” says Levinthal, “to help students develop into individuals who are inspired to do great things on and off the field by making their experience meaningful, rewarding, and fun.” This past summer was a season of great achievement for alumni, staff, and current athletes. **Taylor Knibb '16**, the youngest woman ever to qualify for the USA Olympic triathlon team, earned a silver medal in the mixed relay, becoming Sidwell Friends' second Olympic medalist after **Jair Lynch '89**, who won silver in men's parallel bars in the Atlanta 1996 games. Meanwhile, **Saddiq Bey '18** was named to the 2021 USA Men's Select Team and even

earned a temporary promotion to the Olympic Team when players were unavailable. Then there's **Miles Brown '15**, who recently signed with the NFL's Detroit Lions. In college football **Walter Rouse '19** was named to the Outland Trophy watch list—awarded

annually to the best college interior lineman. Closer to home, tennis coach **Logan West '01**, was named the USTA Mid-Atlantic Coach of the year. Current students also continue to shine. **Kiki Rice '22** was part of the gold-medal-winning Team USA in the FIBA 3x3 U18 World Cup in Hungary this summer, and **Jadyn Donovan '23** and **Kendall Dudley '24** competed on the USA basketball U16 team, which took the gold medal in the championship tournament in Mexico. **Alice Xu '23** recently won both the singles and doubles titles at the G18 national clay court tournament.

For the latest news, scores, and schedules, visit sidwell.edu/athletics and follow @SFSQuakers on Instagram and Twitter! #GoQuakers



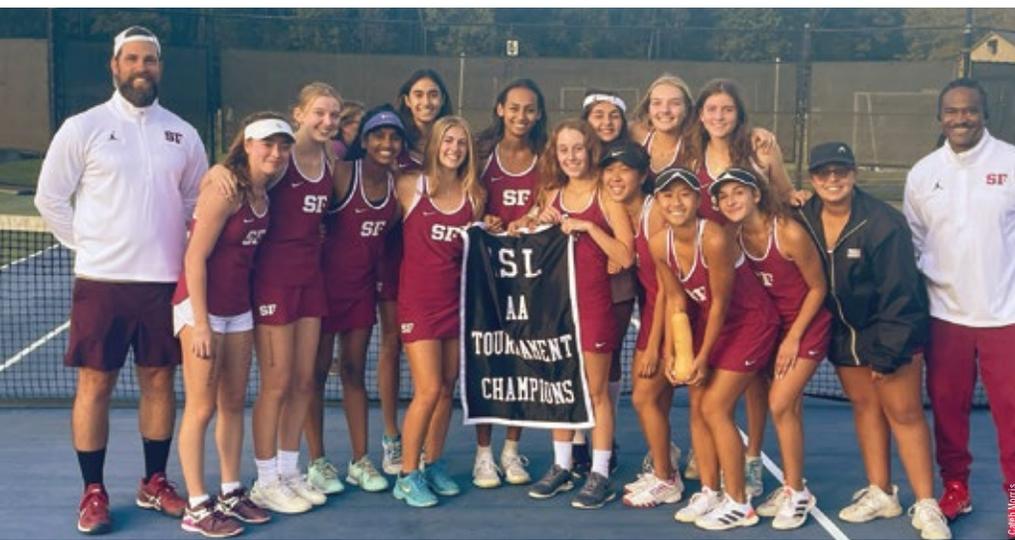
Kiki Rice '22, Kendall Dudley '24, Jadyn Donovan '23



Taylor Knibb '16



Saddiq Bey '18



The 2021/22 girls' tennis team

FALL WRAP-UP

The School continued the trend back on campus. Winning ways and a culture of leadership thrived with the Sidwell Friends Sports Leadership Academy seeing a 48 percent growth over last year. The girls' tennis team along with Head Coach **Logan West '01** have been a force to be reckoned with, winning back-to-back Independent School League (ISL) AA Division regular-season banners and ISL AA Division championships! Girls' tennis ended their season ranked ninth nationally in the Universal Tennis Rankings. Girls' soccer, meanwhile, capped their season with a 6-0 win over rival Maret at Catholic University, nabbing the DCSAA (District of Columbia State Athletic Association) Championship. The team then prevailed 2-1 over Johns

College in the DCSAA semifinals. **Kiki Rice '22** was named player of the game. This is girls' soccer's second DCSAA title in three competitive

seasons. Boys' soccer continues to develop but for now fell to Potomac in the Mid-Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAC) Tournament. On the football field, the Sidwell Friends program has transformed under new Head Coach **Donald Davis**. As of publication, the Quakers were 6-2, tied for second place in the MAC tournament, and optimistic heading into the DCSAA playoffs. Field hockey hosted an ISL playoff game against National Cathedral School, and the volleyball team took to the road for their ISL tournament—season-ending matches for both teams. Boys' and girls' cross-country finished their season at the DCSAA Championships at Kenilworth Park. The golf team wrapped up at the MAC Championships at Falls Road Golf Course, where they placed fifth under first-year Head Coach **Jon Mormino**.



Sarah White '22



Nate Grossman '23

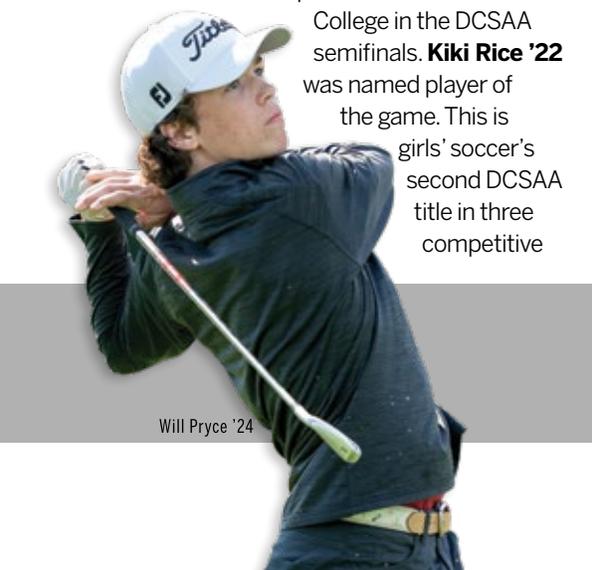
Maya Jones '24



Zachary Foxx '25

Gemma Maltby '22

Photos by Susie Shaffer '69 and Freed Photography



Will Pryce '24

CLASS ACTS

On the Basis of Sex

Students explore healthy relationships, and faculty explore LGBTQIA+ perspectives with the Human Rights Campaign.

In October, Upper Schoolers participated in a half-day Healthy Relationships Conference, with much of the focus on gender dynamics—a topic that carried into a professional development session for faculty and staff later that day. Former NFL player **Don McPherson**, a gender-equity advocate and the author of *You Throw Like a Girl: The Blind Spot of Masculinity*, was the keynote speaker. He discussed “aspirational masculinity,” as opposed to “toxic masculinity.” “We talk about [toxic masculinity] historically because of issues with violence against women, and men have not been involved in the conversation,” he said. Put simply, violence against women was considered a problem for women—not men. “But we won’t grow if we don’t do anything about it,” McPherson added. Neglecting such difficult conversations is also damaging to boys, who benefit from reflections on empathy to create positive relationships. He said men’s silence and inaction on topics of sexual violence are a privilege that should be reexamined. “My indifference was my privilege,” McPherson said. “My privilege prevented me from being a better friend” to women and girls.

Students then attended breakout sessions on topics like healthy masculinity, sexual-harassment and -assault prevention, cultivating self-respect in complex power dynamics, and navigating awkward interactions. Upper School Counselor **Patrice Copeland** and Endowed Director of Equity, Justice, and Community (EJC) **Natalie Randolph '98** helped organize the event. “In an environment where students are constantly expanding their knowledge of the human condition, the counseling team is inspired to educate the community on developments in the ever-growing science of the social constructs by which we define ourselves,” said Copeland. Staff and faculty who proctored student workshops then brought that experience to the afternoon of professional development. “This is how we enhance and continue the work.”

Faculty and staff sessions explored supporting LGBTQIA+ students and colleagues in conversations with faculty members in EJC advisory roles: Upper School EJC Coordinator **Sarah Markovits**, Center for Ethical Leadership Coordinator **Alex McCoy '04**, Lower School Music Instructor and Pride Coordinator **Matthew Stensrud**, Upper School English Instructor and Gender and Sexuality Alliance Advisor **Zach Harvat**, and Middle School Academic Support Coordinator and Rainbow Alliance Advisor **Ali Hecimovich**. (Auxiliary Programs



Upper Schoolers participate in an exercise during the Healthy Relationships Conference.

Coordinator **Jaye Ebanks** helped plan the event but was unable to attend.) They examined the power of teachers to create supportive environments through honesty and openness. “As teachers, we are assumed to have all the answers,” said Harvat. “You may not have answers all the time, and that’s okay. We can still create an environment where students feel comfortable. It shows you care.”

Trustees **Camilo Acosta '02** and **Cat Dawson '04** spoke on a panel about identifying as LGBTQIA+. “I played football at Sidwell Friends and in college for a year, but doing so came with preconceptions,” Acosta said—preconceptions that affected his relationships with teachers, friends, and teammates. Dawson, whose pronouns are they/them/their, discussed inclusive language, including the benefits of proactively asking people what their pronouns are to avoid assumptions and being mindful of gendered language (like saying “spouse” instead of “wife” or “husband”). They noted two Quaker tools that can help: using “Friends” as a gender-inclusive term and using queries as a way to “center on the process of asking and sharing.”

After the panel, the Human Rights Campaign Foundation’s Welcoming Schools initiative provided faculty and staff with division-specific training and age-appropriate techniques to create inclusive classrooms for every student. As Randolph put it: “We owe it to the students to be both well informed and supportive of their multiple identities, perspectives, and needs.”

AT YOUR SERVICE

Network Dynamics



Director of Alumni Engagement **Anna Wyeth** has worked at Sidwell Friends for nine years. This magazine interviews a lot of alumni, and something we've heard over and over is how involved and capable Wyeth is. Below, we find out why.

1. How did you come to DC and specifically to Sidwell Friends?

AW: Political work originally brought me to DC. I did government affairs work and PAC fundraising. But even then, I was involved as a volunteer for my alma mater, Choate. I helped plan reunions for my class, and I was a regional DC alumni group coordinator. So before I was doing alumni relations professionally, I was doing alumni relations! I really wanted to be part of a school community; Choate, and the two other independent schools I went to, were so formative to me. I knew that working at a school would allow me to combine that interest with my skills as a fundraiser and relationship builder.

I'm lucky to have this opportunity at Sidwell Friends. My personality is just a great fit for engagement work: I'm a connector; I'm predisposed to relationship building. Now I'm in touch with the Choate team as a professional—they give great advice. And I'm very connected to the Sidwell community. I am rewarded by the opportunity to do work that comes naturally and to be around people with different areas of expertise. Whether it's my colleagues or the alums themselves, I get to learn about every cool thing under the sun.

2. What was it like to play a key role in launching the BAA?

AW: The Black Alumni Association (BAA) came about through a groundswell of interest from alums. It was necessary, and I heard that directly from the alumni, who were loud and clear about the need to organize and who were ready to step up to make it happen. We never had formalized affinity groups among alumni, even though the School has a lot of affinity groups for parents and students. The BAA is the first. In the future, we'll definitely see more alumni affinity groups come to fruition. Still, anything I shepherd through will be generated by the alums.

And to be clear, the BAA was already happening organically—whether through relationships or School-sponsored events. Black alumni were already networking and supporting each other on their own; but now, by partnering with the School, this group is formalized. In this case, it is so important for the School to be involved. There are resources and support we can provide—whether it is connecting alumni from the same profession or those who just live in the same area. Plus, it reflects what's happening in the country. As Americans have a conversation about systemic racism, making projects like the BAA a priority is even more important. Some feel we were late to this work. That's not for me to say. I just know it's worth doing. Timing doesn't change whether or not something is important to do.

3. Why should alumni go to Reunion?

AW: Everyone sees their connection to the School differently. There are people who never go to Reunion but always go to football games; others will go to a cultural talk but not a happy hour. How you engage with the School as an adult changes over the course of your life. Still, almost universally, people are happy they went to Reunion. They may come in with trepidation, but they leave so happy. Alums find they've left behind adolescent insecurities—people grow.



That is buoying. At Reunion, you see people make connections across years, see them bond, and it is incredible.

4. What is the best part of your job?

AW: There have been a lot of small emotional conversations with people over the years. When something feels particularly meaningful to an alum, and they think they won't get help, and then I support them, that's special. This community has such intellectual curiosity and emotional intelligence. People have an intense relationship with this institution. Helping them have continued relationships is really meaningful.

5. What should all alumni know?

AW: If there's ever something we can do, ask! There's nothing we can't make time for. I also want to be clear about philanthropy and independent schools. This community is so philanthropic and service-oriented, and it is creating the people who are championing the big issues around the world. So, when you support Sidwell Friends, you are supporting the change we need to see in the world. That's profound. That said, I want all alumni to know there are lots of ways to support the School that aren't about dollars. We'll partner with you in any way that calls to you. If you don't want to give, say, "No, thank you"—but still get involved! Volunteer, connect with other alumni in your field or city, work with students, refer other people to Sidwell—because no matter what, you are a beloved and vital part of this community.



IN MEMORIAM

Mikey Wood '23

Grief Is a “Long Journey Without a Destination”

In a message to the community, Head of School Bryan Garman remembered Mikey Wood with fondness and love.

In September, Sidwell Friends experienced the devastating loss of 11th grader Mikey Wood, a beloved friend who had a remarkable impact on the Upper School community. The School honored Mikey in the Pearson Athletic Center for a Meeting for Worship, where his lacrosse teammates draped his jersey on a small table at center court. The foundation of the community, Meeting for Worship, provided a space in which we could begin to process grief and reflect on the impact Mikey had on our lives.

Students broke the silence to give loving, courageous, and powerful testimony to Mikey’s engaging sense of humor and kindness, to celebrate his steadfast friendship. His advisor and family friend, Darren Speece, explained that Mikey was “easy to like,” a characterization that resonated with everyone. Others remembered Mikey’s joyfulness and recognized his enduring importance to our community. Upper School Principal Mamadou Guèye spoke beautifully, noting that the grieving process is an “expression of love that can sometimes feel like a long journey without a destination.” He empathized deeply with Mikey’s parents, Jennifer and Mike Wood '93, urging students to continue to hold the Wood family and one another in the Light. Mamadou’s love for the students was palpable, his wisdom profound.

The faculty and staff too have risen to the occasion. Many teachers met with grief counselors early Friday morning, preparing themselves to serve the students to the best of their abilities. Teachers convened advisories, conducted classes as appropriate, and supported students and one another. The counseling staff tended attentively to students and adults alike. A counselor from the Wendt Center for Loss and Healing augmented their efforts.

Enduring the death of a student is as close as we educators come to losing one of our own children. The experience empties our hearts; it disorients and devastates us because it seems unnatural for their death to precede our own, because we have sought to nurture their spirits, because the relationship we have with each and every student transforms and touches

us. They become part of who we are, and their successes and struggles become our own. Our sadness—and often our helplessness—deepens as their peers weep, as our tears fall, as we ineffably put ourselves in the shoes of bereft parents.

Mikey is the third student I have grieved in my 17 years at Sidwell Friends; may we be fortunate enough never to mourn another. These losses have delivered no great lessons, have revealed no epiphanies beyond what we already know but too easily forget. In the words of William Penn, we can do little more than seek solace “in the comfort of friends,” reminding ourselves about the preciousness of our relationships, the imperative to demonstrate our love and caring toward one another, the need to find joy and possibility in each fleeting moment.

We cannot know the Light without experiencing darkness, and even in this time of sadness, the Light has begun to emerge ever so slightly. Sunshine brightened the gym at the end of Meeting, and it has been deeply moving to watch students care for one another, to see them offer physical and emotional support as they struggle to give meaning to this horribly sad event. Classmates lovingly decorated Mikey’s locker as a memorial. Athletic teams dedicated their games to his memory. Walking in the Light of love, our students have approached this tragedy with courage and compassion.

Our grief will continue to ebb and flow for some time. If you are aware of anyone who is in need of extra support, please reach out to someone at the School. We are here to help. In the meantime, we will continue to travel the journey that as yet has no destination, loving and supporting one another and Mikey’s family with each and every step, no matter how painful those strides might now be.



Friends created a memorial in Wood's Upper School locker.

STATE OF THE ARTS

Ghost in the Machine

Ken Hakuta takes the Sidwell Friends community along for a tour of the new *Nam June Paik* retrospective at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art.

A mesmerizing riot of sights and sounds, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art's exhibit *Nam June Paik* brings together more than 200 works by the visionary experimental artist who bridged art, music, performance, and technology in groundbreaking ways, and whose influence is still felt in the art, pop culture, music, and film of today. This exhibition—the artist's first-ever West Coast retrospective—celebrates Paik, who transcended genres and traditions, while also highlighting the artist's innovative, playful, and profoundly radical work, including his iconic television pieces.

The Sidwell Friends community was invited to a virtual tour of the exhibit led by **Ken Hakuta P '98, '00, '02**, the nephew of the artist (who was once his legal guardian) and executor of his estate, along with **Rudolf Frieling**, the curator of media arts at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. Hakuta shared his unique insight into a large group of works by Paik, who



Nam June Paik lying among televisions, 1991



Hakuta takes a selfie in front of his uncle's robot in the Kogod Arts Center.

experimented with ways to distort images on television screens, created robots from miscellaneous found objects, and even made artwork using Hakuta's childhood toys.

"Everyone in our family thought he was completely crazy," Hakuta says. "Nobody really understood what he was doing." But the avant-garde artist was an amazing uncle in Hakuta's estimation because he encouraged his nephew to watch television. "We had the first television set in our neighborhood!"

Middle School students agree that Paik was pretty cool. To complement the exhibit, students created their own one-of-a-kind Nam June Paik digital pieces.

Hakuta notes that Paik had a deep understanding of commercialization and slick messaging—which he intentionally inverted in his work. "Imperfection is part of his art—and that's the sophistication," Hakuta says. "A perfectly functioning robot is not as sophisticated as one that malfunctions randomly." And it's much less interesting! Learn more at bit.ly/kenhakuta.

Middle School students show off their own Paik-inspired pieces.





KIDS N' PLAY

All Treats

Halloween arrived on both campuses in a big way. There were parades, spooky hallways, costume contests, and a frightening door-decorating competition. Someone even invited Star Fox's more bubbly cousin, Adele Fox.

Call Me, Maybe?

BY LOREN ITO HARDENBERGH

Parents bombarding the Sidwell Friends switchboards dates back to the beginning of the last century. But pay phones on campus quickly surged before becoming obsolete at the beginning of this century. Now, phones—and phone numbers—are as pervasive as people, and the District’s 202 has a new cachet.



This fall, DC residents have been scrambling to get one of the few remaining phone numbers with the iconic 202 area code before companies begin transitioning to the new 771 area code in November. Let’s take a look back at how many other telephone transitions Sidwell Friends has endured over the years.

For the first two decades of the School’s existence, there was no telephone. If you were interested in enrolling your child, you stopped by the Eye Street Meetinghouse in early September between 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. (The application process was rather straightforward in those days. “The peculiarities, weaknesses, or evil tendencies of children should be frankly set forth by parents at the time application for admission is made,” the School’s brochure stated, “so that the principals may decide more wisely whether it is to the interest of both parties to receive the applicant, and if so, how his needs may best be met.”)

It appears the School acquired its first phone in 1905, when telephone charges

began appearing in the ledger books. Budgeting for phone usage was a challenge, as there were 172 messages used in October, increasing to 219 the following February—quite a bit more than they had earmarked for this new expense. Nevertheless, beginning that year, prospective families could call Main 3779 to reach the School. Phone numbers in those days were based on telephone-exchange hubs, and using words for each exchange was easier for the switchboard operators to understand. The School phone number changed to Main 284 a few years later, followed by National 0284. Thomas and Frances Sidwell also welcomed families to call their home in Foggy Bottom (West 20) and later at 3901 Wisconsin Avenue (Cleveland 953).

The Sidwells’ enthusiasm for the telephone led them to extend an invitation to Alexander Graham Bell to speak at commencement in 1914. He accepted, and the nine graduates were treated to a lengthy exposition on the power of observation to spark discovery and invention. “When I was invited to talk

to you tonight, I had no idea of what to say,” he admitted. “I thought of all the good maxims for your future conduct in life; but giving advice to young people is out of my line, and it seemed to be better to choose some subject with which I was a little familiar myself.”

It didn’t take long, however, for the telephone’s shine to wear off. By 1920, parents were asked to stop bombarding the School phone with requests to pass on rainy-day dismissal plans to their children and other day-to-day logistics. Installing a pay phone in the building for students to use for outgoing calls was not enough. In a letter to parents, Thomas Sidwell noted, “Last year the Telephone Company registered an official complaint because the school line was so much in demand.”

Following Thomas Sidwell’s death in 1936, the School consolidated on the Wisconsin Avenue campus, and his immediate successor gamely continued the tradition of publishing his home phone number (Alexandria 450). The School’s third headmaster, Edwin Zavitz, however,



removed it (and no head of school since then has been foolish enough to restore the practice!).

Telephone standards across the country began changing in the 1950s, and the demand for telephone usage had by that point led to three Sidwell Friends School phone lines: Woodley 6-0952, 6-0954, and 6-0955. The slow adoption of the North American Numbering Plan, which called for numerical area codes instead of the word-based system, is evident in the School's directories from the time. The first entry in the School's first student phone directory, published in 1957, listed Lawrence Samuel Aaronson's home phone as RA 6-1535. Over the next decade, the student directory had a hodgepodge of styles, with EM 2-7218 followed immediately by 363-2877. By 1967, all student numbers and the School's phone number (966-0953) were purely numerical.

Many of the current Sidwell Friends phone numbers came into existence in 1979, such as dialing 537-8130 to reach the nurse, or 537-8190 to reach the Athletics Department. It wasn't until 1990, however, that the now-familiar 10-digit numbers

suddenly appeared in the School directory. Up until that year, you could dial anyone within the DC metro area with a seven-digit number, whether they lived in Arlington or Rockville. That all changed in 1990, when all calls outside the District proper required area codes.

As in Thomas Sidwell's day, students continued to rely on public phones for many decades, and new ones kept getting added, including by the Upper School parking entrance in 1986 (thanks to lobbying on the part of the Student Senate), with the last new public phone placed in Kenworthy Gym in 1994. It seems as if they quietly disappeared circa 2002.

Today, of course, many students have their own mobile phones, and they have never carried quarters around so they could call a parent to be picked up after sports practice or kicked a sibling off the phone to keep the line open for an important call. Indeed, the other day when the Zartman House receptionist told a student he was welcome to use her phone to make a call, he just stared at its many buttons and coiled cord, with no idea how to even begin.

1. By 1915, the Sidwells' office on Eye Street had both a desk telephone (on the index-card filing cabinet) and a wall-mounted one.
2. As the assistant to four heads of school from 1955 to 1976, Melva Hiatt made thousands of calls on this rotary dial phone.
3. A phone booth in front of Zartman House helped relieve the overtaxed office phones.
4. In 1982, these Upper School work program students knew their way around desk phones and Rolodexes.

A WORLDWIDE WEB

BECAUSE HUMANITY DOESN'T STOP AT THE BORDER, MANY SIDWELL FRIENDS ALUMNI HAVE DEVOTED THEIR CAREERS TO FINDING SOLUTIONS FOR A CHAOTIC INTERNATIONAL LANDSCAPE.



Foreign affairs—whether through diplomacy, aid, on-the-ground efforts, or policymaking—is above all complicated. Advocating for gender equality or fighting hunger are daunting tasks at home; working with other countries on those issues adds layers of complexity (language, culture, dress, norms) that cannot be overstated. Despite the intricacy, leaders on both sides of the aisle historically agree that international work, from disaster relief to long-term educational systems change, is crucial to U.S.

national security and is a moral calling. As former Secretary of State George C. Marshall put it: “Our policy is directed not against any country or doctrine but against hunger, poverty, desperation, and chaos.”

The Sidwell Friends community is replete with people doing the particular footwork of that doctrine. They are forging relationships, inventing solutions, and helping those across the planet who are suffering the most. Below are just five of them. *Sidwell Friends Magazine* asked each four questions:

- 1 **What does your current job entail?**
- 2 **What drew you to this kind of work?**
- 3 **Can you connect helping people around the world with any of the values taught at Sidwell Friends?**
- 4 **Can you share a favorite moment of impact you’ve experienced in your career?**

Their responses in their own words can be found on the following pages.



PHILIP RIHM '09
Program Officer
U.S. Agency for
International Development

As a program officer with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), I cover the agency's portfolio with the African Union. When I started working in the development field immediately after college, more than anything I saw it as a pathway to eventually enter government (mission accomplished!). But I stuck with it because I worked (and continue to work) with so many motivated and talented colleagues who showed me how the work of an individual or a small team fits into the bigger puzzle of development and humanitarian assistance.

A commitment to service and social justice are major through-lines in development and are also values that were strongly emphasized during my time at Sidwell Friends. Seeing how U.S. foreign assistance can lift people out of poverty, improve livelihoods, and mitigate suffering in the face of conflict and natural disasters ties directly back to values introduced through and reinforced by my Sidwell Friends education.

Working for a major foreign assistance provider like USAID, particularly from headquarters, often makes it difficult to see how U.S. development dollars are impacting beneficiaries. That said, something I take pride in (which I believe ultimately has substantial impact) is the agency's commitment to empowering marginalized communities, particularly women and girls, individuals with disabilities, and the LGBTQIA+ population.

"A COMMITMENT TO SERVICE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE ARE MAJOR THROUGH-LINES IN DEVELOPMENT AND ARE ALSO VALUES THAT WERE STRONGLY EMPHASIZED DURING MY TIME AT SIDWELL FRIENDS."



LEAH DANVILLE '08
Strategic Events Coordinator
Foreign Policy magazine
Co-Founder
3PV

At *Foreign Policy*, it's amazing. I have ministers, ambassadors, and heads of state on my phone, and I curate discussions. But I am moving to Philadelphia to start a consulting company with my mother and sister focused on equity work. It's called Three Points of View ("View" is my mother's maiden name), or 3PV. I plan to create an international development arm of the company because these are global issues. We are focused on new habits and new skills for an anti-racist world. I want to conduct in-depth systems change, not just an afternoon training to check a box. I want to fix how they operate as an organization. Just like in international work, I want to be on the ground in an organization, not giving them a narrative from outside. There's a huge Cambodian population in Philadelphia; they will have different needs than other residents. Growing up in



DC, it was always very "them" and "us." I feel like there's a way for us to work together, though, and not just in human development, but to make spaces that are more positive and fruitful.

My father was Jamaican but born in London and my mother is African American. But they loved to travel with us—and not to resorts. If we were in a country, we got to know the country. Plus, growing up in DC, it's a very international city. And education—education is so important—the more I learned, the more I wanted to see. I think those things influenced me.

Attending Sidwell Friends, the concept of "that of God in everyone" really resonated with me. That's such a beautiful idea. Take that god inside and harness it!

Before COVID, I was working in Nepal as part of a SAIS (Johns Hopkins University's School of

Advanced International Studies) project called SAIS Women Lead. I was assigned to consult for the Women's Rehabilitation Centre (WOREC), a leading organization with a national network in Nepal devoted to preventing gender-based violence and to researching the root causes of gender-based violence. We were meeting with a young woman who was the head of a radio station for young people, a place to talk about gender-based violence and the ways it manifests. Her own mother beat her and starved her. I remember talking to this young woman, who had the tenacity and strength to rise above that and help others like her, and I thought, "I could do this for the rest of my life—finding creative solutions for change. This is powerful work."



“I AM SURE THAT MY INTEREST IN HELPING PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES AROUND THE WORLD IS CONNECTED TO THE DEEP COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY SERVICE THAT I LEARNED AT SIDWELL FRIENDS.”

**BATHSHEBA
CROCKER '87**
Senior Advisor
U.S. Department of State

I advise senior State Department leadership on a range of issues on which I have expertise, including the United Nations, human rights and humanitarian issues, and the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

I have always been passionate about U.S. foreign policy, starting at a young age when my father worked at the State Department. Growing up in Washington, DC, gave me a firsthand view of U.S. foreign policy in action and the important and complex role the United States plays around the world. I have also been fortunate to do a lot of international

travel throughout my life, which definitely helped spark my interest in working on international issues. I worked for several years at the United Nations earlier in my career, and that's when I really started to develop my interest and expertise in humanitarian, development, and human rights issues, as I worked on the UN's efforts to respond to the 2004 Asian tsunami and on peace-building issues.

I have been a public servant throughout my career, and I am sure that my interest in helping people and communities around the world is connected to the deep

commitment to community service that I learned at Sidwell Friends. I also think my interest in helping people in conflict situations around the world is connected to the School's commitment to peace.

I was privileged to support President Obama's Refugee Summit in 2016, which helped lead to concrete commitments by countries around the world to accept more refugees for resettlement and to provide more opportunities for refugees living within their borders. It was a good example of how high-level policy efforts can ultimately have positive, real-life impacts on the lives of individuals in need.

NATE HELLER '94
Co-Founder and Chief
Operating Officer
PEG Africa

At PEG Africa, we sell solar products (home systems with lights and appliances, water pumps, freezers) on credit to off-grid customers in West Africa. We work in Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal, and Mali, and have sold to around 120,000 households over the past seven years. These days, I live in Dakar, Senegal, and mainly focus on developing and launching new products.

My parents were both involved in international development work, so I guess I had developing countries on my radar from an early age. One day when I was about 14, I saw an ad for the Peace Corps on TV and decided that was what I was going to do after college. I was a volunteer in Senegal from 1999 to 2001 and really loved it. From there,

I began a career in international development, but more in the nonprofit/NGO space. Over time, I became more and more drawn to the efficiency and scalability of the private sector, so I went back to school for an MBA in the hope of starting my own social business. I really think the off-grid energy space suits this model very well, because generally what people pay for our products replaces their existing spending on kerosene and batteries, so we are able to be a for-profit business that actually saves them money in the long run.

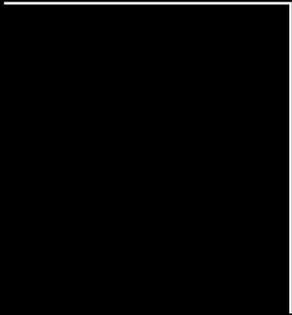
I would absolutely connect my Sidwell Friends experience to my current career. I was a near-lifer at Sidwell (1st to 12th grade), and I feel like for my whole life both Sidwell Friends and my parents made me

feel like what I should aspire to in life was to find a way to be useful to the world, to find my light and shine it where I could. I have always had it in me to want this from my career and it definitely leads back to Sidwell Friends and the values it taught us.

My favorite moments are always whenever I get to go out to visit our customers and see the impact our products are having on their lives, whether it's being able to see children who now don't have to share the family's one flashlight to study at night, or families who can now virtually experience whole other ways of living because they have a TV, or farmers who can water three times as many acres and don't have to pull water from a well or spend money on polluting diesel fuel. ✨



Heller



PORTRAIT
OF THE
**TEACHER AS
AN ARTIST**

BY SACHA ZIMMERMAN



BEHIND EVERY
VISUAL ARTS
EDUCATOR
AT SIDWELL
FRIENDS IS
A BODY OF
WORK THAT
PROVES ART
IS NOT JUST
TAUGHT. IT IS
PRACTICED.

Nature, the feminine, the sublime, the mischievous, the ephemeral, and the real-world—six artists, six ways of seeing.

Like so many teachers at Sidwell Friends who are experts in their fields, the visual arts teachers on campus are both educators and practitioners. That means when the school day ends or the summer yawns before them, there is more work to do.

To that end, empty-nester Catherine Dunn, the Upper School art teacher, turned her living room into studio space. "I don't have to have a kitchen table!" she realized. Upper School ceramics instructor Caroline Battle loves the academic calendar. "It's the best way for me to live my life," she says, "and it makes me happier than any other job creatively." Lower School art teacher Kristen Campbell appreciates that teaching "ties to life as an artist but allows me to support myself in an interesting way." What's more, each of the School's visual arts teachers say the students inspire them. "You get so many ideas from the kids," says Dunn. "Their energy is pretty amazing."

For the visual arts departments at Sidwell Friends, teaching is a happy companion to their own artistic pursuits. But make no mistake, each instructor is an artist in his or her own right. They show in local and regional galleries; they earn fellowships and awards; they sell work online and to collectors; they publish in art journals. Some Sidwell Friends art teachers have, at one time, supported themselves solely by making art. Others have had professional engagements that made use of their art. Campbell formerly designed book jackets for publishing houses in New York. And Upper School photography teacher Lely Constantinople previously worked as a photojournalist here in DC. Middle School art

teacher Aaron Brophy has traveled to Cyprus on a Fulbright grant and to China with a teacher-exchange program to lecture and create. All of these experiences then unfold in the classroom, where the teachers' share techniques, study different artists' styles, and above all impart a passion for art, design, shape, and imagery.

"The emphasis is on a love of art, not the final result," says Middle School art teacher Eliza Bright. "It's not about how art looks—that's not important. It's about how you respect yourself, the process, and the learning experience." Bright says she sometimes draws a dot on the board and then asks the students, "Is this art?" It's the kind of question everyone from ancient aesthetics philosophers to the U.S. Supreme Court has wrestled with. But for Bright's students, the answer is at once simple and profound: What story does it tell? "Whatever visual comes from someone is a representation of that person," Bright says. "That's the beauty—not in how it looks, but what it means, the story it tells." (Perhaps unsurprisingly, Bright also teaches drama.)

Sidwell Friends' visual arts teachers are unanimous on this concept of process over product. "What's really complex about teaching art is that I am not trying to make them artists," says Constantinople. "I am trying get them to observe the world." Dunn echoes the sentiment. "The idea is to observe and see," she says. "If you keep looking, you see more and more detail." Her students' first assignment is often to draw something from nature, like a leaf. There is the outside shape of the leaf and then there is the subtle interiority—the veining, the nodules on the stem, even the space behind the leaf or the shadow it creates. Accuracy is not the aim; observing the tiny details is. It is as if every art student must scan the world with microscope eyes, placing an intimate focus on any potential subject—even a dot.



LELY CONSTANTINOPLÉ

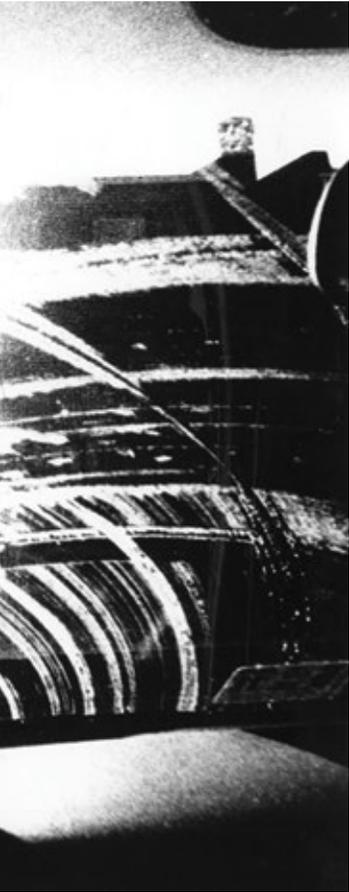
UPPER SCHOOL
PHOTOGRAPHY



That attention to detail has practical applications as well. “By default, a photograph is manipulated,” Constantinople says. “It has never been a reality.” For one thing, a camera lens captures a fraction of what our eyes perceive, photos are often selected for impact rather than truth, and, of course, images are routinely altered. “I want students to have a healthy skepticism and know how to read an image successfully.” Photography, she says, is not just about craft but about building up a knowledge of what’s technologically possible and discerning the truth. “We spend a lot of time interrogating images,” Constantinople says. “Images are dangerous. We get under the hood of what’s happening in a picture.”

Maybe that’s why in her own work Constantinople is drawn to analog conventions. She likes to combine photography and printmaking. (Printmaking as fine art has a rich history at Sidwell Friends, expressed

most famously through artist Percy Martin, who taught at the School for decades.) “Speed and immediacy,” are the beauty and the curse of photography, says Constantinople, who is currently focused on mixing photography and other media to create wholly unique pieces that cannot be mass produced. It’s that instinct that led her to apply for and receive a professional development grant from Sidwell Friends and the DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities to study one of the planet’s oldest printmaking techniques: *héliogravure*, a French process that employs etching, copper plates, sunlight, and hand-mixed emulsions. For Constantinople, the process meant pulling off the trick of reverse engineering an image’s time line. She began with a digitally processed photograph and then manually deconstructed it to its most analog constituent pieces. The result is almost an oxymoron—contemporary subjects and settings that look lost in time, like super-crisp daguerreotypes.



Images Courtesy of Lely Constantinople

“

I WANT STUDENTS TO HAVE A HEALTHY SKEPTICISM AND KNOW HOW TO READ AN IMAGE SUCCESSFULLY.”



CAROLINE BATTLE

UPPER SCHOOL
CERAMICS

“I commend my colleagues for being as invested as they are in preserving nondigital and analog crafts,” says ceramicist Caroline Battle, for whom maintaining old techniques is, well, baked in to her medium. “I love preserving a craft, a heritage craft,” she says. “I’m a 3D thinker, so I am drawn to texture, folding, and sculpture.” Though she used to work on more abstract pieces, lately Battle has been producing functional, utilitarian pottery—like mugs and planters—in rich earth colors offset with teals and golds that she then sells. Making objects to market wholesale means perfecting her approach so that she can recreate pieces over and over again.

Her tenacity is equaled only by that of her pupils at Sidwell Friends. “The students here are so impressive to me,” she says. “They are so engaged and dedicated—even when they were in the midst of being in high school in the toughest year because of COVID. They always want to learn something else.” She finds particular joy in watching students wrestle with the coordination it takes to throw clay and then seeing their joy upon finding success: “When they figure out the fine motor skills to do what once seemed impossible, it’s amazing.”



Images Courtesy of Caroline Battle



“

WHEN THEY FIGURE
OUT THE FINE
MOTOR SKILLS TO
DO WHAT ONCE
SEEMED IMPOSSIBLE,
IT'S AMAZING.”



CATHERINE DUNN

UPPER SCHOOL
ART

Catherine Dunn agrees. “My favorite is the conglomeration of all of the students’ energy and excitement when they see something really work,” she says. Dunn puts a particular focus on nature in her classroom, starting with the native flora right on the campus grounds, like the black walnut tree behind Zartman House that drops its fruits across the lawn—a pale green, zesty, citrus-scented ball on the outside (she encourages everyone to smell them) with loamy, inky black vegetation on the inside. “There’s just something special about nature,” she says. “If you’re out in the morning and you see a fox, you feel like that’s important, that’s a special moment. Magical.”

Dunn wants her own art and that of her students to access those moments of intense connection. She talks to students about the caves of Lascaux in France, where paleolithic cave paintings of horses and bison depict that same primal relationship in a time capsule extending across tens of thousands of years.





Images Courtesy of Catherine Dunn

“

MY FAVORITE IS THE CONGLOMERATION OF ALL OF THE STUDENTS' ENERGY AND EXCITEMENT WHEN THEY SEE SOMETHING REALLY WORK.”



AARON BROPHY

MIDDLE SCHOOL ART

RESIDENCE HALL

In addition to its impressive teachers, since 1981 Sidwell Friends has also had an artist-in-residence program (currently overseen by Aaron Brophy). Lee Rubenstein and his children, Beth Rubenstein '77, Barton Rubenstein '81, and Amy Rubenstein '84, created the annual Daryl Reich Rubenstein Guest Artist program to honor the late Daryl Rubenstein. Daryl was passionate about the arts and curated many exhibits at Sidwell Friends and at DC galleries and museums, including the Smithsonian. More than 30 nationally recognized guest artists have exhibited at Sidwell Friends and shared their work and talents with students, faculty, and the public. Recent guest artists include Carol Brown Goldberg, Lou Stovall, Suzanne Firstenberg, and Wanda Raimundi-Ortiz.

Time itself plays a seminal role in Aaron Brophy's work. His sculptures "address the ephemeral nature of corporeal existence." His pieces rise with vitality yet seem to be disintegrating the longer you look at them. A lifelong Quaker, Brophy's interest in existence is not merely corporeal. "Bringing aesthetic awareness to our sense of self enables us to be more fully present while creating, while performing, and while tending to our inner Light," he says. "We honor the Light of creativity within each individual." That's why Brophy employs an art curriculum based on the literal (and metaphorical) study of light, including through renowned contemporary artists like James Turrell and Olafur Eliasson.

In addition to teaching art, Brophy is also the director of art exhibitions at Sidwell Friends, maintaining the School's permanent art collection, which features Sam Gilliam, Gene Davis, Lou Stovall, and Nam June Paik (see "Ghost in the Machine," on page 16) among others. He's also a big fan of the space in which these artists are displayed and where the students themselves exhibit work. "The light-filled art studios surround the wetlands garden and pond, reminding us every day of nature's vital role in our creative lives," he says. "The Middle School is an idyllic setting for students to cultivate aesthetic sensibilities and to thrive within a community of Friends. Studying the arts in a Quaker setting instills a sense of mindfulness in the students."

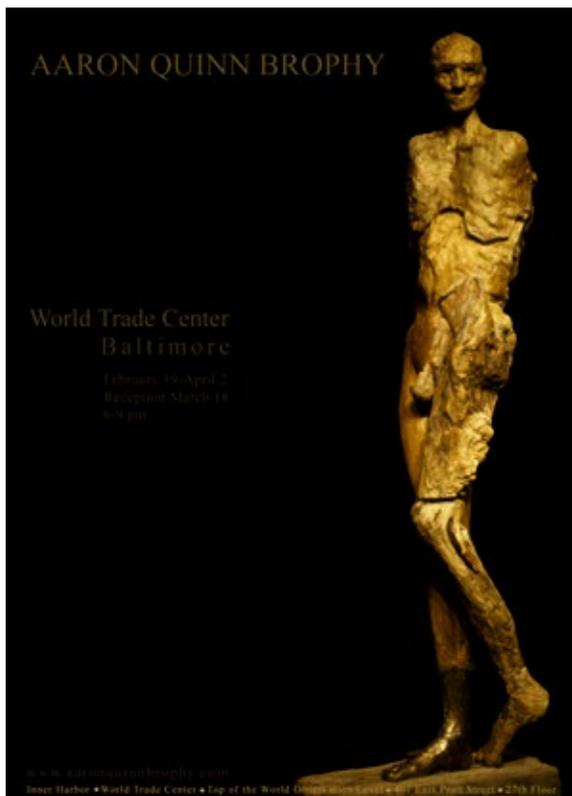


Images Courtesy of Aaron Brophy



“

STUDYING THE ARTS
IN A QUAKER SETTING
INSTILLS A SENSE
OF MINDFULNESS IN
THE STUDENTS.”





KRISTEN CAMPBELL

LOWER SCHOOL
ART

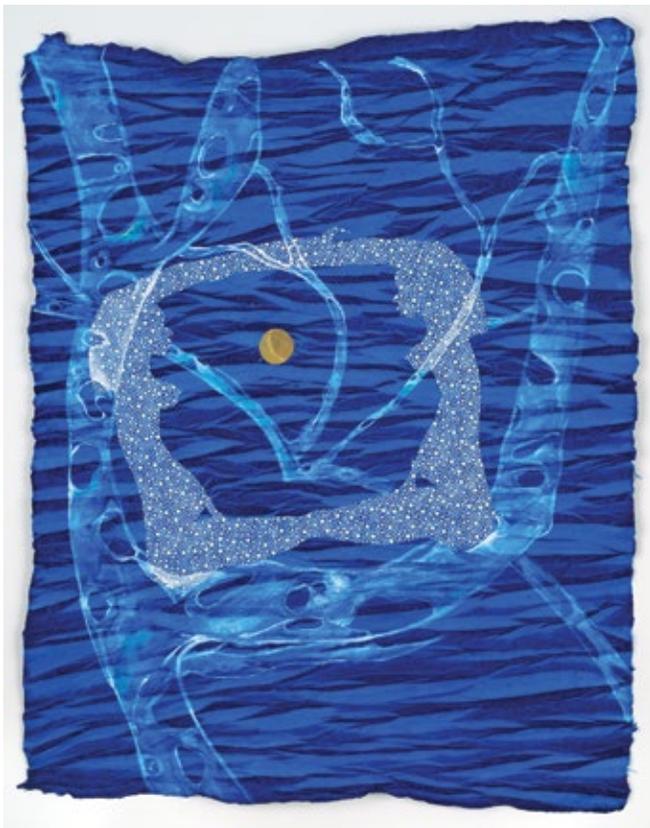
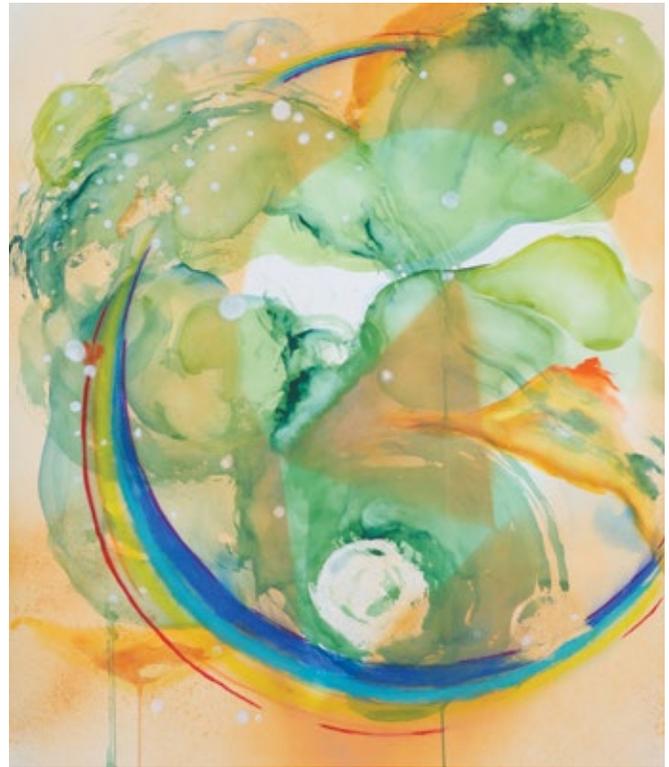


That mindful ethos dovetails nicely with Campbell's paintings, which strive for nothing short of the divine. "I want to engage the viewer and make a space for them to participate in the energy I am trying to create," she says. "I want them to feel enlightenment, to reach a higher level." Her focus on the experience of art is perhaps what makes her such a gifted Lower School teacher.

There's a wonderful line in the play *Six Degrees of Separation* about how in the 2nd grade all children are artistic geniuses—"Matisse's, every one!" It's exactly the feeling that comes to mind in the Lower School art room, where Campbell is surrounded by a riot of primary colors, yarns, construction paper, paste, and paint. "My personality is such that I am drawn to children," Campbell says. "I love the innocence of children and their energy. I love watching them find joy in the process."

“

I WANT TO ENGAGE THE VIEWER AND MAKE A SPACE FOR THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ENERGY I AM TRYING TO CREATE.”



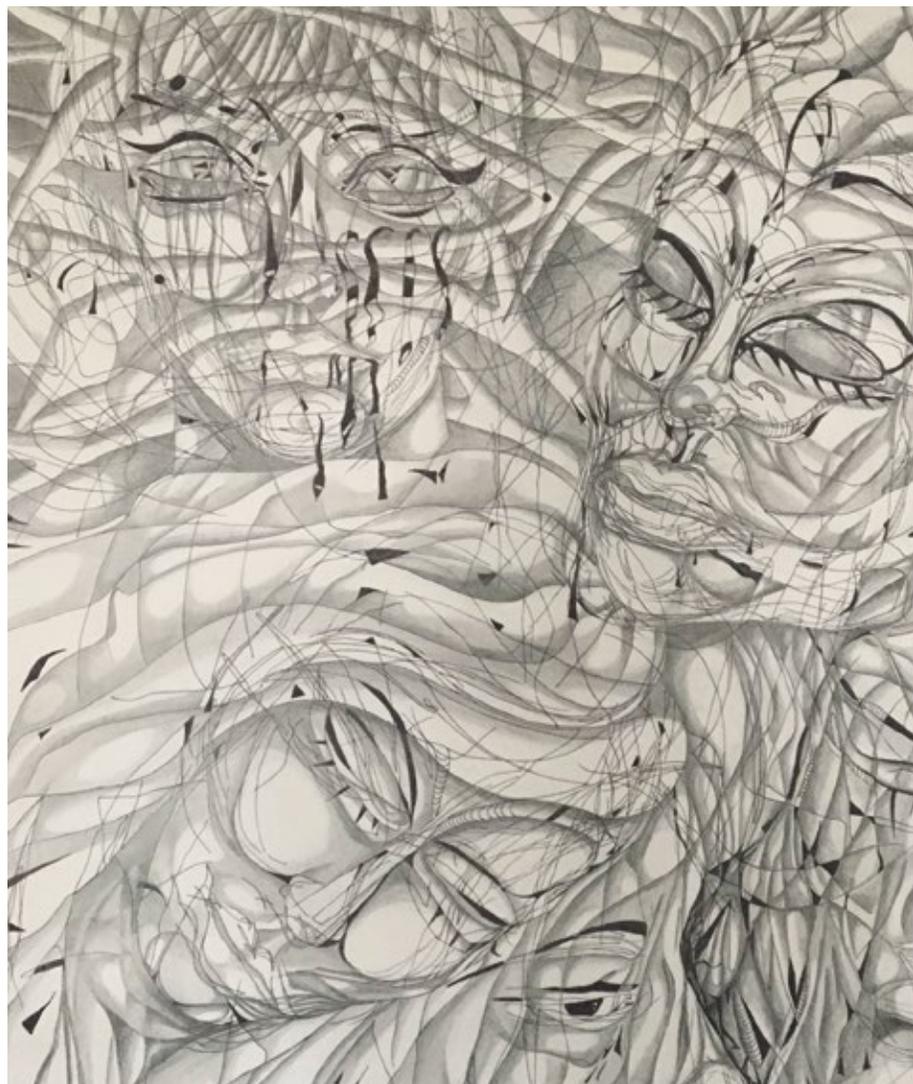
Images Courtesy of Kristen Campbell





ELIZA
BRIGHT

MIDDLE SCHOOL
ART



When it comes to process, Middle School Art Department Chair Eliza Bright has a pretty wild one. She approaches her canvas blind—eyes sealed closed—and allows her spirit, her mood, and the moment to carry her. For 10 minutes, she scribbles furiously across a huge white sheet of paper taped to the wall before her, almost like a child feeling the nascent joy and freedom of squiggling and scrabbling here and there, up and down. Then Bright, steps back, opens her eyes, and takes in the chaos until an image appears—like staring at the sky until you discover pictures in the clouds. From there, it is a matter of bringing those images to the fore.

“I start giving it life,” she says. “I try to make sense of my subconscious and inner self. I don’t erase any mistakes.” Every line created in that 10-minute fury remains. “Artists are messengers for courage to the world,” she explains. “Every line is meaningful and useful. I am not dismissive of the lines, because I do not dismiss the self. Knowledge of self is freedom.”

The native Macedonian is particularly interested in powerful female subjects. “I was brought up where I would cook for my brothers and father,” she says. “Women’s emancipation is better than in the past and that is exciting to me.” ✨



“

I TRY TO MAKE
SENSE OF MY
SUBCONSCIOUS
AND INNER SELF.
I DON'T ERASE
ANY MISTAKES.”



Images Courtesy of Eliza Bright

Claire Wolstencroft '20,
Sam McClelland '20 and
Annika Pederson '20
at the Class of 2020
Celebration in August.



ALUMNI ACTION

Dear Friends,

What a treat it was to celebrate Homecoming on campus in October. While there are many connections we've made in the virtual world that I remain deeply grateful for, there's nothing like the opportunity to see friends new and old in person, all while getting to cheer for Sidwell Friends. For those of you who were not able to attend, you can see pictures from the day on page 8. While there may have been rain in the afternoon, no spirits were dampened—quite the opposite, in fact!



We're thrilled to be sharing so much content connected to the arts in this issue: from our art teachers who are such talented artists in their own right (see "Portrait of the Teacher as an Artist," on page 28), to a special virtual opportunity to see the works of renowned artist Nam June Paik, thanks to Ken Hakuta P '98, '00, '02 (see "Ghost in the Machine," on page 18). May these stories inspire the artist in each of us, and remind us of the beauty of creativity in all its forms.

Every time I read Class Notes, I am reminded of the winding paths we each take and how many times those paths intersect with others from the Sidwell Friends community—not just classmates, but new friends within the Friends Alumni Network we may never have known as students, or those with whom our bonds and friendships are renewed or created in adulthood. Please know how much your updates mean to the wider community and how appreciative we are to share in your joys and sorrows, your triumphs and losses. And if you see that your class is missing a class representative, please feel encouraged to raise your hand for this wonderful volunteer role.

And of course, don't miss your classmates who are highlighted in other stories in this issue: alumni working in the fields of international development and relations, and the magazine's new section, "Living Their Values," which kicks off by featuring Kathryn Greenberg '95 (see "Your Life Is Worth Living," on page 48).

I wish each of you joy, peace, and time spent with your nearest and dearest as we close out 2021.

In friendship and with gratitude,

Marika Cutler Meyer '94

Clerk, Friends Alumni Network Advisory Board



Fred Photography

Pitch Perfect

After a year off during the pandemic, Sidwell Friends was thrilled to bring back the Alumni Soccer Game this fall. It's a favorite annual tradition and the alums were super happy to get back on the field. Due to ongoing COVID restrictions, current students could not compete, so the usual varsity-versus-alumni match turned into an alumni-versus-alumni showdown. The alumni players spanned 30 years of Sidwell Friends graduates—from the Class of 1991 to the Class of 2021. After playing two games, the group then headed to Cactus Cantina for a post-match celebration, where they were joined by more alumni, friends, and family.



Fred Photography



Fred Photography



Fred Photography



GRAD INTERRUPTED

The Class of 2020 returns to campus for an emotional tribute and joyous celebration.

“Welcome home, Friends,” Head of School **Bryan Garman** said at the Class of 2020 Alumni & Parents Celebration this summer. Part graduation ceremony, part prom, part reunion, the class that had missed out on so much due to the pandemic was back at Sidwell Friends—the first alumni event held on campus since March 2020. “No group had to deal with so many existential crises,” Garman said.

Surrounded by the warm woods and crisp whites of the Robert L. Smith Meeting Room, the design of which was indirectly inspired by the Quaker artist James Turrell, Garman noted that Turrell “invites us to deconstruct reality,” and to find beauty in its most basic components. It was a notion that was tested as “COVID altered

perceptions and blurred boundaries” at a foundational level. And yet, Garman noted of the class before him, “You did not just find your Light; you shined it on others.”

Upper School Principal **Mamadou Guèye** spoke to the class about their impact on him personally. “After 30 years at Sidwell Friends School,” he said, “this class of 2020 will be a huge chapter.” Along with Assistant Upper School Principal Michael Woods, Crystal Matthews, and Brittany Chase (the caravan of joy), Guèye recalled delivering diplomas by car to each student’s house during the height of lockdown and missing the special sense of closure a proper graduation ceremony infuses in everyone. “In tremendous loss, we must find meaning,” he said. “We cannot get

stuck in the past. We must live for the future.” And, so Guèye looked forward, giving the Class of 2020 some parting advice: “If you are a person at peace, you can make peace with your surroundings.”

During an emotional Meeting for Worship, students shared their deep well of gratitude for their Sidwell Friends relationships, one read a poem, and several parents thanked school for instilling a culture of service in their children. Then the evening turned to one of pure celebration, including a DJ and dancing on the plaza outside the Arts Center, food and drinks in every corner, professional photos on the stairs behind Zartman House, a photo booth for more casual shots, and a food truck dedicated solely to dessert treats. The sense of joy was palpable, recalling a moment earlier in the evening when Garman asked a Class of 2020 alum what he was feeling. “Happiness,” the alum said. And the room erupted in applause.



Photos by Freed Photography

Talk Soup

Three recent Conversation with Friends events explored new books by alumni and parent authors.

Letter Perfect

When author and equity consultant **Dax-Devlon Ross '93** wrote the essay “A Letter to My White Male Friends of a Certain Age” in 2020, he didn’t anticipate how it would shape the next year of his life: that it would spread widely beyond the initial group of friends to whom he had sent it; that he would adapt and publish it as *Letters to My White Male Friends*—part memoir and part call to action; and that it would lead to new friendships, including one with **Gareth Schweitzer '95**, with whom he’d not spoken in over a quarter-century. After a year of deepening friendship and conversations about race, equity, and justice, Ross and Schweitzer reunited for a Conversation with Friends to discuss Ross’s book. And because, as Ross noted, truly intersectional thought should include an intergenerational component, they were joined by **Sophia Houdaigui '17**.

The thread that connects Ross, Schweitzer, and Houdaigui may be their Sidwell Friends experiences, yet their conversation illustrated that the three alumni experienced Sidwell Friends differently. Ross says the book allowed him to grapple with his experiences navigating institutional spaces: “I wanted to write something through the memoir side of the book that would help people re-examine their own life journey.” Through that process, he hoped to encourage his white male friends “to do some checking up on themselves, because race and racism isn’t just happening to me and people who look like me. It’s happening to all of us.”

Schweitzer notes that *Letters* asks “you to be introspective and ask questions of yourself about what role you want to play in having a more equitable and just world.” However, all three noted that—like many institutions—Sidwell Friends was well-intentioned but did not always meet the needs of Black students and other students of color. That’s where a book like *Letters* can begin to make a difference, as Ross’s book offers practical steps for institutions hoping to shift from simply inviting diversity to creating inclusive and just spaces for all.

Houdaigui reflected on how educational institutions like Sidwell Friends could be more accommodating to individuals’ learning styles rather than pushing students to conform to a “white model of success”: “When you’re keeping everyone to the same exact educational model, [don’t] assume that students who have not necessarily been represented in



Dax-Devlon Ross '93

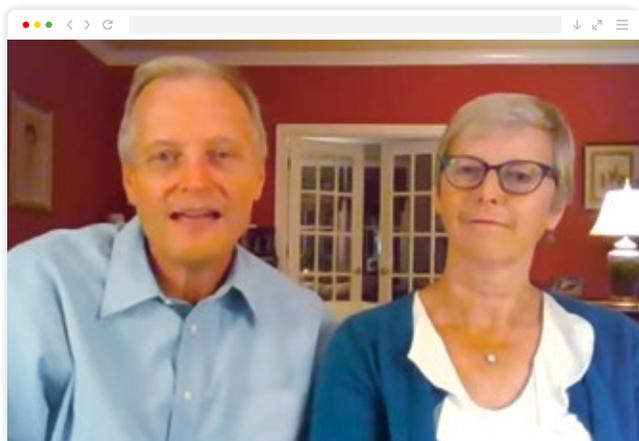
those institutions are going to succeed at the same capacity.” Schweitzer brought his managerial perspective to the conversation. When business owners and senior leaders are open to these conversations, he said, it will shape “how you write job descriptions, what it is that you demand from employees when they are applying, and how you evaluate them.”

Yet Ross is the first to admit that these conversations are by no means easy—especially for white audiences. “It’s difficult because it means shifting people’s relationship to power, to figure out how to share it,” Ross says. Still, as Schweitzer and Ross’s friendship proves, having these conversations can bring people closer.

IN SICKNESS AND IN HEALTH

“It’s hard to do cancer by yourself,” said **Liza Marshall P '14**. Luckily, Liza had what came close to a dream team when she was diagnosed with Stage 3 triple-negative breast cancer at age 43. First, her husband, **John Marshall P '14**, is a world-class oncologist practicing at the top-tier MedStar Georgetown University Hospital. She had access to top-of-the-line care, including physicians who were often also their friends; the Marshalls even live close to the hospital. She had access and benefits that some high-risk cancer patients dream about. She also had a 50 percent chance of survival. At best.

In September, Liza and John discussed their new shared memoir, *Off Our Chests: A Candid Tour Through the World of Cancer*, at a Conversation with Friends event moderated by oncologist **Ben Weinberg '03**. Liza and John wrote their chapters separately to tell one deeply personal story. And while it was a shared history, the two remembered it very differently. “All of the sudden you’re diagnosed with cancer, and you’re thrown into this world that you don’t really understand,” Liza said. “I understood what clinical trials were, but I didn’t



John Marshall P '14 and Liza Marshall P '14

understand which one I should choose to be in—or if I should be in one at all.” While writing the book, Liza looked back at one of her doctor’s notes in which the doctor wrote that Liza understood what had been told to her. “What I remember was I had no idea what anyone was saying to me.”

John, who has long been outspoken about how the dominance of breast cancer research and awareness was actively harming research into other, often deadlier cancers, now had to shift into a new role as personal caregiver to a breast cancer patient. He also had to keep working—the couple depended on his health insurance. However, when it came to Liza, he was clear he wasn’t her doctor. “I didn’t dig into the clinical trials,” he said. “I just stood on the sideline and trusted the team that they would take care of her—and the team also took care of me.”

He soon began giving his business card to his own patients, encouraging them to call or email with questions. He also began working with MedStar Georgetown to hire more patient advocates and other experts who could guide cancer patients through their treatments—an effort to ensure that everyone has a dream team of their own. In the end, writing *Off Our Chests* was a way to synthesize the memories, the technical jargon, the trauma, and the eventual victory. “For me, writing the book was therapy; it was kind of my moment of silence with myself to really write out what I was thinking and feeling at the time,” John said. “And it was the therapy I needed. When someone you love gets diagnosed with cancer, you have to learn to live in kind of a free fall. It can take a long time to feel the ground underneath you.”

GRIEF BY THE BOOK

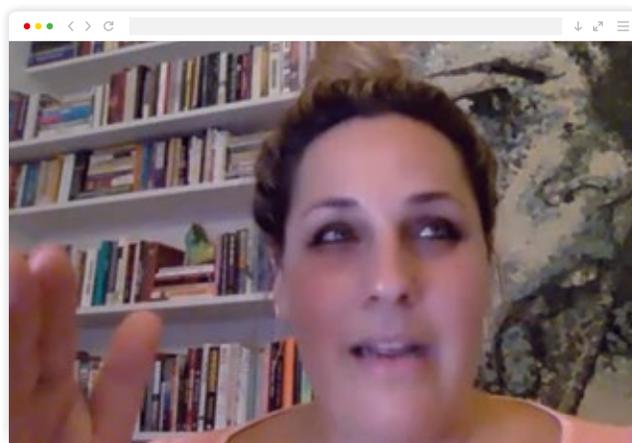
“This book wrote me,” said **Merissa Nathan Gerson '00** of her new book, *Forget Prayers, Bring Cake: A Single Woman’s Guide to Grieving*. “It wasn’t even a choice.” Written in the months following her father’s death, Gerson’s book is part

memoir and part guide to the complicated feelings that arise after the death of a loved one—feelings that can get even more complicated, Gerson said to moderator **Lory Ivey Alexander '97** during a Conversation With Friends, when an adult woman doesn’t have a romantic partner. “I really wanted to de-shame single women,” she said. “There are tricks I have learned through living alone that have allowed me to source my care differently” than others might.

The book serves as a guide to creating healthy relationships (including with oneself); learning how to grieve in a personal way, rather than how one “should”; and how to ask for help when it’s needed. “At the end of every chapter is the advice I wanted when my dad was dying,” she said. “What do I need to do to get help? How do I get into a grief support group? What does it even mean to know what I need right now?—because I have no idea.”

Gerson, who is currently a visiting assistant professor at Tulane University, recognized that although her educational background has given her a wide breadth of knowledge about spiritual practices from a variety of sources, in the end grief is intensely personal and not a one-size-fits-all way of feeling. “The part of me that wrote this book was synthesizing years and years of spiritual training,” she said. “I do know that my experience is not the same as other people’s—but I also know there is something to glean from what I’ve gone through.”

While Gerson intends for *Forget Prayers, Bring Cake* to help other people, after a year of writing it, largely in isolation brought about by the pandemic, she found the book helped her as well. “I’m very grateful for this book; I think it sort of saved me,” she said. “It helped me remember that I had resources when I felt the world had left me to myself.”



Merissa Nathan Gerson '00



Do you have an idea or suggestion for a future Conversation with Friends event? Email alumni@sidwell.edu.



Your Life Is Worth Living

The journey **Kathryn Greenberg '95** took led her to be an advocate for others. Now she spends every day helping people who experience trauma and addiction find their purpose.

On October 15, 2011, Kathryn Greenberg walked out of a treatment center, marking her sixth time in a residential facility, and told herself: "I am done. I can't live like this anymore. I have to breathe. I must live. I must figure this out." Many of us have a clear, bright line demarcating a "before" and an "after" in our lives—a loss of innocence, a death, an accident, sobriety, a critical incident of some sort. For Greenberg, that day in 2011 is etched in her mind as the beginning of her "after"—not a "happily ever after," but nevertheless a "*happier* after."

Greenberg's mental health struggles began when she was in 9th grade at Sidwell Friends. "It was insidious at first, and then it felt like I went from being OK to wanting to die," she says. "I told my close friends at the time, 'I don't know what's going on.' I started cutting, and in the early '90s, nobody knew what that was. I felt like a freak. What sane person would intentionally harm their own body? I was engaging in serious self-harm, and at that point doctors said to me, 'You need long-term care.'"

Greenberg's parents researched doctors, residential treatment centers, made connections, and got referrals, making their daughter's well-being a central

part of their lives. Her first hospitalization occurred when she was still in high school. "Then, it all really just unfolded," she says. "A slew of doctors and therapies and medications and psychiatrists."

Despite her mental health struggles, Greenberg graduated from Sidwell Friends in 1995 and went on to attend college in Boston. During her sophomore year, Greenberg survived a violent assault. The result of that trauma led to another stay in the hospital. "I fell apart," she says, "I was in so much pain. I couldn't figure out how to survive, much less live."

One step at a time, and absolutely not alone, she started on her healing journey and became very aware that the time lines that society sets are completely arbitrary. Ultimately, Greenberg graduated magna cum laude, with a degree in developmental psychology as a member of Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in psychology.

However, healing is not linear. Greenberg developed a serious eating disorder—something that occurs in adulthood more than many people realize. "Doctors told me I was going to die if I didn't get treatment," says Greenberg. So she did just that. After nine months of in-patient treatment—which included several

forms of therapy—Greenberg emerged. It was October 15, 2011.

Greenberg was living in Bethesda at the time, wondering how she could fully heal in the place where the hurt began. Everything in the Washington area seemed to hold a memory of pain, so she moved to the west coast of Florida. "I thought, 'My gosh, this is what soft is like,'" she says. "There were fewer politics, much less judgment, and the privilege of being outside nearly every day."

"I became a brand new soul and human," she says. "I thought, 'There's so much glory, beauty, love, and light in this life and I want it all! Where do I start?'" She started at the Salvation Army—almost as if the word "salvation" were a neon sign saying, "Here, Kathryn." She approached the Salvation Army to be a volunteer tutor, but they quickly recognized that she could provide more value working as a mental health advocate in their residential treatment programs. She had found her purpose. She knew then that she had to continue to heal so she could go out and help others do the same.

She continued to nurture herself and found huge success with dialectical behavior therapy (DBT), a kind of psychotherapy that combines behavioral science with mindfulness. "It completely

changed my entire life,” Greenberg says, adding that Marsha M. Linehan, the psychologist who developed DBT, is a role model. She knew intuitively that DBT could be a transformative tool for the people she worked with at the Salvation Army. So she started to train in DBT, all the time wondering, “How do we make this accessible to everyone?”

“It’s expensive, and it’s time consuming,” Greenberg says. “But what does it look like on a very raw level? I had this tremendous privilege to heal because I had the resources that so many don’t.” She began by volunteering at the Sarasota County Jail, and within a few years, she became a certified life coach specializing in trauma and addiction, and a prominent mental health advocate.

“One of the results of trauma and abuse is often addiction and incarceration,” Greenberg says. “So I developed a curriculum based on mindfulness and emotion regulation.” She discusses things such as forgiveness, guilt and shame, co-dependency, and procrastination. “Our job is to give them the tools they need to engage in a life worth living,” she says. “We need to teach them how to manage their emotions and understand the difference between emotions, thoughts, and behaviors. We incarcerate folks, but then they go back out into the world, and they still don’t know how to manage their wounds. It’s really up to us as a society to teach them those skills.”

Greenberg is also a proponent of changing the language around mental health issues. “I use trauma-informed language, which encourages the separation of behavior from who people are intrinsically. “You are not bipolar; you’re struggling with it,” she says. “You are not an anorexic; you struggle with an eating disorder. You are not an addict; you’re struggling with an addiction. We’ve internalized all of this negative language and wording in our hippocampus, taking it in and running with it, and now people are beginning to believe that that’s really who they are. And it really, really isn’t.”

The world, she says, is going to judge your behavior, but not necessarily your

intention. But behavior is destined to repeat if there isn’t a behavioral intervention. “I was testifying in court for one of my girls,” she says. “She had killed two people in a DUI manslaughter case, and she is going to prison for a long time. But what I said to the judge is, ‘Yes, she must go to prison, but after that, she must go to some kind of rehabilitation center that deals with mental illness and addiction because they are not independent.’”

Greenberg says she aims to create “sacred space,” where people not only feel safe to tell their story, but will be heard and loved. These days, Greenberg runs groups in the Sarasota County Jail, a residential treatment center for women, transitional living homes, and human-trafficking agencies and safe houses. She also works with adolescents in Teen Court, and has a private practice.

She also shares her story. “I told my story to a group the other night,” she says. “I like to share my experience and why I believe this life is so, so worth it.” A young man in the audience stood up and said he had planned on taking his own life that night, but chose to come to this meeting instead. He told Greenberg her story was also his story—and that he thought he had been all alone. “People came up to him and put their hands on his back, hugged him, and handed him their phone numbers,” says Greenberg. “He then realized that it really wasn’t that he wanted to die; it was that he wanted to live differently.”

If that sounds like Quakerism, it’s no coincidence. At Sidwell Friends, Greenberg found a lasting sense of compassion. “I spent a lot of time in the art room with Percy Martin,” she says. “That was my safe space. I went to summer school, so I wouldn’t have a whole load during the year. I also did an independent study of women in poetry. Now I begin each of my groups with a poem and a piece of music. Sidwell Friends stood up for me and said, ‘How can we support you?’”

She says she also loves that sense of fellowship and being together in silence that Quakerism engenders. She adds that sitting in silence is not necessarily

“

There’s so much
glory, beauty, love,
and light in this life
and I want it all!
Where do I start?”

about clearing your mind, but accepting whatever is in it and welcoming it with love. That acceptance, she says, even redounds to this very magazine. “I think a lot of people look at the magazine and compare themselves to the successes they see,” she says. “It’s useful to remember that the vast majority of people are living quieter lives than what we see splashed across the pages, and for a lot of us, that is success. Have gratitude for the life you have and not the life you wish you had.”

After working with people who don’t know when they’ll eat next or where they will sleep, “success” can mean survival. To that end, Greenberg recognizes that her own cup is overflowing. “Life is going to continue to be difficult,” she says, “but you have all this magic inside you to change how you respond.” Greenberg’s best responses to life so far have been being of service to others and moving to the beach. “I look at my life today,” she says, “and my gratitude is off the charts.”

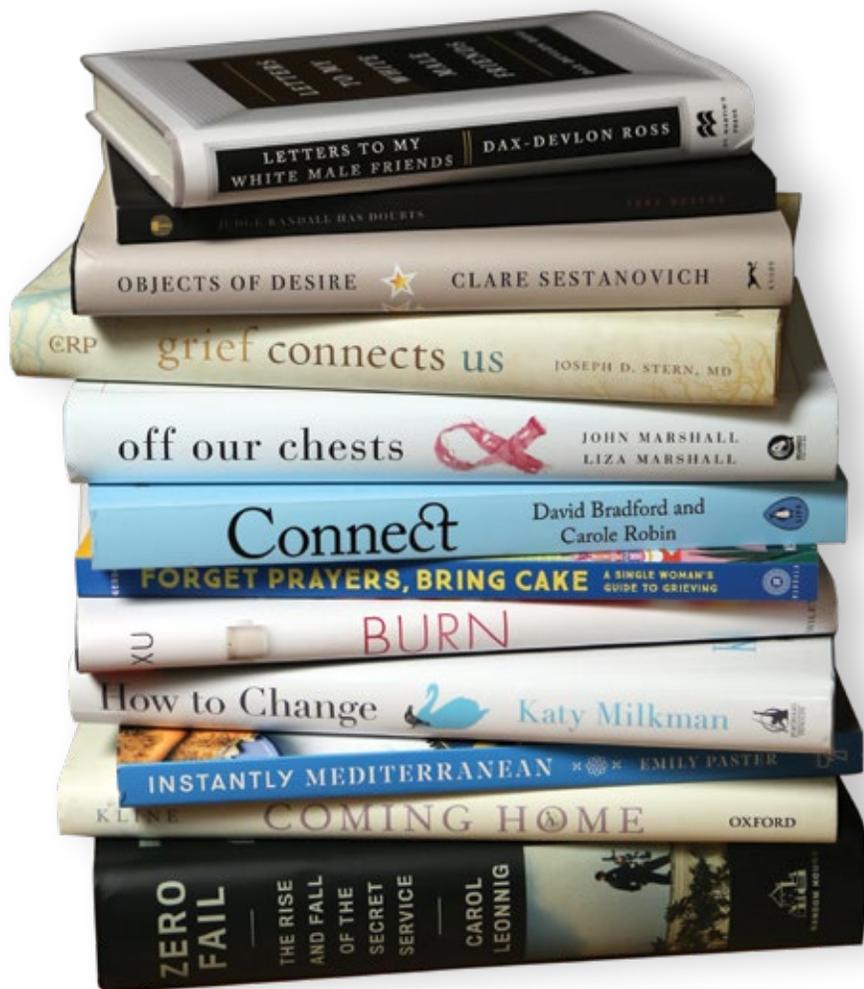
You can learn more about Kathryn Greenberg’s services at kathryngreenberg.com.

Know someone who is living their values?
Email suggestions to magazine@sidwell.edu.

FRESH INK

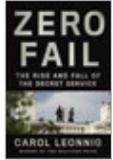
fall books

Sidwell Friends authors offer a bounty for your reading pleasure and holiday gift lists this season—mystery, stories, scandal, scholarship, entrepreneurialism, cuisine, science, introspection, and even a couple of choice children’s books.



Zero Fail: The Rise and Fall of the Secret Service

By Carol Leonnig P '20
Random House, 2021



“America, its presidents and its citizens, have taken the Secret Service for granted in the past, too often with tragic results.”

Letters to My White Male Friends

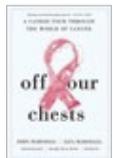
By Dax-Devlon Ross '93
St. Martin's Press, 2021



“You need to understand that the story you have been told and continue to tell about us is missing a major chapter.”

Off Our Chests: A Candid Tour Through the World of Cancer

By John Marshall P '14 and Liza Marshall P '14
Idea Press, 2021



“I quickly began to see the ubiquitous pink ribbons as the enemy, a symbol of unfair focus in our field. ... I was sure that if enough people in high places heard my message, I could put the breast cancer machine in its place. Thinking back on it now, if I actually had succeeded, Liza certainly would be dead.”

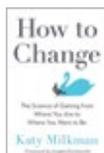
Burn: How Grit, Innovation, and a Dash of Luck Ignited a Multi-Million Dollar Success Story

By Mei Xu P '19, '21
John Wiley & Sons, 2021



“As I hope to convince you, the American Dream remains vital and accessible to all of us, so long as you are willing to burn.”

How to Change: The Science of Getting from Where You Are to Where You Want to Be



By Katy Milkman '00
Portfolio/Penguin, 2021

“Whatever the challenge, the best tacticians size up their opponent and play accordingly.”

Judge Randall Has Doubts: A Judge Randall Mystery



By Tony Rogers '58
Quinn Cove Books, 2021

“It turned out that *The Boston Globe* had covered the story in more than the usual depth since the story had everything a newspaper could want—hedge fund wealth, trendy restaurant, poison.”

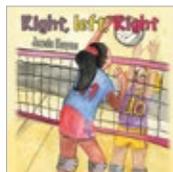
Coming Home: How Midwives Changed Birth



By Wendy Kline '87
Oxford University Press, 2019

“A quiet revolution spread across cities and suburbs, towns and farms, as consumers challenged legal, institutional, and medical protocols by choosing unlicensed midwives to catch their babies at home.”

Right, Left, Right



By Janée Hayes '97
Lulu, 2021

“The ball hit the ground with a speed so scary. Fear filled the eyes that once were merry. No laughing, no jeering, not even a smart remark. ‘GAME ON LADIES,’ I confidently barked.”

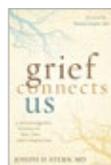
Instantly Mediterranean: Vibrant, Satisfying Recipes for Your Instant Pot, Electric Pressure Cooker & Air Fryer



By Emily Paster '92
Tiller Press, 2021

“Nowhere is this passion for eating, drinking, and sharing food with family and friends more evident than the tradition—nearly universal around the Mediterranean—of a spread of small plates.”

Grief Connects Us: A Neurosurgeon's Lessons on Love, Loss, and Compassion



By Joseph D. Stern '79
Central Recovery Press, 2021

“I believed that my experience as a neurosurgeon insulated me from loss in my own life, that a familiarity with the suffering of others would somehow prepare me for the inevitability of a tragic diagnosis within my own family. ... [N]othing could be further from the truth.”

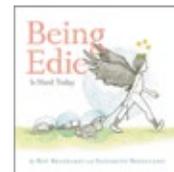
Connect: Building Exceptional Relationships with Family, Friends and Colleagues



By David Bradford '56 and Carole Robin
Penguin Life, 2021

“[A]n exceptional relationship is about more than a collection of skills and competencies; it’s fundamentally about a different way of being. And therein lies something that feels magical.”

Being Edie Is Hard Today



By Ben Brashares '92 and Elizabeth Bergeland
Little, Brown and Company, 2019

“While putting her things away, Edie thought for a moment about climbing into her cubby. Maybe just hanging there. Like a bat. Until it was time to go home.”

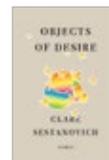
Rural Inventions: The French Countryside after 1945



By Sarah Farmer '75
Oxford University Press, 2020

“In what forms did a rural ideal persist in the imagination and the practices of French society as it urbanized rapidly in the second half of the twentieth century?”

Objects of Desire: Stories



By Clare Sestanovich '09
Knopf, 2021

“Two characters will stand in front of a mirror in silence, and I—a person who does not yet exist, a person I have yet to invent—will wonder anew at all that is left unsaid.”

Forget Prayers, Bring Cake: A Single Woman's Guide to Grieving



By Merissa Nathan Gerson '00
Mandala, 2021

“Grieving and making the space to do so was a great act of love.”

SIDWELL FRIENDS SCHOOL ALUMNI



DECEMBER 9, 2021

WASHINGTON, DC ★ NEW YORK ★ BOSTON ★ SAN FRANCISCO ★ LOS ANGELES ★ SEATTLE

For further details, visit sidwell.edu/alumniholiday.

CALL FOR CLASS REPS!

Become the primary liaison between your classmates and Sidwell Friends! Class representatives play a critical volunteer service to the School. They help collect Class Notes, share news, and promote the amazing work and life lessons of their classmates.

THE FOLLOWING CLASSES NEED A REPRESENTATIVE:

1951	1990	1998	2009
1969	1992	2000	2019
1979	1996	2008	2021

“My favorite part about being a class representative is getting to know my classmates better. It has been very gratifying for me. My main focus as a class representative is to try to get my classmates to talk to each other. Sometimes, I try to energize my classmates by sending out an email with a theme—for example, name four Elvis Presley songs that were popular in each of our four years of high school. It’s important to keep trying to find something that will capture people’s attention.”

—PETER ENEMARK '62

Interested? Email us at alumni@sidwell.edu.

CLASS NOTES

At a moment when social media often overwhelms, proselytizes or vanishes before your eyes, Class Notes humbly offers respite. Here, you have a lasting, curated, and quirky window into the lives of your fellow alumni. Whether you knew them then, follow them now, or never met, you are all Friends.



100 YEARS AGO

All decked out in bloomers, the 1921/22 girls basketball team poses in front of the Eye Street campus.

1945

Want to be a class representative?

Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

In Memoriam:

Charmian Griffin Clark '45

July 2, 2021

1947

ROBERT ASHTON

ashton_r@hotmail.com

ROBERT ASHTON: “As class rep, I welcome any contacts. Personally, I am alive, well, and happily ensconced in an assisted-living facility in Portland, Maine. My ‘walker’ is working fine. I do Zooms, online courses (actually teach one), and enjoy each day.”

1949

WANT TO BE A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE?

Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

FRANCIS ASHTON: “I seem to be one of the very few members of the class of 1949 still around. After graduating from Sidwell Friends, I attended Swarthmore College, graduating in 1953. After that, I spent two years in the Army teaching electronics. During this time, I married Nancy Kelley. I then went to the graduate school of the University of Pennsylvania, getting a degree in cell biology. Using the electron microscope, I then worked on a project studying the structure of chromosomes of the fruit fly and human. Subsequently, I joined a project investigating the molecular structure of muscles. After the retirement of the director of this program, I joined a study of the sensory nervous system of the parasites of domestic animals in Penn’s School of Veterinary Medicine. After my wife’s passing, I retired from Penn, and moved to the retirement community Foulkeways at Gwynedd, where I am currently enjoying playing music, primarily on recorders, and engaging in the other arts.”

1950

TOBY RILEY

tobyrileyq@gmail.com

1952

CAROL BLACK

carblack@comcast.net

ANN MYERS HERSHFANG: “A year ago, Herb and I moved from Boston to Lasell Village—a retirement home in Newton, MA—my first suburb since Chevy Chase. A pleasant place, it expects 450 hours a year of learning, culture, or public service. Residents give courses—pretty interesting ones; currently, I am taking “Before Putin, Putin, After Putin.” Its walks, meals, and residents are pleasant. We moved from the South End to be near our daughter, Rachel, and family—Wes, Ellie (10), and Claire (7)—who came here for the schools. Nice to still be near them. Our younger daughter, Jenny, and her son, Sam (5), live in DC near Dupont Circle. Not easy being a single mother! Both daughters are lawyers, following their father. Rachel has just been appointed as a judge on the Massachusetts Appeals Court. My youngest brother, Bob, and family now live in Auckland, New Zealand, and are citizens. Such a sensible and pleasant place. Brother Bart passed away a few years ago. To summarize our move here: When I would come out of the house in Boston, I saw people of all colors and ages, walking on the sidewalk. Here, it’s mostly white-haired ladies (like me!). Nice though.”



Fletcher Waller '52 enjoys the North Cascades

FLETCH WALLER: “A couple of weeks ago, Ann and I, hiked into Lake Valhalla in the North Cascades, just off the Pacific Crest Trail, on a gorgeous September day.” (See photos below.)

1953

GLORIA GIRTON

ggat58b@orange.fr

GLORIA GIRTON: “Now that COVID is less threatening—I have had three vaccinations—I am off traveling again. To St. Paul, to see two of my four children, then to Sevilla in November, and back to Italy in early spring next year. Thousands of the French have been demonstrating every Saturday against the ‘*pass sanitaire*,’ given after two vaccinations. Without it, or without a test within 72 hours preceding entrance, no one can visit café terrasses, restaurants, museums, or large shopping centers. ‘Undemocratic, liberticide, we live under a dictatorship!’ cry the French. ‘A plot between Bill Gates and the big pharmaceuticals.’ To me, the fuss seems silly. And with *élections* not far in the future, the politicians are looking for votes. Whom to please?”

1954

RICHARD NICKLAS

rnicklas@mfa.gwu.edu

JANE HOUGH: “As soon as COVID slowed down, and after Peter and I had our second shots, we immediately took off for a



week at the beach at OBX and then three weeks in Colorado cruising the South-west Mountains. It was so wonderful to be mask-free for a short while. The summer was a healthy one; having a relative's large black Lab in tow made us walk a lot. Now the dog has been replaced with a tricycle. Don't laugh. It is great fun. Hoping everyone had their shots and got to enjoy the summer. I am busy with writing and family."

In Memoriam:

Connie Heurich Hogan '54
July 30, 2021

1955

NANCY ABOLIN HARDIN
nahardin@aol.com

GEORGE ANTHONISEN has been selected as Honored Artist for the 92nd year of Phillips' Mill Art Exhibition, Phillips Mill Community Association, New Hope, Pennsylvania. A webinar interview with George took place August 21 and may be seen here: bit.ly/Anthonisen. Images are shown as George explains selected work. With the many honors George has been receiving recently, Ellen and George are pleased but simultaneously reminded of a favorite line from the Willie Nelson movie *Honeysuckle Rose*: "We have been together for so long that, sooner or later, someone is bound to notice."

1956

CHARLIE HOLLAND
sshrrink@cox.net

1957

EARLE "WES" RICHARDSON
wesr2013@hotmail.com

CHUCK CHURCH: "Greetings from Okinawa, Japan, and thanks to Wes for his update

on the class of '57. You and I were a bit opposite in that you were at Sidwell Friends for your senior year only, and I was there only for grades 6 through 8. Ninth grade at Lawrenceville, 10th in Oxnard, California, and 11th and 12th in Madrid, Spain. I have friends at all locations, and it's wonderful to remain in touch. I have spent almost my entire adult life in Japan after the Army Language School in 1962 to 1963. My Japanese wife, Hiromi, and I are now permanently on Okinawa, though Yokohama and Tokyo hold our beginnings and memories. Hiromi's days are spent with the Okinawa Symphony Orchestra, at church (pipe organ and choir director), and as a piano teacher. My love of sports has me on the golf course, thankfully still often. I am writing two books, though one may never be finished and neither ever published. At age 77, having spent decades on the fun side of pubs, Japanese *izakaya*, etc., I bought a nightclub and a pub. The nightclub turned into a café on 1F, the pub is on 2F, and we built a beer garden on the roof. All still fun and great with friends."

MARY JO PETERSON CULVER: "I have been living in a nice retirement community for 10 years not far from Austin, Texas, which has been my home for the last 60 years. My husband passed away five years ago. This community is like family, and I am so grateful to have it, as my three children and nine grandchildren don't live in Texas. Hope to be at the 2022 Reunion. It is always great to reconnect with classmates. Earle, I hope maybe you will come to the Reunion."

EARLE "WES" RICHARDSON: "My wife, Janet, and I have been living in southwestern Utah for the past six years or so. This is our second marriage; we each have four children, total of eight. They are all around the country, from Salt Lake City to Nashville, Tennessee, to northern Virginia to McKinney, Texas. If anybody is in the neighborhood, drop in. You are invited to dinner and to stay if you have the time. Our address is: 1867 North Vista Park Way, Washington, Utah. We are adjacent to St. George, Utah. My cell phone is 801-803-3486."

RUTH ROBINSON: "I was looking at the list from the School and failed to see **Diane Davis McClautherty**. She died January 28, 2009, after a four-and-a-half-year battle with cancer. She and I kept up with each other through the years. Every time I came to DC, she and I and our husbands would get together. My husband, Bill, died in 2014. I continue to enjoy good health and traveling with family and friends. My favorite place is Alaska, and I have made numerous trips there. I had the opportunity to go to the ceremonial start of the Iditarod in 2018 and 2020. Also in 2020, I went to the finish in Nome, Alaska. That is where I was when the world shut down with COVID. My friend and I were among only a handful of spectators when the winner arrived and got to have our picture taken with him. On a side note, I spent a week in early December 2017 in Park City, Utah, and got to listen to the Mormon Tabernacle Choir rehearse their Christmas music in Salt Lake. It is a special memory to have had the chance listen to such a special choir in person."

In Memoriam:

Frederick Jaspersen '57
August 17, 2021

1958

CRAIG MORGAN
craigmorgan@gmail.com

FROM THE CLASS REP:

"Our class mourns the loss of **Larry Breed**, who succumbed to dementia this past May. He was a truly gifted classmate, who had two amazingly successful careers. In the first, as a software engineer, Larry co-invented APL, a new programming language for which he won the 1973 Grace Murray Hopper Award (the highest honor for computer professionals under 35). For an encore, he then co-invented Mailbox, one of the first worldwide email systems. In 1992, he retired from software engineering to launch his second career in the world of event planning, where he achieved fame as a key organizer of, and contributor to, the annual Burning Man Arts Festival.

Once again Larry was a true creative force, upgrading the festival in many ways, including editing the festival newspaper, vastly improving clean-up (founding Leave No Trace), and contributing mobile sculptures, notably his much-celebrated, fireball-flinging masterpiece, *Chaotick*. (To learn more, bit.ly/larrybreed.) He is survived by his wife, Beverly Radin; daughter, Emily Breed; brother, **Chet Breed '62**; and sister, Lucinda Breed Lenicheck.

Discussion continues on our class email chain—including debates about voter ID, critical race theory, inequality, anti-trust policy. But not all is political. We learned that **Tony Rogers** has now produced the third book in his *Judge Randall Mystery* series, this one titled *Judge Randall and the Murder to Be Solved Later*, available on Amazon. **Joan Friedman Seymour** proofread the final draft, and says, “You will really enjoy this latest adventure! Judge Randall is quirky and determined and very honest about his inadequacies (perhaps he shares some traits with the author?). The story is full of humor and will keep you intrigued to the end. Thank you, Tony, for a superbly entertaining addition to this series (and for putting up with my comma obsession). And once again, thank you, Mr. Forsythe!”

And the class continues to have Zoom sessions, about every six weeks, on which political discussion continues. In our last Zoom, we debated what to do if we have an Afghanistan Peace Dividend—there being broad agreement with a proposal from **Bob Myers** that it be spent solving environmental problems, especially climate change.

But it was also on this last Zoom we discovered **Dave Price** is using his surgery skills to take up model-boat building, having constructed three so far. He showed us one, a sailing ship, one foot in length and very intricate. In pursuit of this interest, Dave joins **John Coffman**, whose retirement hobby has been the construction of full-size boats, some of them historical replicas for the North Carolina Maritime Museum. Moreover, John helped sail the *Elizabeth*

KEEP IN TOUCH!

Go to sidwell.edu/classnotes and let us know what you've been up to.

II, a replica of the 1585 ship that brought the lost colony to North Carolina. Add to this **Thatcher Morse's** lifelong interest in boats, including sailboat racing, building sailboats in his own Key West boat shop, doing a stint as a charter boat pilot, plus sailing a 32-foot sloop to the Bahamas and back. Such a salty crew!”

PEGGY PABST BATTIN is just finishing a short book (tentatively) called *M's Conjecture: “Always Elective” Reproduction and the Future of the Planet*, and is grateful for numerous constructive suggestions from Sidwell Friends classmates **Bob Myers**, **Mary Lib Wahrenbrock Hoinkes**, and **Craig Morgan**. The conjecture imagines and explores a world in which long-acting reversible contraception for both males and females has been almost universally adopted, and how it would solve or almost resolve issues about abortion, adolescent pregnancy, pregnancy after rape and other sexual abuse, high-risk pregnancy, and global population growth. She says it's a big book in a tiny package.

MARY LIB WAHRENBROCK HOINKES remembers **Larry Breed**: “At a very early time in our education, Larry opened my eyes to a whole range of possibilities and questions that had never occurred to me before: ‘Do you believe what you hear/see—what your naked senses tell you?’ He opened my eyes in a way that I have never forgotten, and for which I cannot thank him enough. The importance of seeking to investigate, to pursue our understanding of the universe, and to figure out what is the best way in which to fulfill our little role in the greater order sticks with me to this day.”

ANNETTE EISENBERG STIEFBOLD: “When I found out I was going to be in Denver, I let **Steve Stovall** know, and he, his wife Denise, and I met for dinner. Steve and I hadn't seen each other since graduation,

but our emails and class Zooms kept us in touch. We had a great time reminiscing and catching up on our winding paths since 1958. We talked about everything from grandchildren to chickens (Denise's and my stepson's) and more. The occasion bringing me to Denver was the Change of Command ceremony for my son Mark, followed by a second ceremony honoring him on his retirement as a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves after 30 years of reserve and active duty service. Both of these were wonderful experiences. If you ever find yourself in the neighborhood of a classmate you haven't seen in a long time, try to arrange to get together. You'll be glad you did!”

STEVE STOVALL: “Seeing an eight-year classmate after 63 years is an amazing emotional adventure. Tough to find words to describe it all. Time has been kind to Annette, who is as pretty at 80 as she was at 18! The funny thing is that we had entirely different interests at Sidwell Friends, and yet we never stopped talking the entire evening. A fascinating woman. Annette's professional and family accomplishments are unequalled. Denise was as impressed as I was. Annette is so right in saying to take advantage of any opportunities to get together with a classmate regardless of how close or not so close you were at Sidwell Friends. The people we grew up with are to be treasured.”

1959

CLARK GRIFFITH

ccgpa@ccgpa.com

TONY THOMPSON reports that “to avoid the lockdown effects of the COVID crisis, I drive around my gated community in my golf cart drinking rum punches and playing rock and roll music loud in the late afternoons.”

From Clark: Works for me, Tony, and I'm sure your neighbors find it entertaining as well.

SUE PETERSON HUGUELEY sent a photo of 22 members of her family (there are 26!) at their reunion in Colorado this summer, celebrating her 80th! “It was a wonderful time together, along with

my sisters' families. This was followed by a huge downsizing of moving from our home to a condo. All is good and we are well!"

I wish I had the skill to embed the photo, but all look great.

GEOFF LEWIS is living in Cushing, Maine, where he is playing lots of bridge, goes out in his boat, tinkers with his antique car, and enjoys the mid-coast of Maine.

I still think you need a lobster license. At \$9 a pound, it's a good idea.

MARTIN MYERS: "For the past three years, I have been writing a book for the many with questions and concerns about vaccines, both those who just want more information and those who are uncertain about accepting immunizations. Most people now do not understand the devastation that these infections can cause, why they were so feared, or why they are still important. I want them to have clear, understandable information about these infections and the illnesses that they cause, to know their likelihood of exposure as well as their risks for a severe outcome. They also need to understand what a vaccine is, what it contains, what it is intended to do, what its actual side effects are, as well as how to assess the information that they find. A silver lining to the pandemic has been that it gave me the time and incentive to complete the book. *Immunization Information: The Benefits & The Risks* is based on what visitors to my vaccine-information website have sought over many years. Like the website, the book is evidence-based, written in nontechnical language, and recognizes that most people have not had much education in the biologic sciences. It is scheduled for release on December 14."

A timely book, Martin, I will take a look at it. Thanks for this contribution to society.

CLARK GRIFFITH: As for me, it has been a very busy time. My daughter Natalie was married on August 14 and is now living in Bethesda just above Spring Valley, and just down Western Avenue from Westmoreland Circle, where **Kit Young Armstrong** and **Patience Bender**

Sanger used to live. Natalie took us to dinner at Millie's in Spring Valley. It's in the Esso station where I used to pump gas into my jeep. Seriously, the place is unchanged! Instead of leaded or unleaded, though, you get gluten-free! The Apex Theater was across the street. It's gone. Of course, we drove down Millwood Lane later. The next day, we drove to Middleburg, Virginia, for a wedding. This is where I researched my JERP on partisan warfare during the Civil War around Washington. Great memories driving along the John Singleton Mosby Highway. The other passengers were thrilled to hear details of the battles of Aldie, Middleburg, and Upperville. Lastly, my wife, Sima, has decided that I need to be in better shape, so she signed me up for Pilates lessons. This form of Pilates is based on the reformer machine that is modeled on the medieval torture rack. They really are very similar. One difference is the medieval device was run by psychopathic jailers, whereas I do all the work on the modern torture device. The result is similar: aching arms and legs. I'm not sure what the trainer/jailer is after, but so far, she has two digits of my ATM card's pass code. Cheers, Clark

1960

JODY HUTCHINSON
mjodyh@yahoo.com

1961

LINDA DEMING RATCLIFF
ldratcliffe@comcast.net

1962

PETER ENEMARK
peter.and.meme@gmail.com

CHETT BREED: "It was a helluva summer in the Sierra. Suanna and I had planned two months at the cabin and got about three weeks, being driven out first by

smoke from the Dixie Fire of Northern California, and then a week later by smoke from the Caldor Fire, which roared up the western slope as though it were aiming at our cabin while we watched from friends' homes. Thank heavens for an abrupt change in wind direction and for the fire crews' incredible work, which pretty much saved the Tahoe Basin from burning (as Mark Twain watched it do in the 1800s) and specifically avoided our cabin by about a one-mile buffer. Our granddaughter, Haley, is at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, my doctorate home 40 years ago, and it looks like she'll thrive in their Residential College program—a small enclave within the huge 35,000-student institution. She even enjoys her work-study job, her roommate, and her math class (something I could never do).

A memory: I was working at NIH in the Auditing and Accounting Division in 1963 when word came about the upcoming March on Washington to dismantle segregation; further, word came down that President Kennedy encouraged anyone in the federal government to participate. The staff of our department was entirely white and largely female, with the exception of the mail room: two Black men. My unit's chief, a Catholic spinster, was sold on President Kennedy and emphasized to the mail room men that they were free to attend the march. The younger of the two said, 'I'm going!' The older one pointedly said, 'I'll stay on the job,' and smiled at what he felt was the younger man's foolish enthusiasm. Following the march, the unit chief spoke with the younger man about leaving the mail room and moving into the auditing section, where he would have a chance for career growth and promotion. The next week, there was a new white boy in the mail room and a new Black auditor in the auditing section, where the white women followed the chief's lead and worked with him despite their misgivings. As a mail clerk, he'd been quick. As an auditor, he was ferociously quick—nobody was as fast or as fastidious. I like to think his life was changed by Kennedy, the NIH chief auditor, his own conviction,



Judy McGregor Caldwell '62 and her prize-winning work

and the goodwill of the entire division. A few months later, Kennedy was dead, and our unit chief was weeping publicly over his assassination. I went to the NIH snack bar and found the blind man who operated it rocking left and right, weeping from sightless eyes. These moments must have been part of the extramural education of a onetime college dropout.”

JUDY MCGREGOR CALDWELL received the 1st place prize for work in acrylics at the “Made in the USA” show in Vero Beach, Florida. (See photo above.) “COVID’s isolation has ramped up my need to paint. There have been more entries in local shows, and an upcoming show at the Cerulean Arts Gallery in Philadelphia in November. After getting away from Vero Beach for the first time in 18 months, I painted at another favorite place, Spring Hills Farm in Dalton, Pennsylvania, for two weeks filled with fresh barn smells and nature’s bounty. I also spent three beautifully breezy weeks on Monhegan Island, Maine. The summer also offered me two months of being with my son’s family and my first viewing of my newest grandchild, Charlotte Hope, born during COVID. I also stayed at my daughter’s house as the family had just returned from a six-month stay in the Cayman Islands. They went there because there was no COVID, and their two boys could go to open classrooms and benefit from a more challenging British curriculum. The return to the suburbs of Philadelphia, was quite a culture shock.”

OWEN OAKLEY: “Greetings from Alamo, California. Well, I feel like I just turned 77 and then got whiplash since I am now already 78. Not that I wanted a prolonged COVID year. The good news is that Toki and I are still upright, in reasonable health, and the happy grandparents of our second granddaughter, Reiko Anne Matthijs, born July 2021. We traveled to DC in August and plan one more visit this year to see the amazing growth of the newborn and her 4-year-old sister, Toki-Helene. Like the year before, the past year has been way too busy with virtual volunteer international conference work and editing a hydrodynamics text—and way too little sailing, oil painting, and traveling. I just finished and recommend *The Light That Failed* by I. Krastev and S. Holmes. It is a dense, illuminating exposition of the challenges presented by Eastern Europe, Russia, China, and Trump to liberal democracy. Best wishes to all.” (See photo on right.)

1963

MARGO LEE HOFELDT
margo10022@aol.com

PATRICIA CROSS BRADLEY: “Four years ago, a sassy cocker spaniel puppy came into my life who brought with her the prospect of adventures beyond my wildest dreams. It became clear in our early

training together that she was far too much dog for my 70-plus-year-old body to run in agility trials, but I was fortunate to find a college student who was anxious to partner with my little rocket star. In March, they competed at the AKC National Agility Championship in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Much to my delight, they had three clean runs and ranked No. 12—quite an accomplishment for two first-timers! In June, at the Westminster Agility Championship in New York, they ranked No. 8 after the first round, before dropping a bar in the second run. In July, at the Cocker Spaniel National Specialty in St Louis, we made a clean sweep, earning multiple awards, including High Scoring Cocker Spaniel. In December, as one of the top five cockers in the country for 2021, we will attend the AKC Agility Invitationals in Orlando, Florida, to compete against the top dogs of each breed. I am relishing every minute of this amazing journey and am especially grateful for the support from **Lucy Hilmer** and **Bobby Goldman**. Lucy even took a picture of me ringside on television so I would know she was with me in spirit. Bobby faithfully wishes us luck and never fails to make sure we have arrived back in town safe and sound. Truly, support from classmates is even more special now than it was on the fields and courts of Sidwell Friends all those years ago!” (See photo on next page.)

SYLVIA FUBINI: “My only household members are two easygoing dogs with lots of hair and an aging cat who eats constantly. One therapist daughter lives north of



Reiko and Toki, the granddaughters of Owen Oakley '62

Baltimore; one professional photographer daughter lives ten minutes from me with three children and an Irish husband. Home is an affluent Maryland/DC community of aging baby boomers who take COVID rules very seriously. My health is still OK, though I'm shrinking (11-year-old granddaughter is already taller). 'Petite' does not exist in retail anymore. I have orthotics to prevent plantar fasciitis as well as hearing aids and a blood-pressure monitor. I had a bout of 'zero-stage breast cancer' (a U.S. term; it's 'pre-cancer' in other countries). My brain does not handle proper names anymore. I am still in a fitness boot camp, although I'm the oldest member. All transactions take twice as long as before COVID. The mainstream media is beset by gloom and doom. Robocalls are constant. My home music concerts are still sidelined. I've seen one movie and one concert in person this summer. But fall is almost here, yeah! The windows are again open for DC's brief period of great weather with low humidity. My world thankfully has not yet completely gone to the dogs."

MARGO LEE HOFELDT: "The more things change, the more they stay the same. Well, sort of! This is definitely not the same world in which we grew up, but congratulations to all of us for making the necessary changes to thrive and enjoy the world that it is. I miss going to the movies (but I have Netflix, so no complaint). I miss going to the theater and concerts (but some of them are outdoors, so no complaint). I miss traveling (but we did go to Connecticut). I do get to be with friends and go to restaurants and shop. And most of all I have a wonderful place to live, good food, and everyone is healthy. So, life is beautiful, and I don't take anything for granted. Yes, we did go to Connecticut but only for a month. We took our dog, Spike, which was a different experience. He's a Chihuahua. While there, we went to Boston for a few days and also Portsmouth, New Hampshire. My big news, however, is that our daughter gave birth to a beautiful, healthy little girl! It's a long story, but the bottom line is that we are in love with Charlie Ann and look forward to all of the exciting years ahead."



Pat Cross Bradley '63, Kala Sizemore, and Dot D Do Right

JEANNE PERKINS HOFFERKAMP: "Not much news here. Much of the summer was too hot for golf but still got some in. Have enjoyed my flowers. They have been especially pretty this year. Arlington Racecourse is closing for good, so I went with my daughter Sharon, Dylan, and my grandson, Evan. It was a beautiful day. I used to go with her back in the 1980s! No COVID for us, but no traveling, either. Hope this finds everyone well."

ALISON FEISS KRIVISKEY: "Bruce and I took the big leap and moved to a retirement community, in Easthampton, Massachusetts, for independent, active adults—and the move has been a great success. The Lathrop Community is affiliated with Kendall, a Quaker nonprofit with retirement communities in several states. We have a two-level townhome with lots of space for our hobbies and for our children and grandchildren to visit. The residents are friendly, and many have had careers in academia, as we live in the five colleges area (Amherst, Mount Holyoke, U. Mass, Hampshire, and Smith). I have joined the Native Plants Team, which helps educate residents about the benefits of planting native plants to support pollinators, as well as maintaining several demonstration gardens to make this idea real. We have a very large population of monarch butterflies this year! Between COVID and climate change, life is challenging for our family. We lost a dear family member to COVID despite taking every precaution to stay safe. Climate change has affected us all, but especially our son David. He serves in the National Park Service as acting superintendent of Lava Beds National Monument in northern California. The

western edge of the park is on fire, part of the Antelope Wildfire. This is the second year of wildfires in his park. Given all the wildfires in the West, Dave and his family have lived with smoke and the threat of wildfires all summer. I am sure many of you have been impacted by fire or flood, so I hope you and your families are safe. These are perilous times!"

KAREN KUCHEL: "The California girl has landed in Florida as a full-time, permanent resident. It was a big decision, and it is the right place for me. I am loving St. Petersburg. There are wonderful museums, live theater, and great restaurants. I'm living in a very active retirement community right on the shores of Tampa Bay. It feels like Hawaii, complete with plumeria trees—but without the island fever. Growing up in DC taught me to, if not appreciate, then tolerate the humidity. Plus, hurricanes come with a warning while earthquakes are very spontaneous. My parents have passed on. My two sons are settled in California, so I will still visit. My two grandchildren are college graduates and on their own. Choosing a place with lots of sunshine and beautiful beaches seemed like a no-brainer. I've met so many politically simpatico folks here. Living in the company of many retired educators, artists, and other professionals is a blessing. For sure there is work to be done, and some changes to be made to the Florida leadership. As my California friends tell me, at least here my vote really counts. I had hoped that being on the East Coast, I would be able to take more trips to Europe, but COVID had other plans for me. Meanwhile, I hope to sail on Tampa Bay soon, as a new member of the local yacht club. My 15 years of sailing on Santa Monica Bay have engendered a love of the water and cruising. Now it's off to mah-jongg. Hope you all have gotten your 'jabs' and are staying safe."

DIANA WILLIS ROTHMAN: "In June, I was able to visit my favorite lake in the Sierras before the fires began to rage. Santa Cruz has been beautiful this summer, with mild temperatures and clean air: a perfect place for me to rebuild my stamina after my July lobectomy. I've enjoyed the company of friends, live



The Class of 1964's September Zoom

outdoor theater, and backyard string quartets. I hope to visit my New Jersey grandchildren for Halloween. I am fortunate!"

1964

LOUISE BERRY STRAIT
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The Class of 1964 is continuing its monthly Zoom meetings, now scheduled for noon on the second Thursday of the month. Highlights of the September Zoom were learning that **John Shulman** has moved (still within the Los Angeles area) and the participation of **Omar "Buddy" Pancoast**, who recently retired from being director of the C&O Family Chess Center. (See photo above.)

GEORGE BERNSTEIN: "I write this sitting in a gorgeous French Quarter house that I have access to by luck and kindness. Rose and I did not evacuate for Ida. It was an amazing experience sitting through a hurricane lasting six hours or more. We were lucky; we had minimal damage, which, because we were there, we could make arrangements for quickly. But life with no power in the middle of summer is miserable. Fortunately, by the end of Ida's week, we could stay where there was power. Given how awful Ida was for southeast Louisiana, outside the New Orleans levee system (which did its job well this time), as well as the northeast United States, we've been very lucky."

OMAR PANCOAST: "Just attended our monthly class Zoom meeting. Good to see some old friends. Still teaching chess to all ages after more than 50 on *chess.com*. Find me there to chat and/or play..."

BOBBY SEITZ TURNBULL: "Don and I drove to Nashville at the end of July to visit his sister for several days, and we also saw several nieces and nephews while we were there. It was wonderful to be able to visit in person. We stopped at Luray Caverns and Natural Bridge on the way and enjoyed seeing both. I continue to enjoy our monthly class Zoom meetings. Certainly, an advantage of virtual visits is that we get to see classmates from all across the country."

LEA JABLONSKI UHRE: "Our busy summer began with the opening of 'Camp Uhre.' Katie and her two children, Will (8) and Sophie Lea (5), arrived in mid-June. And on weekends, they were joined by their two cousins, Mia (6) and Zoey (4), who live in San Diego. Days were filled with activities that included helping in the garden, learning about birds here in San Diego, taking walks along Lake Poway and feeding the ducks, having picnics, swimming, cleaning silver, reading, learning to play tennis, and identifying constellations through the backyard telescope. Do you remember having to create those star maps in Mr. LeGrande's science class? When the grandchildren were not racing up and down the driveway with their Ezy-Rollers, they were engaged in arts and

crafts. Many of their projects originated from project ideas that I learned as a Girl Scout under the leadership of Mrs. Seitz and Mrs. Moore—mothers of **Marika Moore Cutler** and **Bobby Seitz Turnbull**. Everyone is back at school, and the house is very quiet. Curt and I are back working on our genealogy and family archive projects and are looking forward to traveling again, soon."

1966

CHRIS DEMATATIS
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1967

STEVE BATZELL
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PETER GLASSMAN pens: "I sold the veterinary practice in May 2020 and am enjoying the slow lane. I do miss the hubbub of the hospital, but it's time to make room for a younger group. All good with us in Chevy Chase. Would love to celebrate with a bit of travel but, alas, not to be. Our granddaughter, Emma, is a hoot and a joy. Nice having Mat and family in DC. Best to all. Reunion coming up again? Where does the time go?"

BOBBY MILLS sends news from the Maryland shore: "Loving the beach life in Rehoboth Beach; brings back a lot of good memories of the Sidwell Friends crowd trolling the street, boardwalks, and beaches at Bethany. I'm launching an electronic waste-recycling enterprise with a friend with whom I officiated high school football. With the support of the Department of Commerce, plans are moving forward to locate a full-scale plant in Prince George's County to serve a large General Services Administration region, including DC and multiple federal agencies. So much for retirement. Also reconnected with my college roommate at Florida Southern College, Greg Pryor, after many years and caught up on what

he has been doing after his 10-year major league baseball career and subsequent business career. Hoping that **Jan Sawall Licht** will come visit, and if any of you are in the Rehoboth area, I would love to catch up.”

CHRIS KNOWLES continues to write on Martha's Vineyard. His book, *Peace is at Hand*, captures many of the experiences that each of our generation experienced. It tracks his personal experiences from ages 13 to 23. But they are probably shared by all of us.

We get the first set of alumni news from Minnesota since our beloved and woeful Washington Senators shamefully left for the Twin Cities. We miss you Harmon Killebrew!

TOM REASONER chimes in: “I’m retired and living in the Twin Cities. Two for the price of one. Children and grandchildren here, Oregon, and DC.” Tom also offers a class thought and a senior memory: “Dear Fellow Baby Boomers, Whether you exit stage left or stage right, remember that we were part of the 1960s, high or low. Make peace, not war. We were not perfect. But the seeds of change were sown. It has been a lifetime. We need to go out with boom, not a bust because it matters. So, vote, and live with your head and your heart, not social media or demagoguery. We still matter and can! No soap, radio. Cheers, mates. Best wishes to you and yours.”

ELSIE MEYERS MARTIN doubles up (pun intended) with another Midwest entry: “In July, **Mary Lee Plumb-Mentjes** and her husband traveled

through Minneapolis on their way to visit relatives and spent one night with us. We were able to have a walk and picnic in a park along the mighty Mississippi River with **George Ferguson** and **Pat Golden Schaffner** for a mini '67 reunion.” (See photo below.)

1968

ROLLIE FRYE

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LAURIE PRICE: “Retirement from teaching has some perks! Bryan and I are about to finish up with a two-month RV road trip through the Pacific Northwest (Columbia Gorge and Hurricane Ridge were scenic high points) and the Southwest (Taos, Santa Fe, and backpacking to Trampas Lake in Sangre de Cristo Mountains). We have enjoyed seeing many friends and family along the way, mostly outside, often on short hikes here and there. I continue with the county-level Sierra Club executive board (meetings are still remote, with occasional Zoom glitches due to internet issues). Happy trails to all!”



George Ferguson '67, Pat Golden Schaffner '67, Mary Lee Plumb-Mentjes '67, Elsie Meyers Martin '67

1970

MARGARET WEAVER KRULL

mwkrull@me.com

CHRIS FORMANT and his bride, Cindy Howton, celebrated their marriage on Saturday, September 25, at a beautiful, outdoor ceremony and dinner at Congressional Country Club, concluding with spectacular fireworks. **Margaret Weaver Krull** and **Palmer Foret** were honored to be in attendance for this very special and wonderful event. (See photo on next page.)

ELLEN HOPMAN: “I used the year of COVID to write a Pandemic Diary, which I hope to donate to historical collections eventually, and to write a children's book. *Once Around the Sun* is a book of stories, crafts, and recipes for the Earth festivals. It will be out in spring 2022 from Inner Traditions Bear & Co. I



Four members of the Class of '68 got together: **Kay Burgunder Stevens '68**, **Betsy Paull '68**, **Lynn Johnson McCown '68**, and **Hugh Beach '68**, who was in town from Sweden.



Mari Foret, Palmer Foret '70, Chris Formant '70, Margaret Weaver Krull '70, Cindy Howton Formant, Griff Steel

spoke at quite a few conferences online this past year, including the Parliament of the World's Religions in October—on a “Goddesses and the Sacred Feminine” panel. I’m just glad to still be here on the Earth plane and that none of my friends or relations have died of COVID. Everyone I know is vaccinated and quite happy to wear a mask.”

KATHY KLEEMAN: “We’re spending the winter in charming Ocean Grove, New Jersey, on the Jersey Shore while awaiting the completion of our new house in a 55-plus community in Hillsborough, New Jersey. We are most emphatically not among those fleeing New Jersey for Florida or any of the lower-tax states. While it’s far from perfect, New Jersey works for us! Ideally, the new house will be ready in April.”

JEFF MAZIQUE was featured in the *Brown Alumni Magazine*, including the following excerpt:

“COVID spread faster than studies on it could be properly peer-reviewed, leaving doctors like Mazique to assess dozens of new, sometimes conflicting articles and then make their own decisions about how best to treat their patients. Working with the Chippewa tribe was an added challenge, given the dearth of health data on Native populations. ‘Not only are you dealing with a mysterious disease, but you don’t know how it affects Natives,’ Mazique

says. *‘There’s almost no data.’ In the hotel rooms where Mazique lived for the past year, he set up four computers running 24 hours a day to scrape the internet for COVID articles. Over the course of relentless 80-hour work weeks, Mazique’s understanding of COVID sharpened as he learned to recognize X-rays of lungs ravished by the virus and trust his intuition more than faulty COVID tests. ‘It got to the point where I would say, “I don’t care what the test says, they have it,”’ recalls Mazique. He recently ended his posting at Sault Sainte Marie, but he will not forget the silence of patients waiting for their COVID test results, the mountains of used gloves and personal protective gear amassing each day, and the burning of sage as the tribe’s medicine man blessed him before he distributed vaccines on freezing winter mornings. Mazique found inspiration during the long, lonely year in the writings of Albert Camus, author of The Plague, a meditation on duty and courage in the face of the hellish conditions of a pandemic. ‘This is what you were put here to do,’ Mazique would remind himself. ‘This is how you earn your keep on earth, how when you die you say you did something.’”*

ANNIE FARNER MILLER: “This summer, **Bob McCabe** and Dorie Caesar stopped to visit us in Maine. We had a great lunch (mosquito-free!—very important

to Bob) and look forward to more meetings either in Maine or New York City.” (See photo below.)

CHRIS TUFTY: “Somehow I’ve gotten into real estate this year, buying and selling a Dollar General, a mountain cabin, and a beach retirement home here in California. Go figure?”

1971

MARY REYNER

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BRIAN STEINBACH

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JERRY CAVE: “They say you can’t chase your grandchildren. They’re wrong. We chased them to New Orleans and now to Beaufort, South Carolina. The low country is paradise. No traffic, no tension, no problems, and few Democrats. Sheila has never been happier. I had a great ride in legacy media and then digital. I’m selling my digital agency to my employees so I’m free to log more flight time as the helicopter grandparent. In the end, it is all about friends and family. Grandchildren are the greatest. When you get ‘em, you’ll say I under-sold it.”

DOROTHY DAVIS: “I was invited by the vice president of Costa Rica, Epsy Campbell Barr, to represent the Congressional Black Caucus Institute as the keynote speaker at the high-level opening session on September 1 of the government of Costa Rica’s commemoration



Annie Farnar Miller '70 with Bob McCabe '70 and their spouses



Dorothy Davis '71 gives the keynote speech during the opening session of the first ever UN International Day for People of African Descent.

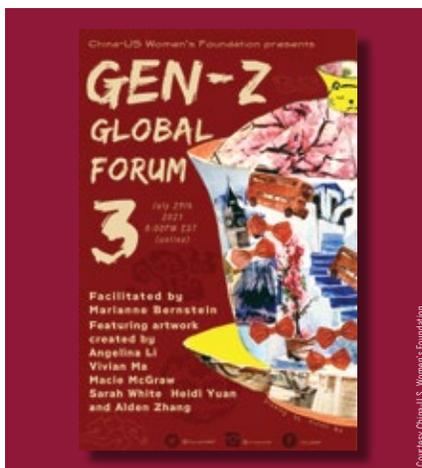
of the first ever UN International Day for People of African Descent held in San José and Cahuita, Costa Rica, from August 31 to September 4, 2021. My keynote title was 'Justice for All: The Power of Sustainable Advocacy.' The International Day for People of African Descent, August 31, is part of the UN International Decade for People of African Descent (2014-2024)." (See photo above.)

1972

JOYCE JACOBSON

joyce@brastedhouse.com

CHARLES BARBER: "The work aspect of my life has continued to evolve. I was recently named interim vice president and general counsel at George Washington University. This is a transitional time for GW (the university just named an interim president who will take office in January), and thus my interim status could last for a while. Interesting times. I recently adopted a hybrid work schedule that brings me to the Foggy Bottom campus on some days, while still working from home some days. I also resumed teaching a class once a week in the law school this fall, teaching higher-education law. Work is a challenge, but still interesting. As long as I can make it to the gym, pool, or park regularly, and continue to work on a few service projects, I'm good. Looking to see former classmates at next spring's 50th Reunion."



Marianne Bernstein '74 taught students who presented work at the Gen Z Global Forum 3—all part of the China-U.S. Women's Foundation, led by **Leslie Wolf-Creutzfeldt '74**.

1973

APRILLE KNIPE SHERMAN

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REGINA DESSOFF KESSLER

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1974

PAUL MARKUN

pmarkun@gmail.com

MARIANNE BERNSTEIN, a photographer and curator, facilitated a summer online arts workshop with students in the United States and in China in conjunction with the China-U.S. Women's Foundation, led by classmate **Leslie Wolf-Creutzfeldt**. Three Sidwell Friends seniors participated. The resulting artworks and creative writing were truly inspiring and were presented by the participants at the Gen Z Global Forum 3. (See photo above.)

DONNA DEMARCO: "Just before COVID struck, I opened a dance studio, Serpentine Dance, in downtown Bethesda. Of course, we were one of the first businesses to be shut down in March 2020. But now with vaccinations and restrictions easing up, I have opened again. For the moment we offer samba, Zumba, and belly dancing, but it is a world dance studio, so I hope to offer other forms such as Bollywood and African as well. Come join us!" *serpentine.org* (See photo above.)



Serpentine Dance, the new studio from **Donna DeMarco '74**

KIT EMORY: "Living on a lake in New Jersey is not bad, given our post-COVID world. I am lucky to be sharing this life with my amazing husband, Andy, and our cat, Gilligan. The wonderful news is that pre-COVID, we attended my oldest niece's wedding in Geisenheim and then had a ball traveling around Germany. Since then: a grandnephew and grandniece; family reunions on Cape Cod; growing veggies and cooking with Andy to stay creative; a few gigs. My singing life is winding down; I keep getting offers, but the effort far outweighs the reward, though I miss the camaraderie. My voice just ain't what it used to be, but my standards are still high, so now: "COVID-induced retirement." However, I've been writing/creating programs for a fledgling nonprofit! It is rewarding, frustrating, underpaying, exhausting, and tests my perfectionism daily. But I do believe it is staving off mental atrophy and could have an *amazing* impact on the arts and social justice. The only downside is that I spend too much time in front of my computer, and I tend to neglect my very real need for exercise and fresh air. (Right now, however, I am writing outside, listening to birds, and dodging acorn missiles!)" (See photo on next page.)

1975

ALAN DRUMMER

alandrummer@hotmail.com



Kit Emory '74 (and Johann Sebastian Bach)



Robert Hyman '77 and his wife, Deb Atwood

1976

MARY ANN MCGRAIL
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BESTY ZEIDMAN
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ADRIENNE SIRKEN: “I am delighted to have recently moved back to Washington and have reconnected with friends from Sidwell, including **Nancy Bernstein, Mary Ann McGrail, and Betsy Zeidman!** I look forward to reacquainting myself with the Sidwell Friends community once again!”

1977

ADAM STERN
adamstern@aol.com

ROBERT HYMAN and his wife, Deb Atwood, are spending summers in Bellingham, Washington, where they are building a new home. “We spend days hiking in the Mount Baker Wilderness Area and kayaking on the Salish Sea.” (See photo above.)

RICHARD LERNER has been elected to the Board of Administrators of his alma mater, Tulane University, and began his initial term on July 1, 2021. He will also serve on the Board’s Endowment Management and Finance Committees.

JOHN ROSS, in the midst of COVID last year, launched Nourishing Bethesda, a nonprofit, public/private coalition that operates a free family food distribution program at the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad. “Despite Bethesda’s reputation as a bastion of affluence, food insecurity remains a serious issue here as elsewhere. Our fresh produce, dairy, and shelf-stable food packages support 1,200 individuals weekly. Drop by any Friday afternoon and say hello, or better yet, come volunteer. Sign up at nourishing-bethesda.org.”

ADAM STERN is leading a business association, Offshore Wind California, which is focused on making this renewable resource part of the state’s clean energy and climate future. On weekends, he referees youth soccer games in Palo Alto, California. He remembers fondly playing soccer at Sidwell Friends (1975–1977). (See photo on next page.)

1978

PETER MACDONALD
pmacdona@skidmore.edu

CHERYL BASCOMB: “Not much has changed in my world here in Lyme and Hanover, New Hampshire. Life is getting a little less hermit-like, and we’re lucky enough to be living in a high-compliance area in a high-compliance state. As vice president for alumni relations at Dartmouth, my focus has been on getting more alumni from a wide variety of backgrounds to participate or engage in some way. Our switch to virtual and an increased focus on digital media (vs. almost *all* live events pre-pandemic) had the silver lining of allowing people to connect with us and each other who might not have been inclined or able to do so if they’d had to travel or spend money. We’re now looking at making sure we maintain such options for people to join our programs (or see them recorded, or listen to the podcasts) as we head back to a more normal world. Sidwell Friends people popped up in some interesting places this summer.



Adam Stern '77 sends in this photo from a field trip of Mr. Carmen’s 6th grade Sidwell Friends class in 1970. Can you guess who’s there? Email us at magazine@sidwell.edu.



Adam Stern '77 gets ready to referee a youth soccer match in Palo Alto, California.



Deirdre Boylan '78 in Italy



Vernon Cowell '78 gets prepped for surgery.

Deep in the pandemic (pre-vaccine), **Andrea “Muffy” Razzaghi Johnson** texted me a picture of my mother gardening in her front lawn in Bethesda. I was grateful for the picture since I’d only been able to see my mother on Zoom. And Mom loved seeing Muffy, even at a social distance. Later that summer, while in Portland, Maine, we had dinner with my son’s girlfriend’s family. Turns out her father, **Robert Rowse '74**, went to Sidwell Friends and his sister married our physics teacher, Mr. Lang. Go figure. Two of my best retired alumni volunteers in Hanover are Sidwell Friends grads of long ago, and one of our newest Dartmouth trustees is a Sidwell Friends parent (**Neal Katyal P '20, '22, '24**). I hope all are well and if in Hanover, you will let me know.”

DEIRDRE FINNEY BOYLAN: “I am feeling exceptionally lucky to have been able to enjoy a walking tour of Umbria, Italy, in September. While my spouse, Jenny Boylan, was toiling on her next writing projects at a fellowship in a castle called Civitella Ranieri, my friend and I hiked the hillsides and explored the medieval towns of Orvieto, Spoleto, and Assisi. Perhaps the best part of being in Italy was the experience of a well-vaccinated population. Proof of vaccination was required at any indoor activities: museums, restaurants, shops, etc. If only the United States would emulate Italy and the European Union in these common-sense public health practices!” (See photo above.)

ZOE FITZGERALD CARTER: “I sent out a big update last year and not much has changed, but I do want to share that I just spent three days with **Susan English** in Cold Spring, New York, and you guys need to check out her recent paintings. They are gorgeous and her work is definitely having a moment. This is her website: susanenglish.us. And here’s a photo of my partner, Mark, and me holding up some of her recent work on paper that just happened to match our outfits.” (See photo below right.)

VERNON COWELL: “Vernon here, getting prepped to perform a robotic colon resection on a sick ICU patient with COVID. Be safe. Be well. Get vaccinated. My family is vaccinated and doing well, and I pray for the same for yours.” (See photo above.)

DAVID GARRITY: “Two weeks ago, my partner, Tammy Kahn, and I participated in a memorial party on Martha’s Vineyard for the father of my friend, Chris McIsaac (St. Albans '78). His father, George McIsaac, and my father, John Garrity, were colleagues in the McKinsey & Co. Washington, DC, office. My father passed away 25 years ago on August 24, 1996, but the party after his funeral was boisterous enough to inspire George to instruct Chris and his brother, Scott, to have a bash of a similar nature after he passed, which he did in 2019 but due to COVID the event wasn’t held until September 11, 2021. A good time was had by all as George’s ashes were spread over Town Cove in view of the crowd standing outside the

McIsaac home. At the event, I had the pleasure to become reacquainted with former Sidwell Friends classmate, **John Catto**, who had attended Lower School with us all, but who left when his family was posted overseas with his father’s appointment as U.S. ambassador to El Salvador.” (See photo on next page.)

NICOLE ALFANDRE HALBREINER: “I saw classmate **Susan Pohanka** on Sunday, September 19. Sadly, it was at a memorial service for her father, John Pohanka, who passed away early in the pandemic. ‘Spo,’ as many of us used to call her, is living in Long Beach Island, New Jersey, and Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. She spends much of her time creating beautiful ceramics in her workshop. She is happily married to Jay Madden and has two grown children. It was so great to see her again! She



Zoe Carter '78 and her partner, Mark, hold up paintings by **Susan English '78**



Colton Hand (St. Alban's '78), John Catto '78, David Garity '78, and Chris McIsaac (St. Alban's '78)

said she hopes to be invited to the next Sidwell Friends Reunion, and I told her that she is always a welcome addition to the Class of '78. With any luck, 2023 will allow for a great gathering of all of us!"

NOEL "MISSY" HOLBROOK: "Katie Stevenson and I spent a week together on Sutton Island, Maine, in August (along with husbands, other family, and friends). Lots of hiking, kayaking, cooking/eating, and conversation. After so many years, it was great to reconnect. Often it felt like no time had passed, and yet there was no denying how much life has happened to each of us over the past decades. Katie's two boys were off at college, but my 10-year-old was present. Katie is a surgeon in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; I teach plant biology and environmental science in Cambridge, Massachusetts. We are both impressed at how the other has turned out and deeply grateful for the friendship we had growing up. We want to thank Sidwell Friends and the Class of '78 for such wondrous years and lasting bonds." (See photo above.)

ELLIOTT THURSTON: "Greetings all. I'm in Mexico working on the roof of a place I bought a couple of years ago. Melting in the heat and humidity of the Riviera Nayarit this time of year. Not only that, but my worker also speaks Spanish to me all day. I'm thinking, *Can you please speak French? I studied French for so many years at Sidwell Friends. But he persists...*"



Missy Holbrook '78 and Katie Stevenson '78

1980

WILLIAM RICE
williamrice63@gmail.com

1981

VIDISHA DEHEJIA PATEL
drv4kids@yahoo.com

ANDREW SZANTON: "I am now finishing up working on a memoir with John Steadman, father of **Catharine Steadman**, and would welcome the chance to work with any of you on a memoir."

PETE WRAMPMEIER: "It was great to see so many '81 classmates at our virtual Reunion this past May. Hopefully, our next one will be in person! I retired from Virginia state government in September 2021. While I see this as more of a 'pause' than permanent, I'm taking advantage of the time in focusing on my passions of fitness and shooting



Paul Ellenbogen '82



Bigrit Ferran-Baqué '82 is in Madrid with her son, Sven, and grandchild number four, Martina, the bright side of the pandemic.

as well as volunteering my time for veterans' causes and wineries in Orange County, Virginia. If you're in the area and want to head to a winery, let me know! Cheers!"

1982

TED MORROW-SPITZER
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PAUL ELLENBOGEN: "I am alive and well and (still) living in Chicago." (See photo on last page.)

BIRGIT FERRAN-BAQUÉ: "Last year, after 17 years, I quit my job at the Catalan Department of Education so I could have more time to devote to all those things that are still on my bucket list. So far, the pandemic has made it impossible to do a number of them, but it has also kept my son, Sven, and his partner in the same city long enough and unstressed enough to conceive a child, Martina, who was born in March. So yes, I now have four grandchildren between the ages of 6 months and 16 years! Teaching just one day a week has freed up a lot of time, which I have somehow already managed to fill up with teacher training sessions, volunteer work with refugees, *trencadís* mosaic classes, organizing cultural events at our self-managed alternative community center, and short getaways. Speaking of which, I do hope to make it to our 40th Reunion this spring. Hope to see you there!" (See photo above.)

1983

LINDA GAUS

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ADAM GUTTENTAG: “Had a fun time catching up with classmate **Tom O’Neil** this past July at my restaurant, Harajuku Taproom in Culver City. It has been a challenging 18 months or so, but we’re hanging in there. Hope to see any other classmates who are passing through LA. Cheers!” (See photo at right.)

1984

SARAH WILLIAMS

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ANN CLARK ESPUELAS

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LIZ BERNSTEIN NORTON

lizbnorton@gmail.com

1985

HILARY DAYTON BUSCH

hcdayton@gmail.com

1986

LAURA LONDON

lauramlondon@yahoo.com

1987

TIP COFFIN

tip@teamcoffin.com

ALIDA ANDERSON: “I have a bittersweet summer update. This summer, I was promoted to full professor in the School of Education at American University. Sadly, my uncle **Rick Jaspersen ’58** died in August. Rick was a guide and inspiration to me through my life. He got much of his life’s inspiration from his years at Sidwell Friends. There was a memorial service held for him in September at the Robert L. Smith Meeting Room on campus. Wishing our class of 1987 friends health and peace.”

ANDY KAUFMANN: “After moving to Maine last year, we have settled in nicely. One of my daughters moved up with us and is currently attending the University of Maine’s dental-hygienist program. My wife is now teaching 3rd grade full time and loving it. My other daughter moved back to Richmond from Baltimore and is awaiting news about nursing school at Virginia Commonwealth University. My son and his wife are still stationed at Fort Irwin, California. He’s flying Blackhawk helicopters for the Army. I’m still working with mustangs here at the farm as well as working several times a month down in Lowell, Massachusetts, with the Homebase program (equine portion). I’m also working with Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing and as a volunteer at an equine rescue. We still have the three mustangs here and now four goats and the dogs. So, the homestead continues to grow. If anyone



Tom O’Neil ’83 and **Adam Guttentag ’83** caught up over some delicious Japanese food and craft beer at Guttentag’s restaurant, Harajuku Taproom, in Culver City, California.

is up in Maine near Ellsworth or going to Acadia, send a shout—you’re always welcome.” (See photos below.)

JOHN PATRICK: “Anyone traveling near Stuttgart drop me a line. Alexandra and I still live here with four of our five children. Jessica, our oldest, is about to head to the States for her work as an equine physiotherapist. We are in Ludwigsburg, with the largest and oldest intact Baroque residence in Germany. Great little city, ten minutes by train or a half hour along the river by bike to Stuttgart. Our domestic basketball season (I am the coach of Ludwigsburg) in the *Bundesliga* started September 25. Our international season in champions league started October 5 vs. Sassari from Sardinia and then proceeds to take us to the Ukraine and the Canary Island of Tenerife. Slightly differing destinations, all with top European pro-basketball teams. My teenage sons are both playing, and the games are often on DAZN and other sites. Tune in if you get a chance!”



Andy Kaufmann ’87 and his mustang horses



1988

LOUISE ANDREWS

louiseandrews@me.com

1989

ELIZABETH WYATT

ebwyatt@aol.com



Jessica Lang '89 and Meers Oppenheim wed at the Dane Estate in Brookline, Massachusetts.

JESSICA MCGREW LANG: “This summer, after a year’s delay, I married my partner, Meers. We have three kids each, cue the *Brady Bunch* jokes. We bought a house together in 2020 in Brookline, Massachusetts. Quarantine with a large, blended family was intense and ultimately lovely. We were grateful to finally celebrate with our families in June.” (See photo above.)

1990

JUSTINE WRUBLE FAHEY
justinewfahey@gmail.com

JOHN DAVIDSON: “I recently deployed with the FBI’s Critical Incident Response Group to Tokyo, Japan, in support of the security efforts for the Olympic Games. It was wonderful to be back in Japan and an honor to be a part of ensuring the safety of the U.S. Olympic Team amid challenging and unprecedented circumstances. Other recent international deployments include Vietnam and Cambodia. Domestically, I am assigned as a crisis negotiator and pilot with the FBI’s Special Operations Group. I am incredibly proud of what my friend and former teammate **Eric Singletary '93** has done to lead and grow the Sidwell Friends boys’ basketball program. Go Quakers!”

DAN RAGUSSIS remembers **Linton Harrington:** “I had the great fortune of having Linton as one of my closest friends, in

high school and beyond. Remembrances often say, *He was the best among us*. But in this rare case, nothing could be more true. It’s hard to communicate the astonishing nature of Linton’s character to those who never had the privilege of knowing him. What I’m about to write will sound like exaggeration, even hagiography. Yet it is fundamentally true that he was the kindest, gentlest, and most generous soul I’ve ever known. He had a goodness, a sense of compassion, an empathy, and an inner peace that shone through him every minute of the day. Even back in high school—when the rest of us were engaged in conflict and anxiety—Linton was like someone from a different universe. He was so present and grounded; he had a maturity I recognized even then, but, looking back, feels completely otherworldly. I cannot remember him ever insulting anyone, or even uttering a harsh word. In such a presence, I felt my own moral compass rise up and assert itself; even if I were in the mood to lash out, to take my teen angst and direct it at someone else, it was impossible if Linton were beside me. I cannot remember ever having an argument or even a disagreement with him, for how could you? In that oceanic presence, in that great soothing calm, in that warm and compassionate aura, where would conflict possibly take root?

Equally remarkable was that his goodness stood alongside the fact that he was the most fun person you could ever be around. He had a wicked and devastating sense of humor, a mischievous grin, and a contagious laugh; he had a sense of irony so finely attuned to the world’s absurdities that he could instantly, and hilariously, confront the events of the day (or the century) with wisdom that was cutting and hysterical. He was always on an adventure, always happy to indulge your inklings or share your passions. He was equally at home taking you into nature—which he dedicated his life to sharing with others—or sitting on the couch eating ice cream and watching *Jerry Springer*. No one brought more joy, more laughs, more unbridled enthusiasm for the moment than this dear and beautiful man. Because Linton had a *voice*, a perspective so razor sharp, you wanted to know what he thought about everything. He could expand your mind and then

reduce you to tears of laughter. Yet he was never a person to hold forth—he could tell you a story or observation, and in the next breath be the most open and earnest listener you could ever hope for.

Linton dedicated his life to sharing his love of nature with young people; at his memorial service, I was struck by the thousands of lives he changed. I cannot imagine the staggering loss this is to his extraordinary family, and to all those children, parents, counselors, and educators who held him close—as a teacher, mentor, guide, and friend. He gave of himself so freely, and so sincerely, and yet it was so clear he felt nothing but joy at doing so. I feel so lucky, privileged, and inexpressibly grateful he was my friend. Because I can’t imagine anyone could be more life-affirming—anyone, by the sheer nature of their presence, could so clearly and instantly justify a world such as ours. This insane world makes sense to me because it’s possible for there to be a Linton. And that is what I am holding on to, as I try to face the incomprehensibility of his passing.”

In Memoriam:

Linton Harrington '90
September 29, 2021

1991

TIM HANRAHAN
tim.hanrahan@gmail.com

1992

WANT TO BE A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE?
Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

EMILY PASTER: “2021 has been a big year for my family. My daughter, Zoe Regenstein, graduated from high school in the spring. This fall, she is a freshman at the University of Wisconsin at Madison while my son, Jamie, started high school. I also have a new cookbook out this fall—my fourth!—titled *Instantly Mediterranean* (see “Fresh Ink,” on page 50). It has over 100 recipes from all around the Mediterranean that I



Zoe Regenstein, daughter of **Emily Paster '92**, on her first day of class at the University of Wisconsin



Elizbeth Austern '93 has a new baby: Hermione Rachel Austern



Dax-Devlon Ross '93 has a new baby: Xavier Alan Ross

developed specifically for the Instant Pot and air fryer. Really hoping our class can meet in person for our 30th Reunion next year!" (See photo above.)

EMILIE SURRUSCO has been named senior speechwriter for the U.S. Business Administration under the Biden-Harris administration. Previously, Emilie served as the president and founder of Ellsworth Media Group and is an alum of the SBA, American Federation of Teachers, the American Bar Association, and Alaska Wilderness League.

1993

CASEY COLEMAN HASSENSTEIN

caseycoleman30@hotmail.com

ELIZABETH AUSTERN was happy to welcome Hermione Rachel Austern into the world in June 2021. Liz and Hermione are currently living in Palm Beach, Florida, where Mommy works for Carrier World Headquarters in the legal department. (See photo above.)

DAX-DEVLON ROSS and wife, Alana Ross, welcomed Xavier Alan Ross on August 3, 2021. Big sister Ella is thrilled, too! (See photo above.)

1994

BETSY STOEL

estael@gmail.com

JESSICA GREEN: "Life is Toronto is good! (Pandemic notwithstanding.) Hannah and Milo are 8 and 6 (going on 15 and 13), and I continue to teach about and research climate change at the University of Toronto. Not much travel going on these days, but drop a line if you are coming through! (jessicafg@hotmail.com)"

1995

MARI PALMER MCDONALD

mari.mcdonald@gmail.com

STEPHEN RAHER has joined the Prison Policy Initiative as its general counsel. His work will focus on consumer protection and communications law issues impacting incarcerated and justice-involved people, as well as overseeing corporate governance and compliance. Prison Policy Initiative, headquartered in Massachusetts, is a national organization that uses research and advocacy to show how America's excessive and unequal use of punishment and institutional control harms individuals and undermines community well-being. He will remain in Portland, Oregon.

JENNY WALDO, a Houston-based filmmaker, will premiere her new film, *Acid Test*, as a Texas Independent Feature at the 2021 Austin Film Festival. Her debut feature film, *Acid Test* chronicles a coming-of-age rebellion fueled by Riot Grrrl music, Mexican heritage, a dysfunctional family, and LSD. Learn more at acidtestfilm.com. (See photo on next page.)

1996

WANT TO BE A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE?

Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

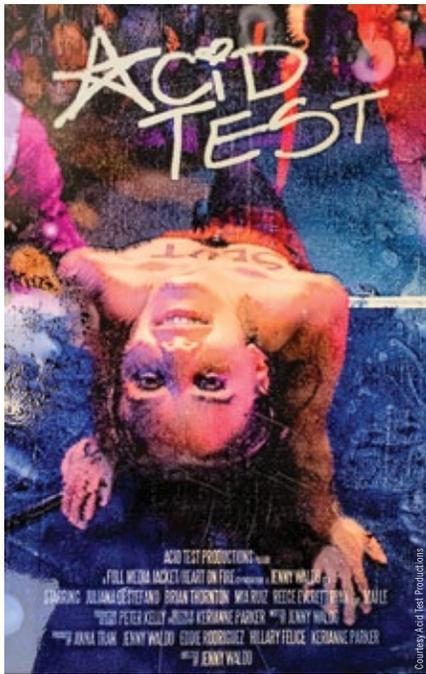
LINDSAY HARRIS: "After two years dedicated to raising our daughters, Noa (5) and Grace (2), I started a new job as arts director at the American Academy in Rome. If your travels bring you to Rome, I hope you'll let me know. It's always such a pleasure to reconnect with Sidwell friends!"

1997

ELLEN CORNELIUS ERICSON

eccornie@gmail.com

EDUARDO HARTH: "Hello Friends. Time has gone by quickly since graduation from high school way back in 1997. Life as a chef has genuinely been a rollercoaster ride with plenty of highlights, including owning and operating one of the finest restaurants in El Salvador (Citron) from 2005 to 2014 and a fantastic run at a gnocchi food truck in Maryland. Washington, DC, however, was not kind, and I suffered mentally and physically, quickly realizing further education was the only option to succeed. Finally, after years of procrastination, I forced my wife to move, faced a lifelong fear, and went to college. I moved to Poughkeepsie, New York, for a second degree at the Culinary Institute of America and graduated cum laude last December at 42 years young with a bachelor's of



Acid Test, the new film by Jenny Waldo '95

applied food studies with a major in culinary arts. To continue cooking was one of the best decisions. Now I am in Delray Beach, Florida, at the St. Andrews Club with my Chihuahuas; Amazon parrot; and the most loving, patient, and blessed wife and family who has supported me the entire time. We are just finishing our three-bedroom house if any old Friends are in the area.” (See photo below.)

JANÉE HAYES: “I recently published my first children’s book, *Right, Left, Right*. (See “Fresh Ink,” page 50.) It is the whimsical story of a little girl trying to find her space as an athlete—and then discovers volleyball. If this sounds familiar, yes, it is inspired by the events and experiences of my daughter and me. It was difficult to see the same racial dynamic in the sport that I had experienced two decades prior still existing today. Therefore, it was important to me to create something where Black girls could see themselves featured in a space where we rarely existed. What a woosah moment!” (See photo at right.)

1998

WANT TO BE A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE?
Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

ALISON FRIEDMAN, after 20 years in greater China (Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong), is moving to North Carolina to be the executive and artistic director of Carolina Performing Arts at UNC Chapel Hill. She would love to (re)connect with Sidwell friends in the area. (See photo below.)

2000

WANT TO BE A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE?
Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

MICHAEL KRAFFT: “Lots of changes for the Kraffts! Most notably, we had our third child, Adele Emily Krafft, on July 8. Siblings William (5) and Julia (3) call her ‘Baby Coconut.’ We also said goodbye to New York City where we had lived for 17 years in favor of the ’burbs up in Mamaroneck (Westchester County). Drop me a line if you live nearby!”

2001

ELIZA ORLINS
eorlins@gmail.com

2002

CAMILO ACOSTA
cbacosta@gmail.com

2003

NAABIA OFOSU-AMAAH
n.ofosuamaah@gmail.com

KATIE MATHEWS
katiecmathews@gmail.com

2004

ZEESHAN ALEEM
zeeshanaleem2@gmail.com

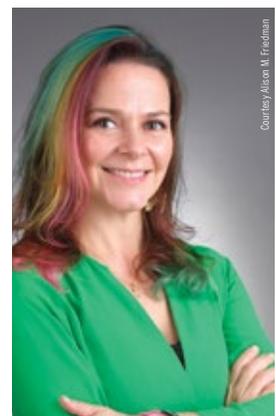
SEAN MATTISON won a 2021 News & Documentary Emmy Award for “Outstanding Feature Story in Spanish” for a documentary short, *Atención! Murderer Next Door*, he directed for *The New York Times*. (Find it here: nyti.ms/3BBJoQC.) The film chronicles how family members of the country’s estimated 30,000 disappeared took action against the many unprosecuted Argentinians accused of crimes against humanity committed during the nation’s military dictatorship. In the mid-1990s, they began gathering outside of accused perpetrators’ homes and workplaces to publicly shame them and raise awareness about the government’s systematic and brutal targeting of its people—and how it had gone unpunished. The human-rights group HIJOS (*Sons and Daughters for Identity and Justice Against Forgetfulness and Silence*) called this direct-action protest style “*escrache*,” or “exposure.” After years of organizing and pressure from groups like HIJOS, the laws protecting the



Eduardo Harth '97 and his pets: chihuahuas Nutella and Minnie, and Guido the parrot



Janée Hayes '97



Alison Friedman '98



A photo from the Emmy Award-winning film *Atención! Murderer Next Door* directed by **Sean Mattison '04**

perpetrators were repealed. Now *escrache* is an important tool for activists worldwide. (See photo above.)

in Northern Virginia, and Annie works in nonprofit recruitment and consulting.” (See photo below.)

2005

RANDA TAWIL

randa.may.tawil@gmail.com

NASSER MUHAMMAD

nasser.muhammad.1@gmail.com

NASSER MUHAMMAD: “Jazmin and I welcomed our beautiful daughter Haaniyah Ilyas Muhammad on April 24, 2021. Mom is happy and healthy, and baby girl is already thriving and shining. Thank you to everyone from the Sidwell Friends community who reached out with love, support, and helping hands.” (See photo above.)



Nasser Muhammad '05 has a new daughter, Haaniyah Ilyas Muhammad, who is relaxing and enjoying life.

2007

ALEX AKMAN

akman.alex@gmail.com

2008

DELANEY KEMPNER

dckempner@gmail.com

AMANDA CHUZI graduated from Columbia Law School in 2020 and just recently moved back to Washington after clerking for a Ninth Circuit judge in California. She is currently clerking for a federal district

court judge. After two postponements, Amanda had a dream wedding surrounded by friends and family at the Potomac View Terrace on September 5. Sidwell classmates traveled from all over the country to attend the wedding and, unsurprisingly, they were the life of the party. (See photo below.)

EMMY MASUR celebrated her belated wedding ceremony to Charlie Patterson in September in Nashville, Tennessee. In attendance were Sidwell Friends alumni **Anna Cushing**, **Zayani Simms**, **Claire LaFave**, **Sara Zweifach**, and **Henry Masur '64** (father of the bride) and **Jenny Masur '67** (aunt of the bride). The couple lives in Nashville, where Emmy is in the first year of her fellowship in pediatric psychiatry at Vanderbilt University. (See photo on next page.)

2006

JOHN SANDERS

jsanders36@gmail.com

ANNIE POPE and **PATRICK KASZUBSKI:** “This past May, we welcomed Lily Mae Kaszubski into our little family, joining her big brother, Leo. Life is more hectic and much more wonderful these days. We also recently moved back to the DC area and are thrilled to be closer to family and friends! Patrick recently finished medical training and has joined an ophthalmology practice specializing in glaucoma



Annie Pope '06, **Patrick Kaszubski '06**, and their children, Leo and Lily



Sarah Zweifach '08, **Amanda Slade '08**, **Amanda Chuzi '08**, **Claire Lafave '08**, and **Anna Cushing '08** (sadly missing from the picture is **Zach Ratner '08**, who also attended).



Anna Cushing '08, Zayani Simms '08, Claire LaFave '08, Emmy Masur '08, Henry Masur '64 (father of the bride), Sara Zweifach '08, and Jenny Masur '67 (aunt of the bride)



So many alumni at the Jerry Wertheim '10 wedding! Can you name them all?

2009

WANT TO BE A CLASS REPRESENTATIVE?

Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

ALLISON VISE married Adam Fields in Manchester, Vermont, on August 14. Many Sidwell Friends alumni celebrated with them. (See photos below.)

2010

KAI ZHENG

kaihuazheng@yahoo.com

JERRY WERTHEIM was married in September surrounded by family and friends, including a slew of Sidwell Friends alumni. (See photo above.)

2011

KIKI OCHIENG

akinyi.ochieng@gmail.com

PAIGE DECKELBAUM GIRSON is delighted to share that she and Steven Girson were married in July, joyfully and safely, in Washington, DC. (See photo on next page.)

BELLA HEROLD: "Eli Sciford and I got married in Detroit, Michigan, in July! Sidwell Friends alumni in attendance were two of my bridesmaids, **Angela Sako '11** and **Rebecca Leshner '11**, as well as **Elinor Hitt '11**, **Isabel Dorval '11**, **Caroline Flax '11**, and **Claire Mufson '11**. It was a really special day." (See photo on next page.)

JULIA KLINEBERG started a faculty position in the Department of Architecture, Planning and Preservation at the University of Maryland-College Park.

CAROLYN PEYSER and Mark Meiselbach were married in Rockville, Maryland, in September. Carolyn and Mark live in Baltimore. (See photo on next page.)

2012

SALENA HESS

salenahess@outlook.com

JOHN VERGHESE

jjv2116@columbia.edu

2013

CECILIA LAGUARDA

xenia.cecilia.laguarda@gmail.com

2014

AVIKAR GOVIL

avikar.govil@gmail.com

DAVID NEWMAN: "I moved on from my production position at *The Late Late Show with James Corden* and am now working in TV development for NBC Universal Studios. Still LA-based."



Sidwell Friends alumni celebrate the wedding of Allison Vise '09 in August. Those in attendance included: Olivia Brown '09, Reuben Hendler '09, Sonia Wahi '09, Abby Goldberg Evans '09, Becky Garland '09, Amanda Gerber '09, Brooke Baldinger '09, Peri Tenenbaum '09, Matthew Shulman '09, Ashley Riley '09, and Max Pinson '08.





Jerry Wertheim '10 and his wife, Silvi Demirasi

2015

EMILY MILLER
emillerusa@gmail.com

2016

TALHA JILANI
jilani-talha@live.com

JACKSON HIRSH, who performs as “Rence,” played two shows at Lollapalooza in Chicago this summer, drawing the largest crowd of the festival to the BMI stage. A singer and songwriter signed by Epic Records in 2019, his debut release, “Expensive,” featured Noah Cyrus. His music has defied genres and won critical acclaim. “Baby Blue,” his breakout song released while still at NYU, has more than 23 million streams on Spotify. His latest release is “Awooo!” Rence has been managed from the start by **Mike Ryan**, his friend since they were in kindergarten together at Sidwell Friends. Mike studied music and journalism at Syracuse University. He is an A&R with Republic Records. Both live in Los Angeles.



Bella Herold '11 and Eli Sciford inside the Anna Scripps Whitcomb Conservatory on Belle Isle in Detroit



Paige Deckelbaum Giron '11 and Steven Giron at their wedding in July with many classmates and friends in attendance: Carolyn Peysler '11, Bill Peysler '78, Andrea Levin '11, Lily Carpenter-Israel '11, Julia Klineberg '11, Catherine Yochum '11, Mark Ossolinski '11, Michael Burley '11, Kyle Deckelbaum '08, Todd Deckelbaum '75, Bridgette Slater '11, Katie Burke Washabaugh '11, Emily Siegel '11, and Caroline Flax '11

2017

MILAN VIVANCO
vivancomilan@gmail.com

KAYLEE SIMON: “I just started pharmacy school at the Medical University of South Carolina this August.”

2018

BROOKE HARRINGTON
bharrington22@amherst.edu

2020

TUNDA DORJNAMJIM
tdorjnamjim20@gmail.com

PATRICK NEWCOMB
patricknewcombe@gmail.com

MARK O'SHEA
markoshea1183@icloud.com



Mike Ryan '16 and Jackson Hirsh '16 (aka Rence) in Chicago this summer



Back row: Peter Estes '11, Peter Beveridge '78, Cindy Meyer Truitt '73, Pam Meyer '76, Krishnan Rajagopalan '78, Trish Peysler Perlmutter '81, Emily Foggo Notari '10, Ansie Hecht '09, Philip Heyward '11, Todd Deckelbaum '75
Front row: Annie Heyward '11, Paige Deckelbaum Giron '11, Emily Siegel '11, Andrea Levin '11, Carolyn Peysler '11, Bill Peysler '78, Jeffrey Peysler '08, Bruce Peysler '75 / (Not pictured, but in attendance: Denny Minami '74.)



What legacy would you like to leave?

The Thomas and Frances Sidwell Society

The Thomas and Frances Sidwell Society recognizes the more than 150 individuals who have made the thoughtful decision of including Sidwell Friends in their estate plans. Modern-day bequests follow in the tradition of Thomas Sidwell, who survived Frances and left his estate in the care of the Board of Trustees in 1936. Bequests, charitable trusts, gift annuities, and other planned giving arrangements continue to bolster the School's financial sustainability and have great bearing on every aspect of the work and future of Sidwell Friends.

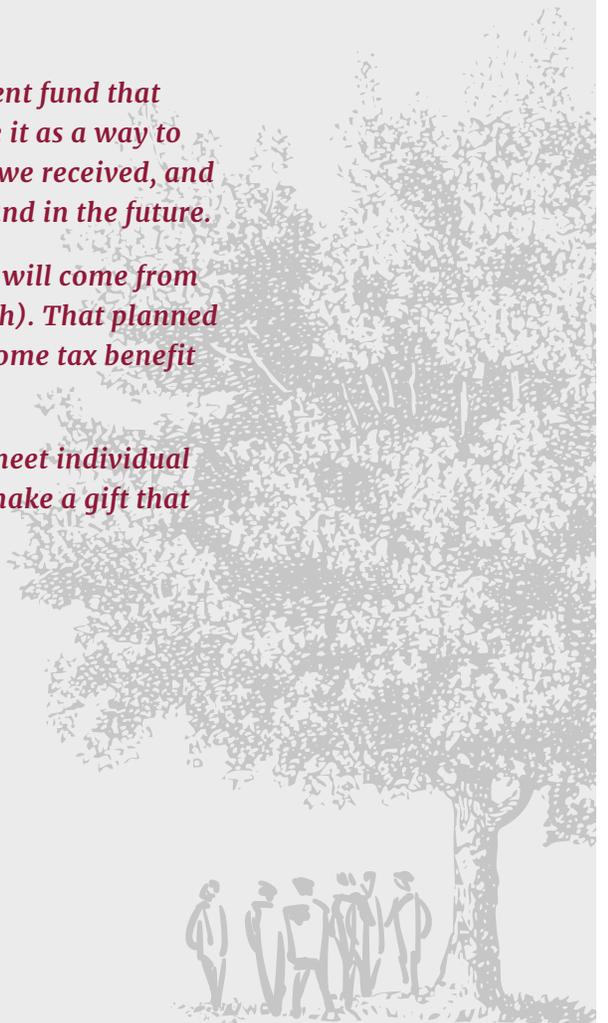
“It has given my family great pleasure to create an endowment fund that provides financial aid to a Sidwell student each year. We see it as a way to express gratitude for the scope and quality of the education we received, and as a way of making that education possible for others now and in the future.

Part of our gift has been in cash and the rest is deferred and will come from a qualified plan (for example, an IRA, a 401k plan or a Keogh). That planned gift will eliminate an estate tax and also will provide an income tax benefit to our heirs.

Sidwell Friends offers numerous planned gift vehicles that meet individual needs. These gifts provide an appealing way for alumni to make a gift that will last and to which future generations can contribute.”

—HELEN COLSON '53, P '82 '84 '87

For additional information on how to create your legacy as part of the Thomas and Francis Sidwell Society, please visit us online at plannedgiving.sidwell.edu.



Words with Friends: Art Thief



ACROSS

- 1 Hem's partner
- 4 "The Game of _____"
(Game considered the first parlor game)
- 8 Silly
- 13 Melber of MSNBC
- 14 Numbered work
- 15 Figure seen drowning in a work by Pieter Bruegel the Elder
- 17 Scams that end in udder disaster?
- 19 Big draw for tourists in Finland
- 20 Tyler Perry title character
- 21 Laertes, to Hamlet
- 23 Candy sold in pairs
- 24 Fox series that mixed "Umbrella" with "Singin' in the Rain"
- 26 Overly curious
- 28 Question after "You were sleepwalking"
- 31 Scar left from a bee attack?
- 36 Date
- 37 Memo letters
- 38 It's portrayed as a red creature with fire for hair in "Inside Out"
- 39 Post on Facebook, say, as a grievance
- 40 Expect
- 43 Guess alternative
- 44 Gut feeling?
- 46 Wine genre involving some skin contact
- 47 Poem of praise
- 48 Academic facility whose motto might be "I Got You, Babies"?
- 51 Velvety forest growth
- 52 "What a surprise to see you!"
- 53 Golfer's "Heads up!"
- 55 Paper that broke the Watergate scandal, colloquially
- 58 McEntire of country music
- 60 2021 World Series competitor
- 64 Ethereum and Bitcoin, generally
- 66 Villain who stole an important piece of 17-, 31-, and 48-Across

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11	12	
13				14					15					16
17				18					19					
20						21		22			23			
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28	29	30			31		32					33	34	35
36				37						38				
39				40				41	42			43		
44			45				46					47		
48					49	50					51			
			52					53		54				
55	56	57			58		59			60		61	62	63
64				65			66		67					
68							69					70		
	71						72					73		

- 68 Edvard Munch depiction
- 69 Trot, say
- 70 Santa's little helper
- 71 Music's Lena
- 72 Michael Bublé song with the lyric "Hold me close"
- 73 Part of CBS: Abbr
- 1 Place for a bowsprit
- 2 "Che gelida manina," e.g.
- 3 Like some aces
- 4 Making all stops
- 5 2021 event for Bumble, briefly
- 6 Cake type with rainbow sprinkles mixed into the batter
- 7 Canadian gas
- 8 Parley
- 9 Post-op area
- 10 "Wayne's World" encouragement
- 11 Place for a bowsprit
- 12 Gagarin, the first person in space
- 16 Horn for Parker
- 18 Bar inventory items
- 22 Cozy place to stay
- 25 This, in Tabasco
- 27 One earns you ten points plus the score of your next roll
- 28 Oscar of "The Last Jedi"
- 29 Consider
- 30 High home
- 32 Musical opening, informally
- 33 Icy abode
- 34 Calls for
- 35 Paper sources
- 37 Flooded (with)
- 41 Hubbub
- 42 Locale of the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony
- 45 Storm _____
- 49 "Burning _____" (William Gibson short story that coined the term "cyberspace")
- 50 Hurry, quaintly
- 51 Go well together
- 54 Shabby
- 55 Places to go in London, when you're in a hurry?
- 56 Teasing
- 57 Firebug
- 59 Nabs
- 61 They go to the runner
- 62 Fall back (on)
- 63 Whacks
- 65 "The Bonesetter's Daughter" author Amy
- 67 TV twin Mowry



Aaron Brophy

Hair's Breadth

"You could sum up my whole practice in hair and flags," said artist Sonya Clark '85 in the last issue of *Sidwell Friends Magazine* (see "Phantom Thread"). Clark has added an afro to Lincoln's pate on the \$5 bill, sewn long rows of dreadlocks to a chair, and invited spectators to join her in painstakingly unraveling the Confederate battle flag until it's just thread. For Sara Khoury '26, Clark's use of Black hair provided inspiration. During her Middle School art class with teacher Aaron Brophy, Khoury cut her own hair to use as the medium for a project. "It was cool," Khoury says. "I was trying to find a way to make sure it wasn't noticeable. In class, I joked that I was afraid I had a bald spot, and on the first day of School this year, someone actually asked me if I did!" But if using her own hair caused some initial giggles, the result was

serious and beautiful. "Last year, my grandfather passed away, and after his death, I found this book hidden in his room," Khoury says. "It was his French dictionary, and I decided to keep it. When we were first introduced to Sonya Clark, Mr. Brophy showed us a piece that had the hair of her late mother, and what it symbolized. This was only a week after his death, and I realized I could make a bookmark for his book out of thin strips of my hair. So, I decided to cut a piece of my hair as a sign of grief. The wooden piece at the top of the bookmark I found at the side of the road, and the ribbon was a scrap. My uncle helped me sew the hair to the ribbon."

Somewhere in Amherst, Massachusetts (where she teaches), Clark is likely smiling. Somewhere more celestial, Khoury's grandfather is, too.

THE FOX DEN

SLY STYLE

The Fox Den's online store has all of your Quaker spirit gear and merch needs covered. You need masks? We've got 'em. Ornaments? Got those, too. Plus: scarves, plush blankets, backpacks, water bottles, sweatpants, PJs, hats, mugs, onesies, and more!

MORE THAN
100
WAYS TO SHOW
YOUR PRIDE!

Go to [bit.ly/shopfoxden!](https://bit.ly/shopfoxden)
The prices are so good, it's crazy—crazy like a fox!

Sidwell Friends

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Washington, DC 20016-2999

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Permit No. 93



📷 TAYLOR KNIBB, OLYMPIAN

260 likes and comments such as "This is the Sidwell kid we told you about!" and "Amazing!!! So exciting to watch. Congrats, Taylor!"



📷 UPPER FIELD MAKEOVER

264 likes and comments such as "Looks amazing!" on this picturesque shot.



📷 TWICE THE NICE

Kindness bottles and even kinder comments—"Listen to the children"—plus lots of inquiries about buying from the Fox Den (check out the online store: bit.ly/shopfoxden).



📷 THREE FOR THE ROAD

313 likes as the School says farewell to Courtney, Jasmin, and Chief along with comments such as "Icon vibes only" and "3 of the best."



📷 WELCOME, FRIENDS

308 likes for this collage of Head of School Bryan Garman, Athletics Director Keith Levinthal, and the School principals.



📷 LET'S GO CLUBBING

234 likes for the School Club Fair and comments such as "This makes me so happy." For his part, US Principal Mamadou Guèye says, "There is joy in the Upper School!"