

PRINCIPIA PURPOSE

SUMMER '18

The Deep Roots of PHILANTHROPY at Principia



48

Taking the Theatre Arts
to New Heights

52

Engineering Program
in Full Swing

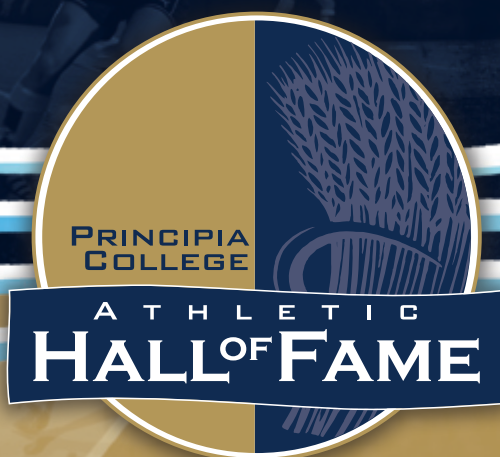
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Meet a Few of
This Year's Grads

JOIN US FOR HOMECOMING AT PRINCIPIA COLLEGE

OCTOBER 19–21, 2018

This year's College Homecoming includes the Gold & Blue Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on Saturday night, October 20.



GOLD AWARD INDUCTEE

Richard "Dick" Tullis (US'30, C'34)

BLUE AWARD INDUCTEES

- Lyn Gerber (US'72, C'76)
- Lewis Howes (US'01, C'05)
- Suzanne "Suzy" Verheul Kratz (C'85)
- Reed Newland (C'97)
- Rachel Charlston Wann (US'01, C'05)
- 1972 Men's Basketball Team

principiaalumni.org/homecoming

The mission of the *Principia Purpose* is to build community among alumni and friends by sharing news, accomplishments, and insights related to Principia, its alumni, and former faculty and staff. The *Principia Purpose* is published twice a year.

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From the Chief Executive

Dear Reader,

Since Principia's inception, generosity has fueled its growth. Convinced of the value of the Principia ideal—the Christ-idea in education—alumni and friends have propelled it forward, enabling expansion into new spaces, innovative educational approaches, and extensive financial assistance to deserving students. Our cover story honors this generosity—from Principia's founding up to today.



Also in this issue, you'll get an update on the College's flourishing engineering program (p. 52) and learn about the top-notch theatre arts training offered at both the School and College, training that has helped students gain entrance to top colleges and launch successful careers (p. 48).

Take a peek, too, at the College's exceptional study abroad programs, seen through the lens of students' on-site research. Research topics on the recent Peru Abroad ranged from Afro-Peruvian culture to the impact of tourism on sea turtles (p. 43). And don't miss the chance to meet members of the School and College Classes of 2018 (p. 54) as well as an alum putting his Principia education to good use connecting people around the world through Facebook (p. 14).

As you may have noticed, this issue introduces a few changes to the *Purpose*—see page 3 for the details—but our focus on sharing Principians' insights and accomplishments remains unchanged.

So dive in!

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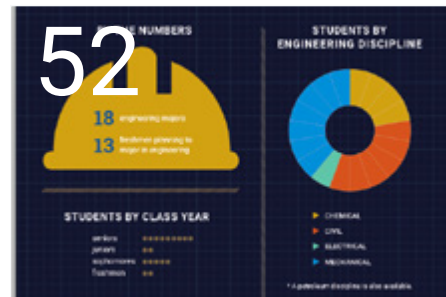
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Thank you for another excellent *Purpose*! The only thing that disappointed me was the complaint about the article on Abigail Swartz's recent nationally famous work being highlighted in her alumni magazine! I loved that article and shared it freely with friends and family as a great example of the good work that Principia's graduates do. I don't agree that the *Purpose* was promoting "left-leaning politics" so much as promoting alumni, which I believe is the mission of the magazine.

—Linda (Hinshaw, C'74) Bargmann

Someone wrote in response to an article in the *Principia Purpose* saying that some readers neither "accept nor approve of left-leaning politics."

The writer's choice of words is instructive. One may disagree with a political point of view, but to "disapprove" of views held by another is at the root of the current impasse in the country.

Indeed, reading the recent *Purpose*, I was delighted to see the younger

generation concerned about social justice and other liberal issues.

The *Principia Purpose* should not publish only anodyne pap in order not to upset anyone. Education has, as a fundamental tenet, the exposure of the audience to various points of view. In "Areopagitica," 17th-century author John Milton made a radical and early plea for open discussion of ideas. (Thank you, Dr. Haupt!)

People often dismiss, out of hand, new or alien ideas. Humans too frequently lock themselves into fixed positions without actually listening to contending ideas. I would urge that we undertake a shared journey of discovery.

Cheers,
Patricia (Burns, C'52) Ryan

From the Editor

With this issue, we introduce a few changes to the *Purpose*. Most notably, we have moved alumni news into the magazine. (For the last decade, alumni news was published separately in *Connections* and glued into copies of the *Purpose* mailed only to alumni.) This change simplifies the publishing process and saves money. We hope it will also deepen the sense of community among *Purpose* readers, alumni and non-alumni alike. In addition, the magazine is now "perfect bound," which accommodates more pages and eliminates staples.

To submit your letters to the *Purpose*, email purpose@principia.edu, or write to *Principia Purpose*, 13201 Clayton Road, St. Louis, MO 63131.



Winter '18 Photo Caption Contest Winner

"It's joust horseplay . . ."
—Ben Kniola (C'11)



For the next contest, submit your caption to purpose@principia.edu by October 1, 2018. The winner will be announced in the Winter '19 issue.

School News

BioBlitz

An exciting community event, the School's first-ever BioBlitz in early May offered myriad opportunities for scientific exploration and discovery as well as fun and games (and treats). Hundreds of student and community visitors had the opportunity to work with scientists and experts from the Saint Louis Zoo, Missouri Botanical Garden, Missouri Department of Conservation, and World Bird Sanctuary, to name a few. Over a 24-hour period, "citizen scientists" engaged in birdwatching, learned about forest insects, netted water invertebrates, identified native and non-native trees, and contributed to a wide range of species counts. Stargazing, campfires (with s'mores), hayrides, plein air painting, and a pancake breakfast rounded out the weekend event.



21st-Century Speaker Series

Local St. Louisan John O'Leary kicked off spring semester with a deeply inspiring message of courage, faith, good old-fashioned grit . . . and the power of just one person to make a difference. Recounting how he emerged from a horrific, near-death childhood accident to live a productive, proactive, and purposeful life, O'Leary was both humorous and direct: "Life is not easy, faith is not easy, love is not easy," he said. "But it's worth it," he concluded—especially when you realize that "God's going to lead you through all the adversity . . . lead you perfectly to where He wants you to go in your life."

Summer Renovations Round Out Academic Facility Upgrades

When classes start in the fall, lower schoolers will return to renovated and updated classrooms that place all grades around a central "hub" or assembly area, supporting a greater sense of unity and community. This space will be used for weekly chapels as well as spontaneous celebrations. Teachers will enjoy a new collaboration room as well. The Upper School hallway, lobby, and Dining Room will also undergo upgrades that reflect Principia's student-centered approach to teaching, learning, and social interactions. (See page 35 for an overview of recent and upcoming capital improvements.)

Bible Class Visits Greece

In a first for the Upper School, an advanced-level Bible class visited Greece this spring, tracing the footsteps of the Apostle Paul. Fourteen students and two chaperones, led by Bible teacher Evan MacDonald (US'94, C'06), visited Patmos, Corinth (pictured below), Philippi, and dozens of archaeological sites relating to Paul's journeys through Asia Minor. They ended with a final spiritual talk and discussion on the steps of the Areopagus in Athens—in sight of the Parthenon, Acropolis, and other Greek temples—where Paul delivered possibly his most famous speech regarding "the unknown God" that ancient Athenians worshipped (see Acts 17).



Spring Production Is a Big Hit!

Big, the Musical, this year's Upper School Spring Production, played to a packed house for each of its three performances in April. This family-friendly comedy focuses on a few weeks in the life of Josh Baskin—the awkward teenager first made famous by mega-star Tom Hanks in the movie almost 30 years ago. Nearly one-third of the Upper School student body participated, from the leads—who learned how to play “Chopsticks” with their feet on a light-up keyboard!—to those providing the music and essential backstage support with costuming, lights, and sound.



Bidding Farewell to the Class of 2018

On the last Saturday in May, the Upper School Class of 2018 received a thunderous send-off after an inspiring address by new College President (and Upper School alum) Dr. Jolanda Westerhof (US'77, C'82). She shared the impact of three essential life values—self-government, personal responsibility, and respect for others—observed during her experiences as a student, professor, Fulbright Fellow in Croatia, and advocate for higher education.

The 76 graduates received 151 acceptances from 80 colleges and universities from coast to coast—including the College of William & Mary, Missouri S&T University, Texas A&M, UC San Diego, and Principia College.

Outdoor Learning Flourishes in New Garden on the Green

In line with the School's experiential focus and commitment to making full educational use of campus land and natural resources, students have designed, planted, and cultivated a thriving vegetable garden on the Green. With support from experiential arts teacher Sheila Alioto and the Facilities team, the plot features a range of organically grown produce—lettuce, tomatoes, beans, broccoli. Science classes from all levels visit the garden regularly to study ecosystems in action.



College News

Celebrating 2018 Graduates—and a College Milestone

With this year's commencement on May 12, Principia marked a milestone—graduating its 10,000th four-year degree recipient since 1934, when the College began conferring four-year degrees. The Class of 2018 brought the count to 10,083.

Dr. Michael Hamilton, executive director of the Mary Baker Eddy Library in Boston, gave the commencement address, encouraging graduates to consider Joseph in the Bible as a role model for a life of purpose and service to others. After diplomas were awarded, friends and family gathered on the Chapel Green to celebrate the 115 members of the Class of 2018. Get to know three of the graduates beginning on page 56.



Students Recognize Dr. Tom Fuller

This year's Teacher of the Year, chosen by student vote, is Dr. Tom Fuller. Known as both a demanding and supportive professor, Fuller has taught computer science and math for over 25 years. "Beyond being an excellent professor," one student notes, "Dr. Fuller encourages us to grow in character and be our very best academically and personally. He brings a supportive atmosphere to the classroom and puts Christian Science into practice for students."



The 69th Public Affairs Conference

One of two annual student-run conferences on campus, this year's Public Affairs Conference, "Sustainability: Define, Design, Evolve," urged attendees to consider the integral role cities play in developing a sustainable future. Speakers included David Miller, former mayor of Toronto (pictured below); Diane Herndon, senior manager of sustainability at Nestlé Purina; Ralph Bicknese and Dan Hellmuth, co-founders of Hellmuth + Bicknese Architects; and Todd Boyman (US'83, C'87), co-founder of Hungry Planet, among others.



Professor Helps Document Longest-Known Whale Migration

Dr. Scott Eckert (C'79), world-renown for his expertise in marine biology, co-authored "Longest Recorded Trans-Pacific Migration of a Whale Shark (*Rhincodon typus*)" in *Marine Biodiversity Records* with Héctor M. Guzmán, researcher at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. Their article documents the satellite tracking of a whale shark, named Anne, who made the longest-recorded migration, swimming more than 12,000 miles across the Pacific Ocean from Coiba National Park in Panama to the Marianas Trench in the western Indo-Pacific.

Chrissy Steele Wins Teaching Award

This year's recipient of the Horace Edwin Harper Jr. and Evelyn Wright Harper Award for Teaching Excellence is Theatre Professor Chrissy Steele. Passionate about teaching acting, voice, and movement, she directs many of Principia's theatre productions and prepares students for acting competitions. In fall 2017, she co-led a study abroad to England, where students took an interdisciplinary approach to studying Shakespeare, including working with professionals at the Globe Theatre in London.

Baseball Stadium Dedicated

During Parents' Weekend, the baseball stadium was dedicated as Cheatham Stadium, named for the family's longtime support of whole man education at Principia.

Dr. Robert Cheatham and his wife, Jane, never attended Principia, but two of their children, Scot (C'76) and David (C'79), are alumni, as are five of their grandchildren: Alan (C'12), Shea (C'15), Michael (US'04), and Tori (US'12, C'16) Cheatham and Alyssa (Cheatham, US'08, C'12) Lord. Alan, a decorated baseball player, holds numerous College hitting records. As College Athletics Director Pete Paciorek noted, "The Cheatham Stadium dedication ceremony was a perfect way to honor three generations of the Cheatham family's loving support for Principia College."



From left, Aileen (Schnoller, C'87) and Scot Cheatham, Alan Cheatham, Pete Paciorek, and Dr. Jolanda Westerhof (US'77, C'82)

Awards in Athletics and Sportsmanship

Freshman Corey Carter (pictured below) competed at the NCAA DIII Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Wisconsin, placing 7th in the nation in the 100-meter race and earning NCAA All-American status. He also placed 12th in the 200 meter. Corey broke school records in both events this year and was named St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SLIAC) Track Athlete of the Year and Newcomer of the Year. He also earned a spot on the First Team All-Conference.



The men's tennis team won the SLIAC Tournament Championship for the fifth straight year. Freshman Wyatt Dale was named both Men's Player of the Year and Newcomer of the Year. Head Coach Rusty Jones was named SLIAC Coach of the Year.

Principia was awarded the 2017–2018 SLIAC Sportsmanship Award, presented to the school whose players, coaches, and fans best exhibit the principles of good sportsmanship as voted on by conference coaches and student-athletes. This marks the fifth time Principia College has received the SLIAC Sportsmanship Award.

New Scholarship for Veterans Announced

Principia College now offers a Veteran's Scholarship to those who have honorably served any branch of the United States military and their children who are pursuing an undergraduate degree. Principia does not accept government funds, but private institutional funding allows the College to offer a scholarship in place of, and possibly exceeding, GI Bill benefits.

Awards and Achievements

SCHOOL



School Achieves High Marks during Reaccreditation Process

As part of its regular reaccreditation process, Principia School hosted an 11-member team of expert educators for four days in mid-April. Representing ISACS (the Independent Schools Association of the Central States), the team included teachers, support staff, and top administrators from schools around the Midwest.

The brief exit report complimented Principia School's current academic and co-curricular programs, commending the commitment of the administration and faculty in bringing "to life" far-reaching changes in recent years. The final report is expected this summer.

Junior Wins Poetry Award

In April, **Kale Ostler** (US'19) won second place in St. Louis's Wednesday Club junior poetry contest. Local poet and educator Marjorie Stelmach chose 10 winners from the 254 student poems submitted by teachers from 17 schools in the St. Louis area. The Wednesday Club has a rich history dating back to the 1920s, with Pulitzer Prize-winners among the recipients.

Upper Schooler Recognized for Shakespeare Performance

In February, **Juliet Beck** (US'18) won third place in the St. Louis Branch of the annual ESU Shakespeare National Competition. (The ESU, English-Speaking Union of the United States, supports high school teachers with their Shakespeare and language arts curricula.) Juliet performed at a special St. Louis ESU luncheon in March and at an April celebration in Tower Grove Park to mark Shakespeare's birthday. (Read more about Juliet on p. 54.)

Athletes Shine at State

Upper School athletes brought home five top-three finishes from the Class 3 State Track and Field Championships. In a 1-2-3 showing, junior **Siwa Asinga** placed first in the girls' 300-meter hurdles, second in the 100-meter dash, and third in the 200-meter dash. The boys' 4x800-meter relay team—seniors **Chris Mwaura** and **Boone Steele**, junior **Nathan Babcock**, and sophomore **Bramwell Havi**—won gold, and senior **Simon Karega** took third in the 3,200.



Siwa Asinga (US'19) taking a hurdle in stride

The **girls' soccer team** placed second in Class 1 competition at State, after a

hard-fought final game in Kansas City, Missouri. This was the team's second consecutive trip to the "final four" at State. (They came in third last year.)

Students Earn Scouting Honors

Emily Anastos (US'18) achieved her Girl Scout Gold Award with the design of a sustainable mentorship program for new international students. (Learn more about Emily on p. 55.)

Brothers **Garrett** (US'19) and **Dylan** (US'16, C'20) **Sheets** received their Eagle Scout badges at a joint Court of Honor. Dylan built a bird blind on the School campus in 2015. Garrett created bird identification boxes for the nearby World Bird Sanctuary, which celebrated by bringing a bald eagle to the ceremony.



Photo by Terry (Smith, C'85) Sheets

Eagle Scouts Dylan (US'16, C'20, on the left) and Garrett (US'19) Sheets with the bald eagle Liberty

COLLEGE

Successful Model Illinois Contests

Model Illinois Government is a state-wide competition including legislative simulations and oral arguments before a mock state supreme court. (The latter is known as Moot Court.)

Awards and Achievements

For the second year, seniors **Connor Fiddler** and **Emelie Fredrikson** (below) claimed First Place, Best Team in the Moot Court competition. Emelie also earned Best Attorney. In the legislative competition, junior **Leah Schaefer** won the Outstanding Whip Award.



College President Receives National Award

In early March, College President **Dr. Jolanda Westerhof** (US'77, C'82) received the 2018 David G. Imig Award for Distinguished Achievement in Teacher Education from the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE). Named after AACTE's president and CEO emeritus,



Dr. Jolanda Westerhof (US'77, C'82)

the award recognizes individuals' career achievement in the formulation, implementation, research, or analysis of educator preparation policy.

Student Work Recognized Professionally

Senior **Bess Bookout** and Biology Professor **John Lovseth** (C'05) co-authored "Muscling into Meadows: A Preliminary Dendrochronological Analysis of Recent Conifer Encroachment in Mount Rainier's Subalpine Meadows." It was published in the *Yearbook of the Association of Pacific Coast Geographers*.

The English Department's online literary journal at MistakeHouse.org was listed in "The Big List of Literary Maga-

zines" at NewPages.com and appears fourth in "30 Small but Awesome Online Literary Magazines" on Bookfox.

Junior **Drew Shotwell** presented his paper "Applying Plato's Theory of Justice to the Ethics of Cognitive Enhancement" at the Texas State University 2018 Philosophy Symposium.

Professor Receives Service Award

After representing the College as the NCAA faculty athletic representative for 17 years, as well as serving on the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (SLIAC) Administrative Council and the NCAA Division III Nominating Committee, **Dr. Brian Roberts** (C'88) was awarded the SLIAC 2018 Lee McKinney Distinguished Service Award in May.

Rugby Places 5th in DII College 7s

In May, with over 100 Principia alumni and friends in attendance, Principia's rugby team competed in the men's DII USA Rugby College 7s National Championships in Denver, Colorado. The first team to earn a spot in the championships five years in a row, they placed 5th, making them Plate Champions.

ALUMNI

Carolyn Lord (C'78)

Carolyn Lord's oil painting *January Oranges* recently won Best in Show in the 60th Stockton Art League's juried exhibition, which features artists from around the country. The exhibition will be in The Haggin Museum in Stockton, California, through mid-July.

Nathaniel Wilder (C'06)

On assignment for *Smithsonian* magazine last summer, Nathaniel Wilder took photographs in Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve. The photos appeared in the May 2018 issue. Wilder also took over the magazine's Instagram account for part of April, sharing photos from the Wrangell-St. Elias expedition.

Haley Morton Haines (US'10, C'14)

While in law school, Haley Morton Haines, now a commissioned officer in the Navy Judge Advocate General Corps, researched and wrote about sexual abuse in Olympic sports. Her article was published in the *William & Mary Journal of Women and the Law*.

Volunteer Highlight

“It’s Truly a Joy to Serve!”

by Heather Shotwell



Deeply devoted to Principia for years, Betsie (Ellington, US’70, C’74) Tegtmeier finds that volunteering helps her stay connected. She’s lived in five different U.S. cities since graduating from the College, often serving Principia wherever she’s called home.

“I’m enormously grateful for the seven fabulous years I had at Principia and want to give back,” Betsie says. “My time there helped establish a lifelong connection with Christian Science, and I feel Principia’s role is vitally important for young people because it provides a supportive environment that emphasizes character education and spiritual growth along with academics.”

Hosting at reunions has been a highlight of Betsie’s volunteer work. “It’s funny to think about, because after college I was actually very hesitant to attend a reunion,” she notes. “But that quickly faded after going just once, and I’ve returned for almost all reunions since!” Betsie underscores the inclusive

nature of reunions and other Principia events: “Alumni are always welcome, whether they’ve stayed in Christian Science or not. All alumni have a common bond.”

Over the years, Betsie has also acted as an ambassador for the Admissions Office, advocating for Principia’s educational offerings, small class sizes, devoted faculty, abroad programs, athletics opportunities, and hands-on approach to learning. She has often encouraged prospective students to visit and been thrilled to see the results. For example, several years ago she encouraged a high school student to consider the College. “He ultimately chose Principia, and it was a joy to watch him pursue interests and have a wonderful experience,” she says.

In July, Betsie will assume a new volunteer role as chair of the Annual Fund, serving as a liaison with Principia’s Advancement Department. This is a natural fit after serving on the Alumni

Association Board, as a class agent, and as Principia Club president in Atlanta. She’s also on the 50th Reunion Steering Committee for the 2019 Upper School Reunion.

Through the years, Betsie has enjoyed reading—and rereading—*Education at The Principia*. “It’s truly a wonderful guide for parents and educators alike,” she notes. “While Mary Kimball Morgan was certainly an inspired educator, it’s helpful to remember she was a Christian Science practitioner and teacher. Principia is educating future leaders in the Christian Science movement.”

Noting the issues confronting students today, Betsie adds, “I see a need to support Principia metaphysically, along with the work of the Trustees and administrators who have to make tough decisions.”

Betsie acknowledges that Principia is not nirvana and not without its challenges. “In the end, though, it’s a safe place for students to wrestle with the challenges of growing up and to prepare for the future,” she comments. This foundation helped Betsie and her husband, John (C’78), through a business setback during the recent recession. “It took persistent work, yet I was certain the situation would resolve, and it did. When facing these sorts of challenges, I think about how Principia helps students establish a strong root system. Then they truly have something to lean upon.” ■



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principia.edu/jobs

Focus on Faculty

MEET CAITLIN HEIMERL

Helping Students Let Go of Limitations

Caitlin Heimerl (US'06) joined the Upper School faculty in 2013. She teaches Drawing, Painting, Sculpture, Ceramics, and Advanced Art and also serves as Visual Art Department chair. Heimerl holds a BFA in illustration from Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) and an MA in art education from Boston University. An accomplished artist and illustrator, she has exhibited in galleries around the country, and *Monet Paints a Day*, which she illustrated, was a finalist for the 2013 Colorado Book Award in Children's Literature and a 2012 Charlotte Zolotow Highly Commended Title.

Q. Can you tell us about a recent professional development activity you participated in?

A. In the fall, I worked with Dean of Innovation and Academics Peter Dry to design and lead a session focused on the power of collaboration. I set up a challenge for the faculty to construct a Rube Goldberg-style contraption using ordinary materials. In an hour, the teachers transformed the Upper School lobby and IDEA Center into a maze



Caitlin Heimerl helps an Upper School student with watercolor technique.

of interconnected ramps, pulleys, and pendulums. The creativity, teamwork, and problem solving that emerged were remarkable!

Q. What led you to teaching?

A. While I was studying at RISD, I worked as a teaching assistant in drawing and painting classes. I loved having conversations with students about their work and ideas, listening and asking questions, offering suggestions, and watching their artwork evolve. I realized that sharing my commitment to creativity and visual art with others and offering support and encouragement felt like a good fit. I've also had many talented and selfless teachers throughout my life, and their examples continue to inspire me.

Q. What do you love about teaching?

A. I love working alongside my students to practice giving selflessly and striving

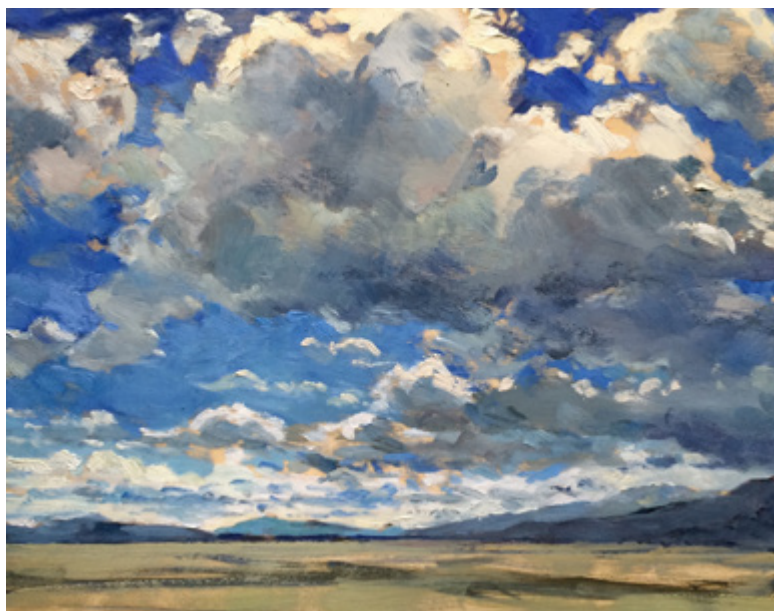
to be our best. When I'm doing my best work, I help students discover that they are more capable than they realize, which is such a beautiful thing.

As a teacher at Principia, my role has included venturing with my crew into the wilderness with Outward Bound, coaching girls' cross country, and working with students on Simunye Project service trips to South Africa.

I love Principia's expansive view of education. Learning isn't limited to a traditional classroom.

Q. What do you find most challenging about teaching?

A. My work is never done. Designing the right assignments that bring out the best in each student is an ongoing challenge. Since students' needs are constantly evolving, there is always more I can do to make sure every student is stretched, engaged, and supported.



Clouds in the Valley, oil on wood, 2016



Canal in Amsterdam, watercolor, 2017

Q. Can you share a character education moment you've had at Principia that particularly stands out to you?

A. A few years ago, a student declared on the first day of drawing class, "I am terrible at art." She was adamant about it and a little fearful. I assured her that we are all learning and suggested she allow herself to try, even if it felt difficult at first. In the first few weeks of the semester, not a day would pass without this student commenting about how bad her drawings were. This habit of putting herself down could not continue.

I spoke to the whole class about how important it is not to compare our skill or progress with anyone else's. Just as with anything we are learning, whether it's a musical instrument, a sport, or a new language, drawing takes practice, and our attitude has everything to do with how much we improve. The goal at any stage is to become a more careful

observer and a more patient and focused student. No more negativity allowed! The class was receptive.

Instead of criticizing her work, this student started asking for suggestions and accepting positive feedback. Not only did she make some truly wonderful drawings, but by the end of the semester, this student, who had been so certain that she lacked artistic ability, shared that she really enjoyed drawing and thought she would sign up for an art class in college the next year. Her change in thought was a good example of how every activity we do at Principia is an opportunity to let go of limitations.

Q. What would people be surprised to learn about you?

A. Last summer I went to Amsterdam for six days by myself. I visited the Van Gogh Museum and the Rijks Museum every day I was there.

I rented a bike, explored the city, and made watercolor paintings. I loved every minute of it!

Q. What work would you pursue if you weren't a teacher?

A. I think teaching will always be part of my life, but I would pursue my work as an artist. I have lists of ideas for sculptures, books, and paintings I would love to create.

Q. If you had a day off and weren't allowed to use it to catch up on work, what would you do?

A. Go for a run, take my sketchbook somewhere new, bake a pie, and spend time with my family.

Q. If you could give students only one piece of advice, what would it be?

A. Don't underestimate the importance of being kind. ■



Matt Blass with his son on the Facebook campus in front of The Bulge, a mosaic by Barry McGee
Photos courtesy of Matt Blass

OFF TO A ROARING START

Matt Blass: Connecting People across the Globe

by Heather Shotwell

Not many of us can say we help people connect with each other all over the world—within seconds. Matt Blass (C'04) does just that as a front-end engineer at Facebook. He leads the team that launched its popular Messenger product used by more than 1.4 billion people. “It’s satisfying work,” Blass says. “For example, I love knowing I’ve helped a grandparent communicate with grandchildren many thousands of miles away, or a student traveling far from home instantly communicate with a friend. And in a larger sense, the interface allows a free flow of information for individuals to solve problems and share ideas.”

Blass developed an interest in computers during high school, taking programming classes as he prepared for college. Earning a BS in computer science at Principia College was a natural fit, and he combined it with a BA in business administration to build an even stronger skill set. “I especially valued the small classes and knowledgeable faculty who took the time to really get to know me,” he says. “Some classes mirrored real-world work experience. For example, in a business class, we worked, and later competed, in pairs to develop ideas for a shoe company. The project involved a lot of strategic planning.” Playing on the soccer and tennis teams added

dimension to his experience. “I loved the camaraderie in athletics—and in the campus community as a whole. Juggling a full schedule was invigorating and very worthwhile.”

Blass traveled to Australia his senior year on a study abroad specifically designed for students in the solar car program. In addition to helping the team navigate the 3,000-kilometer route through the Outback and earn 6th place at the 2003 World Solar Challenge, Blass studied the country’s culture and unique geology. “We met ranchers, schoolchildren, and aboriginal Australians to hear their stories,” he comments. “At Heron Island, we visited a research center to learn about the Great Barrier Reef and saw sea turtles lay their eggs on the beach. The group also had a lot of fun touring the ‘Aussie rules’ football stadium. The abroad was a great way to conclude my college experience.”

In his work, Blass brings a visual sensibility to the table with a keen eye for how computer applications look, not just function. He describes how the “soft skills” he developed in Principia’s liberal arts curriculum—problem solving, critical thinking, and teamwork—have served him well: “I’ve noticed that these are increasingly important as I move along in my career. Though I still write code, the ability to see the big picture and communicate ideas is vital.”

“I especially valued the . . . knowledgeable faculty who took the time to really get to know me.”

—Matt Blass (C’04)

Hired at Citigroup right out of college, Blass later worked at start-up companies Jut and PlayFirst. “The start-up environments were exciting, and I was surrounded by people who were extremely driven and focused on helping others,” he comments. “I felt I could directly contribute ideas to take products to the next level.”

But it was working at Amazon that propelled his career. “It was an awesome time to join the company,” Blass notes. “I



was placed in the new music division that had only 14 people but later exploded to 400. We developed and launched Amazon Music Player and ultimately uploaded the product to the cloud. iTunes was our biggest competitor, but no one had fully grabbed the music market yet. From this experience, I learned you must take opportunities that come your way—which is actually very similar to what I did at Principia.”

Blass has made a point of staying in touch with Principia friends through the years—online and in person whenever possible. Sometimes he’s even vacationed with them. “I’ve traveled to Italy, Australia, and Peru with Colin Wojno (C’04) and to Singapore, Malaysia, and Thailand with Colin and Tommy McKinley (C’05),” he says. “But I also get together with Principia friends just for family dinners.”

While working together at Amazon, Blass and Indrani Biswas got to know each other and eventually married. They live and work in San Francisco, where they are raising their 16-month-old son Siddhartho. Each day, the technology Blass helped develop touches his own family. “Siddhartho ‘chats’ with relatives in Illinois,” Blass explains, “as well as my in-laws in Durgapur, India. We also see great-aunts and -uncles, cousins, and a Bengali culture we couldn’t otherwise experience in San Francisco. They’re half a world away, but we bring them as close as we can.” ■



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Treasure of a Lifetime

by John K. Andrews Jr. (US'62, C'66)

Irma Eareckson (FS'31) taught me writing at Principia Upper School. Across the hall, Hugh Semple (US'29, JC'31) taught me current events. Clayton Ford (FS'33) and James Nietmann (C'43) taught me politics at Principia College.

In all my years at Principia, from first grade in 1950 to a BA degree in 1966, no one contributed more to my education. What if the four had met to compare notes and peer into my future?

Imagine a dinner at the University Club in St. Louis one night in December 1963. I can almost hear their voices . . .

Ford: President David Andrews (US'32, C'36) asked for our observations about his nephew John. Is Prin getting the job done? All confidential, of course. I'll debrief with him tomorrow.

Eareckson: Earnest in his studies, aiming high, but perhaps a bit entitled. He burns to write for publication—and might someday.

Nietmann: Or might work in government, though he disavows ever running for office. Not cut out for it, he says.

Semple: That could change. Nineteen is too young to say never. He ran for enough student offices.

Ford: I agree, Hugh. John has the bug. He interned at Nixon's convention



John K. Andrews Jr. (US'62, C'66)

in 1960, you know. If Dick came back from the political dead, young Andrews might wind up on his White House staff.

Nietmann: With LBJ succeeding the martyred JFK, politics in this decade has become totally unpredictable. I just hope we don't get sucked into Vietnam. John could find himself in a Navy uniform like his father and grandfather. His whole generation would be at war.

Semple: Or at odds over the war. I sense our country is in for stormy times at home and abroad. The placid '50s are over.

Eareckson: In which case I'd hope the boy's gift for clear expression is put to

use connecting the Bible's moral and spiritual truth to America's ideals and struggles.

Ford: Prin has prepared him for that, do you think, Irma?

Eareckson: Tentatively, yes. In high school he was perhaps too doctrinaire for his own good. A Goldwater enthusiast. He's passionate about politics, passionate about religion, but hasn't really integrated that into a worldview.

Nietmann: Who has? But in John's case, there is an intensity that might be trouble. I could see him leaving Christian Science. Or crashing his marriage.

Semple: You professors are more current on the boy than we are. But I'm betting Principia has grounded him well with God and country and the commitment to "live with skill," as Mrs. Morgan put it (*Education at the Principia*, p. 161). He'll make a go of marriage and family. He'll stand with Christ, if not with Christian Science. Fifty years from now, he'll still be reaching up—and thanking us for showing him how.

Ford: Academically, John could have tried for Harvard or Stanford. Yet Principia College was the only place he applied. The love of this place was bred into him, I guess. Is his double major with us and the business department going okay, Jim? >>

“I owe my alma mater an immeasurable debt, and I’ll love her always.”

Nietmann: You’d have to ask his other uncle, Bob Andrews (US’33, C’37), about the econ side of it. I’d say he hasn’t much of a head for business. Nor is he the people-person his dad is.

Ford: If he hopes to lead anything, those are weaknesses he’ll have to correct. Maybe helping organize that new soccer team is a start.

Eareckson: Wouldn’t it mortify John to hear us putting him under the microscope this way? He’s led the classic unexamined life. Born fortunate and doesn’t know it.

Ford: Another deficiency he’ll have to outgrow, right?

Semple: But, Clayton, in your report to his uncle, don’t underrate the pluses. Here’s a guy whose great-grandmother,



John Andrews (far right) with the Public Affairs Conference Board in 1966

Anna Andrews, was Principia’s first housemom. His family has been all-in for the school ever since. Prin has poured into John Jr. a lifetime of spiritual and intellectual treasures. He will repay that with gratitude well into the next century, long after we’re gone.

Eareckson: Decades from now, maybe he’ll write it all up for the *Purpose*. Who knows?

Not a bad crystal ball they had, was it? I owe my alma mater an immeasurable debt, and I’ll love her always. There, I met my wife, Donna (D’Evelyn, C’66), and we’ve raised three great kids. There, I committed to “live with skill,” preparing for a career that has gratefully included (along with plenty of blots in

my copybook) naval service, university posts, presidential speechwriting, winning and losing elections, writing books and—as Mr. Semple somehow knew—forever following Christ.

Thanks a million, Prin! ■

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The Christian Science Monitor's Message of Hope

by Trudy Palmer

For over a century, Principia's purpose—"to serve the Cause of Christian Science"—has guided the institution, and alumni have fulfilled that purpose in various ways. This occasional series features alumni serving the Cause.

Owen Thomas (US'73, C'77) **Editor, *The Christian Science Monitor Weekly***



Photo by Alfredo Sosa

mean about being asked to do everything you can do—and it's been like that ever since."

An Editor at Heart

At the end of that summer, Thomas went from interning to employment as a copy kid, but he quickly outgrew that job, moving on to occasional stints reporting but primarily to editing—including on the former International Edition and as Ideas editor, sports editor, and even cartoon editor. He has also edited the Home Forum page for almost half of his tenure at the *Monitor*. "What drew me to journalism was not the reporting but the editing, putting the package together," he explains.

Allowed only one word to sum up my conversation with *Monitor Weekly* Editor Owen Thomas, I'd choose *joy*. Wry humor and a ready laugh punctuate our exchange, hinting at the steady joy that still bolsters his work after more than 40 years at the *Monitor*.

Fresh opportunities have fueled that joy. "There's lots of room to grow, and they're eager to have you grow," he says. "If you can do something, you'll be asked to do it."

That's been the case ever since Thomas interned as a copy kid after graduating from the College. He spent that summer rubber-cementing story

manuscripts end-to-end and photocopying them, delivering mail five times a day, and cleaning out glue pots. "It was a great way to get to know the paper and stand at the elbow, however briefly, of the amazing guys and women who worked there," he notes.

But he wasn't just a gofer. "Ten days into my new job as a summer worker," Thomas comments, "I was already using all the skills I had learned at Principia." Most notably, he put those skills into action when he filled in for the vacationing editor of *Inside the News Briefly*. "I was a punk kid out of college, and they asked me to edit this page," Thomas says. "That's what I

As editor of the *Monitor Weekly* (and the Home Forum page), Thomas oversees the "many moving parts" that make up the magazine. Commending the "great group of people who put the *Weekly* together," he describes his job as "steering the ship."

Officially an English and history double major at the College, Thomas jokes that he had a third major in the *Pilot* (the student newspaper), which he worked on all four years. Yet when ticking off how Principia prepared him for his career, Thomas never mentions the *Pilot*. Instead, he goes straight to the underlying principles of a Principia education. "Mary Kimball Morgan

had an excellent idea about educating the whole man and teaching students how to think,” he comments, “because thinking—analysis, synthesis—is the skill you can use for anything. That has stood me in good stead. I’ve felt very well prepared—and nimble enough to take on new challenges quickly.”

The *Monitor*’s Mission

Asked how his work serves the Cause of Christian Science, Thomas dives deep, leading with *Monitor* founder Mary Baker Eddy’s objective for the paper—“to injure no man, but to bless all mankind” (*The First Church of Christ, Scientist, and Miscellany*, p. 353). “After 40+ years, it’s still unfolding to me what that means,” he says.

“It occurred to me in prayer several years ago,” Thomas continues, “that to injure no man is the essence of the Ten Commandments. And you could say the Sermon on the Mount is about blessing mankind—about *how* to bless mankind. When I looked at it that way, I said, ‘Oh my gosh, she has summarized the essential messages of the Bible in nine words!’”

Putting that mission into practice places Thomas squarely “in the consciousness-raising business,” as he puts it. “What we’re trying to do with the *Monitor* is to lift people up. There are so many ways to talk about what’s happening in the world. We figure out a way to help people embrace the world, to help them heal the world.”

That begins, of course, with *engaging* people in the world. Simply laying out information and leaving the reader to figure out what it means or how important it is isn’t enough. “You haven’t closed the loop of conversation in that case,” Thomas comments. “You’ve gone only halfway.” What’s needed is to “persuade the reader to be as interested and moved by the topic as the writer is,” he recalls longtime *Monitor* correspondent Peter Ford explaining.

“We figure out a way to help people embrace the world, to help them heal the world.”

—Owen Thomas (US’73, C’77)

“To bless the reader, you have to make sure that the *value* of the information is clear, that the reader is persuaded of the *worth* of the information,” Thomas elaborates. “That takes a lot of work!”

But the work is worth the effort, and Thomas is convinced there’s a market for it. A recent series of interviews with *Monitor* readers revealed a highly engaged and religiously diverse group, including one man who regularly spends four hours fully digesting each issue of the *Weekly*.

“Anyone can relate to the *Monitor*,” Thomas says, “because we all know

what upbeat means, what hopeful means. South African novelist Alan Paton once described the *Monitor* as a publication of ‘sober and responsible hope’—hope you can depend on. That’s what the *Monitor* presents. And who better to tell you what’s going on than a Christian Scientist? Who better to interpret world events for you than somebody who’s persuaded that God’s hand is on the world?”

Preparing Students to Serve the Cause

Asked how Principia might better equip students to serve the Cause of Christian Science, Thomas suspects they may need a more realistic view of the opportunities at the Church. “Students shouldn’t think we’re all just sitting around with our hands clasped, praying,” he says. “They can use everything they know right away in an effective way here. And if they can find a way to do that, they can support themselves and the movement at the same time. They can make a difference.”

With a smile lacing his voice, Thomas concludes, “I’m not only having a great time being a journalist, but I get to serve the Cause of Christian Science. I get to support something that means so much to me. That’s a great gift.”

Day in and day out, Thomas’s joy in that gift buoys the *Monitor*’s message of hope. ■

Ireland

AT LAST!

by Barbara Molter Ross



I am eight years old, sitting on my mom's bed as she shows my younger sister and me her charm bracelet from childhood. We are intrigued with the tiny toaster that pops miniscule, gold bread slices, the miniature blue, pink, and green globe that spins on its axis, and most of all, the beautiful, little gold locket that she opens slowly to reveal a small faded photo. "This is the only picture I have of my father," she says. "He died before I was born. James Bernard Malloy Jr., a tennis pro at Yale. His family came from Ireland."

In these moments, a lifelong desire to visit Ireland, the land of the grandfather I would never know, begins to germinate. I learn that my grandmother, widowed at age 18, took work in New York City and commuted home on the weekends, leaving my mom, Betty Anne, in the care of my great-grandma and a bevy of great-aunts and -uncles.

Two days before the Principia trip to Ireland, I am eyeing two very large

boxes of family genealogy high on a closet shelf. Halfway through the second box, I find a small envelope that reads "Malloy Family History" in my mom's handwriting. There is a letter to a cousin who has sent her a detailed list going back four generations to when the Malloys arrived in Connecticut: James Malloy, James Bernard Malloy, and James Bernard Malloy Jr., my grandpa. "We have no earlier information on relatives in Ireland since Grandma Susie was reticent to talk about life there," the cousin wrote. I quickly make a copy of all the notes and tuck them into my suitcase.

Arriving in Ireland

We are greeted at the Dublin airport by our tour director, Alice Dervin (C'73), and local guide, Carmel. Carmel is delicate and blond, a descendent of the Celts. In Dublin we delight in the brightly colored doors and are awed by the rare, ornate Book of Kells Bible at Trinity College, hidden by monks as the Vikings raided churches to confiscate

gold from Bible pages and chalices. We travel south to stand above the breathtaking Cliffs of Mohr and to make scones and view sheep shearing at Rathbaun Farm. We tour castles and medieval towns, kiss the Blarney Stone.



The author and her mother; her mother's childhood charm bracelet in the foreground

The third night I stop into the pub of our hotel to hear a local singer. While there, a member of our group guides me onto Ancestor.com and enters my Grandpa Malloy. The singer sees my pages spread out and questions me. “I know a Malloy,” he says, “Matt Malloy. He’s a singer and owns a pub in Westport, County Mayo.” I call the pub and am given an email for Matt. Suddenly I am connected. I search for our family name on Google and learn that the Malloy clan has been in Ireland since ancient times. The realization hits me: everything we’ve been learning—the whole story of Ireland—is also my family’s story.

A History of Country and Family

As early Celts, the Malloys would have lived in a wooden castle surrounded by wooden walls. In the fifth century, they would have been converted to Christianity by St. Patrick and his deputies. In the 800s, they would have been raided by the Vikings, the wooden structures burned and replaced by the stone castles and walls that dot the Irish countryside today.

There’s a little notation in the margin of my mom’s notes: “Married 3 days.” I look again under the pub lights. Dates are examined and rechecked. I text my sister: “Did you know that our grandparents were only married three days before Grandpa Malloy died?”

Lying awake that night in a hotel room in Ireland, thinking of the young widow just 18 years old, my eyes fill. “Oh, Mom, no baby was ever more wanted, no baby was ever more loved.”

A People’s Pursuit of Freedom

In the morning, I am greeted by the beautiful countryside that Johnny Cash sings about in his “Forty Shades of Green.” I board the bus with new eyes. The heart and soul of the Irish people are becoming clearer. Lasting freedom is an idea that eluded this people for generations, that was fought for, lost, regained, lost again, culminating in the English domination that began in the 1500s and is lasting into our lifetime. As the Irish language, religion, and education were forced underground, the local teachers became heroes, meeting in “hedge schools” (literally hidden in the bushes) to teach students their native Gaelic language and Irish customs.

The Irish music we are treated to throughout the tour ranges from majestic bagpipes to jaunty jigs to haunting ballads. None is more poignant than “Grace,” the story of Joseph Plunkett, a leader of the 1916 Easter Rising, who invites his love, Grace Gifford, to his death cell to marry him just hours before his execution: “With all my love I’ll place this wedding ring upon your finger / There won’t be time to share our love for we must say goodbye.” I have

tears in my eyes as Alice pats my hand and says, “I know . . . your grandparents . . .”

We have come to know a people of hope, a people who embrace a growing sense of pride, who have maintained a buoyant spirit through times of conflict and persecution. As we sing our beloved Hymn No. 412 to the tune of “Danny Boy,” we feel a special connection to this country of faith that did so much to preserve Christianity for all of us. We leave Ireland with a deeper love and appreciation than when we arrived.

I bid goodbye to my tour mates and spend the last day in Dublin alone. Our bus driver has helped me identify several establishments owned by Malloys. The Molloy* Pub is close enough to reach by public transport. A wizened regular informs me that, aye, the Malloys owned the place for generations but sold 12 years ago. I am content to sit and bask in this piece of my family’s history.

Thank you, Principia. 📌

**Gaelic was first written down in the 5th century, resulting in multiple spellings of many family names.*



Principia Lifelong Learning travelers in Dublin, Ireland



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GLOBAL DAYS OF SERVICE



Pitching In around the Globe

Principians came out in full force to make the third annual Global Days of Service campaign a success. From Switzerland to Africa, Florida to California, Principia alumni, students, staff, and friends threw themselves into volunteer work with generosity of spirit and time.

Numerous Principia-related groups took part in a variety of projects—assembling bicycles for donation to elementary school students (Salinas, California); gardening and planting vegetables at a care facility (Seattle, Washington); sorting and stocking items at a food bank (Naples, Florida); and creating decorations for a care facility during an Acorn Program event for families with young children (Atlanta, Georgia), for example.

Students and staff on the campuses pitched in as well with canned-food collections, cleanups at local organizations, and care for shelter animals, among other activities.

“Nearly 700 Principians and friends gave 4,318 hours of service to 53 organizations on three continents,” says Marina Whitney (US’08, C’12), Alumni & Field Relations program coordinator. Among them, Anne Hughes (C’62) set the record with 72 hours of volunteering over 20 days! “It put a shine on my April!” she says. 📺

Upper School students on the Simunye service trip in South Africa



The College men’s tennis team at The Willows in Laguna Hills, CA



Alumni and their children at a trash pickup in Geneva, Switzerland



Principia Club of Southwest Florida members at Grace Place in Naples, FL



Traveling Abroad with Christian Science

by Cecily Lee



Over the course of co-leading 11 Principia College study abroad programs for 180 students (with 86 weeks total on the ground), I have not infrequently found myself—and the group—in a “tight spot.”

There have been lost students, hazardous natural phenomena, threats of violence, unexpected (major) logistical blips, an intruder in a hotel room, and so on. For all these situations, Christian Science has been our *a priori* problem-solver, bringing solutions into view where none were apparent.

At other times abroad, I’ve seen Christian Science reliably and repeatedly perform its healing function—for cases of injury, fainting, and fatigue, as well as sickness related to car, sea, or air travel, altitude, and food. In addition, there have been hard moments of the heart, such as homesickness, timidity, cultural disorientation, group divisions, fear of new experiences, and existential concerns. In these instances, Christian Science has played its Comforter role, taking back the day.

Here’s one example from the 2015 Argentina Abroad. I look out the Bariloche hotel window to see that it’s snowing . . . sort of. In fact, the Calbuco volcano 70 miles away in Chile

has erupted, and that’s actually ash, with tiny glasslike particles in it.

Problem 1: There’s a run on face masks in town. Problem 2: It’s just a couple of days before our flight back to Buenos Aires and our connecting flight home. The local airport is closed indefinitely. My co-director and I need to make a decision: Should we count on the airport reopening or rush to buy bus tickets for the 24-hour ride back to Buenos Aires? (We suspect the tickets, like the face masks, are in high demand.)

“Christian Science has been our *a priori* problem solver . . .”

It’s a moment for stillness. I turn to the promise we have cherished and relied on over the previous 10 weeks: “I am sending an angel before you to protect you on your journey and lead you safely to the place I have prepared for you” (Exodus 23:20, New Living Translation). The result? We all get masks, are safe, and make our international flight. (AND we experience for ourselves the immensity of the Argentine Pampas on the bus ride back!)

Besides problem-solver, healer, and Comforter, Christian Science has been my anchor for helping students grow as global citizens. For example, the ability to adopt multiple perspectives is good practice for the adoption of a spiritual perspective over a material one. When students experience the commonalities of human experience, they get a real taste of God’s “universal family, held in the gospel of Love” (*Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, p. 577). Conversely, they can appreciate cultural differences as an expression of the infinite diversity of Mind’s ideas.

As students learn that being a global citizen involves cultural self-awareness, awareness of other worldviews, curiosity, openness, empathy, and communication, we note that these are all rooted in inherent spiritual qualities. Finally, there is the parallel between the imperative to “suspend judgment” in cross-cultural interactions and Jesus’ counsel in the Sermon on the Mount not to judge others (see Matthew 7:1–5).

Lead an abroad without Christian Science in my toolkit? Unthinkable! ■

Dr. Cecily Lee (US’69, C’73) taught Spanish at the School for eight years and most recently at the College for 15 years.

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The Deep Roots of

PHILANTHROPY

at Principia



by Armin Sethna

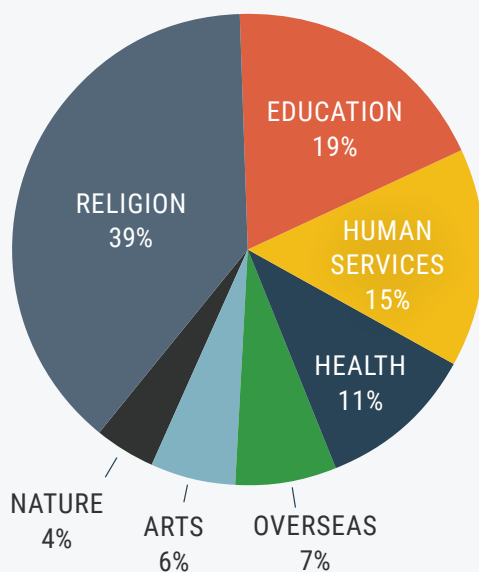
Across the United States, philanthropy is growing steadily—spurred on, as it has been historically, by the generosity of hundreds of thousands of men, women, and children.

Even amid economic ups and downs, individual Americans consistently account for more than two-thirds of charitable giving in any given year. In 2016, philanthropic giving reached a high of \$390 billion, with individual donations (including bequests) accounting for 80 percent of that total! And in keeping with historical trends, religion/religious causes and education were the two top beneficiaries of this civic munificence—receiving 39 percent and 19 percent respectively of total donations.*

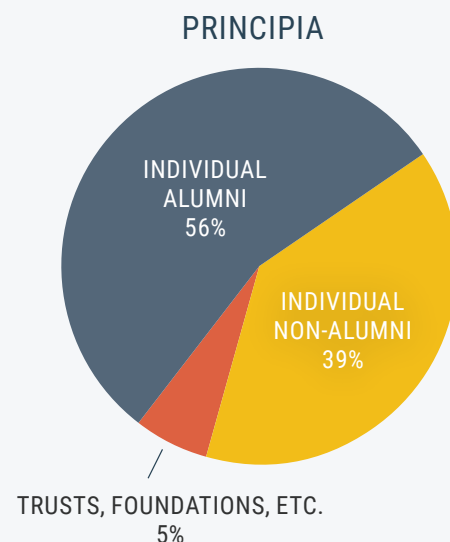
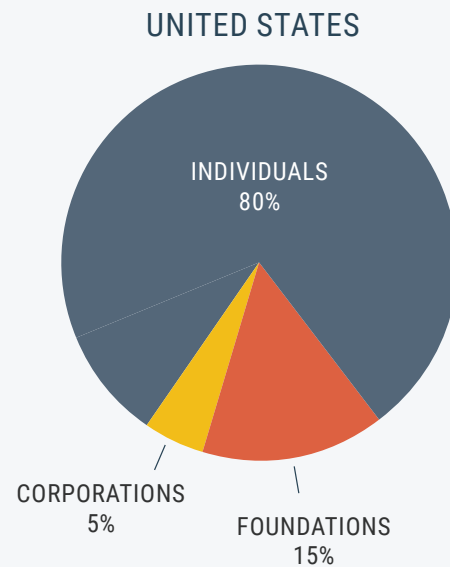
Over and above the \$312 billion donated by individuals, 63 million Americans—25 percent of the adult population—also volunteered time and expertise to make a difference in others' lives. Again, religious and educational organizations were the top two areas, with activities ranging from food collection to fundraising to tutoring.

Principia's own progress is testament to these long-standing patterns of individual philanthropy—a word that, translated from the Greek, means love of mankind or humanity. The traditions of financial generosity and willing volunteerism have been woven into the rich tapestry of Principia's 120-year history by generations of friends, alumni, students, faculty, and staff. >>

Where Americans Give



Sources of Charitable Giving (2016)



*National data in this section is from the following sources: *Giving USA 2017: The Annual Report on Philanthropy for the Year 2016* (givingusa.org); Philanthropy Roundtable (philanthropyroundtable.org); and the National Philanthropic Trust (nptrust.org).

Through peace and war, the Great Depression and the Great Recession, thousands of individuals have been instrumental in ensuring the solid foundation and growth of the Christ-idea in education. Principia founder Mary Kimball Morgan wrote of the demonstration of this idea as work that would take “the sturdy, fearless spirit of the pioneer to carry it out” (*Education at The Principia*, p. 166).

Today, Principia continues to embody this pioneer spirit as it pursues new and better ways to “serve the Cause of Christian Science” and put education to use “for the betterment of humanity” (Principia Policy 1 and Policy 10). Generous donors are investing in progressive pedagogies and professional development, cutting-edge facilities and technologies. Faculty are incorporating real-world research and professional experiences into their teaching and engaging their classes in student-centered projects. Students are broadening their community, national, and global horizons through service and study programs . . .

In the following pages, you’ll learn about the interwoven philanthropic strands that combine to realize Principia’s ideals and impact, while ensuring that Principia remains a viable, affordable, excellent educational option. Together, alumni, friends, faculty, staff, and students themselves all play a part in preparing Principians for success in the 21st century.



William and Mary Kimball Morgan—and the carriage house at their home, where she began teaching their two sons and one other child in 1897, before moving the school to a storefront in 1898



A Living Giving Legacy

Starting with Principia’s humble, storefront beginnings in the waning years of the 19th century—total assets: 20 chairs, a couple of park benches, a few books—each step forward has been made possible by the vision and generosity of those who believe in and support Principia’s mission.

It would be impossible to put a dollar figure on the value of time, thought, prayer, and financial resources contributed by Principia’s founding family, the Morgans. Over a period of 50 years, Mary Kimball Morgan provided unstinting practical and prayerful leadership as Principia expanded from a home-school into a high school, then into a junior college, and finally a four-year college. Her husband, William, provided financial and moral support, while their two sons, Freddie and Billy

(the original students), went on to serve Principia in many capacities over the years.



Pioneer Benefactors

Similarly, the generosity of the Morgans’ church friends Clarence and Minnie Morey Howard—pioneer benefactors in whose honor the Howard Society is named—cannot be summed up in financial terms alone. Originally a railroad worker, Clarence rose to management, followed by ownership of a factory that he turned into the world’s leading producer of castings for the transportation industry. Minnie, born to a wealthy family,

shared her husband's view that they were stewards, not owners, of their fortune. The couple enthusiastically supported the YMCA and Boy Scouts, among other charitable organizations.

At a gathering of friends in 1899, Clarence discovered that William Morgan had been covering Principia's expenses. "It's not fair that one man should have all that fun by himself!" he exclaimed, only partly in jest. "Let's all chip in."

Over time, Clarence and Minnie more than "chipped in," donating an unprecedented \$2 million over time—or the equivalent of \$32 million in today's dollars! Always timely, and often unsought or anonymous, their gifts helped secure land for the School's Page and Belt campus and the College's Elsay campus and supported construction of multiple facilities.

The Howards also generously funded student aid and supplied the nucleus for what would become Principia's endowment. In addition, they were probably the first Principia donors to use a "matching grant" challenge—successfully expanding the circle of giving during a specific campaign.

Above all, the Howards more than matched their financial support with >>



Clarence and Minnie Morey Howard

How Student Initiative (with Help from the Howards) Funded the College's First Field House

In December 1935, an "anonymous friend" (later discovered to be Mrs. Howard) offered \$40,000 to build a gym/social center at the College—provided that students raised the required balance of approximately \$40,000.

Immediately, the 250 students went into action, raising \$22,000 over the Christmas break. Some returned to campus by bus instead of train, donating savings of \$25–\$50; others sold popcorn and cookies. They successfully obtained donations from others—\$25 from a local grocer; an entire December paycheck from a visiting professor; \$700 from the sale of the Mothers' Club *Kitchenology* cookbook.

On Easter Sunday 1936, the goal was reached! In all, 927 contributions—ranging from 25 cents to \$10,000—were received from individuals in 35 states and the District of Columbia, Belgium, Japan, and Peru. Thanks to student initiative, \$42,311.77 (equivalent to \$755,859.91 today) was raised, resulting in the construction of what became Morey Field House.

Honoring the Howards' pioneering support, Principia's Clarence and Minnie Morey Howard Society recognizes donors who contribute \$1,000 or more to Principia in a year. In the fiscal year ending June 2017, the Howard Society had 799 members.

1897–1898

Mrs. Morgan sets up her informal schoolroom in her carriage house and then moves to a storefront.

1901

With the help of an Advisory Committee, an 8.5-acre property is transformed into the new School.

1920

With 140 students on the wait list, parent Charles Noble helps buy a local hotel—for use as a dorm.



Top: Construction of the College Chapel was paid for by an Alumni Association campaign. Above: Alumni, non-alumni, and even non-Christian Scientists contributed to the new “country campus.”

the gift of genuine encouragement and promotion of Principia’s ideals and mission. “All we have is what we share,” Clarence Howard was fond of saying, noting as well, “A loving attitude towards every problem makes every knock a boost, and turns every adversity into a blessing.”



Growth—in Good Times and Tough Times

Principia went on to demonstrate the truth of that aphorism, not only surviving but growing during a period of national and global adversity marked by two World Wars and the Great Depression. During that time, it established a full-fledged high school in St. Louis and a brand-new College campus, designed by Bernard Ralph Maybeck, a leading architect of the era.

After World War II, support from Principia friends and alumni continued apace, as the institution adapted to the demands of increased enrollment (think “baby boom”) and evolving

1925

World traveler Hazle Buck Ewing offers funding for the College’s eventual School of Nations building.

1930

On Thanksgiving Day, the Howards send a check for \$200,000, enabling the purchase of the Elsay property.

1932

Agnes Anderson gives more than \$250,000 for the completion and furnishing of Anderson Hall.

A Gift of Love—a Company from across the Ocean

A regular and enthusiastic Summer Session participant, Fred van Eck loved Principia. His idea for making a long-term, major contribution to the institution? Giving Principia his company!

Van Eck had grown Cordstrap BV, his Netherlands-based firm, from small beginnings in the 1960s into a global leader in the manufacture of polyester strapping and other shipping materials. As he approached retirement, he knew Cordstrap

had further growth potential and wanted to support Principia while also taking care of his employees' futures.

It took several years to work through the steps to create a charitable foundation that now exercises Principia's ownership interest in Cordstrap while insulating Principia from daily management and liabilities. Since Van Eck's passing in 2000, the company has grown steadily, with the dividends it provides going toward

Principia's Fred van Eck Endowment Fund. Valued at \$12 million when Van Eck made the bequest, Cordstrap has resulted in over \$75 million of distributions to Principia to date.

The company's chairman, managing director, and chief financial officer have visited Principia and spoken to business classes at the College. And at least one College graduate has gone on to work for the company!

pedagogies and programs. Hemmed in by increasing urbanization and space limitations, the School moved to the "country campus," built from the ground up on 360 acres of farmland and woods in what is today suburban St. Louis. At the same time, the College added new classroom buildings and expanded student housing.

Occasionally during those years, Principia would receive unexpected and generous gifts from individuals who had little to no connection to the organization—or, in one especially notable case, even to Christian Science! (See 1954, Jacob Aron, on the timeline.)

Through the end of the 20th century, Principia friends and donors continued to provide support for program and maintenance needs, while also recognizing the importance of bolstering student aid, as costs for both private school and college tuition soared nationwide.

During that time, one of the more unusual gifts to Principia was Cordstrap BV, a private, international corporation (see above)—a gift that helped boost the value of Principia's endowment and continues to play a critical role in maintaining the institution's financial stability.



21st-Century Giving

Today, with rapidly rising college costs and the negative impact of the recent global recession, educational philanthropy continues to play an essential role around the country and at Principia.

The two main budgetary demands on almost every educational institution, from elementary schools through >>

1939

Angie Cox funds what will become the nation's oldest student-led Public Affairs Conference.

1945

The new School "country campus" is purchased—consisting of seven adjoining farms.

1954

Coffee baron Jacob Aron sends the first of many donations that will total several hundred thousand dollars.

graduate schools, relate to capital development and daily operations. Every institution needs to invest in the creation and upkeep of suitable buildings, property, and equipment. And every institution must cover the ongoing costs of program delivery. Ensuring an equilibrium between these two key areas, while also maintaining a strong endowment, is a fine balancing act.

For 2017, the Council for Aid to Education reports that about 40 percent of donor contributions among reporting institutions went toward capital purposes, while 60 percent went to current operations (Council for Aid to Education, *2017 Voluntary Support for Education*).

At Principia, there's a similar breakdown. For the fiscal year ending June 2017, capital gifts for construction and renovation constituted 34 percent of the \$13.5 million received—while a substantial 66 percent covered programmatic and operational costs, including student aid, athletics, experiential travel, staff salaries, and professional development. (At right, take a peek at some of the capital projects and program activities recently supported by donors.)



An Upper School chemistry lab provides facilities for hands-on science learning.



A Variety of Gifts Supporting a Single Goal

Sometimes, individuals provide “restricted” gifts, designating their donations for specific programs or activities; other times, operations are supported from “unrestricted” contributions to Principia’s Annual Fund. For instance, the highly successful Giving Tuesday campaigns of the last three years have brought in \$754,767

to the Annual Fund. With its emphasis on electronic communication and the creative use of social media, #PrinGivingTuesday has seen a high level of engagement among young alumni in particular.

As Principia’s Vice President of Advancement Barbara Blackwell notes, “A gift of any size to Principia’s Annual Fund is one of the most important gifts a donor can make . . . because the Annual Fund supports every aspect of the student experience all year long!”

Ultimately, regardless of how donor income is designated or categorized, it’s the outcome that counts—namely,

continued on p. 39

1954

The Brooks family of California donates and dedicates Brooks Library and two College houses.

1959

Preschoolers raise \$3,000 for the building fund by selling treats and organizing penny drives.

1963

A generous bequest from Angie Cox funds the College’s Cox Auditorium and School of Government.

Recent Donor-Funded Capital Projects

SCHOOL

IDEA Center (below left), Media and Communications Center, and Commons—These multifunctional spaces, some with high-tech facilities, support student and faculty collaboration, research, and multimedia creativity and presentations.

Performing Arts Center—Spacious, well-lit, soundproof band, choir, and dance studios provide plenty of room for solo and ensemble practice.

Lower School Playground—Native landscaping and natural play structures encourage imaginative play and spontaneous science experiments.

COLLEGE

Voney Art Center (below, right)—A thorough renovation and modernization of this bluff-top studio—including the creation of a museum-quality display gallery—has revitalized Voney as a hive of creativity and collaboration.

Baseball Field Upgrades—Lights, stadium-style seating, and a press box have improved the field for players and fans alike.

21st-Century Classroom—This high-tech classroom, funded by the College Classes of 1962 and 1963, is equipped with the latest technologies for digital collaboration, video teleconferencing, and group work.

DUE FOR COMPLETION IN 2018 AND 2019

College Center for the Performing Arts—Extensive renovations and refurbishments will transform Morey Field House into a thriving center for theatre and other performing arts.

Lower School—All classrooms and common spaces will be refitted to support and enhance the School's hands-on, student-centered approach to learning.

Early Learning Center—This building will be refreshed and updated to accommodate a range of early learning activities for infants and toddlers up to the age of three.



Grateful Giving and Receiving: Donors and Students Share Gratitude

“We love what Principia stands for—what it does for its students, the Christian Science movement, and ultimately, for mankind—and the opportunity to work with amazing students and colleagues . . . That’s why we support Principia with our time and money.”

—Doug and Mary Jane (C’92) Hoff, School faculty

“As a transfer student, I have a unique perspective on the value of Principia and the various opportunities available here . . . To me, the invaluable gift of Principia is the ability to engage in discourse on any topic at a far deeper level, with fellow students and faculty alike. This [type of] relationship . . . is unique and deeply beneficial.”

—College sophomore

“I give back because Principia gave me so much . . . A coach really showed me how Christian Science fits in with athletics and training. I saw the connection and started to rely more on Christian Science in academics and in difficult situations.”

—David Bates (C’07)

“Dear Friend,
Thank you for letting us go to School. I like going to recess and playing with my friends. I love my teachers.”

—Second grader

“[Our daughters] have both blossomed since arriving at Principia . . . I cannot thank you enough for the selfless contributions that have made such a rare and wonderful experience available to my sweet girls.”

—Parent of School students

“The main reason I’ve stayed involved with Prin is that going to the College was life-changing. I had fabulous professors who encouraged me to pursue my entrepreneurial desires . . . I felt very well prepared by the Principia educational experience.”

—Kim Krieg (C’78)

“Coming from a large high school, the Principia experience has allowed me to feel much more connected to all the students, faculty, and staff on campus . . . My final year will be filled with exciting adventures with the solar car team, lots of interesting computer science classes, and great experiences with friends.”

—College junior

“I wanted to attend Principia, but my family didn’t have the means at that time. This makes giving to Principia all the more meaningful, because I know that it helps students attend who may not be able to otherwise.”

—Dona Romaine

“By giving to Principia, we feel we’re helping its purpose to serve the Cause of Christian Science.”

—Bill Romaine

“The Upper School got me started with such a wonderful foundation of right thinking, right acting, and good citizenship . . . I feel Principia is such a building block for anyone who is sincere in wanting to have a good education.”

—Phyllis Lentulo Band
(US’48, C’52)

“Thank you so much for enabling me to attend Principia. The year I’ve been here has helped me grow in numerous ways. It’s taken me out of my comfort zone and into my growth zone . . .”

—Upper School senior

“Principia made me multi-dimensional, and I’m much richer for it. I cherish my years there and the perpetuation of pure Christian Science through the education of young people. Principia’s vision and the unique education students receive at all grade levels is priceless!”

—Sharon Perlis (C’66)

“Thank you for giving of yourself so I can go to Prin. Because of your selflessness, I have been able to learn cool things like what happened at the Battle of Saratoga and how to find the circumference and area of a circle . . . [and] how God is with us very day, loving, guiding, and surrounding us.”

—Sixth grader

Program Support: Pianos, Professorships, Travel, and More

Here are a few examples of gifts received to fulfill specific programmatic goals.

GIVING THE GIFT OF MUSIC

For Principia supporter MarySue Harris, the College's "established standard of quality in education" merits nothing less than the best. That's why she provided a gift to help the College become an All-Steinway School (joining the ranks of Oberlin Conservatory and the Curtis Institute, among others).

MarySue's lifelong love for Principia was cemented during only a few short months at the College in 1959, when she was a freshman. At that time, the College did not offer the type or depth of music education she sought, so she transferred to another university, though leaving was not easy. As MarySue says, "I often think of how I was guided and loved when I was at Principia in that one brief quarter. The support provided, the quality of all the teachers . . . that makes the difference at Prin!"

BROADENING HORIZONS THROUGH TRAVEL

In 2016, Upper School alum Nancy Siebens Fett Binz (US'51) endowed the Velma Wolf Siebens Schierholz Travel Fund in her mother's name to support extended experiential and curricular travel for School students. Avid travelers, mother and daughter enjoyed many adventures in Europe, and Nancy has continued to travel as far afield as the South Pacific and South Asia. "Travel makes you a better and wiser person, more tolerant and open to differing viewpoints and perspectives," she notes. It also sharpens some very useful life skills, Nancy adds—such as "learning how to budget both time and money, pack light, and get by with less." Nancy hopes that Principia School students will share in the joy and growth through travel that she herself has experienced.



Accompanied on a Steinway, a student shares her singing talents at one of the College's regular Music at Davis performances.

STUDENT AID, STUDIO FACILITIES, AND A DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORSHIP

Nancy (Haynie, US'45) Johnson Templin attended the Upper School for just one year in the early 1940s. She was unable to return for her senior year because of her family's financial situation, but her love of Principia and its mission remained steadfast through the decades.

Nancy qualifies as one of the largest donors in Principia history. Each year, 10–20 percent of students at the College receive financial aid from the Nancy Johnson Templin Endowed Student Aid Fund.

Nancy also established the Roy Johnson Distinguished Professorship, and she funded the television studio in the Merrick Wing of Davis Music Hall at the College. Later, her husband Bob Templin, who had no previous involvement with Principia, left a bequest of his own, following his wife's example.

1964–1971

Seven new College houses (dorms) are funded with gifts from various donors.

1968

Rebecca H. Hay, who visited Principia only once, donates Hay Field House on the College campus.

1970

Norma Boehm Voney donates a beautiful bluff-top art studio at the College.

ensuring that as many students as possible receive a relevant, high-quality, spiritually based education.

One of the universal challenges to this laudable goal, of course, is affordability—balancing the costs of an excellent education with the ability to pay. Many students and families around the U.S. are struggling with excessive undergraduate debt, which was estimated at an average of \$37,000 per student in 2017.

Mindful of the debt burden that higher education can place on students and families, Principia College has made a deliberate decision to cap student debt and make available a combination of need- and merit-based financial aid. In fact, 40 percent of Principia College students graduate without student loan debt! And among the 60 percent who do take out loans, the average four-year loan amount is approximately \$18,335, or 50 percent less than the national average.

Principia School also strives to make its program as affordable as possible, with 94 percent of families receiving financial aid grants and/or scholarships—all thanks to the generosity of donors.



College athletes help with yard cleanup at a Christian Science care facility in St. Louis.



Gratitude and Giving Back

Every year, students who receive financial aid share gratitude for their experiences—specifically for the incredible learning opportunities made possible by individuals they have never met.

In addition to their written and verbal expressions of gratitude, students at all levels—from Lower School through

College—practice the art of giving, through regular volunteerism and community engagement.

At the College, athletics teams take turns serving every week at the Alton Boys & Girls Club. Athletics Director Pete Paciorek is as passionate about providing service opportunities for College student-athletes as he is about improving athletic performance. “Fostering a giving heart in all our student-athletes goes hand in hand with character development,” he says. “Sometimes athletes get caught up in themselves, and there’s really nothing more impactful than having them step outside of themselves and give to others.” >>

1976–1978

A bequest from longtime supporter Howard Ridgway funds construction of the School auditorium.

1992

Hundreds of donors contribute to the College Science Center expansion and renovation.

2001

Alum Clare Mott White donates the multiuse Isabel House to the School in honor of her mother.

Ways Our Students Serve

COLLEGE

- **Oasis Women's Center, Alton**—caring for, tutoring, and playing with the children of victims of domestic violence, while the mothers receive counseling and other services
- **Lovejoy Elementary School, Alton**—serving in the ROAR (Reach Out and Read) program
- **Mississippi River Cleanup**—helping keep the banks of the river free of trash and debris
- **Bucket Brigades**—refurbishing, upgrading, and/or painting the homes of those in need
- **Illinois Youth Center, Pere Marquette**—mentoring youth from this juvenile detention facility through on-site activities and programs on the College campus

SCHOOL

- **Relief efforts**—organizing supplies and fundraising drives for those affected by disasters; this year, for example, for families in Texas and Puerto Rico
- **Upper School Prin Giving Days**—visiting animal shelters, food banks, the Museum of Transportation, and other locations to undertake cleanup, care, and other needed activities
- **Dorm-sponsored community service**—providing a range of support at Christian Science care facilities and homeless shelters as well as on campus
- **Lower School projects**—choosing an organization to support through on-site visits, fundraising, or making gifts and cards



An upper schooler helps out at an animal shelter on a Prin Giving Day.

At the Upper School, the practice of Prin Giving Days continues. In addition, administrators are designing a more comprehensive community service program that will provide opportunities for service all year long.

The desire to give back through volunteering also extends to alumni, who are actively engaged as class agents and members or leaders of 53 Principia Clubs around the country, along with one each in Canada and England. The giving ethos is not just limited to Principia issues or causes. April 2018 marked Principia's third annual Global Days of Service campaign. More than 1,600 alumni and friends on three continents have volunteered almost 7,000 hours of service to 120 organizations through this initiative.

Coming Full Circle

It could be said that initiative in general—making the decision to love and give and follow through—has characterized Principia philanthropy from Day One.

Because of both individual and collective initiative, Principia has grown and thrived for 120 years. And because of Principia, generations of students have flourished, growing as contributing citizens, spiritual thinkers, and lovers of humanity—as philanthropists in word and in deed.

The circle of giving continues to inspire generations of grateful students and alumni. Every brick in each building and every book on each shelf is possible because of this generous circle of love and gratitude. ■

Graduating Class Gifts

It is a long-standing tradition that the senior classes on both campuses engage in targeted fundraising and contribute a gift toward a needed item or activity at the School or College. Below are some of the gifts students have made to Principia in recent years.

CLASS YEAR	UPPER SCHOOL	COLLEGE
2014	Funds to support new stage curtains for Ridgway Auditorium	Fire pit on the Pub patio
2015	Starting a fund to help children of faculty and staff attend Principia's Early Learning Center	Three swings (two on the bluff trail, one near the Concourse)
2016	Funds in support of the renovation of the School Performing Arts Center	Solar umbrellas with charging stations on the Pub patio
2017	Funds to support completion of the Performing Arts Center renovation	A mini Pub renovation, including a water bottle-filling station, charging outlets, and new furniture
2018	Funds to help renovate a dedicated Bible Studies classroom	Two water bottle-filling stations



2005



More than 900 donors support the School's Jack Eyerly Track and John Jamerson Stadium.

2006



The Annenberg Foundation endows a \$1 million Visiting Scholars program at the College.

2013–2019



The parents of two School alums fund extensive renovations and facility upgrades at the School.



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THROUGH RESEARCH, COLLEGE STUDENTS GET TO KNOW ANOTHER CULTURE

by Heather Shotwell

No matter the activities involved—trekking in Nepal, painting in Greece, rehearsing at Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre in England—students consistently describe Principia abroad programs as transformative. Homestays (living with a local family) add another dimension of authenticity. And individual research projects deepen learning even more. In fact, conducting field research often leads to some of the most meaningful connections students make with the local people.

Led by Dr. Scott Eckert (C’79) and Dr. Cecily Lee (US’69, C’73), the fall 2017 Peru Abroad, “Nature and Culture in Sync,” was no exception. Students traveled the length and

breadth of this multicultural country, communicating with local people across levels of society. Nowhere was this more important than in their research projects, which examined water management, adoption practices, tourism, and more.

In-country study started in the urban setting of Lima, where students learned that Peru is home to the oldest civilization in the Americas, dating back 5,000 years. The group then traveled the entire coast of Peru, exploring its wide-ranging ecosystems from desert to lush tropics. Along their coastal journey, they studied both terrestrial and marine life. Once in Cusco, high in the Andes Mountains, students zeroed in on their research projects. Many of their homestay families >>

shared insights on the topics, as did the teachers at Academia Latinoamericana, where students took Spanish classes each morning. “Instructors offered names of relatives and acquaintances with professional experience or knowledge on research topics, serving as a remarkable resource for understanding Peruvian culture, specifically in Cusco,” Lee explains.

Students’ homestays fed into their research in indirect ways as well. Preparing meals with their host families and attending local festivals and events provided cultural context for their research, even revealing how people solve problems on a range of issues—family, workplace, economy, environment, and modern society as a whole.

Research interviews were conducted in Spanish, with majors and minors assisting beginning Spanish students by translating for them during the interviews and helping them understand the recorded responses. “The focus was to learn how to interview in an ethical, professional, and culturally appropriate manner in a second language,” Lee notes. “While some students were initially intimidated, they gained confidence and all successfully completed their projects.”



A homestay host with Belle Abbott (C'18, left) and Emily Hewitt (C'19) at Lake Titicaca



Ian Armesy (C'19, left) and Timon Keller (C'18) in the lead on a trek in the Andes



Collecting Adoption Stories

Sophomore Emily Staunton had a keen interest in learning about the well-being of children, particularly those awaiting adoption. “Blood ties are very important in Peru, so there isn’t a general culture of adoption,” she says. “Though we saw a lot of street children who do what they can to get by, clear messages of hope were offered by individuals I interviewed. For example, my homestay mom shared her family’s story of adopting her younger brother. And an adoption lawyer explained the complex process governed by El Ministerio de la Mujer y Poblaciones Vulnerables (the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations).”

An adoptee herself from Russia, Emily was especially interested in learning about international adoptions administered through the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption.

Emily also visited an orphanage, interviewing the resident “mom,” who helped a young father navigate a particularly challenging process in the courts. In particular, Emily was heartened by his efforts to adopt two older children, who are often overlooked in favor of younger kids. “In fact, we were still in Cusco when I heard the exciting news that the process was successfully completed,” she says.



Emily Staunton (C'20) at an afterschool program for at-risk children

Looking at adoption from these different angles prepared Emily for her research paper and presentation, given entirely in Spanish. “It was inspiring to see evidence of change happening,” Emily notes. “I’m not trying to paint a rosy picture, but what stood out to me was the commitment of individuals against the backdrop of limited resources and

closed-mindedness toward adoption.” (At one point, the abroad group even contributed indirectly by staying at Niños Hotel, where the proceeds go to support street children.)

Afro-Peruvians—Then and Now



Serkie Carper (US'13, C'18) with her new friend (and interviewee) Marcos

Senior Serkie Carper researched the current situation of Afro-Peruvians (also known as Afro-descent Peruvians) in Cusco. Descendants of African slaves who were brought to the country toward the end of the slave trade, most Afro-Peruvians live in the central and southern coastal regions. Serkie located a coffee shop owner in the Magisterio section of Cusco who welcomed her into his home and willingly shared his story. “Hearing about his family history was fascinating—and one of the most incredible things I experienced in Peru,” Serkie says. “As our time in Cusco came to an end, Marco was one of the hardest goodbyes for me.”

While in Lima, two Afro-Peruvian women who are experts in architecture and history guided the group through the city’s many significant sites. “They work hard to be ambassadors in the city,” Serkie comments. “While I was interviewing them afterward, they explained how the history of slavery still affects modern-day people and society. There’s still a great deal of segregation. And Afro-Peruvians were not the only cultural group to suffer at the hands of the colonial Spaniards—ethnic groups in mountainous regions were affected as well.”

Serkie clearly valued interacting with these individuals. “Through the research projects,” she comments, “our group learned a great deal about communication, competence, and community. My time in Peru taught me that as global >>

citizens, we must consciously look beyond the obvious and meet people of different ethnic backgrounds, religions, and genders halfway. It is important to see and treat people as we would like to be seen and treated.”

Research beyond the Abroad

Seniors Bess Bookout and Truett Sparkman stayed in Peru after the abroad to work with Dr. Shaleyla Kelez, a Peruvian and leading expert on aquatic censuses, fisheries, and marine protected areas (and one of Eckert’s former students at Duke University).

Kelez, who founded EcOceánica, an NGO dedicated to the conservation of marine ecosystems of the eastern Pacific, helped lead sections of the biology coursework for the entire group, including a sea turtle research project on the ecological impact of “swim with a turtle” and other tourist activities.



Students measuring and tagging sea turtles

After the abroad, Bess and Truett collaborated with Kelez and other EcOceánica scientists who are building a database of whale sharks. “Working in waters where the whale sharks were feeding, we collected tissue samples, measured the dimensions of their dorsal fins, identified gender and unique markings, and tagged them with satellite trackers shot from a spear gun,” Bess explains. “We managed to tag five sharks—the first ones tagged in Peruvian waters!”

Truett notes that the animal is unharmed by this process: “This is a scientifically agreed-upon method, and we learned that

Dr. Eckert designed one of the first prototypes for the satellite trackers used on whale sharks today. We swam alongside the approximately nine to 24-foot juveniles while taking photos and video with a GoPro camera. In all, we collected information on about 50 sharks. Later, we ran the pictures through photo recognition software and added all data into a database. The project was very challenging, but even more fun!”



Seniors Bess Bookout and Truett Sparkman doing research for EcOceánica

This experience turned out to be a key résumé builder for Bess and Truett. “This opportunity was among the many I’ve had at Principia to prepare me for an internship at the Prairie Research Institute after graduation,” Bess says. “I’ll certainly apply the hard skills I developed, along with the soft skills of being able to travel and work with a team for an extended period of time.”

Bess and Truett also interviewed local fishermen about shark and ray by-catch in the local fishery. “The goal is to encourage sustainable practices while ensuring conservation of threatened and endangered species,” Truett explains. “And we gained valuable insight into coastal communities’ economic dependence on artisanal fishing.”

As happens with all abroad programs once they’re back on campus, the group shared what they learned in a video and slide presentation in Wanamaker Hall. They emphasized the abroad’s dual focus on nature and culture and the deep connections they made between the two. Lest that sound too tidy, however, Emily pointed out, “It’s simply impossible to fully summarize what the abroad meant to us!” 📌



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TAKING THE THEATRE ARTS TO NEW HEIGHTS

by Armin Sethna



FROM WRITING, DIRECTING, AND PUBLISHING THEIR OWN PLAYS TO TRAINING WITH SEASONED ACTORS AT THE GLOBE THEATRE IN LONDON, theatre arts students at Principia participate in a wide range of learning opportunities. In particular, the preprofessional experiences they are gaining—including interactions with and instruction from industry professionals—place students in a strong position as they move into careers or further study in the field.

A STRONG START IN UPPER SCHOOL

“Everything our students do in class is an authentic experience that they can add to their résumés,” Upper School theatre arts teacher Liesl Ehmke (C’89) explains. “This business is highly competitive, and I want our students to have the knowledge and skills needed to pursue their goals.”

When she first began teaching at Principia 10 years ago, Ehmke had her students write and perform original monologues. “This was empowering for them, as they experienced firsthand the joys of hearing a live audience react to their performance and to the words they had crafted,” says Ehmke, who has had several of her own plays published, performed, and read at festivals and theatres across the country. Currently completing her MFA in playwriting, she’s incorporated activities and contacts from her graduate experience to enrich the Upper School program.

For the last three years, Ehmke has “commissioned” her students to co-write original scenes for anthologized plays—and that’s just the beginning! “Another aspect is for each of us to be cast in several roles,” explains Liam Frager (US’18), “as well as directing one scene, dramaturging another, and making decisions on the costuming for yet another.” Dafne Muñoz (US’19) adds, “We were required to submit our plays to a professional dramaturg to receive feedback.”

Noah Fredrickson (US’18, pictured on next page) will pursue a major in theatre education at Belmont University this fall. His mother, Tori, notes how impressed the interviewers and chair of Belmont’s Theatre Department were with Noah’s excellent preparation, range of audition material, and breadth of experience with all facets of theatre—acting, directing, scriptwriting, and critiquing, as well as sound, lighting, and sets.

This past spring, the upper schoolers’ anthologies from 2015–2017 were published in two collections on playstoorder.com. One of the collections included a piece by current College sophomore Michael Coburn (US’16), who discovered his love of theatre and playwriting in Ehmke’s classes.

COLLEGE OPPORTUNITIES AND CAREER READINESS

At both the School and College, Coburn has been thrilled with what he calls the “remarkable preprofessional experiences.” Getting the play he wrote in Upper School published, Coburn says, “means I can join the Dramatists Guild of America before I’m even in my 20s.” And earlier this year, he traveled with College peers to the regional 2018 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival in Indianapolis, where *Gone Fishing*, another of his original plays, was selected as one of only four student works (out of 45 submissions) for a staged reading and professional workshop session. >>



WE ARE SEEING STUDENTS INCREASINGLY COMMITTED TO USING THE ARTS TO BLESS AND CHANGE THE WORLD.

—JOHN O'HAGAN, COLLEGE PROFESSOR

"We're making sure our students are well prepared to go out into the professional market as theatre artists," says Chrissy Calkins Steele, an associate professor of theatre at the College. She and colleague John O'Hagan, who both hold MFA degrees, have long worked as actors, producers, and directors in professional theatre, bringing valuable real-world experience to their instruction. The combination of professionally active professors, visiting guest artists, study abroads, internships, and specialized audition and business courses for upperclassmen, Steele says, "provides excellent training, as well as helpful professional contacts."

That certainly proved true for Weston Williams (C'15), who works in theatre in Chicago, as do half a dozen other recent College graduates. "My first theatre-related job after graduation came from one of the visiting artists [brought in by the Theatre Department], and now I'm working with her on a second project as well!" he says. In addition, he observes, "At Prin, I was encouraged to help out with productions in a number of different ways. Having a diverse palette of skills is extremely helpful in the competitive theatrical world."

Along with working on campus productions, current students are developing those diverse skills through a

partnership with Bankside Repertory Company in Alton. Participating as actors, stage managers, and assistant directors, they are earning points that count toward membership eligibility in Actors' Equity, the largest industry association.

DELVING INTO THEATRE'S TRANSFORMATIVE POTENTIAL

While students hone their professional and personal skills, O'Hagan says, "we are also seeing them increasingly committed to using the arts to bless and change the world."

The most recent England Abroad in fall 2017 is an excellent example of grappling with difficult social issues and engaging others in doing so. On that program, students participated in an intensive two-week workshop at London's famed Globe Theatre and conducted research at the British Library and in Stratford-upon-Avon, William Shakespeare's birthplace.

After returning to campus, they staged *The Merchant of Venice*, a play permeated by themes of anti-Semitism, prejudice, and injustice, and provided opportunities for discussion and reflection about these issues in the following ways:

- On opening day, religion professor Dr. Gretchen Starr-LeBeau gave a talk placing the play in historical context and giving an overview of anti-Semitism across the ages.
- Sociology professor Dr. Billy Miller (C'72) led a discussion with the audience after each performance.
- In addition, students prepared a lobby display to share their in-depth research and reflections.

As Steele puts it, "Theatre should challenge an audience, encouraging them to think more deeply about what they see and be more empathetic."

Next year, the department will once again offer a Theatre for Social Change class—building on the positive response to the spring 2016 class with workshops led by visiting Annenberg Scholar Caroline Watson. For Tim Steckler (C'18), a

Noah Fredrickson (US'18) playing Santa in a performance of upper schoolers' original 2017 plays





College students at Shakespeare's Globe in London, where they participated in workshops and attended performances

theatre minor, that experience was a turning point. The class, he says, “lit a fire underneath me.” He pursued independent research in the Middle East on the impact of the arts on the well-being of Syrian refugees and later interned with Watson, helping deliver workshops for refugee youth in Germany, Jordan, and the United States.

As a result, Steckler says, “I was accepted into a few graduate schools and will be attending Harvard University’s Graduate School of Education, where I plan to mesh theatre as a humanitarian tool with international policy.”

PROMOTING COMMUNITY AND COLLABORATION

Ultimately, what seems to set Principia’s theatre programs apart is the instructors—their emphasis on spiritually rooted collaboration and interpersonal communication and their willingness to go the extra mile.

“Art takes humility, a quality which is not taught in many schools,” notes Williams, the Chicago-based actor. “The lack of ego in the process of creation was something that the Theatre Department emphasized when I was there.” Plus, he says, “The professors are willing to move heaven and earth to make sure you get what you need if you ask—more opportunities to perform, direct, write, and learn. That extra attention continues to make a huge difference to me, both as a theatre artist and as a human being.”

At the Upper School, as parent Tori Fredrickson notes, Ehmke “treats her students with great respect and love and has helped create an atmosphere that supports creativity and collaboration.”

This atmosphere has consistently impressed Taylor Gruenloh, artistic director of St. Louis’s Tesseract Theatre, who frequently visits Upper School classes and student performances—offering acting tips and critiques, putting students through a realistic audition process, and providing feedback on play-writing.

In a note to students after a recent Spring Production, Gruenloh praised their level of collaboration. “When a group of individuals get together to produce a story on stage, it becomes apparent how much respect each person has toward another,” he wrote. “If there is any animosity from one actor toward another, that tiny crack will become visible to an audience. . . . I cannot overstate the level of communal solidarity you all present. You guys set the bar. And you set it high.”

But perhaps that’s not surprising, given Principia’s spiritual foundation. As Steele says, “There is a metaphysical underpinning to all we do. We have a strong commitment to being artists who are also Christian Scientists.” ■

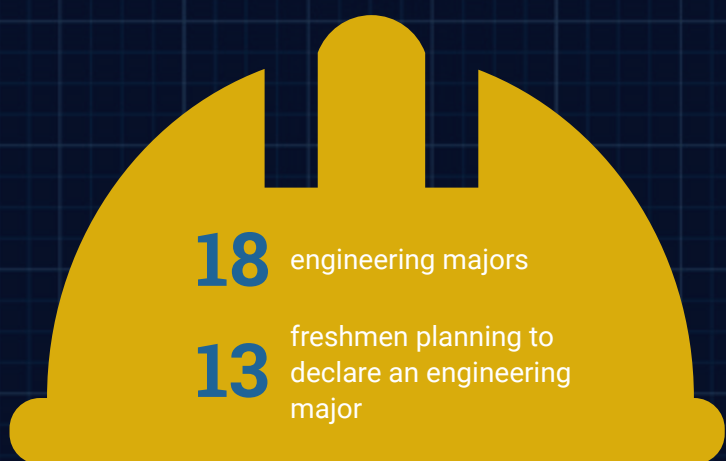
ENGINEERING PROG

Principia College has had a dual-degree engineering program for decades, but students had to transfer to a university for their last two years of training. That changed in 2015, with the inception of an on-campus dual-degree engineering program. Enrollment has grown steadily, and the first students to complete the program will graduate in 2019.

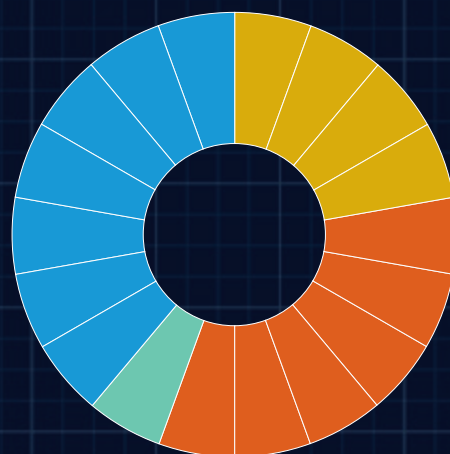
This five-year program, offered in partnership with the University of North Dakota (UND), combines all the advantages of the Principia College experience—a well-rounded, liberal arts education, wide-ranging co-curricular opportunities, and a Christian Science environment—with an ABET-accredited engineering degree from UND and an engineering science degree from Principia.

Enjoy this overview of the Engineering Program, and see how students are making their mark—on campus and off.

BY THE NUMBERS



STUDENTS BY ENGINEERING DISCIPLINE



MAJORS BY CLASS YEAR



- Chemical
- Civil
- Electrical
- Mechanical

* A petroleum discipline is also available.

PROGRAM IN FULL SWING

CHEMICAL ENGINEERING



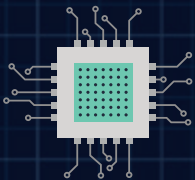
64% taught at Principia
36% taught at UND

CIVIL ENGINEERING



62% taught at Principia
38% taught at UND

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING



63% taught at Principia
37% taught at UND

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING



70% taught at Principia
30% taught at UND

PETROLEUM ENGINEERING



60% taught at Principia
40% taught at UND



A SAMPLING OF STUDENTS' CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

Mediation team	Resident Assistants
Public Affairs Conference	Student government
Sports teams	Solar car team
Christian Science	
Organization Readers	



A SAMPLING OF STUDENTS' INTERSHIPS

Brinkmann Constructors, St. Louis, MO
Schwartz Performance, Woodstock, IL
Fuog Interbuild, Purcellville, VA
NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, CA
Holder Construction, Washington, DC
Continental Automotive Systems, Deerfield, IL



A SAMPLING OF STUDENTS' SECOND MAJORS AND MINORS

Economics	Physics
Educational Studies	Sustainability
Religion	

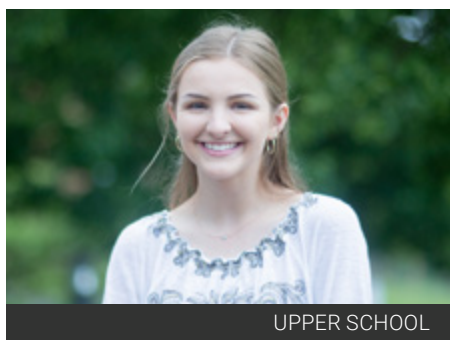


A SAMPLING OF STUDENTS' PROJECTS

Bridge models
Underwater autonomous vehicles
Walking dinosaurs
Tennis ball thrower (semi-robotic)
Trebuchet
Combustion engine
Hoverboard
3D-printed drawbridge models, cranes, bubble blower, and cars

Meet a Few of This Year's Graduates

by Armin Sethna, Trudy Palmer, and Heather Shotwell



Juliet Beck

Pursuing a Variety of Opportunities

Despite never having visited Principia, Juliet Beck knew deep down that she would benefit from being among other young Christian Scientists. So, she moved halfway across the country at the start of her sophomore year to board at the Upper School. “When I arrived, the first thing I noticed was that you’re able to do so many things and get to know everyone,” Juliet says, “and I started to love those connections.”

Her positive experiences encouraged her family to move to St. Louis the following year so that her younger brother could also attend Principia. But deeply immersed in School life by then, Juliet elected to stay in the dorm and enjoy weekend visits with her family.

Academic options, friendships, dorm leadership opportunities, multiple experiential trips, and discovering a love of the theatre arts are among Juliet’s

many Upper School highlights. Serving on the Girls’ Dorm Core leadership team her senior year “was a way to give back and support all the girls in the dorm,” Juliet says. In addition, she wrote, directed, acted in, and produced a number of student plays; won third place in the St. Louis branch of the ESU Shakespeare National Competition; and served as student assistant director for this year’s Spring Production and Shakespeare in the Spring performances.

All her varied Upper School activities tied into what Juliet describes as one of the most important aspects of her time here—the chance to deepen her practice of Christian Science. Along with dorm activities (such as Bible Lesson reading and metaphysical discussions), interactions with teachers and peers, and a series of Bible classes, Juliet was among the students who traveled to Israel last year and Greece this year to study the Old Testament and the journeys of the Apostle Paul. “These experiences have completely changed my view of Christian Science and my understanding of it as a Bible-based religion,” Juliet explains.

Having graduated cum laude and won School awards for communications and drama, Juliet is headed to Principia College, where she plans to combine her interests in religion and Spanish, while staying involved in theatre arts.



Woody Walters

Scaling Heights Literally and Academically

Transferring from a St. Louis-area public school to Principia in sixth grade, Woody Walters pursued a variety of challenges in academics, athletics, and leadership. A self-described “math and science guy,” he completed all the Advanced Placement courses offered at the Upper School and took the two science courses that qualify for college credit. For one of those courses, Woody traveled to the Teton Science Schools in Wyoming, a highlight of his senior year. Graduating with cum laude honors, he also won the School’s mathematics award.

Woody played varsity soccer throughout Upper School—which included winning the State Championship his sophomore year—and he served as team captain his senior year. Asked about spiritual growth, Woody ranks soccer at the top of his list for strengthening his practice of Christian Science.



Along with leading the soccer team, Woody was captain of Hubble House this year, which included working to establish the new house program on firm footing. Increased confidence is Woody's biggest takeaway from his leadership roles. "I'm more confident in front of crowds and feel comfortable speaking in public," he says.

When it's not soccer season, Woody focuses his athletic pursuits on indoor rock climbing. He competes nationally as a member of the St. Louis-area Climb So iLL youth team and designs climbing courses according to a certain focus (strength or technical ability, for example) or a specific degree of difficulty. He recently won Climb So iLL's dynamic movement competition, a style of climbing that requires jumping through the air to reach holds.

Woody is a strong supporter of the School's Outward Bound character trips. Along with appreciating being in nature, he finds them "a good way to bond with your crewmates and get outside of your comfort zone."

Interested in a small college with a strong science program and good climbing opportunities, Woody visited Whitman College and immediately felt at home. He'll begin there in the fall, with plans to study chemistry and pursue the outdoor climbing challenges that abound in Washington State.



UPPER SCHOOL

Emily Anastos

Appreciating—and Meeting—High Expectations

Emily never planned to go to Principia. In fact, she attended a Middle School Visiting Weekend simply to see friends she'd made at camp. Once on campus, though, she was hooked. She ended up boarding at the Upper School her freshman and sophomore years and attending as a day student the next two years, after her family moved to St. Louis.

Leadership has been a hallmark of Emily's experience. She served all four years on Chapel Committee and was captain of Flint House her senior year, leading several big house-sponsored events and spurring her house on to win points in four key categories: spirit, competition, academics, and community service.

Committed to taking advantage of the opportunities available to her, Emily was on the tennis team for three years and the track team for two. She also went on the Simunye service trip to South Africa this past year. "It was

amazing to see how the children welcomed us with so much love," she comments. "But the best part was helping to make communities more sustainable"—by teaching the children a new way of gardening that they can, in turn, share with their families and communities.

Throughout her Upper School years, Emily has taken numerous honors, Advanced Placement (AP), and college-credit courses. She enjoys school as much for the teachers as the subjects, she says. For example, writing isn't her favorite activity, but she loved her AP English Language and Composition class because of the way her teacher, Nancy Heimerl, pushed the group to think critically. "We talked about real-time events as they were happening, and she asked us a lot of open-ended questions that forced us to think," Emily explains.

Asked what stands out to her about Principia, Emily says, "The community is amazing! Principia has a huge number of people who are lifting each other up. It's an atmosphere where everyone expects your best—and helps you get there."

In the fall, Emily will begin at the University of Richmond, where after her freshman year, she plans to apply to the university's Jepson Leadership School. >>



COLLEGE

Tim Steckler

Determined to Make a Difference

As co-director of the International Perspectives Conference on breaking stereotypes, president of Principia's chapter of the Euphrates Institute, and an intern working with refugees in France, Germany, Jordan, and the U.S., Tim Steckler was determined to make a difference even before graduating.

A political science major with minors in theatre and Asian studies, Tim notes, "My classes and experiences truly gave me a global view. I'm so grateful for the liberal arts education I received."

Fall of his junior year, Tim traveled to Jordan and Morocco for a program with the School of International Training, studying humanitarian issues, learning Arabic, and researching the role of the arts in the lives of Syrian refugees. His research built on what he'd learned in his Theatre for Social Change class at Principia, especially in workshops led by Annenberg Scholar

Caroline Watson. Working with Alton High School students, the class helped develop a play exploring issues facing the community (family dysfunction, drug use, etc.) and how to solve them.

The transformative potential of theatre piqued Tim's interest, guided his studies overseas, and led to his acceptance this fall in the International Educational Policy program at Harvard Graduate School of Education. "I've seen the impact refugees have when they're given a voice, and the program allows me to further explore these topics," he says. "My long-term goal is to work in an international organization where I can implement arts programs for refugees."

While prioritizing academics—and graduating with honors—Tim also played rugby for two years, which, he says, "taught me the value of team." And he served as a Christian Science Organization Reader. "I grew so much metaphysically as I put together readings to address campus needs," he says.

Tim played saxophone and clarinet at the College and traveled on two Principia Arts on Tour programs. He also loved getting into character for theatre productions—as a disciple in *Godspell* and an officer in *Our Country's Good*.

"I love the diversity on campus," Tim adds, "and made friends from all over the world."



COLLEGE

Amanda Breneman

Depth, Breadth, and Good Friends

When Amanda Breneman visited Principia on the advice of a family friend, she loved the atmosphere. "I'm the first in my family to attend and am so grateful for my experience," she says.

Graduating with honors, Amanda earned a BS in computer science. A favorite class was hardware architecture, where she led a team project. "At one point, our group got stuck on a difficult problem," she says. "We paused to address the issue metaphysically, and there was an explosion of cheers when we got it to work! This experience, among others that took place in the hardware lab, made me appreciate my computer science 'family'—the classmates I graduated with. And it's an example of how I strengthened my practice of Christian Science here."

In the fall, Amanda went to the Grace Hopper Conference for Women in Computing in Orlando, Florida, along

with other Principia women majoring in computer science and engineering. She attended sessions on topics ranging from breaking through the glass ceiling to the latest electronic devices. But her biggest takeaway was a job. “I went with the goal of finding a job for after graduation,” she explains, “and after spending a lot of time at the career fair and interviewing with companies, I’m grateful to say I ended up with a couple of offers to choose from.” This summer, she will begin work as an IT project management analyst at Dell company headquarters in Austin, Texas.

While diving deep into computer science, Amanda also enjoyed a well-rounded education. “Taking classes in religion and other disciplines added to my academic experience,” she comments. She also played lacrosse, ran track, and served on her house board. Her sophomore year, Amanda traveled on the Music in Europe Abroad. “The opportunity to see performances in Vienna, Prague, and Paris was simply amazing,” she says.

Back on campus, Amanda found multiple opportunities to perform—including the choir and Plus One a cappella group—and she also studied organ and voice. Throughout her classes and activities, Amanda built strong connections. “I’ve made wonderful friends here and know I’ll keep in touch with them,” she comments.



Jeff Lewis

From Roof Gardens to Ultimate Frisbee

A business major with a sustainability minor, Jeff successfully merged his diverse interests. After placing in the top three at an innovation challenge, he used part of the award money to build a roof garden above Old Watson in the Science Center. “Roof gardens are the next big thing in cities, and now our campus is a part of a nationwide movement,” he says. “This is my top example of how Principia presented me with tools to support my goals.”


Jeff also pursued his dual interests in business and sustainability through his senior capstone—an analysis of a wind systems company, focusing on how the firm’s structure affects its profitability. At graduation, he was recognized with a business award as well as membership in Phi Alpha Eta, the College’s honor society.

Jeff will start as a risk and financial advisory consultant with Deloitte in

Denver in the fall. “I’m excited to leverage my understanding of business principles while working with companies in a range of industries,” he says. He will continue to pursue his interest in sustainability through pro bono consulting for a commercial hydroponic farming company.

Traveling on the Music in Europe Abroad was a highlight of sophomore year. “We saw and heard incredible opera, symphony, and ballet performances, sometimes in the very places they were originally performed,” he says. “We heard Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony in Vienna, for example!”

Jeff also enjoyed playing in the College’s orchestra and jazz band. “I started playing trumpet in the fifth grade,” he explains, “and it meant a lot to me to continue through college.” Jeff also represented the College on two arts tours, performing for Principia Club audiences on both coasts.

Playing with the Ultimate Frisbee club provided both a physical and social outlet for Jeff, who served as the club’s president. He also served on the Christian Science Organization Board as music chair, was Ferguson House president and co-president of the Sustainability Club, and worked as a teaching assistant in financial accounting classes. “I’ve had a very full experience and truly value that balance,” he adds. 

ALUMNI NEWS



Hello!

I had the great privilege of attending the USA Rugby College 7s National Championships in Denver in late May. What a scene! Hundreds of college-aged men pushing, passing, tackling, winning, and losing. Principia was in the thick of it. Having qualified for the fifth year in a row—an unprecedented accomplishment—the Principia Thunder Chickens displayed courage, grit, and grace on the field, placing 5th overall in the nation in Division II.

But what I really noticed was the support they received from alumni, parents, and friends. Principia was the only school present with a hospitality tent. Our fan base was arguably bigger than any other, despite our student body being arguably smaller than any other!

To me, this speaks to the unique fellowship and appreciation among Principians. You see it in myriad ways: from attendance at sporting events to the wildly successful Arts on Tour—five cities in four days with over 400 attendees—to this summer's College Reunion, where nearly 800 Principians and friends will be coming together to reconnect and celebrate.

In the coming year, Principia will be making a concerted effort to connect with *all* alumni. No matter where you are in life, no matter where you are on your spiritual journey, no matter what—Principia is your alma mater, and you are part of this legacy.

Principia today—both School and College—is as forward-looking as it has ever been. We are actively exploring and implementing ways to provide an excellent education for the mid-21st century and to do it within the context of a thriving, relevant, and authentic Christian Science community. What could possibly be more exciting?!

Barbara Blackwell
Vice President of Advancement

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Members of the Alumni Association Board are regional volunteers for Principia who serve for three years, representing the interests of Principia's alumni around the world.



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(C'72)
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Williams
Goleta, CA



Paige Cooley (C'19)
Student
Representative



Marjorie (Day, US'38) Hamlin (left) and Joan (Greenberger, US'38, C'42) MacIntire in Florida, celebrating their 80th Upper School reunion. See US'38.

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Marjorie (Day) Hamlin and **Joan (Greenberger, also C'42) MacIntire** enjoyed their own 80th Upper School Reunion in Florida this past November. Joan had planned to attend the September 2017 Reunion on the School campus, but she couldn't travel due to Hurricane Irma. Margie did attend that Reunion, where she was recognized at the parade of class banners during the Friday night football game. Margie and Joan, who graduated from the Page and Belt campus, have now had two reunions in Florida with their daughters **Priscilla (Hamlin, US'67) Ford** and **Elizabeth MacIntire (US'63)**. *See photo.*

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Nancy (Garner, also C'77) Beauchamp recently published a book entitled *Heartfelt: A Compilation of Poems Written by Mary Baker Glover Eddy*. She compiled as many poems as she could collect from across Mrs. Eddy's lifetime.



Friends in front of the home in Amesbury, MA, where Mrs. Eddy rented a room, from left: Tug Miller (C'68), Donna Petress-Miller, Beverly Luttrell, and Larry Luttrell (US'56). See C'56.

It is available on Amazon and at [facebook.com/mbgepoems](https://www.facebook.com/mbgepoems). Nancy currently lives in Winnsboro, TX, and teaches art.

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This past fall, Florida residents **Larry Luttrell** and his wife, Beverly, and **Tug Miller (C'68)** and his wife, Donna, enjoyed the Longyear tour of Mrs. Eddy's homes in New England. Larry wrote: "Never have any of us had such an increased appreciation for our dear Leader as this tour afforded. The picture (see above) was taken at the Amesbury House [where Mrs. Eddy rented a room]. The house was originally owned by a milliner, and when Mrs. Longyear purchased the house, it still had hats in it that we all got to try on." Larry noted how nice it was to be with Principians and added, "We all recommend this tour!"

>>



Frisbee, Anyone?

Help the Principia Archives document decades' worth of Frisbees flying around campus! We're currently seeking photos—and actual Principia Frisbees—for a future exhibit. To make a donation, please contact Archivist Melody Hauf-Belden at archivist@principia.edu.

Learn more about Principia's archives: principia.edu/archives.

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Bob Boone was featured recently on the cover of *Canyon Lakes Living* (at right). He sent this news to catch up classmates: “I was one of those ‘Wes-ties.’ That’s where I met my wife, **Marne** [**Marjorie Giesecke**], who transferred to the College her junior year. I grabbed her up real quick, and we had a wonderful 50-year marriage. Our three daughters—**Debbie** (**Boone**, C’81) **Bermel**, **Lori** (**Boone**, C’83) **Reighart**, and **Chris Boone** (C’85)—are all Principia College graduates. We have six grandchildren, two of whom attended the College. Although I received a geology degree, I never worked a day in that field. Instead, I developed my own business as a manufacturers’ representative, selling decorative fabrics and wall coverings to interior designers. That was fun! I’ve lived in Chagrin Falls, OH, most of my life.

“For the past 25 years, I’ve also been very busy writing rhyming poetry. Most of my poems are topical in nature. Last year, I published a 129-page book in rhyme titled *From Mountains High to Rivers Grand, A Saga* (see above, right). Much of the setting takes place along the limestone bluffs of the Mississippi River, just upstream from Alton, Illinois. This work of historical fiction starts in the early 1800s and extends through the Civil War. Two young men—one is white and the other, part Cherokee—join forces and go west to trap beaver. During this period, they became involved in the Underground Railroad, helping to move slaves northward.

For info about purchasing a copy of the book, feel free to email me at

robertcourtneyboone@gmail.com.

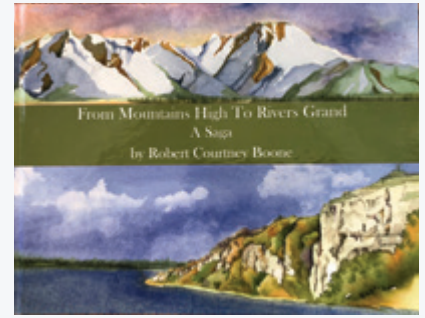
Would love to connect with any alumni!”

65

Bill Sharp sent this news: “After living part time in St. Louis, St. Croix, Chicago, and New York City, I permanently returned to my home in Indianapolis 25 years ago. Since retiring in 2014, I have been volunteering for various charities and revisiting some favorite places on six continents, occasionally adding a new country . . . now up to 124. I enjoyed Easter [2017] in Rome, Thanksgiving in Australia, and visits with my brother’s family in Hawaii. Last year I saw fellow Prin abroaders **Deanie** (**Miller**) **Dorwart**, **Barry** (C’66) and **Deborah** (**Garrison**) **Russell**, fellow Eastie **Dave Huycke** and his wife, Donna, and **Stan Williams** and his wife, Joan. As always, I’m looking forward to reunion in Elsah. Eternally grateful for my years at Principia and many enduring friendships.



Photo by Palmieri's Photography



Left: Bob Boone (C’56) on the cover of the magazine published by the Canyon Lakes community in Ohio, where he lives

Above: The cover of Bob Boone’s book. See C’56.

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In October, **Don Ledbetter**, **Tim Glass**, **John Glen** (FS’96), and Rusty Signor went on an adventure. John wrote: “Longtime friends and former horse wranglers from the Adventure Unlimited ranches in Buena Vista, CO, spent five days in the saddle exploring the bucolic and beguiling countryside near Tombstone, AZ, where the famous gunfight at the O.K. Corral took place.” Touring with Great American Adventures, they followed Wyatt Earp’s so-called “vendetta ride,” when he tracked down and executed those he believed had murdered one of his brothers and injured another. “Although a little stiff after the first day, all agreed it was a great experience,” John added.

When not adventuring, Tim works as a land and commercial real estate appraiser in Tulsa, OK; Don is an attorney in Dallas, TX; John is retired and living in Maui, HI; and Rusty is a general contractor in Austin, TX. See photo.



Longtime friends on a five-day horseback trip, from left: Tim Glass (C'69), Don Ledbetter (C'69), John Glen (FS'96), and Rusty Signor. See C'69.



Alumni at a Watershed Management Group Lunch & Learn workshop, from left: Catlow Shipek (C'00), Conn Huffaker (US'70), Shari (Brookens, C'78) Huffaker, Peter Larmer, Lisa (Thompson, US'97, C'02) Shipek, Dawn (Leonard, US'49, C'53) Larmer. See C'78.

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Ed Wright Jr. has co-authored a book for social studies teachers entitled *The Hot 100+ Song Activities: How to Teach Social Studies Using Music*. The book contains over 250 songs and 70 lesson plans for using the songs to teach various lessons in world and American history, civics, world religions, and current events.

Ed and his co-author have been presenting workshops using the material at national and state social studies conferences for over 10 years. "Teachers and students love this resource, and we've been very happy with the reception," Ed wrote. The book is available online. *See photo.*



Ed Wright Jr. (C'71) with Judy Failoni, co-authors of a social studies resource book. See C'71.



Members of the College Class of 1973 at the Bible Roads Workshop on Revelation at Cedars Camps, from left: presenter Madelon Maupin, Helen Osterberg (also US'69), Doug Wood, Lynn (Byington) Wood, and Deborah (Thomas, also US'69) Warren.

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Shari (Brookens) Huffaker shared that Principia alumni attended a Lunch & Learn workshop at the Watershed Management Group in Tucson, AZ, on December 9, 2017. **Lisa (Thompson, US'97, C'02) Shipek** is a founding member of Watershed Management Group and has served as the executive director since 2006. **Catlow Shipek** (C'00), also a founding member of Watershed Management Group, is the policy and technical director. *See photo.*

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COLLEGE / 1988 AND ACORN ACROSS THE COUNTRY



Three generations of Sylvester House residents in one family, from left: Jeralyn "Jeri" (Prugh, C'55) Hosmer Lewitz, Kathryn (Hosmer, US'85, C'88) Thompson, and Maria Thompson (current College student). See C'88.



Cindy Lou Fischer at her December 2017 graduation from the University of North Carolina Wilmington, where she earned a doctor of education (EdD) degree in leadership in higher education.

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Kathryn (Hosmer, also US'85) Thompson shared that her mother, **Jeralyn "Jeri" (Prugh, C'55) Hosmer Lewitz**, her daughter, **Maria Thompson** (current College student), and Kathryn herself "all had the pleasure of being in Sylvester house!" Before and after her graduation, Kathryn enjoyed a number of special occasions in the Sylvester living room: a pinning ceremony, bridal shower, and baby shower. She added, "Jeri and **Charles Hosmer** (C'53) [my dad] were invited to hide outside the windows and watch my pinning ceremony in 1987 since they lived nearby—and they actually did!" 📺



Friends at the June 3, 2017, wedding of Laura (Tibbetts, C'15) and Bobby (C'16) Witney in Darien, CT. From left, front row: Markell "Muff" (Voight, C'64) Calvillo, Alan Steckler (US'70, C'74), Abbie Steckler (C'15), Bobby, Laura, Caroline Tibbetts, John Tibbetts (C'82), Lauren Littell (C'15), Toni (Rawlins, C'64) Worth, Judy (Pittman, US'45, C'49) Tibbetts, Mary (Shuff, C'54) Skala, and Heidi Snow (C'79). Middle row: Kelsy Brawn (C'15), Caroline Morales (C'17), Brandon O'Neil (C'16), Lizzie Witney, Julie (Carolson, C'84) Littell, Lucy Weber (C'15), Jeanie (Baxter, C'76) Tibbetts, Claire McLeland (C'13), Gail (Woods, C'74) Johnson, Cherie (Lyeth, US'61, C'65) Burton, and Steve Huebeck. Back row: Alfred "Al" Tibbetts (US'74, C'78), David Littell (C'83), Ricardo "Ric" Calvillo (US'58, C'62), Graham Littell, Parker Tibbetts (US'13, C'17), Josh Kenworthy, Oliver Simpson (C'13), Eric Pagett (C'12), Caleb King (C'80), Wes Bockley (C'76), Carl Tibbetts (US'72, C'76), Colby Bermel (C'16), Bruce Burton, and Martin Skala.

Principia's Acorn Program traveled this spring to Atlanta, Dallas, and Denver. In each city, alumni and friends and their children gathered for a playdate with Principia Acorn Director Dorothy Halverson (C'85).



Appreciation for Dr. Jonathan Palmer



Through a decade of leadership, Dr. Jonathan W. Palmer (C'78), who passed on peacefully at his St. Louis home in May, oversaw an era of substantial progress for Principia.

“For seven of his 10 years at Principia, Jonathan served as its most senior leader, under the titles of chief executive and later Principia president, while also serving as College president,” says Meridee Olsen (C'79), current chair of the Principia Board of Trustees. “His capacity to fulfill the demands of these dual roles, leading the institution forward while also advancing the College to new heights academically and programmatically, is a hallmark of his great talent.”

Coming to Principia in 2008 in the aftermath of institutional and global challenges, Jonathan brought deep and wide academic credentials—from working with management guru Peter Drucker to serving as an associate dean and tenured professor at the College of William & Mary, along with experience at Harvard Business School, the

University of Southern California, and the Helsinki School of Economics.

“He set about shoring up Principia’s academic foundations with snap intelligence, relentless vigor, well-anchored competence, and profound commitment to Principia’s ideals,” says Principia Chief Executive Marshall Ingwersen (C'79). “His leadership had the unifying effect of helping Principia back onto its feet, brushing off its trousers, and setting it on a clear path to progress.”

Jonathan made deep and lasting personal connections with many students who felt and appreciated his support. He and his wife, Sue, hosted countless events at Hutchinson House with great grace, engagement, and care for each guest. Visiting speakers unfailingly left campus feeling the warmth and welcome of the Palmers and of Principia.

Here are some of the significant benchmarks of the Palmer era at Principia:

- Increased national recognition for the value of a Principia education
- Establishment of an institution-wide strategic plan
- Increasing the percentage of College faculty with terminal degrees from 48 percent to 67 percent
- Reaffirmation of accreditation of the College by the Higher Learning Commission through 2026
- Launching five academic Centers and Institutes:
 - Euphrates Institute, Principia College Chapter

- Leadership Institute
- Institute for the Metaphysics of Physics
- Center for Sustainability
- Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- Introduction of remotely taught courses to support the engineering dual-degree program
- Renovation of Voney Art Center and the launch of the transformation of Morey Field House into a performing arts center
- Establishment of “Strive, Conquer, Love, Give” as a framework for community standards and practice
- Support for the sustained success of the solar car program
- Emergence of the rugby and media-tion teams as national players
- Acceptance by the NCAA of a Christian Science-friendly concussion protocol
- Emphasis on career-based internships and research opportunities
- Creation of the Center for Teaching and Learning

The Principia community has been greatly enriched by Jonathan’s commitment and devotion. Jonathan’s family has encouraged those who wish to honor his legacy to contribute to the Jonathan W. Palmer Scholarship, established by the Principia Trustees in March 2018 in recognition of Jonathan’s enduring love for the students. The scholarship provides grants to Principia College students for co-curricular and career-related endeavors. ■

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES FOR ALUMNI NEWS

We welcome alumni news and photographs. The deadline for submissions for the next issue is October 1, 2018. Please follow these submission guidelines:

NEWS

Please provide first and last names for all Principia alumni mentioned in the news you share. Principia reserves the right to edit and abbreviate news submissions.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Please provide first and last names of all those pictured and indicate who attended Principia. Photographs that are low-resolution, dark, out of focus, or grainy usually cannot be used. Even images that look fine on a computer screen aren't always of a high enough quality for a print publication. To improve the likelihood that your photo will be published, please make every effort to submit a digital image that meets these specifications:

- **Digital Photos**
If you are taking an image with a smartphone or digital camera, please ensure that your camera or phone is set to the highest possible image-quality setting.
- **Scanned Prints**
Please scan all printed images at a minimum setting of 300 dpi. (Occasionally, smaller images are usable.)

Please submit all images as the original JPEG. We will take care of any photo touchup or resizing that is needed. Do not submit photos that have been dropped into Word documents, PDFs, PowerPoint presentations, etc. Materials submitted by mail will be returned only if accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. The *Purpose* accepts no responsibility for unsolicited artwork or photographs.

Email submissions to alum@principia.edu. Or mail them to *Principia Purpose* at this address: 13201 Clayton Road, St. Louis, MO 63131.

Lovingly Remembered

Jane Ann (Haggander) Gilkes (C'39)	William "Bill" H. Protzmann (US'53)	Susan "Sue" (Blandford) Wills (C'77) <i>Former Faculty/Staff</i>
Mary W. (Wright) Neil (C'41)	Betty E. (Berg) Smith (JC'56) <i>Former Faculty/Staff</i>	Jonathan W. Palmer (C'78) <i>Former Faculty/Staff</i>
Jean Ann (Rasbach) Scholet (C'44)	Emile "Buck" F. Hertzog Jr. (C'56)	Steven C. MacWilliams (C'79)
Jennifer (Bunting) Dyck (US'45) <i>Former Faculty/Staff</i>	Raymond "Bud" E. Lange Jr. (US'60)	Robert "Bob" E. Marquand Jr. (C'80)
Nadine (Webster) Leonard (US'42, C'46)	Carole (Gardner) Hillman Bennett (C'65) <i>Former Faculty/Staff</i>	Christe (Norton) McGraw (C'83)
Lola (Shepard) Al-Naama (US'47)	Lawrence "Larry" B. Combs (C'65) <i>Former Faculty/Staff</i>	Jennifer C. Scofield (C'91)
Charlanne "Char" (Godfrey) Wachtel (C'49)	Truda "True" (Robison) Henderson (US'67)	Elizabeth "Lisa" (Whittlesey) Heeter (C'00) <i>Former Faculty/Staff</i>
Charles "Dick" R. Gillespie (US'47, C'51)	Beth Elaine Thomas (C'70)	Sam Ssengonzi (C'04)
Suzanne (Heil) Norton (C'51)	Roxana "Roxy" (Roth) Block (US'69, C'73)	Marilyn "Sue" (Krieghoff) Fuller (FS'92) <i>Former Faculty/Staff</i>
Lois (Wagner) Kehres (JC'52)	William "Boze" Harz (C'77)	Marie Oleson (FS'95) <i>Former Faculty/Staff</i>
Helene "Chris" (Kelly) Jostyn (US'48, C'52)		

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25th-1994, 1995

30th-1989, 1990

35th-1984, 1985

40th-1979, 1980

45th-1974, 1975

50th-1969, 1970

55th-1964, 1965

60th-1959, 1960

65th-1954, 1955

70th-1949, 1950

75th-1944, 1945

80th-1939, 1940



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