

2022

ECHOES

PREPARED



HONORABLE



CURIOUS



ACCEPTING



SOCIAALLY
RESPONSIBLE

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

The cover of this issue of *Echoes* offers a blueprint of Summit's impact on the lives of our alums, who live and breathe our Core Competencies. These stories feature talented and successful professionals who share their unique gifts with the world in ways that demonstrate that they are:

Prepared: Having acquired a strong academic, athletic, artistic, and technological background

Honorable: Operating from an ethical compass, guided by character, confidence, and competence

Curious: Exhibiting intellectual curiosity, including critical and creative thinking with a commitment to lifelong learning

Accepting: Demonstrating global awareness, embracing diversity, and working collaboratively within and beyond the school community

Socially Responsible: Committing to civic responsibility, service, and stewardship—both locally and globally

A sampling of their insights reveals these Core Competencies at work:

"I just want to support a program that's given me such joy...I am honored to be able to support such talent."

- **Ward Robinson, MD '68**, creator of the Robinson Family Fund in Jazz Studies at UNCG

"I'm doing PR to convince you that I have a story worth telling, that the US audience needs to know and needs to care about because people are dying around the world from preventable things."

- **Hope Arcuri '11**, Senior Communications Officer at the International Rescue Committee

"Progress is not linear. It comes with embracing setbacks and inevitable failures...keep your bigger WHY in mind during times of adversity."

- **Allen Pickett '11**, Founder of Honeybee Hemp Farms

"Through my experience at Summit, I learned that whatever I want to do in life, I could make it happen; all I had to do was put forth the effort, I am more than capable!"

- **Whitney Denning '03**, Founder of Delectable Treats and More by Miss Whitney

"If I were to guide a young entrepreneur, I would suggest that you do your research and find something you are passionate about."

- **Annie Young Combs '99**, Founder of Backseat Baby Baskets

"The leadership skills I developed during the 9th grade program at Summit are still with me each and every day as I run and grow my company. I am so grateful to Summit and its faculty and staff."

- **Jordan Flowers Xu '02**, Founder of Emily Jordan Events

"Being available at a moment's notice for clients has its challenges, but it's the hands-on, face to face business experiences that I desired when I started this business."

- **Millie Crockett Schultz '01**, Founder of Cynthia George Designs

"Summit is a place where opportunity and leadership intersect in seemingly endless ways. I went from being a kid who was shy to speak up in class—having been in speech therapy for my early years—to gaining the confidence to perform my 9th grade speech in front of an auditorium full of my peers and educators I respected."

- **Kevin Dunn '17**, guard for Wake Forest University basketball team

"What I really appreciated about my Summit experience was how welcoming the community was to me...I engaged with teachers, enjoyed the challenging environment. Summit was a place that enabled me to take the next steps in my life."

- **Clarence Gaines, Jr. '73**, retired NBA scout

The culmination of the Summit educational experience is our students' embodiment of the Core Competencies. As evidenced in these pages, these skills, dispositions, and abilities are both timely and timeless, enabling our alums to contribute and thrive in a future no one can predict.

Onward and Upward,



Michael Ebeling
Head of School



Summit School's Echoes is published annually for alums, parents, and friends by Summit School.

2100 Reynolda Road
Winston-Salem, NC 27106
336.722.2777
www.summitschool.com

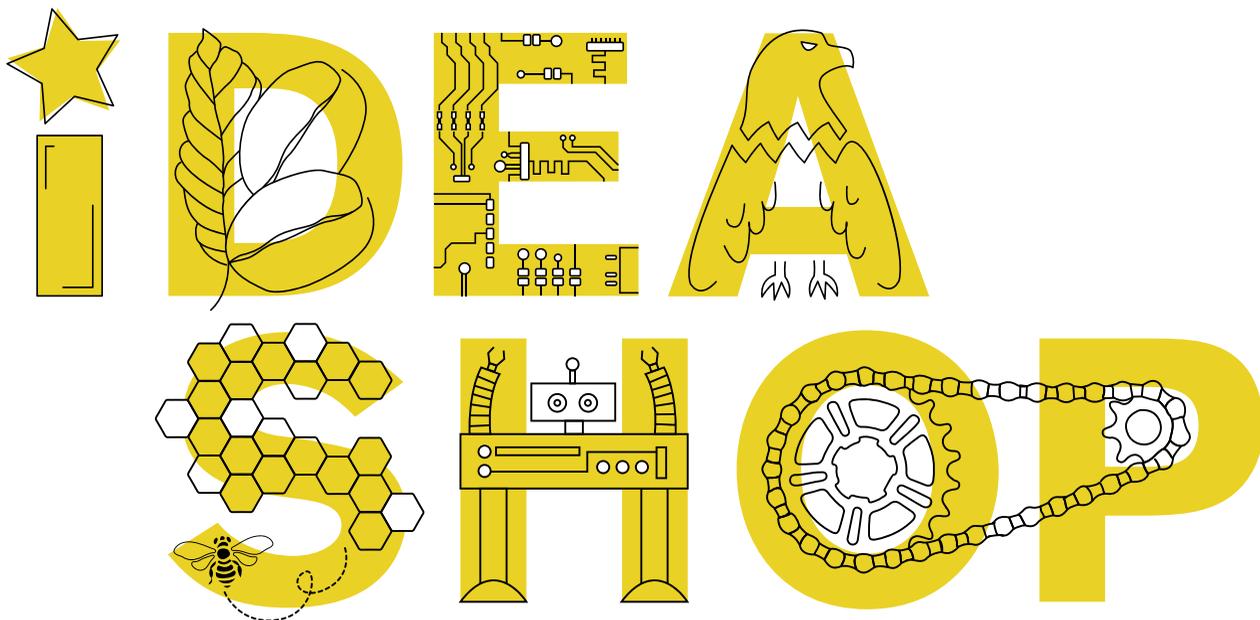
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Summit School admits students of any race, religion, color, and national or ethnic origin.

If your Summit alum has moved, please update us with his/her/their new address at alums@summitmail.org.

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INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

FOLLOW THE JOURNEY OF ALUM ENTREPRENEURS

Summit's Idea Shop provides opportunities for students, teachers, parents, and alums to explore and implement innovative ideas to:

- + Find their place in the world
- + Contribute to their community
- + Express their voice
- + Make an impact in tangible ways
- + Lead

Idea Shop is an umbrella to gather current and future projects and curriculum related to business, entrepreneurship, and innovation. In this article, you will read about five entrepreneurs: **Allen Pickett '11, Annie Young Combs '99, Jordan Flowers Xu '02, Millie Crockett Schultz '01, and Whitney Denning '03.** Each has connected with the Alumni Engagement Office, shared their story, and several have engaged virtually or in-person with students and faculty to encourage and support the entrepreneurial spirit at Summit.

Allen Pickett '11

Honeybee Hemp Farms (founded 2019)

Honeybee Hemp Farms cultivates hemp and keeps honey bees in Lewisville, NC to create products including CBD-infused honey and dog biscuits. I founded Honeybee Hemp Farms as an outlet to create value-added products for those seeking wellness alternatives to conventional medication. My primary inspiration is fueled by dedication to help combat the opioid epidemic and support the local pollinator population. My advice to budding entrepreneurs is that progress is not linear. It comes with embracing setbacks and inevitable failures. But most importantly, keep 'your bigger

WHY' in mind during times of adversity.

I have thoroughly enjoyed collaborating with the Summit Idea Shop. This has been particularly exciting as the students work through entrepreneurial geared projects, including the creation of dog biscuits, as I gear my business towards focusing on the canine sector of the CBD industry.



www.honeybeehempfarm.com • [Instagram: @honeybeehempfarm](https://www.instagram.com/honeybeehempfarm) • [Facebook: Honeybee Hemp Farms](https://www.facebook.com/HoneybeeHempFarms)

Annie Young Combs '99

Backseat Baby Baskets (founded 2021)

Backseat Baby Baskets provides baskets full of baby essentials for moms and dads to keep in their car so they are never left unprepared! I began my business because I love babies and gift-giving is one of my spiritual gifts—so I combined them together. Although the business is based in Durham, NC, I have family in Winston-Salem and am able to deliver to that area, especially if the customer is not in a rush.

If I were to guide a young entrepreneur, I would suggest that you do your research and find something you are passionate about.

[Instagram: @backseatbabybaskets](https://www.instagram.com/backseatbabybaskets) • backseatbabybasket@gmail.com



Jordan Flowers Xu '02

Emily Jordan Events (founded 2012)

Emily Jordan Events is a wedding and event planning company creating unforgettable celebrations throughout the southeastern United States. I was inspired to start my business because I had completed an internship with a wedding

planning company while in college and knew I was interested in the event industry. While assisting a friend with her wedding planning, we decided to start the company together.

Do not be afraid to ask for help or advice from other entrepreneurs and business owners as they have been in your shoes. If possible, find a mentor in the same field you are working in so you have someone to turn to when things get difficult or when you are uncertain of the right path to take as you build your business. The leadership skills I developed during the ninth grade program at Summit are still with me each and every day as I run and grow my company. I am so grateful to Summit and its faculty and staff.

www.emilyjordanevents.com • [@emilyjordanevents](https://www.instagram.com/emilyjordanevents)



Millie Crockett Schultz '01

Cynthia George Designs (founded 2015)

Cynthia George Designs provides personal and home organizational services. Every project's goal is to offer clients some peace of mind whether preparing for a move, organizing high traffic spaces, or refreshing a closet or pantry.

In the beginning, I started small with reasonable expectations. I knew in order to grow my business I needed to say 'yes' to jobs that were outside of my personal experience.

Running my own business has given me the opportunity to prioritize both work and home—having a flexible schedule is important to me! What I didn't realize about

the service industry is when people need help, they want it quickly. Being available at a moment's notice for clients has its challenges, but it is the hands-on, face to face business experiences that I desired when I started this business. Thanks to time management skills, I have been successful in building my business to meet my personal and professional goals.

www.cynthiageorgedesigns.com



Whitney Denning '03

Delectable Treats and More by Miss Whitney (founded 2020)

Delectable Treats and More by Miss Whitney is a baking and private cooking/catering business on a small scale. I offer a variety of baked goods and cuisine; while I am best known for my cookies and pound cakes, my menu and abilities include a plethora of items. I started my business as a way to get through the sudden isolation due to COVID-19. One day, I 'went live' on Facebook and did not realize how many people would be interested in watching me cook! People began to ask if they could place orders and I've been fulfilling orders ever since. Another reason I started my business is because cooking is how I show love to not only my family but to my community. In a world so divided, I have found people from all walks of life can come together over a wonderful meal.

Cooking is not just about the taste of the food but the experience as well. I like decadence and food that has been prepared with love so I decided to share that with everyone and put my creative spin

www.facebook.com/ChefWhit87/

on cuisine and educate people along the way.

If you have a talent and passion of any sort and want to share it with others, go for it. It's never too late to start! Come up with a plan, determine how far you want to go with your business, pray (if you are a person of faith), and give it a shot. Your product, whatever it is, will speak for itself because your passion and love for what you do will show. Educate yourself on what it takes to start a business, don't be afraid to talk to other business owners, and don't allow yourself to easily be discouraged. It might be a bumpy ride but anything is possible.

Through my experience at Summit, I learned that whatever I wanted to do in life, I could make happen; all I had to do was put forth the effort, I am more than capable!

As curricular and co-curricular programs develop, Summit continues to create and maintain connections with parents, past parents, alums, and the community. If you have a suggestion for Idea Shop or if you are an entrepreneur and willing to share your experience with Summit, please contact:

- + Jeff Turner, Director of Co-Curricular Programs
jturner@summitmail.org
- + Chris Culp, Director of Technology
cculp@summitmail.org
- + Sarah Dalrymple, Director of Alumni and Community Engagement
sarahd@summitmail.org

SENIOR COMMUNICATIONS AT THE INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE

Reprint from *Muck Rack* by Vanessa Neurohr. Photography provided by Hope Arcuri.

When **Hope Arcuri '11** was studying global health and policy at Duke University, she didn't really understand what public relations (PR) involved.

She envisioned the people who stand at events and make sure journalists don't speak out of turn. Or she'd hear people say, 'Oh, did you hear about the latest PR scandal?'

"That sounded awful to me," she says. "It just seemed like something I never wanted to do."

Jump to today and Arcuri, based in New York City, has worked in the PR industry for about six years. She's currently a senior communications officer for U.S. media at the International Rescue Committee, a humanitarian aid organization that helps people survive, recover, and take control of their lives. The organization is in 40 countries and 26 U.S. cities.

Muck Rack, a user-friendly media database, connected with Arcuri to learn more about her career path in PR, what her job as a communications officer entails, and some of the challenges she's had to overcome in recent years.

COMBINING HER LOVE FOR GLOBAL HEALTH AND WRITING

Arcuri has always loved writing, but Duke didn't offer a communications major. Even so, she exercised her skills by writing on the side for various magazines and blogs. She even had her own blog about the power of vulnerability.

By the time Arcuri was a senior, she realized she wanted to make a career out of her two passions: global health and writing.

While still a student, she interned for USAID, a U.S. agency for international development. They provide aid from U.S. tax dollars to different developing countries. She later accepted a job with USAID her senior year and worked the job virtually from Durham, North Carolina.

While at USAID, she worked in policy, but she realized this wasn't a fit after speaking to various folks on the communications team at USAID.

"Policy just moves very, very slowly," she says. "Communications is really fun in that there's a lot of instant gratification. You can work on a press release and then see it live in an article five minutes later. I think that's really cool."

After a year at USAID, she moved to Global Health Strategies, a global health consulting firm doing communications, PR, and advocacy.





Some of her main clients were the Gates Foundation and the United Nations Foundation.

After a year at Global Health Strategies, a job opening at the International Rescue Committee floated across her radar. For her, this organization had always been the gold standard, consistently having the highest share of voice and an overall strong communications team in the aid industry.

She applied and has been at the International Rescue Committee for three years now. Last year, she was promoted to communications officer and then as a senior communications officer.

AN OVERVIEW OF ARCURI'S JOB AS A COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

As a communications officer, Arcuri specializes in bringing the attention of U.S. journalists and producers to key crises in developing countries.

"I'm not doing PR to convince you to buy a product," she explains. "I'm doing PR to convince you that I have a story worth telling, that the U.S. audience needs to know and needs to care about because people are dying around the world from preventable things."

A typical day for Arcuri begins by scrolling through Google News, catching up on big crises. Lately, her focus has been on Afghanistan, Venezuela, Yemen, and Syria.

Once she's briefed, she checks in with different country directors who are on the ground and asks them for an update. This is also her opportunity to fact-check her

information, asking questions like: "Is this article accurate? Is that what you're seeing there? Should we be building a bigger drumbeat around that? Is there a story that's not being told about this? What intel could we give to a foreign correspondent about this?"

After these conversations, she develops pitches and press releases and reaches out to journalists and producers to pitch different angles. She'll work with them to craft the story, providing data, visuals or any other elements that'll bring the story to life.

Some of her days are more reactive, as described, but Arcuri also has more proactive projects with pre-planning around anniversaries or World Refugee Day on June 20.

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS AND MEETING PEOPLE WHERE THEY ARE

A big part of Arcuri's job is building relationships—and she's good at it, too. She believes this is part of why she has been promoted a couple of times at the organization.

"I have an insatiable need to get to know everyone in the media industry," she says.

Before the pandemic, she did a lot of in-person meetings and coffee dates, but aside from a quarterly trip to meet with National Public Radio in D.C., it's become mostly virtual.

"I'm just very passionate about getting in front of people and explaining to them why this is a story they need to stop ignoring," she says.

A lot of the relationship building Arcuri does requires meeting people where they are.

She'll explain to them: "Look, I understand the people that read your outlet don't care about this, but if you cover it enough, they will care. And this is how we need to change hearts and minds. This should be a joint strategy, and we need to better educate Americans because it's our job."

After three years, Arcuri has built more personal relationships with her contacts. Now, rather than email a pitch to a contact, she's more likely to pick up the phone and have a conversation.

This past year, Arcuri is most proud of the coverage she helped get on the Afghanistan crisis. When the new government came in, she was able to help Americans understand what was happening on the ground with articles landing in the *New York Times*, ABC, NBC, and other major outlets.

She's also proud of the profile *The Washington Post* recently featured on the president of the International Rescue Committee, David Miliband.

MENTAL HEALTH AND BORDER SHUTDOWNS: OVERCOMING CHALLENGES

Although Arcuri's job is rewarding, it has its challenges, mental health being a big one.

She starts her days reading about crises happening across the globe—kids dying in South Sudan, mothers dying in Venezuela, and the ongoing crisis in Yemen, to name a few.

Afghanistan is a big crisis on a lot of people's minds that's particularly difficult for her and her team to cover. In fact, in her nearly six years in the industry, she says it's been that hardest because it feels like the U.S. is at fault.

Even through the difficult moments, Arcuri reminds herself she's doing the right thing by getting involved.

"I'm very proud, though, to be reading about those things, knowing that I'm not just reading

about them, I'm taking action," she explains. "I think what improves my mental health is knowing that, even though it's really bad, I could be sitting back and doing nothing, but I'm choosing to get involved."

She notes that her company also offers great resources, like free virtual counseling, generous paid time off, and great health benefits.

On top of the daily challenges Arcuri faces, the pandemic introduced a new challenge: closed borders.

In February 2020, she felt like she'd finally hit her stride professionally. She flew to Mexico to see the International Rescue Committee's programming on the U.S.-Mexico border with Oprah Winfrey's production team.

"That was just such an incredible experience to be with a top production team and around a lot of A-list people who were also highly educated on the U.S.-Mexico border and really respectful of our work."

When Arcuri was there, stories began breaking about one case of COVID in Mexico. She came back to New York City and two weeks later things shut down.

"It was tough because I felt like I was finally in a position to really visit a lot of our country programs and support them from a communications (comms) perspective like I had done in Mexico," she says. "Then all international travel shut down, so I just had to figure out how to do this job without going to all these places."

This required adapting and hiring people locally on the comms team in each region. Otherwise, conducting video meetings with people from around the world wasn't a big deal for Arcuri. She's used to talking to people in the UK, Italy, Kenya—you name it.

Despite the challenges Arcuri and her team have faced, she still describes her job with the International Rescue Committee as "the best thing ever."

ONWARD AND UPWARD WITH THE ALUMNI COUNCIL

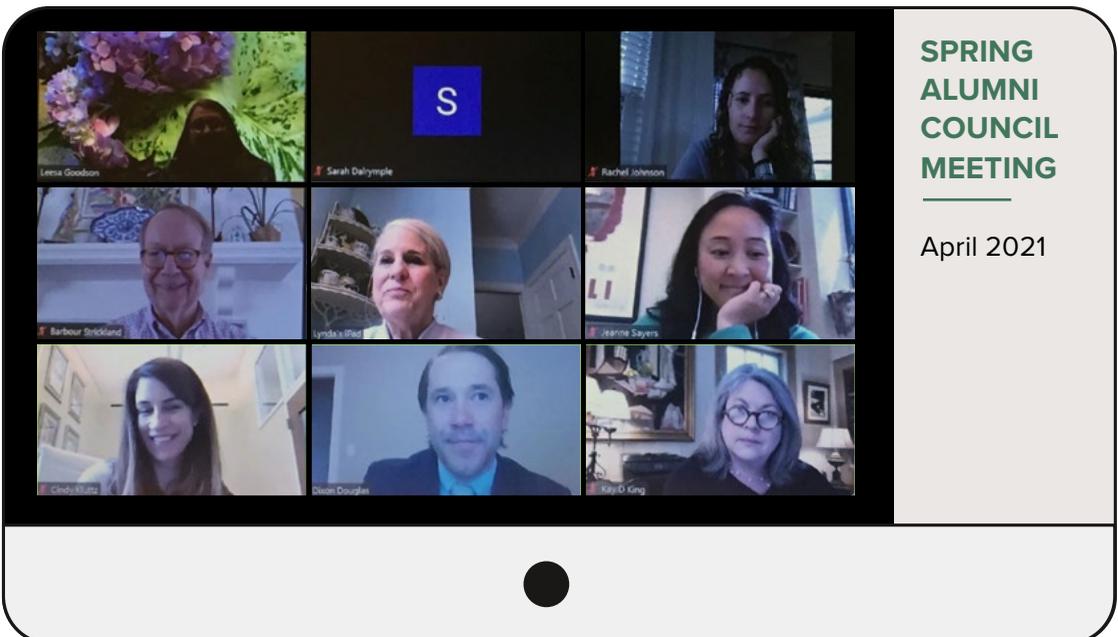
In 2014, the Alumni Council was formed to keep alumni in better touch with Summit. **Sandlin Douglas '94** and **Kay D Burress King '83**, served as chairs of the council during its first two years. In 2016, they passed the reins to **Matt Spear '86**. Spear said, "when I reflect about Summit both from the indelible memories of the experiences of my three siblings and what I see in Summit's bright present, I think about fun, passion, pride, learning, inclusiveness, ambition, relationships, community, and teamwork." **Carolyn Sherrill Fuller '85** served as chair from 2018-2020.

Leesa Lybrook Goodson '71 leads the Council through 2022 and hosted a virtual meeting during Founders Week via Zoom last fall. We are pleased to announce that **Barbour Strickland '67** will serve as chair through 2024.

The primary goals of the council are to get alumni involved and to share with them inspiring moments happening at Summit today. The council exists to bring alumni from all over the country together to remember the old days and be a part of the new.

Leesa Lybrook Goodson '71, Chair
Alex Galloway '50
Lynda King Morris '63
Barbour Strickland '67
Ridgely Medlin Phillips '76
Jimbo Galloway '80
Kay D Burress King '83*
Carolyn Sherrill Fuller '85*
Drew Cannon '91
Dixon Douglas '99
Rachel Neely Johnson '99
Mimi Driscoll Bennett '04
Whitley Vogler Sheffield '04
Suzanna Roemer '05
Blitz Hoppe Phillips '07

** Former Chairs*





NEW AT UNCG: ROBINSON FAMILY FUND IN JAZZ STUDIES

When **Ward Robinson, MD '68**, retired, he turned to a different challenge: music.

As an infectious disease expert, Robinson served for two decades at Moses Cone Health System and five years as medical director for the Guilford County Department of Public Health.

“I was trying to find ways for each individual within our community to have a healthier and longer life,” he said of his medical career. “At retirement I thought: ‘What now might bring them joy?’”

So, he plays tenor and soprano saxophone and loves the challenge of performing jazz. Along the never-ending quest to be a better musician, Robinson was delighted to find the UNC Greensboro Miles Davis Jazz Studies Program. He joined it as a student in the Fall of 2015, at age 62.

Inspired by and grateful for his experience with the outstanding students and faculty, he established the Robinson Family Scholarship Endowment at UNCG in 2017. Each year, the scholarship is presented to an entering undergraduate jazz student and provides four years of full-tuition support.

The first Robinson Family Scholar, Liam Trawick, will graduate this spring.

On a recent Wednesday evening, Robinson and sophomore Roland Burnot were on an outdoor stage together, taking turns on sax solos for Stanley Turrentine’s blues standard “Sugar.” Burnot is also a Robinson Family Scholar. The weekly event at Double Oaks B&B, similar to one on Thursdays at Oden Brewing, always features many Spartans and draws jazz aficionados from throughout the area. The sweet sounds of upright bass, percussion, keyboard, saxophones, and various other instruments fill the spring air.

This year brings a new gift from Robinson: He has created the Robinson Family Fund in Jazz Studies.

This fund will sponsor a diverse array of visiting artists to perform, teach, and mentor students. Among other activities, the fund will provide support for the students to teach and perform in the Triad community—including in middle schools and high schools.

“I just want to support a program that’s given me such joy,” Robinson said.

“Ward’s transformational gift to the Miles Davis Jazz Studies Program will bring legendary jazz artists to campus for residencies over the next decade and will indelibly enrich the educational experiences of our students,” said Dr. Bruce D. McClung, dean of UNCG’s College of Visual and Performing Arts.

Robinson is a UNCG alumnus in two ways. He received his master’s in public health from the UNCG School of Health and Human Sciences in 2010, and was an adjunct professor in the UNCG Department of Public Health Education. In the School of Music, he received his post-baccalaureate certificate in 2019.

“Ward Robinson embodies the great spirit of our Spartan alumni donors. He has said that a gift to UNCG goes a tremendously long way. It’s an investment in our students’ lives and in the arts that enhance our lives, and that spirit of generosity is a beautiful thing,” said Chancellor Franklin D. Gilliam, Jr., a guitarist and long-time jazz enthusiast.

Robinson added, “The jazz students I’ve had the pleasure to meet are outstanding. I am honored to be able to support such talent at UNCG. But selfishly, I get to see and hear these amazing musicians perform—and they even let me jam with them from time to time.”

ENERGY GIVER

BASKETBALL STAR LOOKS BACK ON HOW SUMMIT SHAPED HIM

People who know **Kevin Dunn '17** now—or knew him as a kid—think of him, perhaps, first as an athlete. But he's a lot more than a guard on Wake Forest University's basketball team. And he credits his years at Summit with helping shape him into the person he is today.

"I moved to Summit a few years after arriving in Winston-Salem from Santa Monica, California," said the 18-year-old college freshman. "I had started in a school here that was more structured, and when I arrived at Summit, I was able to be more creative, and it allowed me to grow both inside and outside the classroom."

"Summit is a place where opportunity and leadership intersect in seemingly endless ways," he continued. "I went from being a kid who was shy to speak up in class—having been in speech therapy for my early years—to gaining the confidence to perform my 9th grade speech in front of an auditorium full of my peers and educators I respected."

It was at Summit when he first emerged as a leader—in clubs and on the executive council and as captain of the football and, naturally, basketball teams. It was the start of a lifelong predilection for leading. Dunn was student body president and captain of the basketball team at Choate Rosemary Hall in Connecticut.

Part of being a good leader is sharing credit with others, and Dunn could offer a master class on that subject. When approached about being featured in *Echoes*, he asked if his former coach, John Allen, could be interviewed along with him. "Coach John Allen has made such an impact in my life and is partially responsible for me playing at Wake Forest," he said.

Allen said, "Kevin Dunn is the type of player coaches want on their team. And not just for

ability, but for their passion. He works hard, but he works within the system. By that I mean, although he works hard to improve himself for the opportunities to play, he also works hard to make the team better, as well. He is a vocal presence for the team, a person who encourages others. He's what you call an 'energy giver.'"

Of everything Summit gave Dunn, his basketball coach was the biggest gift of all, he said: "The greatest gift I gained from Summit is my relationship with Coach John Allen. He began to train me in basketball in sixth grade, but he soon became much more than a coach. The lessons I learned, and continue to learn, from him are more than X's and O's. It's about being a better person, son, and teammate. The faith Coach Allen has had in me to be a better player and a better person has driven me to make the most of my opportunities. I am indebted to Coach Allen and could never repay him for all that he has given and continues to give to me and my family."

The coach feels he's gotten a lot from his former player, too. "Yes, we worked together but I could only push to a certain point," he said. "He sort of pulled me along because of how much he wanted to work. He wanted to be in the gym. He reached out for extra work. He would take a suggestion and work it into a reality."

Allen is far from the only Summit staffer Dunn recalls fondly. There's a laundry list of peers, teachers, and coaches he credits with molding him into the student, athlete, and person he is today. "The Summit School class of 2017 was a stellar, diverse group," he said. "I have incredible classmates who have been successful in and out of the classroom. Members of my class are a Morehead-Cain Scholar at UNC-Chapel Hill, athletes at Yale, Bucknell, Wofford, and Denison. Others are pursuing their passions



in engineering, pre-law, pre-med at incredible academic institutions. My Summit friends remain my best friends.”

“I was blessed to be taught by many talented teachers and faculty,” he continued. “I remain so grateful for the impact they had on my life. A special thank you to Mrs. Welch, Mrs. Giljames, Mr. Felten, Ms. Way, Mr. Petronzio, Mrs. Dai, Mr. Hano, Mrs. Shaw, Coach Ken Shaw, Coach Ryan Mihalko and many others for all the extra time and love they poured into me throughout the years.”

Those teachers and friends aren’t a distant memory for Dunn. He’s in touch with many of them. “I still work out at Summit during the off-season with Coach Allen and frequently visit with many of my other teachers and coaches,” he said.

Playing sports at Summit prepared him for playing at a higher level. “What Summit and Coach Allen instilled in me was the hard work behind the scenes,” he said. “It was ‘the unseen hours’ of time in the Eagles’ Nest Gym on weeknights and Sunday afternoons, the preparation mentally and athletically that gave me the confidence that I could play at the highest level.”



WELCOMED WITH OPEN ARMS



RETIRED NBA SCOUT WENT TO SUMMIT FOR JUST ONE YEAR—BUT A MOMENTOUS ONE

Clarence Gaines, Jr. '73

went to Summit for just one year—but he made an impression during

that brief time and left a mark on his alma mater.

He was one of two African-Americans to join the ninth grade at Summit when he arrived in 1972. Gaines and his friend, Leland Salter, came to Summit from St. Benedict the Moor, an all-Black Catholic school—this was in the early days of school desegregation in Winston-Salem.

Gaines became aware of Summit when St. Benedict's seventh and eighth grade basketball team scrimmaged Summit's ninth grade team. Larry Habegger, a former Wake Forest player, was Summit's coach and contacted Gaines' father, Clarence "Big House" Gaines, to inquire if his son would be interested in attending Summit. Summit had the academic curriculum and sports programs that Gaines' parents were looking for in a school. "I'm the product of two educators," he said. "Rigorous academics were always part of my household. I think my parents saw opportunities at Summit for me."

"Big House" Gaines, the late, legendary basketball coach and athletic director of Winston-Salem State University (WSSU) was also a teacher and head of the Physical Education department at WSSU. Gaines' mother, Clara, taught Latin and English for many years at Atkins High School before becoming a guidance counselor at Atkins and East Forsyth High



School. "Academics were emphasized over sports in my household," Gaines recalled. "Both of my parents had master's degrees from Columbia Teachers College. I had uncommon and varied experiences as a child. I had a blessed childhood."

His race wasn't an issue at his new school. He recalled being "welcomed with open arms" and feeling like he fit in immediately. He ran for, and was elected to, the senior class council within days of matriculating. And that's even after missing out on a few days of campaigning due to his family being at the Summer Olympics in Munich during the first week of the school year.

Leadership came naturally to the son of "Big House" Gaines, who coached WSSU's basketball team from 1946 to 1993 and was the first Black coach to be inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 1982. The younger Clarence was a leader on the court, on the football field, in the classroom, and on stage. He auditioned for and got the lead in the school play, *A Threepenny Christmas*, a highlight of his time at Summit. "That gave me a certain level of confidence," he said.

He remembers his Summit year playing out against the backdrop of both the Watergate hearings—they were always on TV in the library, he recalled—and the Vietnam war. "I'll always remember the emotion my history teacher, Ms. Carolyn Wall, displayed, and the note she gave us when President Nixon announced the

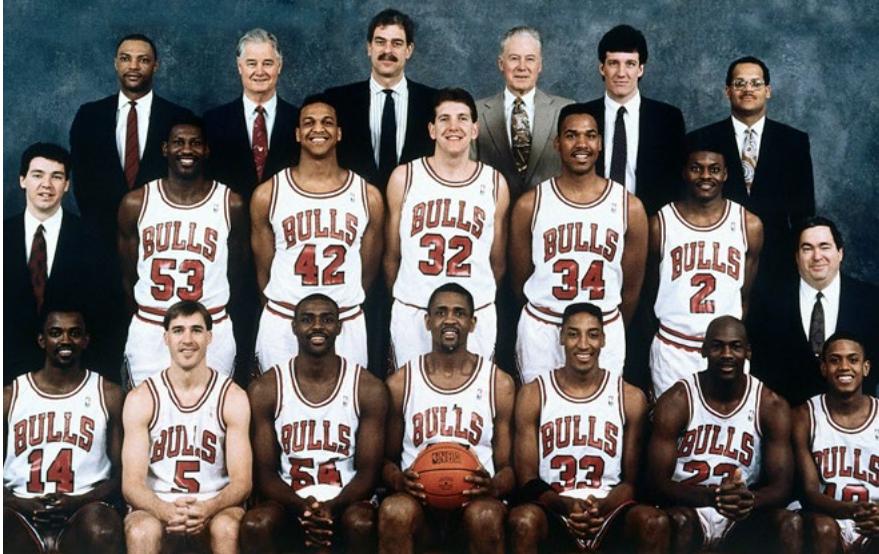
United States was pulling out of Vietnam.” She didn’t have the emotional energy to teach class, but that day, and her note were the most memorable learning experiences I had at Summit.”

He continued his impressive academic career—always in competitive environments—going next to Episcopal High School, an all-boys boarding school in Virginia. “If I hadn’t gone to Summit, there’d have been no Episcopal,” he said. Gaines participated in football, basketball, and track and field. He graduated with honors from the College of William and Mary and was an Academic All-American running back for the Tribe.

After college, he earned an MBA degree from UNC-Chapel Hill—and he did so as a prestigious Morehead-Cain Fellow. He was a sales manager at Eastman Kodak (1982-89) when he was offered the opportunity to become a part-time scout for the NBA’s Chicago Bulls during the 1988-89 season.

In June 1989, he was hired by the Bulls full-time as a scout and special assistant to the V.P. of Basketball Operations, Jerry Krause. His timing was impeccable as Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen led the Bulls to win six NBA championships during Gaines’ tenure with the team. In 2014, Gaines became Phil Jackson’s basketball advisor and vice president of player personnel for the New York Knicks. He earned six NBA championship rings, a gold belt buckle, and a gold and diamond money clip to show for his time in the NBA.

Gaines is now officially retired and lives in Los Angeles with his family. His wife Cheryl, is a Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney. Daughter Olivia, 26, is a Leukemia survivor who deals with complications from a stem cell transplant. Garrett, 21, is a recent college graduate and gainfully employed.



His time at Summit may have been one of racial harmony, but that doesn’t mean Gaines didn’t see discrimination as a child in Winston-Salem. The Gaines family was denied admission to Tanglewood Park the year before he came to Summit. Schools may have been integrating, but the park, a gift to Forsyth County from the Reynolds family, was still designated for whites only.

Gaines wrote on his blog, “A Scout’s Perspective,” of the indelible memory: “A couple of days before the park was to be integrated, my father took our family to visit. We were denied entry because of our race. Did my father mistakenly think Tanglewood Park would be open to Blacks on that day? I doubt it. My dad was a smart man. I never asked him, but I think he wanted his children to experience the brutality of racial segregation.”

A brutality he didn’t have to experience at Summit.

Gaines’ alma mater left a mark on him, too. “What I really appreciated about my Summit experience was how welcoming that community was to me,” he said. “A lot of Black kids, when they go into a majority white environment, don’t always have positive experiences. And my family’s experience was extremely positive. I got along with my fellow classmates. I engaged with teachers, enjoyed the challenging environment. Summit was a place that enabled me to take the next step in my life.”

REUNIONS

SENIOR SEND OFF



August 2021



Celebrating our high school seniors and 'sending them off' to college, military service, and full time employment

FOUNDERS WEEK



September 2021



College Coffee at Wake Forest University, Chris Burris '86, Neel Parker Brooks '03, Mary Craig Tennille '94, Sophia Iltis '17



*Class of 1970
The class of 1970 gathers at Summit with Dr. Sandra Adams*

CLASS REUNIONS



*Class of 1960
Gene Boger, Mary Hall Brownlee, Jane Keiger Gehring, Sandy Preseren Alley, Steve Jones (not pictured: Gwynne Meyers Nicholaides, Paul Wood); read more on p. 20*



*Class of 1978
November 2021, the class of 1978 gathers at Summit*

NOVEMBER REUNION



November 2021, classes of 2010-2015 gather at Incendiary Brewing

DECEMBER REUNION



December 2021, classes of 2016-2021 gather at Summit for an interactive reunion

1956

Cecelia Merritt Wyatt lives in Annapolis, MD where she owns a piano conservatory. She writes, “I often share, even today, principles of learning taught at Summit. I am so grateful for discipline and focus—all learned and enhanced by my wonderful teachers in grades 5-8. I realize more each day the value of the education I received there.”

1960

Sandy Preseren Alley shares, “The class of ‘60 was an unusual one with only seven members. Four years ago, we had the honor of having Doug Lewis with us. How we wish that could still be possible! At this last gathering, we talked long and hard about the influences that Mr. Lewis, Ms. Bednerik, and Ms. Futrell had on our lives—1960 was a meaningful and wonderful year!” see photo on page 18.

1974

Jennifer Weaver Baldwin lives in Tampa, FL. In a recent correspondence with Summit, she said about Doug Lewis, “what a presence and impact he had on my life and what a role model for all of us!”

1978

As of January 2022, after 28 years with the same firm, **Beth Weller** retired from the practice of law. She said, “we will be splitting time between our home in Dallas and our new house near Winter Park, Colorado. My goal in retirement is to travel more. We kicked off 2022 with a trip to the Galapagos where we enjoyed snorkeling with sea lions, penguins, rays, sea turtles, and sharks, and hiking with iguanas, blue footed boobies, frigate birds, giant tortoises, and more.”

1986

Gar Ragland, an Asheville, NC resident, was featured on the PBS show Samantha Brown’s Places to Love: Asheville, NC episode. Ragland is the founder of Citizen Vinyl, a historic space that houses a recording studio and a record pressing facility.

1987

Chris Miller writes, “after 16 1/2 years in the Community Health Services Department at FirstHealth of the Carolinas in Pinehurst, including the last 10 years as Administrative Director, I have taken a new position (Oct. 2021) as the Executive Director for Planned Giving for The Foundation of FirstHealth.”

Michael Winger writes, “I moved back to North Carolina about two months before the pandemic hit after living for 18 years in San Francisco. I spent the last eight years there working for the Recording Academy/GRAMMY Awards as the Executive Director of the San Francisco Chapter. I used some of my Summit-bred knowledge of civics to work with an amazing team that helped pass the Music Modernization Act unanimously through the US Congress in 2018 and that same year also passed a \$31 million arts education grant through the California Legislature. I’ve relocated to Hillsborough, NC where I’m working as a consultant and music business coach for artists.”

1992

Caroline Sanders Turner’s art was exhibited in Women in the Arts: Celebrating 250 Years of Salem Academy and College at the Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts in Winston-Salem. Approximately 40 artists who are Salem alumnae were represented. Turner lives in Waxhaw, NC where she has taught in the public school system for 18 years.

1994

Lawrence (Skip) Long competed on Jeopardy!, February 2022. Long said, “I believe I am the first ever ‘nursing student/stay-at-home uncle’ to appear on the show.”



are of Latin class with Mrs. Westmoreland. I hope my support helps the next generation of teachers and students create similarly warm memories and enriching learning experiences.”

1995

Meredith Jarvis Gale recently joined the American Foundation for the Blind as its Chief Development Officer. She and her husband, Bridger Gale, are parents to Lybrook, age 6, and Elbridge, age 8. They live in Charleston, SC.

Dorothea Garner McCollum writes, “I incorporated myself officially as “Delightfully Dotty” in summer 2019 when I was accepted as an Art-o-Mat artist. I’ve been a full-time artist since January 2021 and along with themed collections and commissions, Art-o-Mat headquarters keeps selling out of the tiny little paintings!”

1996

Harlan Blynn lives in Denver, CO. He writes, “my wife and I are beginning our school research for our little one and I began telling stories of my days on Reynolda Road. Mostly, I think warmly of all the faces that helped shape my childhood from Mr. Billy Stoltz and Ms. Margie Flake to Mr. Capers Carlton and Mr. Tom Seaver; some of the fondest memories

1997

Candice Burris received her MA in Human Services degree from the Wake Forest University Department of Counseling.



1998

After coaching field hockey at Summit for many years, **Meredith Bynum** is now a full time member of Summit’s Physical Education staff.

Emmie Nostitz writes, “I have moved to Austin to start a company. I am proud to introduce Tivity (TheTivity.com). Tivity allows you to book a private chef online—to cook in your home. Think of it as Uber for chefs. Simply put, we want to change the restaurant industry by making your dining room table the ‘hottest’ table in town—giving chefs a creative outlet outside the four walls of the restaurant and giving you an incredible meal without having to cook it.”

2002

After passing all of her CPA exams on the first attempt, **Katie Janeway** became a manager at KPMG. She then left for a position at Vanderbilt University and now serves as Director of Accounting and Financial Reporting.

2003

Dylan Conrad, provided the alumni engagement office with an update: “after graduating Summit in 2003, I attended Mt. Tabor High School and University of North Carolina School of the Arts where I majored in cinematography. I moved to Los Angeles in 2010 where I’ve been working on feature films and TV as a first assistant cameraman (a focus puller and camera technician) for the last 12 years. I’ve worked on the sets of movies *Mud* (2012), *Midnight Special* (2016), *Loving* (2016), three seasons of the show *Yellowstone*, and most recently the TV show *1883* (2021).

I give my 9th grade English teacher, Julie Giljames, a great deal of credit for driving my

passion to pursue filmmaking.

In 2018, I thru-hiked the Pacific Crest Trail, a 2,600 mile trail that runs from Mexico to Canada through the mountains of California, Oregon, and Washington.

And last year

I hiked the 800 mile Arizona Trail, from Mexico to Utah. I plan to hike many more long trails. I now reside in Mill Valley, CA with my significant other, Annabel Teal.”



Alexandra Phillips, a professional artist, lives in Rotterdam, Netherlands. She credits Summit School as the foundation for her love of and participation in art: working in ceramics with Ms. Eure, art class with Mrs. Ritter, and learning the basics of darkroom photography.

She attended University of North Carolina School of the Arts and completed a BFA in painting and a BA in Art History at the Kansas City Art Institute. In her work, ranging from sculpture, installation, video, writing, drawing, performance, and printed matter, she comments upon our fleeting and insatiable existence with a light touch and a witty sense of humor.

Phillips writes, “my work was recently nominated for The Dutch Royal Award for Modern Painting. Although I did not win the

first prize, to even be nominated is a very big honor. I met the King and former Queen during a formal ceremony. My work was on exhibit at the Dam Palace in the center of Amsterdam.”



2004

Check out photographer **Eric Wallace** at verrocchiosstudio.com! After playing high school and college basketball, Australian rules football, and joining the Panthers roster for two years, Wallace now lives in New York and channels his creative talent via photography.

2005

Lawson Kluttz and his wife Rebecca welcomed their daughter Gracie to the world on June 23, 2021; they live in Houston, Texas.

Mary Catherine Bozymski Maus and her husband Michael joyfully announce the birth of their daughter Charlotte Wynne Maus born on June 16, 2021. They live in West Palm Beach, Florida.

2006

Emily Krewson Watson works for Carolina Psychology Group as a licensed clinical mental health counselor and addiction specialist with a trauma certification. She works with **Dr. Samuel Gray '88**.



2007

Summit welcomes **Emily Bowden Gilbard** to the faculty; she is a lead teacher in Junior Kindergarten.

2008

Mary Taylor Mann married Rick Southard at Centenary United Methodist Church in Winston-Salem on November 6, 2021. **Shayna Purcell '08** was a bridesmaid and many friends from the class of 2008 attended. Mary Taylor and Rick live in Atlanta with their cat, Sadie. Mann is a PhD Candidate in English at Emory University where she studies and teaches nineteenth-century British literature and culture.

2011

Congratulations to **Chiedza Mushayamunda Hooker** who was recognized by Greater Winston-Salem, Inc. as a 2021 recipient of the Winston Under 40 Leadership Awards.

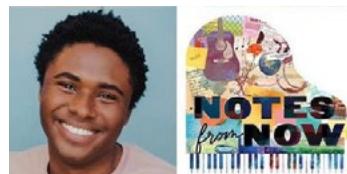
In October of 2021, **Joyner Horn** joined the Little Theatre of Winston-Salem as the Countess Andrenyi in Agatha Christie's *Murder on the Orient Express*. In April 2022, she returned to UNC School of the Arts to perform the role of Corvina in John Musto's *Volpone* with the AJ Fletcher Opera Institute. She is a semi-finalist for a Fulbright Grant to the UK.

2012

Hayes Brenner is enrolled in the ecological psychology PhD program at the University of Connecticut. The program emphasizes the role of the organism-environment system as a means of understanding human behavior and cognition, as opposed to thinking about both as computational and representational. His research involves using nonlinear dynamic systems to model how organisms entrain to musical environments (in plain english: how do people sync up to rhythms when the tempo isn't always steady). He hopes to apply these models to neuroatypical cases (such as Autism Spectrum Disorder) to see if there are any meaningful differences in how music is processed via entrainment.

2014

News from **Darron Hayes**: "I've graduated from Penn State and live in New York City. I worked at Music Theatre Wichita last summer and I was part of the first ever all-Black production on *Next To Normal* at JAG Productions! In March, I made my off-Broadway debut in *Notes from Now*."



CLASS NOTES

After graduation from University of South Carolina in May 2021, **Stella McAuley** is working as an inside sales engineer at Schneider Electric in Nashville, TN.

Aleisha Patton is currently earning her master's degree at the Miami Ad School (Atlanta) and Furman University in Strategic Design with a focus in Graphic Design.

Nyla Rogers graduated from Western Kentucky University last spring. Among her honors: Outstanding Senior for the Chinese Department and Women of the Year award. She added, "I currently work at a Chinese based international company as a sales associate. I am able to use my second language (Mandarin, Chinese) that I was able to start learning at Summit. I am beyond grateful for Summit giving me the base I needed to stand out in our current job climate. So, thank you Summit for all of the amazing memories and life skills you've given to me." p.s. Go Green Team!



2015

Wills Combes wrote: "Even though I'm almost six and a half years removed from my time at Summit, the memories and its importance to me remains very strong. Often I'm reminded of the people I met during my time as a student and how well those relationships have carried on."

Emmie Littlejohn will graduate from UNC-Wilmington, December 2022, with a degree in Elementary Education with a concentration in Early Childhood Education. She hopes to teach Kindergarten in the Wilmington area; she and her fiance, Elijah, were engaged on Christmas Eve in Blowing Rock, NC, and will be married in Winston-Salem in August.

2016

During summer 2021, **Sadie McAuley** received her Wyoming real estate license and worked with Engel & Völkers - Jackson Hole as a licensed advisor assistant. She will continue working with them part-time as she continues her studies at Montana State University in Bozeman.

2017

Abigail Hano was featured in an article titled "Spotlight: Volunteering is a Family Affair - Dad and Daughter Bond Over Helping Others" published by the Winston-Salem non-profit Senior Services. Hano has volunteered with their Meals on Wheels program with her father since she was three. Hano is a sophomore at Denison University studying Global Health and Biology with a minor in Spanish as she prepares for a future career helping people. "The early

experiences I had volunteering definitely have had an impact on the person I am today and the passion I have for equitable distribution of opportunity. My current major focuses on the allocation of resources, specifically those that have to do with healthcare, but also takes into account the factors that may be affecting one's health that are out of their control like race, environment, and socioeconomic status."

She continues to give back to the community and said, "I have enjoyed being involved with

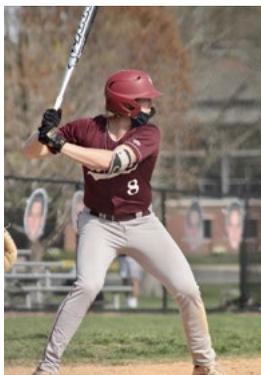
2017

Mackenzie Culp was named to the dean's list with distinction at Duke University for the fall 2021 semester.

2018

Evan Andrews earned his Eagle Scout award. He built a Little Free Library in two locations in East Winston-Salem. The planning and approval of the project took 18 months and the libraries were built over two weekends in August of 2020. The libraries are located at the office of J. Mark Oliver, DDS and the Winston Lake YMCA and serve elementary and middle school children.

Congratulations to **Davis Hanson** who has committed to play baseball at Yale University.



Sarah Ravenel was on campus assisting in lower school classrooms during her January Term. Ravenel is a student at Salem Academy and dually enrolled at Salem College; she intends to major in Education.

2019

RJ Reynolds High School students **Ava Ginn** and **Matt Valaoras** are co-presidents of Hearten, a 501(c)(3) founded by Valaoras's sister, Allie, and Ginn's sister, **Isabelle '17**; the student-run organization focuses on providing person-to-person service opportunities. The students were featured in the May 2021 issue of *Winston-Salem Monthly*.

Patrick Tuohy attended Interlochen Arts Camp in the summer of 2021 in the Musical Theatre Production program. He also worked in the awesome Maintenance Department at Summit School!

If you have news, updates, and photographs to share, please email alums@summitmail.org.

a number of nonprofit organizations. I would not have strived to be a part of all these incredible opportunities if I was not exposed to service and the importance of getting to know my community at such a young age. I think it is important for every child to have the opportunity to volunteer as the exposure to difficulties faced by those in a community can have a lasting impact on that child as they grow up and begin to form their personal values.”



CELEBRATIONS



Emily Krewson Watson '06



Turner Womble '99



Joe Hunter '08



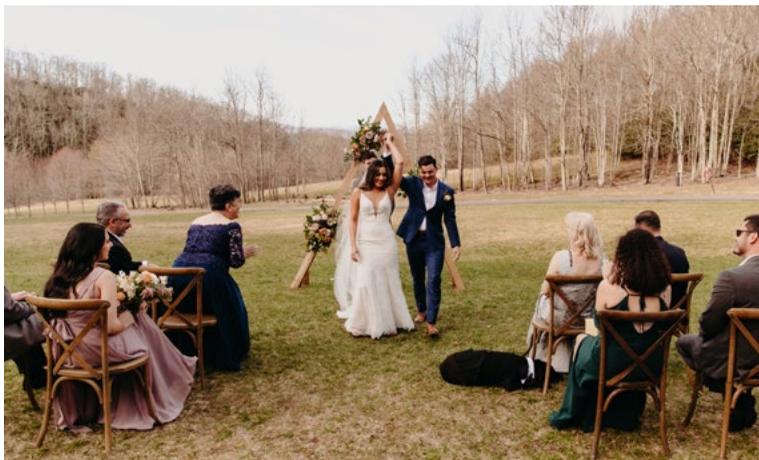
Mary Taylor Mann '08



Katy Brath '10



Alex Dapp '08



Nathan Culp '06

If you have news, updates, and photographs to share, please email alums@summitmail.org.

CONNECTIONS



Mr. Jason Felten and Maddie Felten '20 visit Katie Dalrymple '15 and Bo Darlymple '18 at Elon University



Jake Lang '14, Justin Lang '11, Ellie Kangur '13 and Mr. Henry Heidtmann reunite in downtown Winston-Salem



Big Friends Little Friends - Lauren Grubbs '22 visits Pierson Fuller '17 at Wofford College



Marcus Watson '16 and Kevin Dunn '17 during WFU v. NCA&T basketball game

CLASS OF 2018

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Samika Aher	Virginia Polytechnic Institute	John Layman	Appalachian State University
Charlie Allen	Appalachian State University	Donelle Leak	Elon University
Evan Andrews	UNC-Chapel Hill	Frank Littlejohn	UNC-Wilmington
McKinley Bassett	UNC-Chapel Hill	Elle Lovette	UNC-Asheville
Hannah Beck	Appalachian State University	Elizabeth Marshall	Washington and Lee University
Katie Bergelin	Southern Methodist University	Hollis Maxson	Savannah College of Art & Design
Parker Bond	University of Southern California		
Matthew Boyd	Furman University	Cliff McGinnis	Wake Forest University
Hannah Boyte	Appalachian State University	Katherine Mims	Denison University
Jackson Brown	Wake Forest University	Millie Murphy	Wofford College
Andrea Bull	Guilford College	Slate Northington	University of Rhode Island (2026)
Hunter Burge	U.S. Marine Corps	Wodajo Oleksy	UNC-Asheville
JP Caldwell	Miami University	Spencer Peddycord	Forsyth Technical Community College
Riley Daggett	Christopher Newport University		
Bo Dalrymple	Elon University	Owen Petersen	Texas Christian University
Ty Fansler	Clemson University	Logan Phelps	UNC-Asheville
Bennett Fant	NC State University	Robbie Powers	UNC-Charlotte
Logan Fant	NC State University	Sam Probst	Appalachian State University
Sadie Filipowski	Sarah Lawrence College (2026)	Kate Quadland	UNC-Chapel Hill
Owen Fitzgerald	California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo	Jennifer Rogers	UNC-Chapel Hill
		Emma Stuart Satterfield	Wake Forest University
Ben Fowler	Appalachian State University	Frank Seitz	UNC-Asheville
Alex French	Davidson College	Asa Shield	College of Charleston
Sam Fried	University of Chicago	Elizabeth Smith	Appalachian State University
Hayden Frosh	University of South Carolina	Elise Spangler	Appalachian State University
Jesse Gargis	Appalachian State University	Chloe Spieler	Savannah College of Art & Design
Isabella Garner	UNC-Wilmington		
Finn Giegengack	Georgia Institute of Technology	Kobe Stewart	George Washington University
Celia Gottlieb	UNC-Chapel Hill	Vance Stroupe	High Point University
Roy Greco	UNC-Chapel Hill	Amelia Sturkie	University of Georgia
Alex Green	UNC-Chapel Hill	Mercer Sullivan	Wake Forest University
Julia Grubbs	University of West Virginia	Bo Sutton	Wofford College
Sophie Halus	University of Colorado	Thalia Terlecki	UNC-Chapel Hill
Davis Hanson	Yale University (2026)	McLean Turner	Southern Methodist University
Walker Harris	UNC-Chapel Hill	Salem Turner	Shenandoah University
Nora Haulsee	University of Tennessee at Knoxville	Elise Tutwyler	Howard University
		Chase Walker	University of Colorado
Mary Alice Hirst	Texas Tech University	Elizabeth White	Clemson University
Henderson Holder	Furman University	McCray White	UNC-Chapel Hill
Cackie Hopkins	Gap Year	Thomas White	Clemson University
Anna Hudson	Berklee College of Music	Julia Whiting-Bryant	UNC-Wilmington
Hunter Johnson	Western Carolina University	Landon Williams	High Point University
Hunter Jones	UNC-Charlotte	Shawn Williamson	Forsyth Technical Community College
Jack Jordan	Appalachian State University		
Liam Keilty	Colorado College	Grace Wilson	University of Virginia
Trudie Kelley	University of Georgia		

If we have inadvertently omitted your name, please contact alums@summitmail.org with updates.

WELCOME TO **NEW ALUMS**



Ashley Moser Veneziano '87 and Annabella '21



Melissa Keith Lewis '89 and May '21



9th grade students present a check to The Shalom Project, a Winston-Salem non-profit. The annual philanthropy project is supported by the Lovett Foundation.



Kay D Burrell King '83 and Louise '21

IN MEMORIAM

Alumni/ae

Arthur Spaugh '46
Nancy Starbuck '54
Sally Glenn Blanco '56
Huber Hanes '62
Betty Seelbinder Sutton '74
Trip Dennis '84
Mac Culp '91
Lauren Moss '98
Daniel Hudgins '15

Former Staff/Faculty

Romey Bridges
Betty Cranford
Bonnie Hall
Doug Lewis
Connie Ritter

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Send information about job updates, weddings, births, high school and college graduations, honors and activities, and new addresses. We also love receiving photos. Please note that we can use only high resolution digital photos in publications.

Email information to alums@summitmail.org or fill out the form below and send it to:

Sarah Dalrymple, Director of Alumni and Community Engagement
Summit School
2100 Reynolda Road
Winston-Salem, NC 27106

Class Notes

Name _____ (Maiden) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Is this a new address? Yes No Telephone _____

Email address _____

Summit Class Year _____ News _____

★ ★ ★ CORE COMPETENCIES OF SUMMIT SCHOOL ★ ★ ★

PREPARED

Having acquired a strong academic, athletic, artistic, and technological foundation



HONORABLE

Operating from an ethical compass, guided by character, confidence, and competence



CURIOUS

Exhibiting intellectual curiosity, including critical and creative thinking with a commitment to lifelong learning



ACCEPTING

Demonstrating global awareness, embracing diversity, and working collaboratively within and beyond the school community

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* * * CORE COMPETENCIES OF SUMMIT SCHOOL * * *

