

SIDWELL

MAGAZINE SUMMER 2022

Friends



Andrea Razzaghi '78 on
astrophysics at NASA.

William Pao '86 on precision
medicine at Pfizer.

ADVENTURE CALLS

The surprising
benefits and beauty
of taking a gap year.

THE CITY ACROSS THE STREET

Get ready for new neighbors
on Wisconsin Avenue.



You are an essential part of the Sidwell Friends community!

When you make your gift to the Annual Fund, you join other members of this vibrant community committed to investing in each of our student's futures.

Your gift provides immediate and necessary funding to enrich the educational experience of our students in and out of the classroom and supports a new generation that can lead with kindness and compassion.

With deep appreciation, donations to the Annual Fund are recognized annually in our Report on Philanthropy.



NON-DISCRIMINATION AND TITLE IX

Nondiscrimination Statement: Sidwell Friends School prohibits discrimination and harassment against any member of the School community on the basis of race, color, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, age, disability, sex, personal appearance, genetic information, economic background, political affiliation, marital status, amnesty, or status as a covered veteran in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws. Director of Equity, Justice, and Community Natalie Randolph '98 has been designated to handle inquiries regarding discrimination and Title IX concerns, policies, and procedures.

Her contact information is:

Office Mail: 3825 Wisconsin Avenue NW, Washington DC 20016

Email: randolphn@sidwell.edu | Phone: (202) 537-8182

For assistance related to Title IX or other civil rights laws, please contact the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) at OCR@ed.gov or 800-421-3481; TDD 800-877-8339.

SIDWELL FRIENDS MAGAZINE

EDITORIAL

Editor-in-Chief
Sacha Zimmerman

Creative Director
Meghan Leavitt

Contributing Writers
Loren Ito Hardenbergh
Caleb Morris

Digital Producers
Anthony La Fleur
Sarah Randall

Editorial Assistant
Merry Grace Bagwell

Alumni Editor
Anna Wyeth

Contributing Designer
Alice Ashe

Contributing Photographers
Cameron Whitman
Susie Shaffer '69
Freed Photography
Kelly Lynch

LEADERSHIP

Head of School
Bryan K. Garman

Chief Communications Officer
Bill Burger

CONNECT WITH SIDWELL FRIENDS

f @sidwellfriends

t @sidwellfriends

i @sidwellfriends

Sidwell Friends Magazine
3825 Wisconsin Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20016
202-537-8444

sidwell.edu/magazine
magazine@sidwell.edu



On the Cover
Illustration by
Neil Stevens.

Contents

Summer 2022 Volume 93 Number 3



04



24



32



36

DEPARTMENTS

2 IRREVOCABLY HUMAN

The head of school on doing good, not just doing well.

4 ON CAMPUS

The BSU explores the legacy of Black Wall Street; the Class of 2022 graduates; the Lower School supports Ukraine; the Inside Out project hits campus; we ask Steven Steinbach five questions; and more.

22 THE ARCHIVIST

The development across the street from the Wisconsin Avenue campus used to belong to the School.

42 ALUMNI ACTION

Reunion; new books; smart conversations.

52 LIVING THEIR VALUES

William Pao '86 on developing life-saving medicine.

55 CLASS NOTES

For a special treat, check out "Saddlebags of Death."

83 WORDS WITH FRIENDS

"Breaks in the Schedule"

84 LAST LOOK

"Recipe for Success"

FEATURES

24 ADVENTURE CALLS

Taking a gap year before college can be a life-shaping enterprise. Here, five Sidwell Friends graduates recount five very different experiences—from studying in Nepal to professional ballet—with one overwhelming conclusion: Totally worth it.

32 THE CITY ACROSS THE STREET

With Wegmans, the International Baccalaureate, and a slew of new buildings, apartments, and shops moving in, the Sidwell Friends neighborhood on Wisconsin Avenue is about to see big changes.

36 LIVES THAT SPEAK: GALAXY QUEST

NASA's Andrea Johnson Razzaghi '78 on the vastness of deep space, practicing for failure, the scariest seven minutes in engineering, and why you should always stop and smell the science.

Irrevocably Human

Will you walk cheerfully over the world, answering goodness in everyone?

BY BRYAN GARMAN

As I write, our nation is recovering from a recent spate of mass shootings, including the school shooting in Uvalde, Texas, and is preoccupied with the January 6 hearings. Given these events, I was reminded of a relevant, if apocryphal, story from the Quaker canon, one I shared at Commencement.

After becoming a Quaker, William Penn was slow to accept the requisite practice of wearing gray; he sported stylish clothes and brandished a sword, symbolic of his noble roots and father's naval service. So, when he first met George Fox, founder of the faith, Penn worried that his elder might not approve of his flashy apparel and open-carry practices. To justify the latter habit, Penn recounted that he once drew his cutlass to fend off an assailant, who, on seeing the blade, fled in fear and without conflict. After describing this misadventure in peace-keeping, Penn must have encountered Fox's famously stern stare, for he sheepishly asked, "How long can I carry my sword?" A wise teacher, Fox turned the question back to his understudy: "Carry it as long as thou canst," he advised. If Penn were to be a Quaker, he would need to disarm as a matter of conscience not coercion. When years later these two Friends again crossed paths, Fox noticed that Penn no longer toted his weapon. "William, where is thy sword?" Fox inquired. "I wore it as long as I could," Penn said.

This tale calls us to reflect on the alignment between our actions and values. Like Penn, we all experience watershed moments, we are all called to extricate ourselves from habits that once presented as self-evident truths, but in fresh contexts impede self-realization and perhaps our ability to build a more perfect union. Until Penn simplified his dress and personal life—until he disarmed and dislodged himself from the aristocracy—he could not practice peace or equality in the Quaker context.

Our world seems far more complicated and fragile than Penn's, but it can still benefit from the radically simple and peaceful framework early Friends imagined. Long shadows extend from Ukraine to Uvalde, Buffalo to Laguna Woods, Tulsa to Philadelphia, making the world so unspeakably dark and dizzying that one scarcely knows where to look for the Light. It is understandable to feel fear, even to become fatalistic in the midst of deep darkness. We should remember, however, what Marcus Shaw '95 told our students when he spoke at Let Your Life Speak Day in April. This School lades its students with the "burden of optimism" and the power to make positive change. And if we are to make change that sustains the human race, we need to embrace

simplicity, the testimony that, as Friends write, "requires focusing our efforts on what is most important rather than diffusing our energies too broadly."

In some ways, the pandemic enabled us to simplify our lives and focus on one another's well-being. But let's be honest: Neither our city nor our School are simple communities. Status and power shape our daily existence; we revel in winning arguments and, this year, championships (I'm not complaining about those title banners, though); we are motivated by achievement, which often yields wealth, fame, or prestige. Don't get me wrong: Winning, creating wealth, and self-fulfillment can and should be achievements worth celebrating. As members of a Friends community, however, we must not seek to achieve solely or even primarily with the aim of garnering accolades or accumulating advantages. We must be intentional about how and why we excel. To what end will we direct our accomplishments, including the education we celebrate at Commencement?

Quaker education must always, in the broadest sense, serve the common good. If we are to have a common good to serve—and common ground seems exceedingly difficult to find in our nation—we need desperately to lay down swords that sever our bonds with one another. We must unload the violence, the hate, the ideologies, and yes, the weapons that harm and dehumanize. The burden of optimism is precious and weighty cargo that obligates us to lighten our hearts and minds, to make space for life-affirming qualities that will both serve and preserve us.

We live in an attention economy where distraction is the coin of the realm, where violence reigns, where consumption signifies success. Where will you invest your attention? When your minds become cluttered and your motives unclear, remember to simplify: Strip away the inessential so that you might discern and nurture that which makes us fundamentally and irrevocably human. Settle your mind and spirit in silence. Summon the courage to unlearn and undo patterns of injustice. Let your life speak with passion and purpose and love. Then we will achieve the outcome George Fox professed in the quotation inscribed above the Zartman House doors, through which our graduates pass prior to the ceremony: "We will walk cheerfully over the world, answering goodness in everyone." If we accomplish that simple goal, we will have achieved the most peaceful and significant and rewarding of lives. ✨



"We must be intentional about how and why we want to excel. To what end will we direct our accomplishments, including the education we celebrate at Commencement?"



Lower School music and movement teacher Matthew Stensrud leads students and families in a joyful celebration of Pride month in June.

ON CAMPUS

A Shining Year

For a special look back on the 2021/22 academic year, watch this magical video by award-winning videographer Anthony LaFleur.



sidwell.pub/2022

Anthony LaFleur

CLASS ACTS

Time to be DAZZLED

The latest Sidwell Friends alumni exuded radiance as they prepare to invent the stories of their lives.

Congratulations to the Class of 2022, Sidwell Friends School's latest group of alumni. Head of School **Bryan Garman** addressed the graduates with a reminder that the friendships and values forged at Sidwell Friends will shape their lives forever. "You have spoken about the profound strength of your friendships, which are beautiful to witness today," he said. "They will change, no doubt. But they will continue to provide remarkable strength and steadiness when the road gets rocky. So too, I hope, will your knowledge of Quaker values."

In a world rife with volatility, Garman said, "one scarcely knows where to look for the Light. It is understandable to feel fear, even to become fatalistic in the midst of deep darkness. But the Light is right here. It is in each and every one of you, and today you are especially radiant." Their radiance was in fact palpable as each senior took a special moment to cheer for their faculty and parents before alighting the stage to receive their diplomas.

Meanwhile, fellow alum and Commencement speaker **Baratunde Thurston '95** challenged the Class of 2022 to define "citizen" as a verb, noting that democracy is a participatory sport and one that is not optional. Thurston also offered a raft of advice that drew both laughs and tears: meditate, hydrate, go outside, eat lunch, make time to connect, abolish the electoral college, get rid of fossil fuels, watch the January 6 Commission hearings, and don't trust adults who charge young people with changing the world who aren't willing to pitch in themselves.

"Our greatest power is in service of a fiction," Thurston said, referring to the idea that all knowledge is a story we tell each other—a theme the author and comedian also explored in his 2019 TED Talk. And so, Thurston ushered the Class of 2022 into the next chapter of their lives—a chapter he encouraged them to author fearlessly and truthfully: "Let's write a better story, one that's big enough to include us all."



“Let’s write a better story, one that’s big enough to include us all.”



CLASS ACTS

MOVING ON UP

Sidwell Friends' newest classes of Middle and Upper Schoolers celebrate their latest milestone.

Triumph was in the air at the 4th grade Stepping Up ceremony, as the Class of '30 sang Katy Perry's "Firework" ("Baby, you're a firework / Come on, show 'em what you're worth!"). Before dancing, dabbing, and bowing their way across the stage, the new Middle Schoolers gave a standing ovation to their parents and teachers, honored tech and teaching guru **Jenni Voorhees**'s four-plus decades at Sidwell Friends, and announced their class gifts—one of which was for the World Wildlife Fund's program to save arctic, red, fennec, and other foxes ("We know Star will especially appreciate this gift!"). Lower School Principal **Adele Paynter** noted that friends and relatives across the world were watching the ceremony via Zoom—including folks in Ghana, Romania, New Jersey, and even across town quarantining in a DC basement!

The 8th graders were also celebrating as they head off to the Upper School next fall. "You are beautiful people!" extolled Head of School **Bryan Garman** during the group's



last moments in Middle School. The Class of '26 is rather remarkable: These kids have coped with the unspeakable loss of classmate **Kieran Shafritz de Zoysa '26** in the Easter bombing in Sri Lanka during their first year of Middle School, only to spend the next two Middle School years in distance or hybrid learning—and still they persevered. "Our teachers were the strong currents that pushed us through rough waters," noted students from Teams Sky, Land, and Sea. There will undoubtedly be rigorous and challenging times ahead in Upper School, but maybe the waters will be just a bit calmer. Whatever happens, this class is ready to tackle it head on and come out on top.

As the new Middle Schoolers and Upper Schoolers prepare to switch divisions, their raw potential and Quaker spirits were evident as they took the stage and looked to the next chapter with expectant faces and huge smiles. The eternal wisdom of Katy Perry was on full display: "You just gotta ignite the Light / And let it shine."

All photos: Fred Photography





From Left: Spencer Boyer '87, Dan Froomkin '81, Bo Kemp '87, Bobby Gravitz '00, Andrea Johnson Razzaghi '78, Gregory Jackson '69, Lisa Sherman '91, Dominique Alfandre '75, Kathy Lowy '88, Liza Donnelly '73, Leslie Wolf-Creutzfeldt '74, Michael Tapscott '73, Eliza Orlins '01, Jeremy Bernton '01, Annie Weissman '01, Daniel Case '01, Sintana Vergara '00, Albert Gore '01, Alice Sturm '05

SPECIAL TOPICS

Careers That Feed The Soul

Alumni teach Upper Schoolers how to let their lives speak.

In one room at the Upper School, **Lisa Sherman '91** talked about working on her first congressional campaign at age 16. In another, **Alice Storm '05** discussed building an urban garden in Baltimore. Over at the Kogod Arts Center, **Annie Weissman '01** asked students for one word they hope will define their future careers. This was the scene for Let Your Life Speak, a morning to showcase the wide variety of careers Sidwell Friends alumni have chosen—and to examine why.

For **Kathryn Bostic**, becoming a musician and a composer wasn't an easy choice, but it was the only one. "I was miserable doing anything else," she said. In her keynote session that kicked off the day—one that was part talk, part concert—she spoke about the necessity of answering the call you hear, even if it's not the safe thing to do. "These are my hands on the steering wheel of life," she said from the piano. Bostic, who has earned an Emmy nomination (among many other awards) and composed

the score for several films, also detailed how grateful she was that her success came later in life—not on the schedule she had planned. "If I had gotten what I wanted when I wanted it, it would have slipped out of my hands like water," she said. "Life is not linear. It's a footpath, but it's also a labyrinth. Enjoy every step of it."

After the large session, students split up for smaller group chats. Sherman, who during her time was the only girl to play 7/8 baseball, described how the experience made her tough, a necessary quality for someone who spent her life in politics and now is the deputy chief administrative officer for the U.S. House of Representatives. For **Andrea Razzaghi '78**, the director at the NASA Office of Jet Propulsion Laboratory Management and Oversight, it was what she didn't hear that made a difference (see "Galaxy Quest," page 36 to learn more about Razzaghi). When she told the college counselor, she liked math and physics, he didn't say, "Oh,

you're probably going to be the only girl in all of your classes." He assumed she could handle it, so she did. To wrap up the morning, **Marcus Shaw '95**, the CEO of AltFinance, spoke at the closing session. "It is tough to believe that there is that of God in everyone when you're standing across the room from people who hate everything that you stand for," he said. "But it is your burden to be optimistic."



Shaw

CULTURE CLUB

Rise Up: Black Wall Street

The Slack Student Union Production goes to Greenwood.



Camron Whitman

The Black neighborhood of Greenwood in Tulsa, Oklahoma, became known as "Black Wall Street" in the early part of the 20th century thanks to the scores of successful Black-owned businesses and Black homeowners. But on May 31, 1921, Greenwood residents saw everything they had worked for and built collapse. After a Black man was accused of raping a white woman, enraged whites descended on the area, looting shops, burning buildings, and murdering anyone with the wrong skin color. After two days, 35 city blocks were reduced to rubble, 300 people were dead, and 800 were injured. What's more, 9,000 residents were left homeless—and no whites were arrested. The Tulsa massacre was a gut punch that still reverberates across the Greenwood community today. And yet, when the Sidwell Friends Black Student Union (BSU) made Greenwood the theme of their 2022 production, they chose to celebrate the history and future of Black entrepreneurship with *Rise Up: Black Wall Street*.

"One of the main goals for this show was to be more optimistic and hopeful," says **Becki M'Mari '23**, a

co-president of the BSU. "Although the story of Black Wall Street is also the story of the Tulsa massacre, there was so much more about that city we wanted to portray." This year's BSU show was both a dynamic homage to Greenwood and a joyous return to the stage. The last time the production went live was just days before the 2020 pandemic lockdown. In 2021, the show went virtual, with parents, guardians, and siblings stepping in as camera operators to get footage of performers all over the city in celebration of DC's Black history. "I started doing the BSU show in 7th grade," says **Sophie Valbrune '23**, the BSU secretary. "I did three live shows, and the virtual one in 10th grade. So, hearing that all the magic that I had known in the past years was going to be back onstage was pretty exciting. I knew that we had to make this our big comeback year."

While the members of the BSU do receive support from Sidwell Friends faculty and staff, the lion's share of the production is in student hands. "By having us doing it, we got to put in exactly what we wanted to show," says **Molina Dew-Brunis '23**. "It was exactly our vision." Part of that vision

included working with participating Lower School students, who performed an enthusiastic rendition of "Almost There" from Disney's *The Princess and the Frog*. "I always knew that if we were going to feature Black businesses, I really wanted the Lower Schoolers to sing 'Almost There,'" says Valbrune. "As a child, *The Princess and the Frog* was really eye-opening, seeing a Black female as a Disney princess who worked hard for what she got."

Rise Up: Black Wall Street was also the first live BSU production since the passing of **Brittany Chase**, who was integral to previous productions. "She was always on my mind," says Dew-Brunis. "When Sophie was trying to get everyone to sing louder and dance better, I was thinking, 'Oh, Ms. Chase would always get us together like that.'" M'Mari agrees. "I found myself thinking about her a lot," she says. "I wish I could have said something to her to let her know how much I appreciated her in the years I knew her. I'm really thankful to have known her."

The BSU Production has always been a key part of life at Sidwell Friends for all members of the community, whether they're onstage, in the audience, or watching the show from home. "Students creating a production and putting their own vision onto the stage for the whole School community is something very special," says **Khalab Blagburn '23**, another BSU co-president. "That's why this production continues to be so important."



Camron Whitman

STATE OF THE ARTS

Face Time

Photography students launch an Inside Out art installation at Sidwell Friends.

French graffiti artist JR wants to use art to change the world. So, in 2011, when he won the TED Prize, which provides funding for the most inspiring and high-impact ideas, he did just that. The Inside Out project is a “large-scale, participatory art project” that “transforms messages of personal identity into public art, by making digitally-uploaded images into free posters displayed in diverse communities.” Participants also document their exhibitions on the Inside Out website as part of a larger archive, which, over the last decade, now spans more than 400,000 people across 138 countries.

For the past two years, Sidwell Friends photography students have been working on a large-scale photo mural in collaboration with JR and his New York studio. The driving aim of the project is to “remind us that we’re not alone,” **Natalie Wise '22** wrote in an article for the Inside Out website, “and allow us to remember our joyful moments even when things feel hard.” This spring, that joy could be felt with every step onto the Wisconsin Avenue campus, where huge posters of students’ faces papered over the exterior walls of the School’s buildings—making it nearly impossible to feel alone.

Creating that reminder of community is precisely the point. After the death of **Mikey Wood '23** last fall, Upper School students felt the loss of their friend acutely. The photography students thought about JR’s mission to heal communities through art and decided to dedicate their Inside Out installation, “Heart of Our Community,” to Mikey Wood. “You’ll see it when you glance out the window during a particularly stressful math class, or you’ll sit by it while doing homework, or you’ll turn to it when you feel down and just need a little pick-me-up,” wrote Wise. “Our installation is something that represents the life of our community and honors the joy that Mikey brought us all in doing so.”

Photography teacher **Lely Constantinople** says the photography students deserve recognition for their tireless work with JR’s studio in New York to bring the project to fruition. In a special dedication space, the students memorialized their efforts with an explanation: “Photography students created an Action to capture joy within our community. We wanted to make individuals feel represented and welcome and foster a sense of togetherness within our School.” Mission accomplished.

Constantinople hopes to bring the project to the Middle School next year. Until then, even when the space is otherwise empty or you’re having an off day, the campus will be alive with friendly faces.



Anthony La Fleur

JUST CAUSES

From Passion To Publication

The School’s youngest authors write for a cause.

The most recent books by authors in the Sidwell Friends community are not by alumni or parents but by a pair of Middle School siblings and a trio of 4th graders.



Ariana '29 and Ava '27

For sisters **Ava '27** and **Ariana '29**, their book projects stemmed from their love of Chinese. Now the two are each the author of a children’s book intended to introduce kids to basic Chinese vocabulary, characters, and pronunciations. Ariana based her book, *Ana*, on her own life; it covers the main character’s school, her favorite restaurant, and her hobbies. Ava’s book, *A Shopping Adventure*, is inspired by actual events—a trip with her dad

during which she begged for a rather expensive pink bathing suit! The books aren’t just fun tales. They also serve a larger purpose. “I’m really fortunate to be able to go to a school where I was exposed to different cultures at such a young age, and I know not everyone has that privilege,” Ava says. “I wanted this to be a learning tool, so everyone could have that opportunity.” To that end, in addition to storytelling, each book includews a vocabulary guide and even a QR code on every page that allows readers to hear the girls speaking the text aloud. That was important, they say, since tone is so critical in Chinese. Ava and Ariana are finishing up more Chinese books, which will be out soon, as well as similar works in Spanish and French.

Exposure to other cultures also inspired the book *Welcome* by **Aria '28**, **Ivy '28**, and **Catalina '28**, who started to work on their book last spring to advocate for justice, inclusion, and equity. The story follows a young panda named Yuan Yuan who feels unaccepted in her new home. But, when the rest of the animals in the forest get captured, Yuan Yuan must embark on an adventure to save them—and change all of their lives. The girls are selling the book on Amazon and are donating all profits to Sidwell Friends.



JUST CAUSES

Fields of Gold

The Lower School’s new sunflower project supports Ukrainian refugees.

Sunflowers are in bloom across the Lower School just as they are throughout Ukraine—even, or perhaps especially, in a time of war. Sunflowers are Ukraine’s official national flower an a symbol of peace there, which is why demonstrations in support of Ukraine around the world have included them on posters and signs. Inspired, the Lower School’s Service Learning Committee partnered with the refugee support organization HIAS (originally known as the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society) to fundraise for displaced people in Ukraine. To do this, the Lower Schoolers created sunflower art to sell during a silent auction at Spring Fling—with all proceeds going to HIAS. The children started the project with a reading about refugees to introduce them to concepts of war and displacement. Then the teachers tasked each class with creating their own sunflower vision. “A lot of classes used the Quaker decision-making process to decide how the project would look,” says **Jamie Tomik**, a 4th grade teacher and co-clerk of the Service Learning Committee at the Lower School. “So there was a lot of student voice

and choice involved.” Then, using unique QR-linked codes, parents and other community members could bid on the art or simply make a donation. So far, the Lower School has raised more than \$2,100 for HIAS. Ukraine’s national flower, soniashnyk in Ukrainian, has been grown on its central and eastern steppes since the 1700s. That’s when the native North American plant was first introduced to Europe. Now Sidwell Friends Lower Schoolers are reintroducing it—as a message of peace.



Lower School sunflower art

CLASS ACTS

An Ocean of Statues Comes Alive

A group of Upper Schoolers teach Lower Schoolers about one of ancient China’s most awe-inspiring sites.

“There is probably some stuff in there that will definitely kill you,” an Upper Schooler cryptically told a room of rapt 4th graders recently. The student was teaching the Lower Schoolers about Chinese Emperor Qinshihuang’s unopened—and possibly booby-trapped—burial chamber, which is famously surrounded by 8,000 clay soldiers intended to protect the emperor in the afterlife. The third century BCE Terracotta Warriors of Xi’an, China, were discovered in 1974, but archeologists are still not confident they can unseal the burial chamber itself while also protecting whatever lies inside. So, until new technology comes along, Qinshihuang remains undisturbed.

The six Upper School students in the Advanced Chinese seminar acted as Lower School teachers for an afternoon as they shared their knowledge of the Terracotta Warriors with the 4th grade classes, who are currently also studying ancient China. The Upper School students have a special relationship with the Terracotta Army Museum in Shaanxi, China. The class had five live virtual field trips to the museum, as well as four Zoom calls with content experts on the ground.

“We are very grateful to Professor Dong and her staff at the museum for sharing so much of their time and expertise in giving our students this extraordinary experience,” says Chinese teacher **Qihui Tang**.



The Terracotta Army

“It was a chance for students to do interdisciplinary research, archived in portfolios of their work.”

Working in rotating teams, the Upper School students taught the 4th graders about the tomb’s history, discovery, and preservation, as well as some of the language. The warriors, for example, are called *bin ma yong* in Chinese. When the Upper Schoolers displayed the characters on a screen, hands shot up as the students recognized the words for “soldier,” “horse,” and “tomb.” The 4th graders were particularly impressed that the Upper Schoolers got to meet with the researchers on the ground in China. “Why don’t we get to do that?” asked one student. **Jamie Tomik**, a 4th grade teacher, assured the class it was something they could look forward to in Upper School (“That’s, like, forever,” sighed a 4th grader).

Unsurprisingly, when the Upper Schoolers opened the floor for questions, they were inundated. Students asked about what colors adorned the now-faded statues (they were painted just about every vibrant color you can think of—except yellow,

as that was a shade reserved for the emperor himself); the size of the massive site (about the same size as Disneyland!); and, of course, that mysterious, unopened tomb (which may have booby traps).

Any time the Upper School visits their young Quaker counterparts, it is a treat, giving the Lower Schoolers a glimpse of what awaits them when they take their places on the Wisconsin Avenue campus. Allowing Upper Schoolers to become teachers also deepens their own understanding of the subject matter, as they have to think on their feet, particularly when it comes to answering some of the students’ questions. (To wit: “Do we know exactly *what* will kill you if you open the tomb?”)

“We hope that this experiment can help us to continue to explore innovative methods of learning, both in and out of the classroom,” said Tang. “Especially during the pandemic, when travel and experiential learning programs are so difficult, the museum’s innovative virtual field trips filled the gap beautifully.”

CLASS ACTS

The Bend of History

STEVEN STEINBACH P '12, '14 has been teaching U.S. history and government at Sidwell Friends for more than 15 years. Now he has merged these subject-matter and pedagogical passions in a new book, *With Liberty and Justice for All? The Constitution in the Classroom*, published by Oxford University Press. The book, co-edited by Steinbach, Maeva Marcus, and Robert Cohen, demonstrates the profound worth of studying constitutional decision-making, especially as it spurs a deeper understanding of the trajectory of the nation's history. What's more, *With Liberty and Justice for All?* features a foreword by the late U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.



1. How would you describe *With Liberty and Justice for All? The Constitution in the Classroom* in terms of the book's purpose and intended audience?

The book is primarily intended for high school teachers and their students—especially teachers and students of U.S. history. U.S. history can be taught through a variety of lenses—political, social, economic, etc. What the book suggests is that U.S. history also can be taught—or that other U.S. history narratives can be supplemented—by focusing on constitutional history. Indeed, in the book we claim that “United States history is constitutional history.”

Nowadays, it's not too difficult to recognize this: 21st-century politics is driven by disputes and debates over “rights.” Increasingly, Americans have turned to the courts—and to the Constitution—to resolve their political, social, and ideological disagreements about issues such as privacy, equality, abortion, gun control, property rights, religion, and the like. As a result, the national political agenda has become laser-focused on the Supreme Court and the Constitution.

While the book will be of value to teachers and students, I'd like to think it will also be of interest to ordinary citizens—to anyone interested in understanding the Constitution as a great “storybook” in which we can, collectively, read about our past, present, and maybe even future.

2. What are “constitutional moments”?

Disputes about the interpretation and applicability of the Constitution have been front and center throughout our nation's history. As often as not, political controversies have been grounded in and shaped by constitutional fights—or what we refer to in the book as “constitutional moments.” At the Constitutional Convention, there were intense

debates over the structure and powers of the new government and over the treatment of slavery. Then followed a huge controversy over whether the Constitution should be ratified, particularly because it lacked a bill of rights. Once the new government was up and running, we engaged in constitutional fights over the legitimacy of a national bank, the authority of courts to declare laws unconstitutional, and the power of states to nullify laws of Congress. The decades before, during, and after the Civil War featured one “constitutional moment” after another—about slavery, fugitive slaves, the Dred Scott decision, secession of the Southern states, the abolition of slavery, and the revolutionary amendments to the Constitution added during Reconstruction. In subsequent eras, disagreements over the scope and sweep of the Constitution were at the core of political fights about the exclusion of Chinese immigrants, the right of women to vote, the practice of eugenics and forced sterilization, the internment of Japanese Americans, McCarthyism and free speech, desegregation and school integration, and voting rights. In other words, just in today's world, the Constitution has been ground zero for many of our most crucial historical episodes. That's what our book attempts to explore.

5 QUESTIONS for STEVEN STEINBACH

3. Why is this moment a crucial time to focus on democracy and civics education?

The book arrives at critical moment for several reasons. To begin with, too many schools (public and private) have deemphasized or even eliminated the civics classes that used to form part of the core high school curriculum. Sometimes this has occurred to find more room for STEM; sometimes for less noble reasons. But all schools still require the year-long U.S. history survey class. Our book will provide teachers with the means to inject more civics education—more constitutional history—into the standard U.S. history curriculum.

But our book is also timely from a broader perspective. When you step back and think about it, our current political atmosphere—intense partisanship, polarization, and arguably even existential threats to democracy—is not all that surprising. After all, “We the People” don't actually have a lot in common, at least when one considers our many political, racial, economic, religious, social, geographical, educational, ancestral, and linguistic differences. But what we do share as Americans is our

common constitutional heritage—our liberties, rights, institutions, and traditions, all of which are encapsulated in the Constitution. The more students, teachers, and citizens can appreciate and learn from our historical experiment in collective self-government, the more we can hope to approach, in the Constitution's words, “a more perfect Union.”

4. What makes the book unique?

The book features an introduction from the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, written very shortly before her death. We are honored to share some of her final thoughts about the Constitution, citizenship, and democracy. An introductory chapter explains the nature of the Constitution and the particular role of the courts, and features an essay from Linda Greenhouse, who reported on the Supreme Court for decades for *The New York Times*. The book then proceeds chronologically. Each chapter covers a particular historical era, is anchored by an overview essay from a noted constitutional historian (including several Pulitzer and Bancroft Prize winners), and includes a generous collection of excerpts from primary-source documents, presented

in historical and constitutional context. We've also collected a host of other Constitution-related resources, including discussion questions, bibliographies, and ideas for further study. The book is accompanied by a free website that makes additional information and material available for readers.

5. Did your classroom experiences with Sidwell Friends students help inform this book?

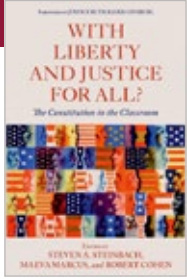
Absolutely! In fact, my students will recognize many of the primary sources and discussion questions I chose to include in the book. Sidwell Friends students are simply remarkable in terms of their interest in current events, their capacity for thoughtful analysis and argument, and their ability to engage in intelligent and spirited discussions and debates. I'm continually learning from them, in class after class, year after year. I've also benefited enormously from working closely with my sensationally talented colleagues in the history department. And the School has been especially generous in giving me time away to work on this project.

CIVICS AND CIVILITY

Below, you can read an excerpt from Steinbach's book about the connection between past precedents and current headlines—as well as the need for respectful debate.

Effective teachers of history and civics know that engaging students in their classrooms involves analysis and debate about the American past. And getting students to care about the past means going beyond names and dates by motivating them to think critically about history and its links to the present. Our students today have grown up in a society riven by political divisions and a host of heated arguments that they can readily track with a glance at their phones. So today more than ever, teachers need historical materials that can both illuminate current disputes and introduce their students to weighty controversies throughout United States history about liberty, security, freedom, justice, equality, and rights. At a time, moreover, when the US history curriculum is often front-page news (and even the subject of acrimony in state legislatures), we believe the need for a balanced, open-ended, and open-minded assessment of our nation's constitutional heritage is all the more essential. We need to teach our students that political disagreements in a democracy can and must be discussed rationally and respectfully.

Constitutional history by its very nature involves analysis and argument, conflict and debate – it invites consideration and evaluation of diverse viewpoints—it provides an open forum for those in the majority and the minority alike. Our goal is to help teachers motivate their students to think and speak critically, even passionately, about court cases and legal history. Such exchanges are aimed not at closing minds, but at opening them to multiple perspectives and to dialogue across political and ideological lines. In our own era of tribalism and right- and left-wing bubbles, the courtroom is still a place where civil discussion, logic, and evidence matter. Supreme Court justices might not agree with each other, but they communicate with each other, and with society at large, through reasoned argument. Ideally, the classroom can be a similar space.



WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL?: THE CONSTITUTION IN THE CLASSROOM Edited by Steven A. Steinbach, Maeva Marcus, and Robert Cohen Oxford University Press, 2022



STATE OF THE ARTS

Optimism! It's Only a Play Away.

After two years of social distance, Upper School students reclaim the stage for a classic tale of resilience.

In March, the curtain came down on the Upper School's run of the Broadway classic *Annie*. It was two years to the day since the Upper School held its previous musical theater production, a solitary performance of *Newsies* before lockdown. *Annie*, the timeless show about a plucky orphan defined by her cheerful positivity, was just the right story for the moment, says **Sarah Markovits**, the Upper School chorus teacher and the show's director. "The story is all hopefulness and optimism," she says. *Annie* was chosen for practical reasons as well. It is one of the few

musicals available to schools that allows public streaming, which was a serious consideration—just in case live performances became unsafe once more. But the cast and crew were determined to ensure that wouldn't happen again: For the safety of everyone involved, the cast was tested for COVID daily leading up to opening night. A clean bill of health also meant the actors did not have to wear masks on stage. *Annie* was also special because students who hadn't previously been involved in theater showed up in droves. The cast was large (37 students and one dog,



named Gabby), and students easily filled out the 15-person crew, working the fly system, building props and costumes, and toiling in the dark. All told, 10 percent of the Upper School student body was involved, making *Annie* a great opportunity to welcome new faces to the theater. "This is a big-tent thing," says Markovits. "The musical should include anybody who wants to be a part of it." Like the bevy of Lower Schoolers who showed up for the production. "Just seeing their faces and hearing the little kids singing along," Markovits says, "that's what I hope theater in the Upper School will be." A lot has changed in two years. But with this production of *Annie*, it seemed like the sun wasn't waiting until tomorrow to come out—it started shining right away.

SPECIAL TOPICS

"We Are All Living Through History"

Fiona Hill talks to Upper School students about Ukraine.

The situation in Ukraine is dynamic. So dynamic, in fact, that when **Fiona Hill** came to speak to the Upper School about the Russian invasion of Ukraine, some of the information she had when she got into her car to drive to the School was outdated by the time she arrived. Hill served as deputy assistant to the president and senior director for European and Russian affairs on the National Security Council and is the author of several books, including her latest, *There is Nothing for You Here: Finding Opportunity in the 21st Century*, a memoir that traces her journey from a childhood in England to becoming a renowned expert on Russia and serving in multiple White House administrations. She came to the Upper School after students expressed a desire to learn more about the roots of the Ukrainian situation. "We are all living through history," she said. "And we all have a role to play in it."

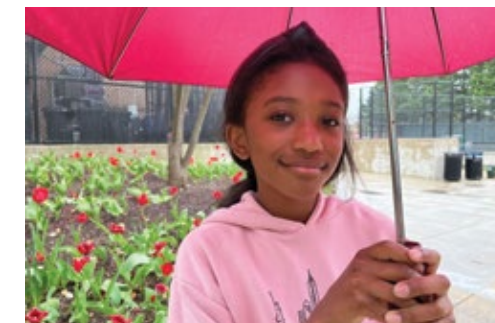
Hill first gave a brief history lesson about the relationship between Russia and the former Soviet state, providing context for the current struggle. She also made it clear that the Russian people carry almost no fault in the war; they live, she said, in a "dome of propaganda." "The Russian people don't have a voice," Hill said. "They don't have a say." Who does have a voice? The students who were listening to her. In addition to calling on government officials and private businesses to support Ukraine, Hill pointed out that social media can reach ordinary Russians in a way that bypasses state-run media. Students with any contacts among Russians—family, friends, or online acquaintances—can try to get accurate information into the country. It is still a scary situation, said Hill, as the Russian invasion of a sovereign nation sets a dangerous precedent unseen since World War II—but information is power.



Hill

CULTURE CLUB

Naturally Beautiful



The Sidwell Friends Black Girls Society talks hair.

When **St. Clair Detrick-Jules** found out her sister, Khloe, was being mocked at school for her natural Black hair, she decided to write a book about it. The result is *My Beautiful Black Hair*, a book of photographs celebrating all types of Black hair. "I knew what it was like for so many Black women—looking in the mirror and wishing there was another reflection looking back," said Detrick-Jules, who is also a filmmaker, photographer, and activist, in a virtual session hosted by the Sidwell Friends Black Girls Society. Now she is celebrating that reflection. Detrick-Jules says Black hair is a gift from your ancestors—"something that no amount of colonization or slavery can take away from us." To that end, *My Beautiful Black Hair* features interviews and photographs of more than 100 Black women who share what they love and have learned about their hair. The book is resonating. "When I was little, a lot of my classmates with straight hair would touch mine, like it was a toy or almost like an alien," says **Avery '29**, a member of the Black Girls Society who introduced Detrick-Jules. "Now I've learned more about my hair—that it's beautiful, it's not weird, and it's not a toy." For Avery, being able to discuss her experience as a Black girl in her Sidwell Friends affinity group and in other Black spaces, like the more formal discussion with Detrick-Jules, is a vital part of learning about herself. "It's important to have these types of books and spaces that affirm your identity," Avery says. "So you can build pride and love for yourself, and know you have a community when you're feeling down."



GOOD SPORTS

THAT'S A WRAP

The Quakers finish strong with the end of the spring season.

BY CALEB MORRIS

With spring in full bloom, Sidwell Friends athletics rose to the challenge once again with a full slate of games for boys' and girls' lacrosse, track and field, baseball/softball, tennis, crew, and ultimate frisbee. New this spring were the addition of District of Columbia State Athletic Association (DCSAA) championship tournaments in boys' and girls' lacrosse, and a spring golf championship.

Boys' track and field competed over a two-day meet—and with great individual performances—captured the Mid-Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAC) championship. Girls' track and field competed at the ISL and DCSAA championships with a young team that is building for the future.

Boys' tennis went undefeated in conference and tournament play in the MAC and won both the regular

season and DCSAA tournament championships. Girls' tennis joined their counterparts with a strong showing in the DCSAA tournament championships.

Crew wrapped a tremendous season, which included the "Freshmen 8" taking a silver medal at the Virginia Scholastic Rowing Championships, the league championship regatta.

Both the girls' and boys' lacrosse teams saw resurgences. The boys advanced to the MAC Tournament final for the first time since 2007. Signature wins for the boys include Langley, St. Mary's Ryken, and an upset against St. James in the MAC semifinals. The boys also played in the first-ever DCSAA championship game finals at Catholic University but went

down to St. Alban's. Girls' lacrosse, under first-year head coach **Audrey Whittier**, reached the Independent School League (ISL) semifinals and also competed in the first-ever DCSAA championship tournament. Signature wins for the girls included Maret, Bishop O'Connell, and Episcopal on Senior Day.

Softball saw an uptick with head coach

Heath Simon, as the program continues to build for the future. Signature wins included Episcopal and Holy Child in the ISL

tournament. Baseball had an impressive walk-off win against St. James in the MAC tournament before their season wrapped up. Signature wins included Georgetown Day, Potomac, and MAC league co-champs Flint Hill.

Ultimate frisbee wrapped up their season in the DCSAA tournament.

In the inaugural DCSAA golf tournament, **Andrew Ludwin '23**, placed runner-up after extra holes were needed to crown a champion.

What's more, Sidwell Friends Athletics also welcomed another DCSAA banner this spring courtesy of the chess team!

Finally, some amazing seniors graduated with sports honors: **Cameron Gilley '22** and **Aviva Wright '22** each won the Unsung Hero Award; **Christian Gamble '22** won the Wannan Award; **Kiki Rice '22** won the Fine Award; and **Aaron Garnett '22** and **Kate Borkowski '22** each won the Rusch Award. (To learn more about the awards, see box at right.)

One special note: Thank you to departing Director of Athletics **Keith Levinthal**, who leaves Sidwell Friends Athletics in a better place and reminds us that #CultureWins, now and forever. Thank you, Keith!

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



THE AWARDS

THE UNSUNG HERO AWARD recognizes a senior male and female athlete for contributions that might otherwise go unrecognized. The recipients of the award—by virtue of their presence, participation, dedication, and enthusiasm—have significantly enriched the Sidwell Friends Athletic Department.

THE DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD honors senior student-athletes who have earned significant accolades at the league level and beyond and who have admirably represented their teams and Sidwell Friends in competition.

THE WANNAN AND FINE AWARDS acknowledge a senior male and female athlete who, by consensus of the Athletic Department, deserve recognition for their talent, leadership, dedication, sportsmanship, broad participation, and involvement in all aspects of School life.

THE TYLER CHRISTIAN RUSCH '04 AWARD commends a senior male and female athlete who have significantly enriched Sidwell Friends Athletics through motivational leadership, steadfast participation, dedication to teamwork, enthusiasm, and all-out effort. This award is named in memory of former student Tyler Rusch '04.



THE ARCHIVIST

Unified Field Theory

Soon, the development across the street from Sidwell Friends' Wisconsin Avenue campus will open. The School community will likely begin to swarm the new Wegmans and other shops across the street—from teachers squeezing in some quick shopping to students grabbing a snack. But did you know our students used to make that same trek across Wisconsin Avenue for... sports practice?

BY LOREN ITO HARDENBERGH

AFTER THOMAS AND FRANCES SIDWELL turned their home at 3901 Wisconsin Avenue into a second campus in the 1910s, they rented the grass fields across the street from real estate magnate and brew-master Christian Heurich. Following Heurich's death in 1945, the School had an opportunity to acquire the land. To help finance the \$225,000 purchase, the Board of Trustees sold off a small section at the northwest corner of its property to a correspondence school planning to erect an office building. (Seventy years later, the School would end up purchasing that very building, too, at 3939 Wisconsin.) Sidwell Friends now owned 10 acres to the west of Wisconsin Avenue and nine to the east.

Still, a major road cutting through the middle of campus was far from ideal. Security officers did their best to control traffic on Wisconsin Avenue, with students dodging automobiles and streetcars to get to their games on time. Thomas Sidwell even tried to get the city to allow him to build an overpass bridge, allegedly offering a contractor free tuition for his daughter if he could make it happen.

What the School really had its eyes on was the Highlands estate to the south of campus. During World War II, the School was able to rent the old stone house, and for years tried to purchase it from the owner, Gertrude Harrison, the wife of the late Admiral Cary T. Grayson Jr., but she wouldn't budge.

Finally, an opportunity came along that couldn't be passed up. In 1954, the Equitable Life Insurance Company offered

the School \$750,000 for the 10-acre tract they had purchased from Heurich (whose granddaughter Connie Heurich graduated from Sidwell Friends that same year). With the proceeds from that sale, the School could not only buy the Highlands and surrounding acreage from Harrison for \$600,000; it could cover the costs to turn that land into athletic fields to replace the ones they had just sold and finally consolidate the School safely on one side of Wisconsin Avenue. "Though it was often in his vision," Board Chair J. Austin Stone mused, "it is doubtful whether Mr. Sidwell ever thought that the School might really acquire this fine property."

The Board of Trustees went on to name this historic structure after a woman who had served the School since 1919 as the Sidwell Friends' assistant, business manager, dean of girls, and eventually founding trustee. Some called her "Helen," others "Zartie," but now we know her mostly by her last name: Zartman.

Today, we can hardly picture Sidwell Friends without that old stone house and its surrounding land. Whether entering through the front door for an admissions interview, or walking down the rear steps at graduation, generations of students have Zartman House etched in their memories. As we undergo another transformation of the footprint of the Wisconsin Avenue campus (see "The City Across the Street," on page 32), we can hardly imagine how our future students will reflect back on those decades long ago when the Lower School was all the way in Bethesda, and the campus ended at the tree line behind the Fox Den.



LEFT: The Sidwell Friends girls' field hockey team plays a game steps away from the newly built McLean Gardens apartments to the south.

BELOW: From his spot outside the former Upper School building, security officer Eddie Duvall helped students and McLean Gardens residents safely cross Wisconsin Avenue.

NEIGHBORS AGAIN

Christian Heurich and Thomas Sidwell remain connected even in death. The grand Heurich Mausoleum stands a mere 50 feet or so from the modest Sidwell gravestone in Rock Creek Cemetery. Former Zartman House owner Gertrude Grayson Harrison is also buried nearby.



ADVENTURE CALLS

Taking a gap year before college can be a life-shaping enterprise. Here, five Sidwell Friends graduates recount five very different experiences—from studying in Nepal to professional ballet—with one overwhelming conclusion: **Totally worth it.**



BY ERIC BUTTERMAN
ILLUSTRATIONS BY NEIL STEVENS

Gap years have become an increasingly popular choice over the past decade. Each year, according to Laurén Carter, the School's head of college advising, a small but committed group of Sidwell Friends students decide to postpone the start of college enrollment and choose to spend all or part of the year after graduation pursuing an experience, a project, a dream, or a desire to take some time to gather themselves before they begin college.

For many parents, the term “gap year” may evoke a kind of primal fear: Once a kid steps off the path (high school graduation, college, successful career), will they ever come back? Why postpone college when for so many years that had seemed like the singular goal? And what are the potential academic effects from a year or more away from studying? Though the “gappers” may have momentarily given up some mileage on one road, they are already picking up speed on another—one that may serve them better. According to Ethan Knight, the founder of the nonprofit Gap Year Association, students who opt for new experiences before college actually go on to have higher GPAs on average than their peers. Knight says gappers at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Middlebury College, and Colorado College, for example, had GPAs ranging from .15 to .35 points higher than their more traditional counterparts.



“Partly the gap year is about time, partly about perspective, and partly about purpose,” Knight says. For the following five Sidwell Friends students, words like “maturity,” “growth,” and “change” came up a lot. In many ways, those are just the kind of words one might hope college itself would inspire—which is another reason gap years give young people a leg up: Before they ever hear, “Welcome to first-year orientation,” they are armed with a newfound confidence.

“Students who opt for new experiences before college actually go on to have higher GPAs on average than their peers.”

Laguarda '21 has been careening across the western United States in a van for months. Part of a 15-member crew in a passenger Chevy Express, Laguarda estimates she has personally logged 2,000 miles as a driver. Soon she'll arrive at the base of the Idaho panhandle to work with the Nez Perce Tribe. Laguarda can't even hazard a guess as to the work she'll do there—and she can't wait.

Last year, Laguarda joined the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC), a service program affiliated with AmeriCorps that is designed specifically for young people ages 18 to 26. Signing on with the NCCC meant allowing the service group to station her wherever they chose in the Pacific and western United States, toting the vague knowledge that wherever she ended up would be a community in need of assistance.

“I started in Sacramento on a former Air Force base living in former barracks,” she says. “There, you were filled in on what to expect, your stipend, so many things. If you do this, get ready for some PowerPoints!”

Volunteers are assigned to teams of 8 to 12 for the duration of the NCCC year—for better or worse. “I talked with people who said your group can really affect how you'll look back on this,” Laguarda says. “But you can't switch. Part of this experience is getting along with people.”

And sleeping in, well, close quarters. “Let me tell you about the housing situation at Joshua Tree,” she laughs. “We lived in a house that was the size of a van. Six people in one room and two in another—and there isn't a kitchen. We did all those dishes with the help of a hose outside our building. Just go with the flow.”

But in return for the sometimes cramped sleeping arrangements, there were moments of ineffable beauty. “Palm Springs at sunset, the lights twinkling, the sunset a brilliant red,” she says. “And the mountains, the purple, so intense and so big. You can see incredibly far out into

this beautiful nature. Trees so high in the majestic quiet Redwood forests, like being in a cathedral, so tall around you that your neck hurts trying to see the treetops.”

Of course, Laguarda also gained just a few skills: pouring concrete and repairing a sidewalk in Happy Camp, California; painting five or six houses in Paradise, California; adding siding to a building in Elkton, Oregon, for a new healthcare clinic (currently, the nearest one is 30 minutes away); installing tile flooring for an elementary school; wielding a pick-ax at Joshua Tree; and using all manner of saws and weed-whackers across locations.

Now that Laguarda has been thrust out of her comfort zone and thrown into dozens of new situations for the good of others, she doesn't foresee picking out classes and learning the terrain of a college campus as being the major undertaking she might once have thought. After a year of service on the road, Laguarda will head to Harvard in the fall, a member of the Class of '26—but she won't be the same young woman she might have been had she remained with her original Class of '25.

“I see things differently now,” says Laguarda, who plans to major in mechanical engineering. “It doesn't mean everything in life will be a snap. But I have new problem-solving skills and experiences of taking the unknown and turning it into a strong outcome.” College is just the next adventure.



Of course, you can't take a gap year if your parents aren't on board. For Alana Barry '17, that was the big question. When she told her parents that she longed to take a gap year doing a program in China, they were circumspect. And so, as any good Sidwell Friends student might, Barry created a PowerPoint presentation for her folks, complete with details and anecdotes from previous Sidwell Friends graduates who took a gap year.

Her parents came around. "They were concerned about the general safety and the security of the program," says Barry. "For me, there was self-doubt because so many people were doing the more common route of going to college and not taking any time off. There was a lot of comparing myself to my peers and whether there would be a disadvantage. But, in the end, imagining what the experience could be outweighed it all."

"I had become more independent, more mature, and felt more focused on my studies than I would have been. I had had so much freedom to explore, so I was ready to work."

Her experience, in fact, would show that a gap year is by no means a year off. After finishing in third place in the Chinese Bridge language competition, an annual worldwide Chinese speaking and performance event, Barry won a scholarship and stipend to the Chinese university of her choice. For Barry, it was an opportunity to finish what she had started at Sidwell Friends. "I had been part of a Sidwell study-abroad program that went to China, but it was very structured," she says. "Now I was going to have a chance to exercise the kind of choice that you can have as an adult."

Barry chose to study at Fudan University in Shanghai—but it was on the plane ride there that the full weight of what she was doing hit her. "I honestly didn't have any idea who would greet me when I stepped off the flight," she says.

"I didn't know what the school would be like. I hadn't even seen pictures of the dorms. I didn't know anyone who had done that specific program in that university." She was also wistful about leaving home and sad to leave her parents at the airport. "But remember, I was also excited!" she quickly adds. "I had planned this for over a year and now it was finally happening. Even though there was uncertainty, I remember feeling glad about my decision, that I was on my way, and I had a firm sense that it would be really good for me."

For one semester, Barry focused solely on language courses, resolved to build on the Mandarin studies she had started at Sidwell Friends. But it was during the second semester, she says, that her decision to take a gap year really cohered. "The friendships kicked in at a higher level," Barry says. "I saw that I might know some of these people for the rest of my life. It's powerful when you get that sense of being in stride and feeling that way in such a different environment."

When not attending to her coursework, travel filled out Barry's gap year. "There were so many sensational moments," she says. She visited a large panda conservatory, took part in a homestay with a Chinese family, and even participated in a wedding in that family's village. She and her new friends took "a spur-of-the-moment trip off the coast of Shanghai. We organized this beach trip all ourselves, eating seafood and having a terrific chance to bond outside of class. The whole year was comprised of big and small moments—the feeling that I really lived there and didn't just visit."

Now Barry, who majored in international studies and East Asian studies, is graduating from Johns Hopkins University. Looking back on her college experience, Barry says: "I was a year older than my peers. I had become more independent, more mature, and felt more focused on my studies than I would have been. I had had so much freedom to explore, so I was ready to work."

And now that college is over, Barry is about to do it again: She is teaching English in Japan for a year as part of JET (Japan Exchange and Teaching program). "If not for that gap-year experience, I don't know if I would consider doing this," she says. "I could be placed anywhere in Japan, and I don't even know what kind of school I'll be in. But I'm up for the adventure. I'm ready."

The Appalachian Trail spans 14 states in all, and is, at times, less than an ideal hike; it is rugged, steep, and grueling. But that's the point. Hiking the Appalachian Trail is not about "ideal"; it is about having the nerve to push yourself, to be bold, to suffer some aches and pains, to experience discipline, and to occasionally find moments of transcendence. And hopefully, you are better off on the other side.

"This is an undertaking," says David Hauge '16, letting out a hearty breath. He decided, if he was going to hike for more than four months, he was going to need some friends. Not fellow hikers, at least not for most of it, but authors—lots and lots of authors. "I contacted family, friends, so many people, to find out what books they would recommend," he says. "You'd be surprised how many audio books you can get through in a few months." Hauge estimates he listened to 35 titles. He blistered through everything from Ron Chernow's Alexander Hamilton biography to Stieg Larsson's Girl with the Dragon Tattoo series. They were excellent hiking companions.

Often decked out in three layers and a trusty North Face blue coat (which he used through mid-March and promptly lost before the end of his adventure), and a pack of intelligent supplies at the ready, Hauge began his mostly solo trek.

"You had to be prepared for all kinds of weather," he says. "It got as cold as a wind-chill factor of -15 degrees in Virginia. A tough moment but luckily, at the time, I was with a few other hikers." Hauge explains that when the weather gets that cold, hikers will put their water bottles in their sleeping bags, in the hope that their body heat and sub-zero bags will keep it from freezing overnight. Unfortunately, for some of the hikers with Hauge, their bottles did freeze—meaning they would have nothing to drink for the next leg of the hike. "We had to call ahead to a hostel and get pseudo-evacced from the mountain. The weather overall for my time on the Trail wasn't a negative, but that? That was a little scary."

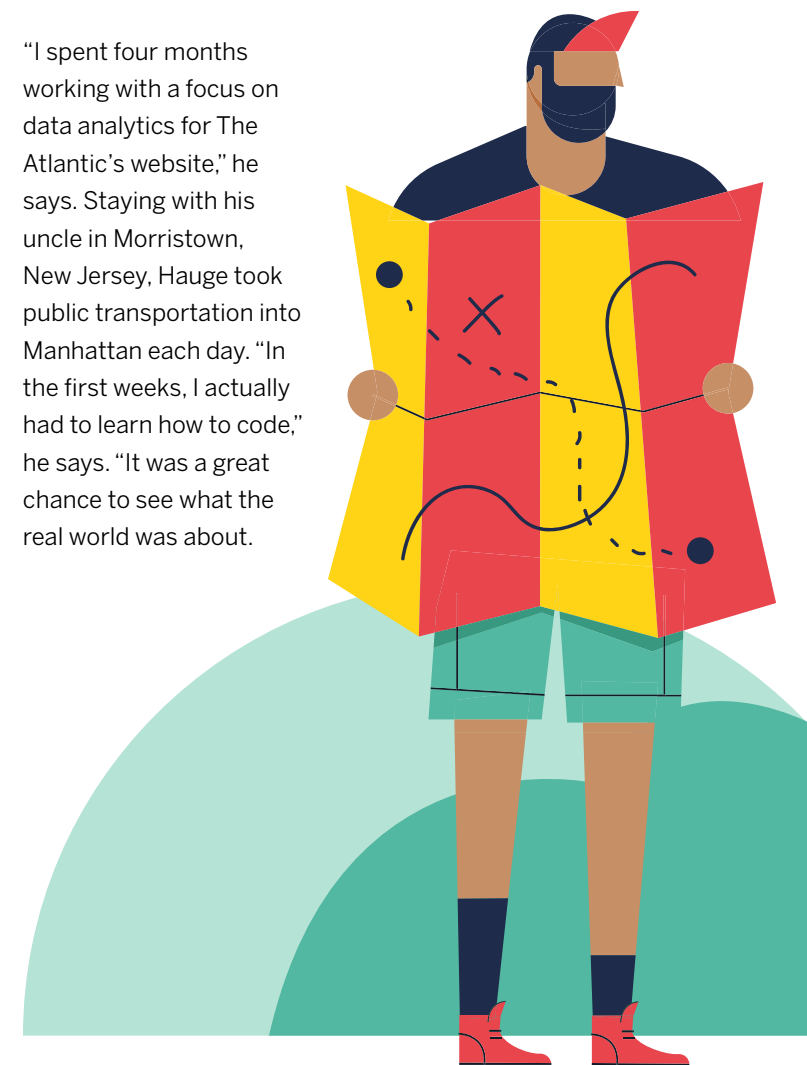
Hauge explains that there were three-sided wooden structures peppered throughout the Trail where roughly six to eight people could sleep—though not necessarily comfortably. "When I had company during my time on the Trail, there was just a wide swath of people, and you never knew who you might meet," he says. "But most of us had a sense of adventure in common. That was part of the fun, feeling like a part of a tradition."

When shelter wasn't available, Hauge relied on his one-person tent, which was always on standby for deployment and a major factor in the weight of his pack. Experts at REI say your pack shouldn't be more than 20 percent of your body weight—a tent and food can get you there very quickly. (Hauge wolfed down calorie-rich mainstays such as granola, bagels, waffles, and peanut butter.)

Hauge's parents were fairly relaxed about his gap year from the start. His supportive mother, in fact, asked just one thing when it came to the Trail: that he regularly turn on a GPS to let her know he was okay. "And I would call my parents to send food," he says. "I couldn't have done it, in so many ways, without them."

Hauge had planned his gap year into three parts: the Trail, an internship, and as a camp counselor. The Trail and the camp of course both featured the natural world, but the internship landed him firmly in the world of 21st-century technology.

"I spent four months working with a focus on data analytics for The Atlantic's website," he says. Staying with his uncle in Morristown, New Jersey, Hauge took public transportation into Manhattan each day. "In the first weeks, I actually had to learn how to code," he says. "It was a great chance to see what the real world was about."



People were generous in showing me how to do so many things, and even just playing on the company soccer team, it all gave me a sense of how it works to be a part of a workplace. In many ways, it took away the mystery a little bit and I learned a lot."

For Hauge's third and final gap-year leg, he landed in Raymond, Maine, at Camp Agawam, a boy's camp Hauge had attended for half-a-dozen summers. "I taught tennis and I was a counselor. Having a chance to help give kids a terrific summer, like so many I had, that was such a positive way to end this amazing gap year."

Hauge says that his gap year was due partly to a deep need to turn away from the usual for a while. "I had been in the high school environment of 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., and the college application process was arduous," he says. "It had been four years of giving 110 percent in this way, and I just needed a break to do something else. When I was done, I had a new appreciation for class. I felt fresh and happy to return. That felt great."

Hauge graduated from Dartmouth in 2021 with a degree in government. Now he's on one of the most arduous trails of all: politics. Hauge works on Capitol Hill as a special assistant to Representative Seth Moulton of the Sixth District of Massachusetts. "I'm in operations, focused on helping organize the office and [Moulton's] day," he says. "My gap year made me ready for anything and, in my present position, you need to be."

Even now, Hauge speaks about his gap year and particularly the Trail with a kind of reverence. He will always remember moving through the heft of the Great Smoky Mountains to the panoramic views of Shenandoah National Park, ambling through powerful forestry and taking in the same American landscape generations before had witnessed. "Just all those peaceful moments," he says. "You feel a very different kind of relaxed."

Many a great adventure begins with a piping hot cup of coffee. For Alison Steinbach '14, it began by working at a coffee shop, slinging joe for the summer, and saving all her paychecks. Come fall, Steinbach traded in her apron for a backpack and headed to Nepal for three months. Once in the Land of the Truth, Steinbach immersed herself in the study of the Nepali language, while experiencing a homestay with a local family. Steinbach also had an internship to learn Thangka painting, a Tibetan art also known as "scroll painting" that usually depicts a deity or mandala. Using yak butter, ink, and cloth, Steinbach created a painting of Buddha.

Then it was time for a slight respite—to the expansive, daunting Himalayas. Trekking the famed range for roughly two weeks with her group, Steinbach unzipped her tent each morning to brilliant snow-covered mountains. "Just seeing a picture is jaw-dropping," says Steinbach. "But to see it in front of you, this huge, open, incredible view is beyond breathtaking."

After Nepal, Steinbach traveled to China to act as a teaching assistant for John Flower, who teaches Chinese studies and history at Sidwell Friends, for his semester program abroad. "It was a challenge to be in this role when I'd only just recently been in the students' shoes," Steinbach says. "This time offered many opportunities, including just starting in the courtyard every morning with the relaxation of tai chi."

Steinbach finished up her Asian adventure in rural Southwestern China with a friend she met in Nepal. The pair worked on a farm, planting rice, picking a variety of crops, and even building a structure for chickens. It was one more example of what she had hoped to gain during her gap year: learned experience. That's something she carries with her now as a reporter for The Arizona Republic (she graduated from Harvard in 2019).

"Growing up in a school environment where you are taught to really think about people and culture and lives beyond your own," she says, how could she not go into the world and explore? "That's part of what made Sidwell special."

"Growing up in a school environment where you are taught to really think about people and culture and lives beyond your own, that's part of what made Sidwell special."



For Roland Spier '14, ballet was practically right outside his door at Sidwell Friends. Strolling down the street to the Washington School of Ballet, he pushed himself pirouette by pirouette closer to his full potential. So, when graduation loomed, he realized the gravity of the decision before him: Take a gap year with a shot at a real career in professional ballet or continue with his educational success?

Spier grabbed his ballet shoes and boarded a plane for Florida—and the Miami City Ballet School.

"Two of the highlights that year were dancing in Western Symphony and Coppélia," he says. "I was nervous and excited to think about what I would learn, the people I would meet, and the chance to improve. That year was filled with a chance to embrace a learning curve that could take me to a whole new level."

Once that year of training was almost up—after all the lessons, determination, and hard work—a new question entered his mind: "Should I make it two gap years?" And, while he was thinking about it, should he continue to train or turn professional (the Colorado Ballet had offered him a place)? Spier decided to continue with another ballet gap year, but he wanted to grow more by staying in training: "This was about finding out my potential."

So, he took what he calls a "trainee-esque" position at Pacific Northwest Ballet in Seattle, an experience with soaring highlights. He danced surrounded by burgundy red, the signature color of McCaw Hall, and leapt before 3,000 audience members. "You do have that distance where you can't see the audience, but you know they're

out there," he says. "You're in your early 20s, and it's a powerful experience spilling over with adrenaline. Everything is you in the moment and your ability to control it. When they applaud and show that wild approval, it's magical." Spier went on to dance in The Nutcracker, in Cavalia, and as a lead in Le Corsaire. But those highs were countered by lows: Spier was besieged by injuries. After two years at the height of the professional dance world, Spier realized it was time to go to college.

"Going back was actually pretty challenging at first: how to navigate the classroom, getting the rhythm of it all," he says. "But slowly, thankfully, muscle memory kicked in and Sidwell's preparation for college made it become really comfortable before too long. It felt good." Spier graduated from Columbia University in 2020 and went on to work in finance.

"I work for a strategy consulting firm, OC&C Strategy Consultants, as a junior consultant and, believe it or not, there is some translation there to dancing," he says. "There is actually a performance aspect, doing challenging analysis and delivering it. Even shuffling teams after a project is a little like recasting in the ballet. I was always someone who enjoyed both the qualitative and the quantitative, and this blends the two. You compete with yourself to continue to be better. I learned that mentality in the ballet. If I can do five pirouettes, see if you can do six tomorrow. Because, just maybe, you can."

Clearly, he hasn't completely moved on from ballet. "I want to say that there isn't any regret," he says. "I admit I almost wish I had two lives: one to dance with and one for this other exciting path." ✨



THE CITY

ACROSS THE STREET

With Wegmans, the International Baccalaureate, and a slew of new buildings, apartments, and shops moving in, the Sidwell Friends neighborhood on Wisconsin Avenue is about to see big changes.

BY SACHA ZIMMERMAN

For decades, Sidwell Friends School has sat perched on Wisconsin Avenue amiably looking across at the red brick façade of the Fannie Mae building, a Georgian revival that once employed nearly 3,000 people. But in 2014, when the Federal National Mortgage Association relocated its headquarters downtown, the neighborhood it left behind took a hit. The massive building and its adjoining 10 acres remained idle, while storefronts and restaurants began to disappear from the adjacent blocks.

So, in 2018, when Roadside Development and North America Sekisui House, LLC, announced they would spend \$640 million to redevelop the property, the surrounding Northwest neighbors—from McLean Gardens to Tenleytown, Cleveland Park to Sidwell Friends—took notice, especially when

it was revealed that the mega-popular Wegmans Food Market and the prestigious International Baccalaureate would anchor the project. Four years later, the initiative is nearly complete, and it is far, far more than just a great grocery store. The 1 million-square-foot mixed-use destination, known as “City Ridge,” is as the name suggests a city unto itself. (Wegmans will take up a mere 86,000 feet.)

“City Ridge wasn’t designed to be another enclave of a residential community,” says Richard Lake, the principal and founding partner of Roadside Development. “It was designed to become an urban village, which allows mixes of uses that drive and rely on each other.” The LEED gold-certified project now boasts 690 residential apartments across four distinct buildings; 1,200 public and private parking spots in an underground lot spanning the entire project; 160,000 square feet



▲ **ABOVE** The former Fannie Mae building at 3900 Wisconsin Avenue will now house the International Baccalaureate's Global Centre for the Americas.

▼ **ABOVE RIGHT** A Wegmans grocery store will anchor the new additions to the property.

► **RIGHT** Luxury apartments and a members-only club are just some of the perks of life at City Ridge.

of office space; and 154,000 square feet of commercial space. Bank of America, Tatte Bakery and Café, Taco Bamba, King St. Oyster Bar, and Equinox Sports Club are all on tap to open this summer, with more new enterprises expected to be announced soon.

And though “urban village” gives the project an almost quaint imprimatur, City Ridge is actually something much less concrete than a collection of brick-and-mortar shops and apartments: It is a lifestyle—and an aspirational one at that. With two-bedroom/two-bathroom apartments—dotted with Bosche appliances, marbled countertops, and massive exterior glass walls—starting at \$5,200 a month and three-bedroom units going for roughly \$10,000 a month or more, it can be a bit daunting to remember that these are all rental units, not condos. (To be fair, in one of

the buildings, you can also rent a 499-foot studio apartment for approximately \$2,145 and up.) But then, rent is just the start. To really enjoy the amenities at City Ridge, and for an additional monthly fee of a few hundred dollars, you can join the Ridge Club, a members-only social club that features a lap pool, a “resort-style” pool, a reflecting pool (complete with suspended chairs dangling over it from a cantilevered roof), full locker room facilities, indoor and outdoor dining, and a lounge. Ridge members can also enjoy big-screen movies onsite, special events, lectures, cooking classes, and private cabanas.

Beyond the Ridge Club, there are also more à la carte amenities, like KinderCare for families, communal workspaces and offices, an English garden, a “sky meadow,” a “maker’s roof” for tinkerers, a library, a lecture hall, golf and soccer

“City Ridge is actually something much less concrete than a collection of shops and apartments: It is a lifestyle—and an aspirational one at that.”



sports simulators, outdoor flatscreens, outdoor cooking stations, indoor and outdoor yoga (including aerial yoga), and a 24/7 concierge. What’s more, each of the four residential buildings has its own theme or vibe. The Branches, with no small studio apartments, seems more family-friendly or perhaps suited to cultured retirees; the Coterie, which is designed like the Flat Iron building in New York City, is the artsy, sculptural building; the Botanica is for those more in touch with nature and green space; and the Crescendo, unsurprisingly, is larger and pricier, the apogee of the residences.

Meanwhile, lending a certain intellectual caché to the project, the International Baccalaureate (IB) will take over the historic Fannie Mae building. Headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, the IB, a nonprofit that offers rigorous educational and degree programs in schools around the world, will open its new Global Centre for the Americas at 3900 Wisconsin. The group is planning to host major events and festivals around international culture and education on its sweeping front lawn. City Ridge is building on those plans with its own public and private events that are already happening. In June, the development screened *An American in Paris* on the lawn, hosted a French Open watch party, and held a book launch event for *Meant To Be*, the new novel by Emily Giffin.

For the Sidwell Friends community, City Ridge is bound to be both a boon and a bust. It’s an easy opportunity to grab groceries at pickup, but it may add yet more traffic to the Wisconsin Avenue thoroughfare. CityRidge is also the site of Sidwell Friends’ former playing fields (see “Unified Field Theory,” on page 22). So where once we ran and competed, now we can grab a latté and do aerial yoga. There goes the neighborhood! ✨





GALAXY QUEST

NASA's **Andrea Johnson Razzaghi '78** on the vastness of deep space, practicing for failure, the scariest seven minutes in engineering, and why you should always stop and smell the science.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANTHONY LA FLEUR



In the latest episode of Sidwell Friends' podcast, Lives that Speak, Head of School Bryan Garman talks with **Andrea Johnson Razzaghi '78**, the newly named director of the NASA Office of JPL Management Oversight at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. A curious explorer at heart with an engineering background, Razzaghi has played a significant role in many NASA endeavors over the course of her career. She has worked on missions that earned the Nobel Prize, landed an SUV-sized rover on Mars, helped to unravel the mysteries of the big bang, and discovered planets beyond our solar system, just to name a few. Razzaghi has won many awards for her service to NASA and the nation.

BRYAN GARMAN: What was the experience of Sidwell Friends like for you?

ANDREA JOHNSON RAZZAGHI: It was definitely an adjustment from the school where I was before. I felt Sidwell Friends was very open to the students' views and opinions in a way that was a little more freeing. There's a lot of inquiry about what the students thought about things and more open discussion. The introduction of the Meeting for Worship was very interesting and something I've really come to value in life.

BG: Science and discovery is such a creative process.

AR: "Discovery"—I love that word. Every job I've had at NASA has been about enabling scientific discovery, and so much is about the unknown and trying to fill in the blanks of what we know with new information. One of the things that's really key is revising what you think you know based on new information and being very curious. In the real world, when you're doing complex engineering endeavors, you will run into problems. Things don't always behave the way you predicted they were going to behave when you were in design, and you're never, ever going to get it perfect. One of the things about engineering is you learn to live with less-than-perfect solutions.

If you tried to get to perfection, you would never, ever get anything done.

BG: What role has failure played in your career?

AR: It's very important. I was the assistant director for planetary science at the time that we launched and landed the *Curiosity* rover. The *Curiosity* is going on like 10 years now, since it landed on Mars, but at the time, it was the biggest rover ever landed on Mars, way bigger than the *Spirit* and *Opportunity* that came before it. *Spirit* and *Opportunity* looked like miniature golf carts comparatively. I have this full-size, full-scale model of *Perseverance*, the most recent rover, and it's very similar to *Curiosity*. It's like a huge Hyundai, a huge two-ton rover, and we had to use this system for getting it to the surface that we never used before. And mass is everything when you're dealing with trying to launch something off Earth. You really have to get everything down as small as possible, yet still be able to do the job. I knew all the general things that could happen. But I also knew in detail all the little things that could happen. I knew all the problems we had encountered that had to be solved in order to get it there.

So what we do when we are planning for something like this—and this is a big,

“

I LOVE MY JOB DESCRIPTION: 'DISCOVER HOW THE UNIVERSE BEGAN. DISCOVER HOW THE NIGHT SKY CAME TO BE. THEN FIND OUT IF THERE IS LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE.'

”

expensive mission—is we have to plan for what we call a bad day. A whole team is figuring out, if this doesn't actually make it to the surface in one piece, how do we talk about this? We have to face a reality that failure is absolutely a possibility. We have to model the failure. It is always a part of our conversation through the whole design process. We do what we call “fault analysis,” which is all the possible failures that could happen, how they could ripple through the system, and how the system is or isn't resilient to this failure. Sometimes things absolutely do fail, and it can be really emotionally crushing for the people who work on these missions.

You have these really high-performing teams that do these amazing things—and we're always doing things that have never been done before. It's a little different than, say, if you're designing cars.

BG: You're always on the frontier.

AR: Yes. We're always going to do something that's never been done before, so we can find things that we don't currently know. You need a can-do attitude,

which is a really important element, but it also creates blind spots. To manage that, we have these independent teams that come in and poke holes. These independent experts, who are not emotionally attached, are critical. We are human, we get emotional, and we get attached to the work. So, these independent teams come in and say, “I think you need to have a redundant system there, because there's a chance this one's going to break.” And we take that process very seriously. I've seen that evolve over my career from my early days. It also helps us be more predictable in how long it's going to take to do things and how much it's going to cost to do them.

My most stressful day in my entire career was landing Curiosity on Mars. There's a phrase we use called “seven minutes of terror,” because seven minutes is the time it takes to get from the top of the Mars atmosphere to the ground. Due to the transmission times for the signal, you're actually going to be on the surface of Mars for seven minutes before you even know whether it's there in one piece or in multiple pieces. (See “Don't Hold Your Breath,” on page 41.) I definitely experienced that seven minutes of terror in a very visceral way. Then when you get that signal, it's a really incredible feeling. I love to show it to children, and they go, “Those grownups are crying.” I'm like, “Yeah, those grownups are crying.” I'm getting chills just thinking about that right now.

BG: NASA has a special place in the American imagination. It's the place through which we all touch the cosmos. What's it like to work there?

AR: I'm coming up on my 37th anniversary. It's a family; it really is. Sometimes you take it for granted. I have this expression, “Sometimes you've got to stop and smell the science.” Just take a step back and take a look at what we do. We're always trying to do things that haven't been done before, and it can get pretty stressful at times. Every now and then, we have to just stop and smell the science

and take a look at what we've done—like to look at how textbooks have been rewritten based on the data that we have collected and the discoveries that we have made in our endeavors.

BG: Talk about your former position overseeing astrophysics at NASA.

AR: That was just such an amazing job. I love my job description, because it was really: “Discover how the universe began. Discover how the night sky came to be and what's happening right now. Then find out if we are alone in the universe.” This is literally part of my job description. It's very humbling. Our quest is for the things we don't know. Let's figure out what we don't know or what we need to know better, and let's be willing to revise what we think we know based on new information and continual curiosity and quest for discovery.

I think about how big the universe is. If you look at the grand scheme of things, it has been over 13 billion years since the big bang. This is a timescale that is so large compared with our human existence, but the fact that we've been able to place ourselves in that context is pretty amazing. Then if you think about 100 billion stars in the Milky Way Galaxy alone, and there was a finding from the Hubble Space Telescope that there could be as many as 2 trillion galaxies. Do the math: That's a lot of stars. Another big area of discovery in astrophysics has been the search for planets and other star systems—exoplanet exploration. From the Kepler Mission, we now know that every star you see in the night sky has at least one planet and likely more. Just looking at one little, tiny slice of our Milky Way, we have confirmed over 5,000 planets. But we can extrapolate that and think about how many planets there are in our universe. It's just mind-boggling.

It's a very humbling experience to think about where we sit in this vastness of time and space and what that means as far as the possibilities of what's out there.



BG: You mentioned that you were charged with exploring if we alone in the universe. Are we?

AR: We certainly have not found any evidence of any extraterrestrial technology or life. But where we're looking is farther out and is maybe not complex life. Ancient microbial life on Mars is still a question we're examining. We're also looking at the moon Europa on Jupiter as having what we call biological potential. It's got this huge ice shell around it, it has more water on it than Earth, there's evidence of an under-the-ice ocean. Based on our remote sensing, we could see some of the chemical composition, so it's an area that we have a lot of interest in that could have biological potential. Another one is Enceladus, a little moon around Saturn. It's the brightest object in our solar system, and it also has an icy shell and internal heating that could have water in that surface. There are some really fascinating targets that we are looking at in our own solar system.

I led a study on what it would take to do a mission to Enceladus several years ago; it was very compelling. Then of course, there are exoplanets, these planets that we're finding outside of our solar system and seeing if we can collect more data to see if there's any evidence of anything that could be non-natural processes. So this is a big question. We have a field

study in planetary science called astrobiology. How do you study life that didn't evolve on Earth? How do you detect life as we know it? How do you send your sensors and be able to find life as we know it? That's a big question.

So we look at extremophiles [organisms that live under extreme environmental conditions] here on Earth, and our definition of habitability just keeps expanding. We used to think that water was rare, but every place we've looked in the solar system now, we have found water. We have found water on our moon, even water in pockets on Mercury so close to the sun. For life as we know it, that's essential. So we used to think water was rare, but we find it's abundant. We're finding that life is robust, and habitability for life is broader than we probably originally thought.

BG: When you think about where our country is today, what worries you most as a scientist and citizen?

AR: I do worry about people not understanding and not trusting science. In the course of my career, starting with climate change, I saw what I thought were just basic scientific discussions turn into political hot topics. It is a shame that things that should not be political have become political. So that is a concern.

And there are movements to minimize the kind of education children receive. For this country, it's really important for children to see themselves as little scientists when they're playing in the dirt, being curious about why the bark is peeling off the tree, and understanding that what they're doing is engaging in scientific curiosity and exploration. We need to make scientific thinking more accessible to people and to keep scientific education strong. So as a citizen, I think we need a scientifically literate citizenry for everyone. We need science to solve vexing problems. And we need education, especially higher education, to be more accessible to people in every way, financially and intellectually.

BG: Where do you find your inspiration and hope and opportunity?

AR: I take stock of the beautiful world that we live in. Of course, that comes with the responsibility of trying to keep it. Where I live in California, I see the sunset almost every single day. It's either from my vantage point on the ocean or over the Santa Monica Mountains, and I just stop. I feel like I have no excuse but just to go out there and watch it every day and take in. It's a little different every day, and it's beautiful every day. I take inspiration from that as a reminder that we are part of this big system. To watch that sunset, it's like, “Yep, it's reliable every day.” It's going to be majestic. It's going to be unique. To be able to take that breath in and be happy and grateful that I'm here and I'm fortunate to have a good life, I do not take that for granted. ✨

DON'T HOLD YOUR BREATH

To learn more about the most agonizing wait at NASA, Andrea Johnson Razzaghi '78 suggests checking out *7 Minutes of Terror: The Challenges of Getting to Mars*, a short (seven minutes, naturally) film about landing the *Curiosity* rover on Mars.

sidwell.pub/7minutes





Dear Friends,

Summer is upon us! I hope you find time to relax, restore, and spend time with family and friends this season. It's a great time to reconnect with the Sidwell Friends community too as we return to hosting Summer with Friends events throughout the country. Nine events are taking place from June to August in Boston, DC, Los Angeles, Martha's Vineyard, New York City, San Francisco, and Seattle. It's an opportunity to connect with friends and learn how our School and community are leading in the Light. I hope to see you there! You can learn more at sidwell.edu/summerwithfriends.

In June, we concluded the 2021/22 academic year, which is always an exciting time! We celebrated Commencement (see "Time to be Dazzled," page 6) and officially welcomed 125 members of the Class of 2022 into the Friends Alumni Network. As you may have heard, our very own fellow alum **Baratunde Thurston '95** gave the very inspiring and humorous Commencement address. We cannot wait to see how these bright, young students will continue to let their lives speak.

This issue is bursting with alumni stories that will inspire you, spark your curiosity, and bring you joy. We have a wonderful feature about alumni who have taken gap years and spent time after graduation in a variety of unique ways (see "Adventure Calls," page 24). In this edition of "Lives That Speak," read more about **Andrea Johnson Razzaghi '78** and her incredible career at NASA spanning nearly four decades—and listen to her conversation with **Bryan Garman** on the podcast (see "Galaxy Quest," page 36). In May, we welcomed nearly 200 alumni back to campus for our first in-person Reunion in three years (see "Reunited and It Feels So Good," page 48, as well recaps from each Reunion class throughout Class Notes). Throughout spring, we also hosted four virtual Conversations with Friends events, featuring Howard University President **Wayne Frederick**, as well as alumni **Toba Spitzer '80**, **Liza Donnelly '73**, and **Treva Lindsey '00**; you can read more about each of them in the following pages.

Looking ahead, we hope you will make plans to join us on campus for a special extended Homecoming, taking place October 13 to 15. Always a special time to return to campus, this year's gathering will be filled with opportunities to engage with students and faculty, celebrate Sidwell Friends athletics, arts, and academic programs, and to hear about the School's plans for the future. In the meantime, I wish you a fun-filled summer filled with all the very best of the season!

In friendship and with gratitude,

Marika Cutler Meyer '94

Clerk, Friends Alumni Network Advisory Board

ALUMNI ACTION

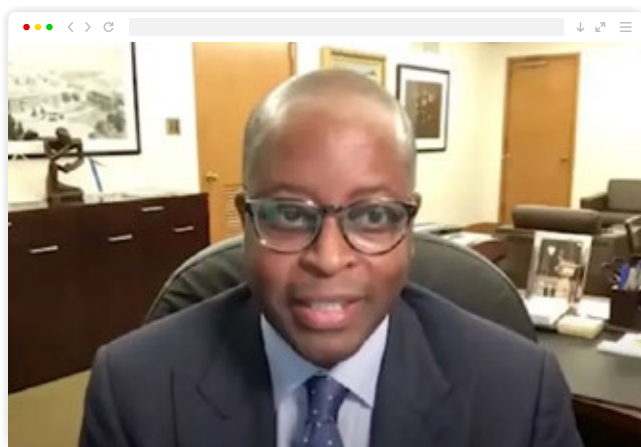


The latest Conversation With Friends topics span a history of earthly violence to a meditation on the otherworldly. Howard University President **Wayne Frederick P '24** on curiosity and cultural competence, **Rabbi Toba Spitzer '80** believes *God Is Here*, **Liza Donnelly '73** on some *Very Funny Ladies*, and **Treva Lindsey '00** says *America, Goddam*.

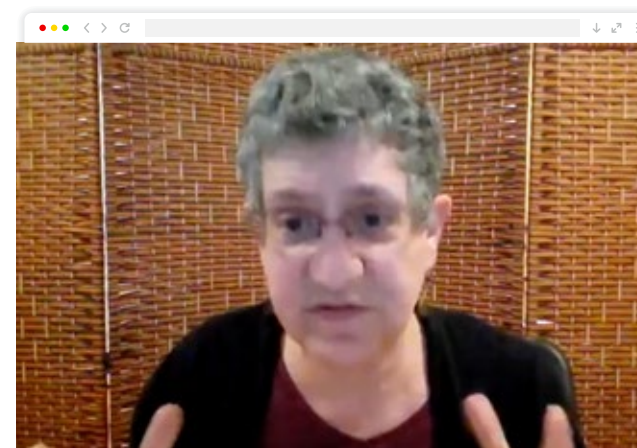
Amplify Everyone's Humanity

Wayne Frederick P '24

Educators, like parents, play many roles: instructor, mentor, guide. Sometimes, though, the best thing a teacher or a parent can do is get out of the way. So said Howard University President **Wayne Frederick P '24** in a Conversations with Friends co-sponsored by the Black Alumni Alliance (BAA). Frederick spoke with BAA Co-Clerks **Akinyi Ochieng Sagoe-Moses '11** and **Neville Waters '75**, as well as the community at large, in a talk that focused on the importance of historically Black colleges and universities, a diverse teaching staff, and culturally responsive teaching practices. Frederick told a story about how his daughter developed an interest in learning American Sign Language at a young age. In his childhood experience, this would have meant getting a ride to the library, checking out books, and learning from static pictures—and it may not have been worth the effort. For his daughter, learning took the form of YouTube videos and practice. It all paid off when she was able to communicate with a deaf family. It made Frederick think. “Look at the empathy in this young person,” he said. “What I have to do is get out of her way and remove any barriers that anyone puts in her way.” He also discussed the importance of a diverse teaching staff at all levels of education, from preK to graduate school. “Diverse teachers are not only a model for their students,” Frederick said, “but they give their colleagues an opportunity to be more culturally competent, to be a sounding board, to answer questions.” However, teachers who are



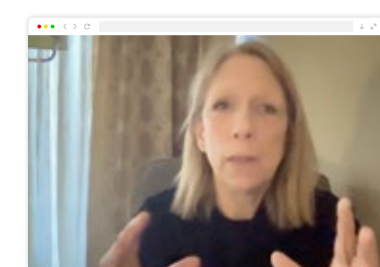
Black, Indigenous, or people of color face difficult obstacles: low pay, a high debt-to-salary ratio, and burnout. “We have to honor what teachers do, and as a society we can create more circumstances to allow more people to choose that profession,” Frederick said. “We talk about the service and passion of teachers, and that’s good. But if young people don’t see them thriving, they won’t see teaching as an option for themselves.” Frederick finished by making the case for any and all questions. “The most dangerous people are those who are educated, because we don’t want to ask ‘stupid’ questions,” he said. “But we have an opportunity to amplify one another’s humanity by asking those questions.”



She Gets the Joke

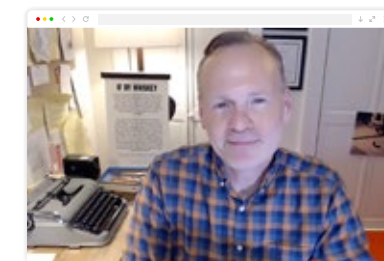
Liza Donnelly '73

It was a visual Conversation with Friends when illustrator **Liza Donnelly '73** and CBS News' **John Dickerson '87** came together for a talk about cartoons (the signature one-panels from *The New Yorker* in particular), feminism, and Donnelly’s latest book, *Very Funny Ladies*, *The New Yorker*’s Women Cartoonists, a history of women cartoonists at the magazine since 1925. Donnelly, a longtime cartoonist and writer for *The New Yorker* and other national outlets, began her connection with the vaunted magazine earlier than most. After all, most 7-year-olds don’t skim high-brow



journals for fun. “Like any good upper-middle-class household, my parents got *The New Yorker*,” Donnelly said. “My mother loved their cartoons. One day, I was about 7 and was home sick from school. I started

tracing the cartoons, and that made her smile.” The smiles continued through Donnelly’s time at Sidwell Friends, though she says she wasn’t the best student. “People knew I loved to draw,” she said, “and they let me do that.” Donnelly and Dickerson talked about *The New Yorker*’s earliest female cartoonists, whose humor was often more subversive than that of their male counterparts in the early to mid-20th century. “Some of it was sexy,” Donnelly said of the men. “And some of it was sexist or racist, too.” As time moved on, though, the cartoons slowly became written by only men; by the 1960s, the magazine had no female cartoonists. “My feeling is that after the Depression and heading into World War II, the country got more domesticated and started following the ‘rules’ more closely when it came to gender roles,” Donnelly said. “The culture was changing, and the culture said that women weren’t funny. Being funny was a man’s job.” In 1973, when the magazine hired a new cartoon editor, more women—eventually including Donnelly—made it back onto the pages. “I didn’t think about gender; I didn’t want to be a ‘woman cartoonist,’” she said. “I still don’t think of myself as a ‘female cartoonist’—I’m just a cartoonist.” As times changed, so did Donnelly’s approach to her work: “I realized I could make all the protagonists in my cartoons women, because why not?”

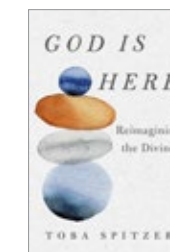


continued on next page →

Divine Experience

Toba Spitzer '80

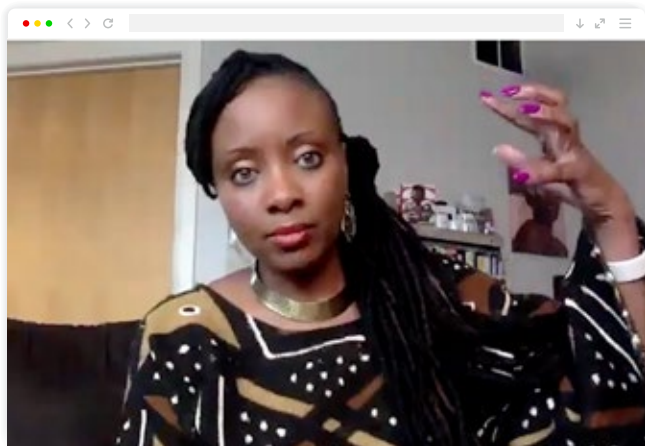
How do you talk about God with someone who doesn’t believe in God? For that matter, how do you talk about God with anyone? During a Conversation With Friends moderated by **Arshad Mohammed '80**, Rabbi **Toba Spitzer '80** said that, first, we have to



change the way we talk about the idea of a divine being. “Most people in the West, when we talk about God, we are inhabiting a metaphor that God is a ‘Big Person,’” Spitzer said. “The way we talk about God—God sees, God knows, God loves—all those verbs show that we think of God as a human being.” That’s a mistake, Spitzer said. Thinking of God as a Big Person not only limits God, but it limits our understanding of the Divine. In her new book, *God is Here: Reimagining the Divine*, Spitzer examines the metaphors the Hebrew Bible and other spiritual and religious traditions have used for God, including Water, Voice, Fire, Rock, and Cloud. “I wanted to shift the conversation from, ‘Do I believe? Do I not believe?’ to an assumption that all human beings have had, collectively and individually, experiences of the Divine,” she said. “The experiences are similar, but the concepts are radically different—and we have ways into that experience that go beyond, ‘God is a Big Person.’” There’s another big problem with thinking of God as a Big Person: It subtly convinces us that anyone who seems like a Big Person must also seem like God. “If our only metaphor for the Divine is God as an imperial ruler and the only model we have for godly power is tyranny, we’re going to think tyrannical power is godly,” she said. “And that’s unhealthy.” *God Is Here* also contains suggestions for practices readers can do to reimagine and possibly reconnect with their idea of Divine. “You don’t have to use the word ‘god’ if it doesn’t work for you,” she said. “For me, the Divine is as big as the reality of human experience, as love, as creativity. It is foundational to who we are.”

A History of Violence

Treva Lindsey '00



In 1963, after the murder of Medgar Evers in Mississippi and of four girls during the 16th Street Baptist Church bombing in Alabama, Nina Simone wrote the iconic protest song “Mississippi, Goddam” (“You don’t have to live next to me; Just give me my equality”). In 2022, professor and historian **Treva Lindsey ’00** took that baton and published *America, Goddam: Violence, Black Women, and the Struggle for Justice*. Just as Simone was compelled to address the “relentlessness of violence, spectacular death, and also resistance,” Lindsey said she too felt compelled. “The title is a nod in both framework and mission” to Simone’s song, Lindsey told Head of School Bryan Garman at a Conversation With Friends.

What’s more, Lindsey brings some of today’s most identifiable protest memes to bear on historic moments like the 16th Street Baptist Church bombing, reminding the reader, for example, to #sayhername. The “four girls” killed that day in 1963 are not yet remembered by their names: Carol, Cynthia, Addie, and Denise. “Who were they before they became part of the narrative of violence?” asked Lindsey. She wanted to know the women and girls in these narratives—their favorite songs, changes in careers, if they liked cupcakes. “I wanted my approach to be life-affirming,” Lindsey said. “The violent event is one moment in the long arc of an entire life.”

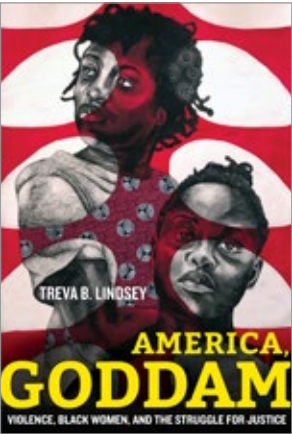
Lindsey, who received her PhD at Duke and who now teaches at Ohio State, said that she wanted the book to be “ethically aligned with the Black feminist tradition of the way we do this work,” because that work resonates with the frequency of her own life. An archive of violence against Black women, starting on slave ships and extending to violence just down the street, can be “so overwhelming, there are times when all you can say is goddam.” To that end, *America, Goddam* blends history, theory, and memoir to avoid being a compendium of agonizing statistics alone. And because Lindsey was “in proximity to violence personally”—she was sexually assaulted by a police officer—using the memoir form creates “an auto-ethnogra-

phy that allows me to begin to process and name the ways those kinds of violations and harms affected my own life.” It also builds intimacy with the reader.

Becoming a student at Sidwell Friends in the 1990s, she said, was “eye-opening.” By moving between two worlds—Northeast DC or Prince George’s County set against the upper Northwest Sidwell Friends neighborhood—she saw clearly the distinction between how her community was policed and the way the Sidwell neighborhood was policed. “I felt protected and served in the context of Sidwell,” she said, “versus criminalized and targeted in my own community.” She knew that if kids at Sidwell Friends partied on the weekends with drugs and alcohol, for example, they would “at best get a citation,” whereas the kids in her home neighborhood would face life-altering consequences. “Sidwell,” she said, “magnified the different logics that undergird policing.”

But the most difficult chapter to write was about intercommunal violence. She wondered how to “write about that without pathologizing or demonizing cis-gendered males.” So she wrote into it. The book details her fear that her work “will be used against a population.” And yet, Lindsey said, “the book demands accuracy,” noting that Black trans-women in particular (90 percent of whose murders are attributable to Black men) deserve an accurate portrayal of their own archive of violence. The real questions are: “How do we divest from these systems? How do we stop waging harm against ourselves?” Rather than simply casting blame, Lindsey said, her book is a “deeper structural analysis that’s rooted in the intimate and the interpersonal.”

That intimacy is clear on every page: In a book about the profound violence inflicted on Black women and girls, Lindsey offers hope. “I wanted the book to be joyful and affirming,” she said. “I’m practicing the freedom that I want Black women and girls to live in, which means the points of pleasure and the worlds I want to see and create.”



To watch the recordings of all the Conversation with Friends events, go to:
sidwell.pub/CWF



Summer Events Across the Country!

Spend time with Sidwell Friends as in-person summer events across the country return! Connect with friends and learn how the School and community are leading in the Light as we prepare to launch a landmark campaign. From June 15–August 28, Sidwell Friends will host nine events in seven cities:

- Boston
- New York City
- Los Angeles
- Martha’s Vineyard
- San Francisco
- Seattle
- Washington, DC

Plus! Close out the summer with an epic annual Alumni Soccer Game. Cheer on these former Quakers or join the team.

Register for summer events here:



Register for the Alumni Soccer Game here:



REUNITED AND IT FEELS SO GOOD

Alumni returned to campus—in person, no less!—for a weekend of celebration.

For the Sidwell Friends Class of 1972, political controversy was in the air they breathed. At a luncheon for their 50th Reunion, members of the class gathered behind Zartman House to talk to Upper School Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs Robbie Gross about going to high school as the Vietnam War, riots in DC, and a robust feminist movement erupted.

Some of the classmates babysat younger children so adults could attend protests over the years; one alumnus remembered serving as a crossing guard on the Mall at protests; several recalled the smell of teargas. One visited her brother, who had been injured in Vietnam, at Walter Reed Army Medical Center (“If you want to turn a kid into a pacifist,” she said, “send him to the amputee ward of Walter Reed”).

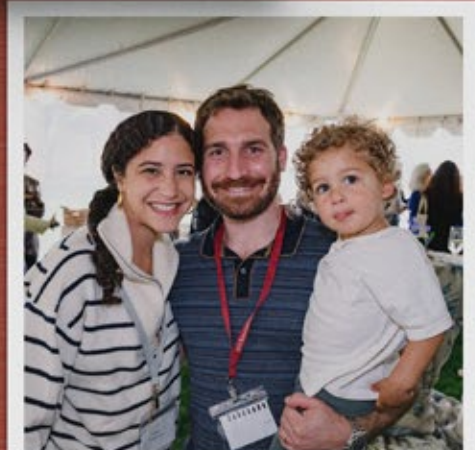
In an era when girls weren’t permitted to wear pants until Upper School (and then only during winter months!), it is fitting that the Class of 1972’s commencement speaker was Estelle Ramey, the endocrinologist, physiologist, and feminist who became famous for refuting the idea that women were unfit to hold high public office due to “raging hormonal imbalances.” During her speech at Sidwell Friends, Ramey argued that women—menstrual cycles and all—would have done a better job with the Bay of Pigs than President John F. Kennedy, who nearly brought the world to the brink of nuclear war. Ramey even asked, “Why bother educating women?” if they were in fact so incapable. (And, in case the world wasn’t fraught enough for the Class of 1972, just weeks after graduation, a gaggle of dirty-tricksters broke into the Watergate Hotel.)

Of course, though the 50th Reunion lunch was special for the Class of 1972, it was just the beginning of a weekend in which alumni of all ages gathered on campus—whether it was their fifth,

25th, or 70th Reunion milestone. Friday evening featured three happy hours on campus—the Half-Century Club (for those alumni who graduated 50 years ago and beyond), Parents of Alumni, and Retired and Former Faculty and Staff—that all culminated in a Welcome Reception. On Saturday, the Class of 1987 held a social-impact conversation, and there were four in-person classes for alumni taught by current faculty with topics ranging from independence in Francophone Africa to the history of monsters in film.

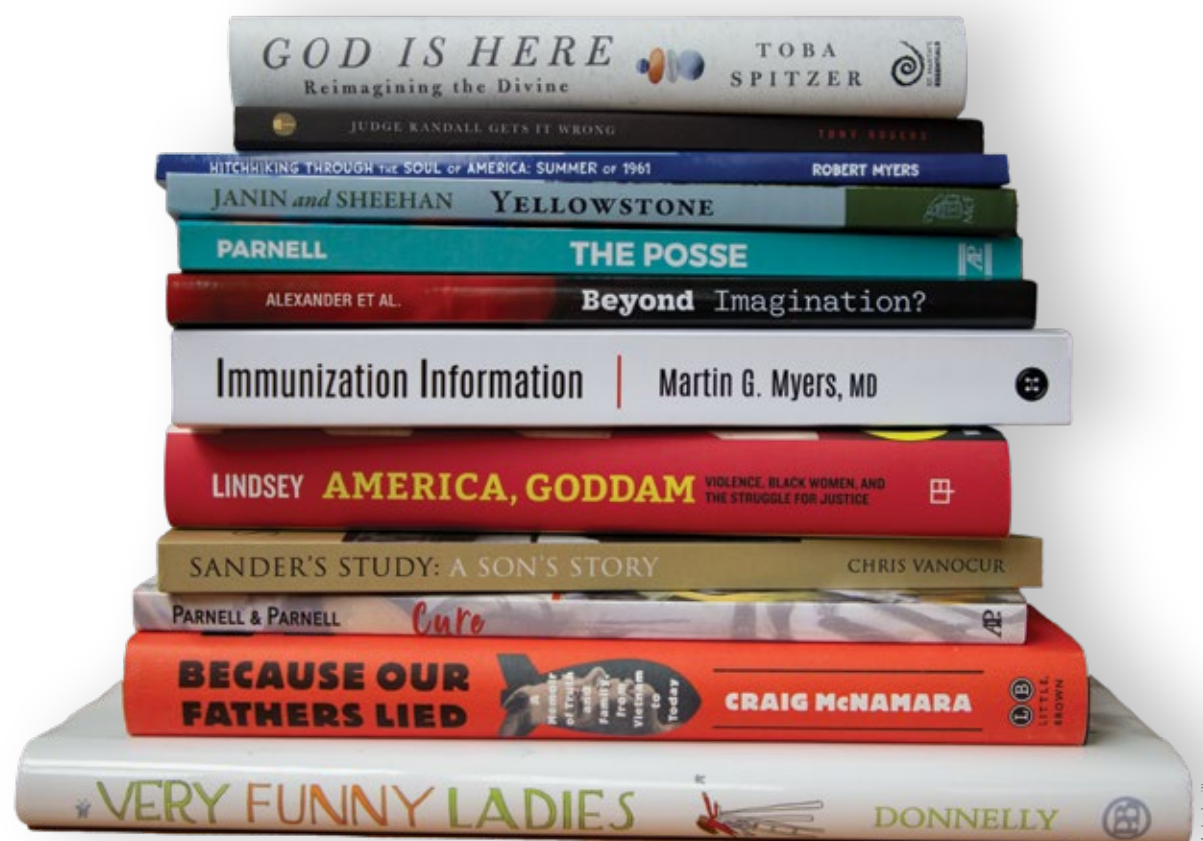
Next, alumni gathered for the Reunion Lunch and presentation of the Distinguished Alumni Awards, the highest-attended on-campus portion of the weekend. Awards went to: Steve Woolpert ’62, Bill Johnson ’72, Kelsey Wirth ’87, and Katherine Tai ’92 (whose classmates showed up in large number and even had temporary tattoos with her face on them!). The Classes of 1992 and 2007 took to social media for a “Quake-Over” of the alumni Instagram account, chronicling their weekends. And everyone on campus had a ball at the photo booth in the Caplin lobby, where alums could don silly hats and glasses and take photos with friends. And of course, there was a special Meeting for Worship in the RLS Meeting Room—a tradition no Reunion would be complete without.

As for the Class of 1972, it wasn’t all protests and controversy back then. Fifty years later, the classmates reminisced about painting their senior lounge “Jupiter blue,” groaning when gym became mandatory, giggling about a Meeting for Worship that got silly (and incurred the ire of the administration), and still feeling a bit stunned that DC native and singing icon Roberta Flack played one of their Sadie Hawkins dances (and also found themselves wondering what Estelle Ramey would have thought about Sadie Hawkins dances!). Some things can only happen at Sidwell Friends.



FRESH INK

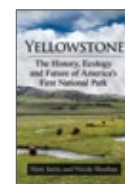
summer books



From the patriarchy to patriarchs, the radical 1960s to January 6 radicals, from imaginative tales to innovative trials—this season's books from the community go way beyond beach reads.

Yellowstone: The History, Ecology and Future of America's First National Park

Hunt Janin and Nicole Sheehan '85
(McFarland, 2021)



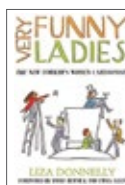
Beyond Imagination? The January 6 Insurrection

Mark Alexander '82, Michèle Alexandre, Erwin Chemerinsky, Danielle Conway, Anthony Crowell, Garry Jenkins, Kevin Johnson
(West Academic Publishing, 2021)



Very Funny Ladies: The New Yorker's Women Cartoonists

Liza Donnelly '73
(Prometheus, 2022)



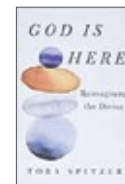
America, Goddam: Violence, Black Women, and the Struggle for Justice

Treva B. Lindsey '00
(University of California Press, 2022)



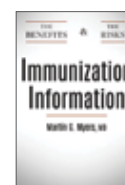
God Is Here: Reimagining the Divine

Toba Spitzer '80
(St. Martin's Essentials, 2022)



Immunization Information: The Benefits and The Risks

Martin G. Myers '59
(Houndstooth Press, 2021)



Hitchhiking Through the Soul of America: Summer 1961

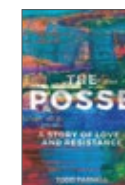
Robert Myers '58



(Independent, 2022)

The Posse: A Story of Love and Resistance

Todd Parnell '65
(Acclaim Press, 2021)



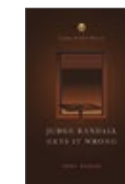
Cure

Todd Parnell '65 and Dr. Patrick Parnell
(Acclaim Press, 2021)



Judge Randall Gets It Wrong (The Judge Randall Mysteries)

Tony Rogers '58
(Bowker, 2022)



SPOTLIGHT:

Fathers and Sons

This season finds three memoirs dedicated to the complicated familial relationships unique to growing up in Washington, DC.

Because Our Fathers Lied: A Memoir of Truth and Family, from Vietnam to Today

Craig McNamara '68
(Little, Brown and Company, 2022)



Renaissance Man: A Personal Biography of Roland Mushat Frye

Roland M. Frye Jr. '68
(Opus, 2022)



Sander's Study: A Son's Story

Chris Vanocur '78
(Independent, 2022)





Pao

The Speed of Science

William Pao '86 tackles everything from cancer to COVID in his work at Pfizer.

William Pao '86 has devoted his life and career to treating illness and creating new medicines and therapeutics for patients worldwide. As the chief development officer and executive vice president for Pfizer, Pao is responsible for the company's pipeline of innovative medicines. Below he talks to *Sidwell Friends Magazine* about his work.

ON FINDING SOLUTIONS TO CANCER:

When I was 13, my father died of colon cancer. I vowed to make a difference in the lives of cancer patients, but I wasn't sure how I would do that. Later, I obtained both an MD and PhD degree. As an MD, I specialized in oncology. In the clinic, I saw mostly patients with lung cancer and ran clinical trials of new molecules in development. As a PhD, I worked in the laboratory to identify new approaches to treating cancer patients and to understand better—at the molecular level—why some therapies worked better in some patients but not others.

I started treating patients with lung cancer in the early 2000s, the standard of care for all patients with metastatic disease was “modern chemotherapy doublets.” Untreated patients had an overall median survival of six to eight months, and those

who got chemotherapy lived for about 10 to 12 months. The one-size-fits-all paradigm and dismal survival rates—often with devastating side effects—were extremely frustrating. Ultimately, with the advent of new “targeted therapies,” which work more precisely than chemotherapies and with fewer side effects, I helped develop a more “precision medicine” approach for patients, where we could tailor therapy according to the genetic makeup of patients' tumors. I also helped several pharmaceutical companies develop medicines, including Tagrisso for patients with a specific type of lung cancer. Today, the subset of patients treated with Tagrisso have a median overall survival of more than three years.

By 2013, I was running a lab, seeing patients, running trials, and heading up a Division of Hematology/Oncology at Vanderbilt University. One day, a headhunter

asked if I was interested in leading an oncology drug-discovery unit in pharma. Although I loved what I was doing in academia, after long consideration I decided to take the plunge and develop drugs full-time and at-scale. In this manner, I thought I could impact not only tens to hundreds of patients but maybe thousands to hundreds of thousands or even millions of patients. Now, I've contributed to the development of many medicines and, in my new role at Pfizer, even vaccines.

ON WHY RESEARCH IS COMPELLING:

Cutting-edge research is incredibly exciting, because you are doing things that no one in history has ever done before. You need to forge new paths and even challenge dogma. Of course, there will be setbacks and failures. But with resiliency and persistence, and by learning from every experience, you push fields of knowledge forward. And hopefully, for me at least, such research will eventually lead to new ways to treat patients with huge unmet medical needs.

ON THE THRILL-OF-DISCOVERY:

The first time I worked in a molecular immunology lab was in the early 1990s. I was sequencing genes using what today is an old-fashioned method, where one step involved going into a darkroom and developing film to see the results. I still

remember my heart pounding with excitement in the darkroom as I couldn't wait to see the results of my multi-day experiments. I wanted to know first if the experiment had technically worked. And second, I was thrilled by the fact that I was seeing results for the first time that no one else had ever seen before. The excitement of seeing new results has stayed with me until today.

ON WORKING IN TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE:

Back in the early 2000s, there were new oral therapies being developed called epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) inhibitors. Based on laboratory experiments, the field knew that EGFR was a good target in cancer but didn't know which patients would benefit the most from them. The initial studies were done in what we call “all-comer” populations—i.e., many different cancer types without any selection criteria. After several years, the field learned that EGFR inhibitors worked best in only a subtype of lung cancer patients, and the question was why. We figured it out: These patients had a genetic defect in their tumors involving the gene encoding EGFR. This discovery meant that we could select patients ahead of time for treatment with EGFR inhibitors by analyzing the genetic makeup of their tumors prior to treatment. We could then also spare those who wouldn't benefit from the drug and give them other therapies. We also figured out why such drugs eventually stopped working in the patients who originally benefited. After about a year, more than half of patients' tumors acquired a new mutation in EGFR, which blocked the drug from binding appropriately to its target. This led to the development of Tagrisso.

This is an example of translational medicine. That is, we try to translate what happens in the clinic back to the lab and from the lab to the clinic. In this case, we used cancer genomics (the genetic makeup of tumors) and personalized medicine (the tailoring of therapy to the right patients at the right time).

“You need to forge new paths and even challenge dogma. Of course, there will be setbacks and failures. But with resiliency and persistence, and by learning from every experience, you push fields of knowledge forward.”

ON WHAT HE WANTS TO ACCOMPLISH AT PFIZER:

Like many, I watched Pfizer defy conventions established in the industry, bringing a safe and effective vaccine and an oral antiviral at record speed when the world needed them most. That ability to move at the speed of science is one of the reasons I joined this company with the hopes of applying that same agile mind-set, scientific prowess, and innovative approach to other therapeutic areas. Within the walls of Pfizer, we refer to this streamlined approach as “lightspeed.” And while we recognize that we cannot deliver all future breakthroughs at such a pace, there are certainly durable lessons from COVID-19 trials that we are carrying through to all our programs.

We are fully embracing digital throughout the development process. During COVID-19, with everyone in lockdown, we had to rely on technology and remote monitoring to continue our trials, and we did so with great success. Incorporating technology into clinical trials is critical for speeding up many aspects of development and also improving participants' experiences.

We are enhancing scientific dialogue between regulators and sponsors. The COVID-19 pandemic has pressure-tested how we interact with regulatory systems like never before. Regulators took a pragmatic approach to regulatory requirements to expedite development without compromising patient safety. These process enhancements and real-time reviews should be made permanent, at least for seriously debilitating and life-threatening conditions where every minute counts, to routinely facilitate faster scientific exchanges, and accelerate the safe development of medicines and vaccines.

We are improving access to and awareness of clinical trials. One of the key factors that contributed to the speed of clinical development for COVID-19 vaccines and treatments was quick patient enrollment. Many courageous volunteers around the world raised their hands and believed that science could win. We need to seize this moment to continue to engage the public in medical research and make it easier for potential participants from all backgrounds to find, learn more about, and ultimately participate in medical research. Pfizer is committed to doing its part to make trials more accessible and equitable.

ON SIDWELL FRIENDS:

I was a lifer at Sidwell Friends. For me, it was a special place, with a strong and close community, outstanding teachers, and amazing friends. I appreciate that at Sidwell, we were encouraged to pursue excellence, and the environment fostered curiosity and creativity. Importantly, the School set a foundation for life-long learning. At the same time, the Quaker values of respect for individuals and equality, and service to others shaped me to honor and hear all voices in my daily life, and to do work in the hopes of benefiting others.

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

SAVE THE DATE!



HOMECOMING WEEKEND OCTOBER 13–16, 2022

Come join us for friendship, food, football, and festivities this October at a very special Homecoming weekend. Revive your School spirit on a cool autumn afternoon by cheering on the Quakers and rekindling class connections. Stay tuned for more details.

We can't wait to see you there!



Sidwell Friends lifers from the Class of '72

CLASS NOTES

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

KEEP IN TOUCH!

Go to sidwell.edu/classnotes and let us know what you've been up to. Don't see your class year? Contact alumni@sidwell.edu to become a class representative.

1941

Want to be a class representative?

Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

In Memoriam:

Alice Sze Wang '41

March 29, 2022

1945

Want to be a class representative?

Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

In Memoriam:

Virginia Wight McCulloch '45

April 8, 2022

1947

BOB ASHTON

ashton_r@hotmail.com

In Memoriam:

Rhoda Kellogg Norman '47

January 31, 2022

1949

Want to be a class representative?

Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

In Memoriam:

Janeth Lloyd Thoron '49

February 13, 2022

1950

TOBY RILEY

toby Riley@gmail.com

1951

Want to be a class representative?

Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

JOHN ROBERT GIFFEN: “I figured out that I’ve now been retired from the advertising industry for as many years as I spent working in it. My wife, Sandra, and I live quietly in Winston–Salem, North Carolina. Our children, grandchildren, and great–grandchildren are scattered from Maryland to Hawaii, although several are here in North Carolina. Unfortunately, the trip to Honolulu is a bit much for us at this point, so we manage to keep in touch with those who are far away via Facetime. Isn’t 21st–century technology terrific?”

1952

CAROL BLACK

carblack@comcast.net

JANE KUSHNER PAPIH: “After my darling husband, Irv, died, I moved to New York City, which I have gotten used to, but I miss Washington very much. Fortunately, I traveled the world a lot, and now I think I’m too old to go abroad. I have a three–wheel bike I ride all over the city. I go to plays and concerts, but I miss my old home. **Helen Gardiner** is coming over tomorrow. I belong to the 92nd Street Y and do exercises and attend great lectures there and on Zoom; sometimes, I play bridge there, too. A pleasant life but I’ve really had enough. The world is horrible now. Love to hear from classmates. Call me at 240–441–5155.”

1953

GLORIA GIRTON

ggat58b@orange.fr

GLORIA GIRTON: “The presidential election, with a high abstention rate, is over, and as usual, there is much disgruntled mumbling. The day after Macron was reelected, there were anti–Macron *démonstrations*. A vote for Macron was a vote against the extreme right. And now the squabbling parties on the left, pushed by the extreme leftist Mélançon, who is claiming that he should be the next prime minister, are trying to form a united front, something not seen for many years, for the upcoming legislative elections. As for me, I am recently back from a visit to Andalusia and am looking forward to returning to Naples and Rome in the fall.”

HANK HOLMES: “The COVID episode has affected, I think, every single person in the world. I am no exception: For years, my wife, Sao, and I have been getting a kind of pension, from our cross–cultural training business back in Thailand. Because of COVID, nobody could host seminars in which people need to come together. So, life became very, very basic for nearly three years. I learned a lot about living simply, as many other folks in our society have had to do for more years than we.”

GEORGE SATTERTHWAITE reports that his family continues to grow, adding two great–grandchildren making the total now seven children, 14 grandchildren, and three great–grandchildren. One grandchild’s wedding and two new graduate degrees are keeping him busy; he can see them all now that pandemic protocols are relaxing. George enjoys following all the events taking place at Sidwell Friends as he presents Sons of the American Revolution awards to high school students in the county where he lives. Go Quakers!

1954

RICHARD NICKLAS

rnicklas@mfa.gwu.edu

JANE HOUGH: “Hello my classmates. Peter and I are doing fine, hanging in there as best we can and fortunately able still to

do aerobics three times a week and bike. Lots of plans to travel but hesitating with the many COVID viruses popping up and just plain inertia. However, we recently traveled to Ohio, visiting the Air Force Museum and the Age of Steam Museum with a round house of great old steam locomotives. Both places worth a visit! I am still writing up interesting parts of my life: growing up in Korea (1947–1948), four years in Japan (1949–1952), two summers in Manila (1954 and 1955), and a year in Saudi Arabia (1982–1983). I just finished a document describing my architectural career and the work I did in the fields of mental health facilities, hotel design, DC public school facilities, and U.S. embassies with the State Department, which included travel to many parts of the world. Time slips by too quickly and there is little time to do all the things we want to do, but that is the way it is. Hope you all take time to remember those special days in your past.”

1955

NANCY ABOLIN HARDIN

nahardin@aol.com

1956

CHARLIE HOLLAND

sshrink9@gmail.com

1957

WES RICHARDSON

wesr2013@hotmail.com

1958

CRAIG MORGAN

craighmorgan@gmail.com

LARRY AARONSON: “I have ‘fully recovered’ from my bout with Hodgkin’s Lymphoma, thanks be to 12 chemo infusions



from Dana Farber. I plan to attend the 80th anniversary of Camp Shohola in Greeley, Pennsylvania, the last weekend in June. **Kit Barger** and family will be in attendance. My son, Duncan, and his wife, Holly, are the co–directors. Life is good. I am blessed. Much love to my Sidwell alum family.”

PEGGY PABST BATTIN wishes to encourage everyone who has yet to join the class’s every–six–weeks Zoom to check it out. If anyone is discouraged by the technical challenge, both Peggy and **Craig Morgan** are eager to help. Email battin@utah.edu or craighmorgan@gmail.com, or call Craig (240–483–8044) or Peggy (801–824–9160).

CRAIG MORGAN: “I am very happy to report that after ripping my quadriceps tendon almost three years ago, I can now jog again—short distances. It turns out the most important factor for my recovery was the passage of time. Granted, the same passage has brought a twist in my spine, plus a hunch in my back. But hey, now I am so much more aerodynamic, and am really good at tacking right.”

BOB MYERS has written his first book, available on Amazon, *Hitchhiking Through The Soul of America: The Summer of 1961*. (And the class knows from its chain email that he has many more in his head, waiting to be written.) *Hitchhiking Through The Soul of America* narrates the nine–week adventure he and **Steve Stovall** had, hitchhiking out to the West Coast and back, with lengthy north–south side trips to visit friends. (See “Fresh Ink,” page 50.)

TONY ROGERS: “The fourth book in my Judge Randall series, *Judge Randall Gets It*

Wrong, is now available on Amazon. It is my favorite so far because it is the most psychological and bears little resemblance to your standard mystery. Judge Randall watches in horror as an MIT student is kidnapped from Judge Randall’s favorite coffee shop, The Long Gone. No ransom demand is made and a week later the kidnapper’s body is found floating in the Charles River beneath the Tobin Bridge.” (See “Fresh Ink,” page 50.)

JOAN FRIEDMAN SEYMOUR: “I am happily settled in a granny flat attached to my younger daughter’s house in Connecticut, where I survived my first New England winter since leaving Mt. Holyoke in 1961. I love living in my little unit and having family so close. I do puzzles online (Wordle, Waffle, and Nerdle) every morning, and Mousse, my poodle, makes sure I get plenty of daily exercise. Lots of comings and goings in my life—granddaughter Isabel relocates to DC in August to start as a freshman at American University. Also, in August, her sister Lili leaves for a semester in Copenhagen. My older daughter, Lisa, formerly a long–term North Carolina resident, has just bought a condo in Austin, a town she loves (and swears it’s not like the rest of Texas), while she and partner, Stuart, will summer at his house in Nantucket. My son and his family are staying put in LA, but in a new house. And my husband, Tony, will be here for three weeks in August! A sadder departure: My sister, **Barbara Friedman '53** died in January, just a few months after her beloved Mort, to whom she was married for 50 years.”

STEVE STOVALL'S eternal youth continues to give his classmates vicarious joy. As requested, he revealed how he did in a recent 5K foot race: He finished 583 in a total field of 1,215, and 7th out of 29 in the age 70+ group. A question for Mr. Stovall: How does *anyone* race at the age of 81, much less keep up with race–runners half his age?

In Memoriam:

Christopher Carpenter '58

May 29, 2022



The Class of 1962 celebrated their 60th Reunion with eight special events.

1. VIRTUAL CLASS GATHERING ON ZOOM

Five of our classmates who were unable to come to the Reunion joined seven of us for a Zoom session on Thursday evening. The Zoom was precious—making me realize how much our remarkable classmates are still showing sides that I didn't know back then. A Zoom sighting of classmates whose faces hadn't changed over the years was my chance to get to know my classmates better—and their spouses.

2. HALF-CENTURY CLUB HAPPY HOUR

We registered at the Kogod Arts Center Courtyard on Friday evening and went into the art center for drinks and hors d'oeuvres. We started to go to the tent at the Class of 1960 Garden, but found it much too loud for our half-century ears and retreated to the courtyard.

3. FRIDAY DINNER AT SURFSIDE

We then walked the few blocks from Sidwell Friends to Surfside. The manager had reserved three tables for the 22 of us—classmates and spouses—who attended the dinner. It was almost as loud as the tent back at the School, but we had a wonderful chance to reconnect with each other.

4. ALUMNI CLASSES TAUGHT BY CURRENT FACULTY

Two of us began Saturday morning at the alumni class taught by Silvana Niazi, Sidwell Friends' first Supervía Endowed Faculty Chair for Spanish and Latin American Studies. Many of our classmates took Spanish from Señora Supervía. The Saturday class on Continuity and Change in Latin America was excellent—a useful overview of how imperialism, racism, and other factors have shaped Latin America over centuries. I'll never forget going to Mexico in the summer program that was organized and led by Señora Supervía. That experience has served me well throughout my life.

5. REUNION LUNCH

We got together for lunch on Saturday. The high point of lunch was seeing our classmate, **Steve Woolpert**, receive the Distinguished Alumni Award. It was certainly a gift to

CLASS OF 1962 REUNION Recap



be sitting at lunch while the video documenting Steve's role at St. Mary's was played. The Awards recipients humbled me and let me know that Quaker values are indeed alive.



6. THE NEW UPTON STREET UPPER SCHOOL CAMPUS

After lunch, a dozen of us toured the still-to-be-finished Upton Street campus and saw a video portraying a vision of what the new Upper School will be like.

7. SATURDAY NIGHT COCKTAILS AND DINNER AT TRACY MULLIN MORONEY AND BILL MORONEY'S

Eighteen classmates, seven of our spouses, and the daughter of one of our classmates met at Water Street overlooking the Potomac River. Tracy and Bill's hospitality Saturday evening was a great gift—hosting us so perfectly that we all had nothing to be concerned with but each other, the view, and the art. Dinner at Tracy and Bill's is always the best event.

8. SUNDAY BREAKFAST AT THE OMNI SHOREHAM HOTEL

Sixty years ago, our class had a dinner dance at the Shoreham. On Sunday, 15 of us gathered together at the Shoreham for breakfast and to say goodbye to each other. It is impossible to encapsulate the emotions and memories that were triggered during our 60th-anniversary Reunion. What is clear is that the members of the Class of '62 continue to care deeply about each other and continue to hold dear the Quaker values that were instilled in us during the years we attended Sidwell Friends. No better hugs were given than those I received and the warmth that I felt on Sunday.

Our 60th Reunion was a treasured time to continue old friendships, a chance to get to know some classmates better than before, and a time to remember those who continue to enrich our lives even though they are no longer with us. I believe that at our age we are all better versions of our younger selves.

—Peter Enemark

1959

CLARK GRIFFITH
ccgpa@ccgpa.com

In Memoriam:

Anthony John Thompson '59
May 31, 2022

1960

JODY HUTCHINSON
mjodyh@yahoo.com

1961

LINDA DEMING RATCLIFF
ldratcliffe@comcast.net

1962

Want to be a class representative?
Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

JUDY MCGREGOR CALDWELL: "Of course I'm coming to the reunion. I'm so excited to see these wonderful friends again and to make new memories among them. I'm also excited to be in another show in Philadelphia, at the Steele Building, which runs from May 26 to September 18. I'm painting for two weeks at Spring Hills Farm in Dalton, Pennsylvania, and three weeks on Monhegan Island, Maine. I have such a good life here in Vero Beach, Florida, as well as having put down roots in Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, and Maine."

STEVE WOOLPERT hosted a virtual town hall in April. The topic was "Healing Our Democracy in a Digital World." It was attended by more than 100 people, including fellow classmates **Jeff Fletcher**, **Arthur Hill**, and **Jeff Rogers**. After opening remarks by the conservative John Gable and the progressive Joan Blades, participants met in breakout rooms to discuss the impact of social



A painting by **Judy McGregor Caldwell '62**

media on America's democratic republic, for better and for worse. Steve plans to host similar events in the future as part of his campaign to strengthen non-partisan democratic values.

1963

MARGO LEE HOFELDT
margo10022@aol.com

MARY BARNHARD AND KENT (TIM) TAYLOR: "So, whatever happened to **Mary Barnhard Taylor** and **Tim Taylor** after 60 years? Well, I understand they got degrees and jobs (pediatric nursing and Public Health Service Commissioned Officer systems analyst) to take care of the draft; got married; saved money; moved to California; picked up a new 1970 Volkswagen camper van in Europe and lived in it for two years in North Africa, Russia, and Europe; then they headed east through Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, India, Nepal, Israel (break on a kibbutz), before shipping the van to Nairobi, navigating through the very muddy Congo track and up across the Sahara Desert (everyone else had Land Rovers)—and home. Then they got more degrees (cybernetic systems, psychology), had two kids, chucked all the education for a general contractor's license, and Mary and Tim worked together with their hands remodeling, building houses, and accumulating Silicon Valley real estate, including constructing a nice home on four acres in the hills. Mary became expert in many

forms of needlework and Tim founded, and has run for decades, the website volunteerinfo.org. Throughout this, the pair dragged the kids several times to see the real world (India, Australia, Orient Express, Russia—you name it—no tours) and took a motorhome to the Arctic Circle, Mexico, and cross-country. The kids now have good jobs making the world a better place (psychologist and anti-trafficking foundation founder). Best of all, they live nearby (one next door in a remodeled barn). When not building, remodeling, e-biking, doing fine needlework, or playing competitive tennis (singles 4.3), Tim and Mary spend cherished days each week with the grandkids. They find it novel now to be getting rid of all the accumulated monetary gains that were so treasured during their acquisition. Hello, Doctors Without Borders! So disappointed in leaving the world in far worse shape than when we entered it and can't believe we could lose the House and Senate to those people." (See photo below.)



Mary Barnhard Taylor '63 and **Tim Taylor '63** in Eagle Lake, California

MARGO LEE HOFELDT: "Milestones significantly help us (especially now) keep track of where we've been and where we're going! Our new granddaughter is already 10 months old! We don't know how that happened so quickly, but we do enjoy seeing how she changes. I think she's going to start walking any minute and then we're all in trouble! She is a joy, but it takes about a week to recover whenever we look after her. We finally got settled in our new apartment and are very happy. We love entertaining here and have already had my birthday party, a Scotch-tasting party, and a Kentucky Derby party. In February, we did a lot

of the South Beach Wine & Food Festival, which is always delicious and fun. In March, my garden club staged a judged standard flower show in conjunction with the Botanical Garden Annual Garden Tour. My entry was awarded a red ribbon for second place. Almost every day in April had something on the calendar, and here we are in May already. I am on the boards of both the Miami Beach Garden Club and the Miami Beach Botanical Garden, and I'm working on three projects at one time. It's all fun and a little crazy."

JEANNE PERKINS HOFFERKAMP: "Finally! Where does the time go when you are doing nothing! Spring is finally approaching, so with warmer weather we can get back to golfing and doing outdoor activities! We did not go anywhere this winter with COVID etc., so we are chomping at the bit to get out! We usually bowl in a league in the winter but didn't do that either. I read in the last bulletin that **Peter Burling's** father went to Friends when the campus was on I Street. My dad and both of my aunts went there! That is some history. My dad graduated in the class of 1935. Hoping everyone is well. I am sure we all have the same aches and pains of growing older. In 6th grade, I never thought I would be communicating with my classmates when we were in our mid-70s! Wishing everyone the best."

ALISON FEISS KRIVISKEY: "Bruce and I continue to enjoy our new home and our very lively retirement community. As a passionate gardener, I have joined the Native Plants team working to re-establish our meadows and other areas with plants favored by pollinators, birds, and other wildlife. This work is very gratifying as we see more butterflies, bees, hummingbirds, and other species returning in larger numbers over time. Up here in New England, the outdoor gardening season is relatively short, so I grow orchids under horticultural LED lights in our spare bedroom. **John Bralove**, I envy your ability to grow orchids outside in Florida. I continue to volunteer at the Smith College Botanic Garden, just down the road a piece. On a different subject, I was co-chair of the

55th reunion for my class ('67) at Smith and have the perhaps dubious honor of being elected class president for the next five years. Working on reunion has introduced me to some wonderful women who have led interesting lives. We are all struggling with the impact of Covid on group activities, requiring that our reunion be partially virtual for those who stayed home and partially in person for those who ventured on campus for the weekend. The biggest challenge has been to get some of our classmates (all in their late 70s) to use technology in order to engage in the activities. Our reunion team relied on our adult children and teenage grandchildren to help when all else failed. The result was a great success!"

ROBERT ZWEBEN: "What can I say? I am alive. The next Omicron variant has not killed me yet. Nor my wife, children, and grandchildren. The oldest, a 15-year-old, went to her school's prom last weekend and tested positive for COVID a few days ago. So far so good. I hope to dodge the virus even though I am going to Toronto with my wife at the end of May. Last November, we went to Paris and Tel Aviv. We took our risks as we tried to be careful. What else is there to be said? Putin's invasion of Ukraine has brought home how fragile our world is. Authoritarian types of governments are not my cup of tea. I do think the Ukrainian people are amazing to fight for their country. Speaking of fighting, I am guessing America is about to enter the Stone Age, or some other variation of life in the 1850s. The Supremes, according to the opinion that was leaked, have gone over to the dark side. Just think, they are only getting started with their states'-rights schtick. Shame on these crazed Trumpers and wannabes who are bringing their bigotry and need for power to the last chapters of our lives."

In Memoriam:

Lynn Morris Normile '63
April 29, 2022

SPOTLIGHT: Notes From a Zoom

The Class of 1964 explores Ukrainian identity and history.

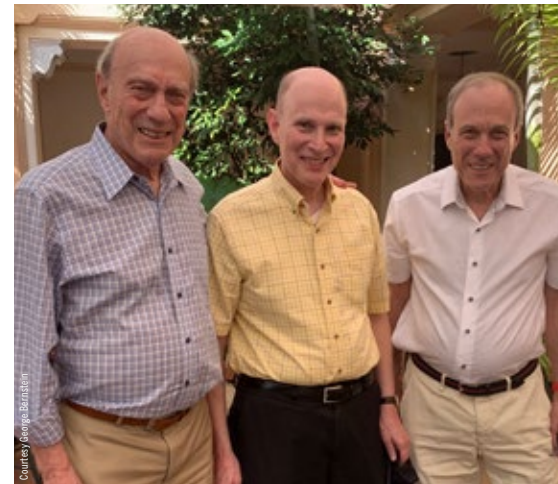
Through the arrangement of our classmate **George Bernstein**, the Class of 1964 Zoom series was graced on March 30 with a presentation on Ukraine by Dr. Samuel Ramer, an associate professor of history at Tulane University. Ramer, who is an expert in Russian history and speaks fluent Russian, gave us background for about a half-hour and then took questions for an additional hour. A main focus of Ramer's remarks was an explanation of the evolution of a distinct Ukrainian identity, underway at the beginning of the 20th century, abetted by the Chernobyl disaster, and coming into full flower in a 1991 referendum vote for independence. One of Vladimir Putin's motives for the invasion, Ramer said, was perhaps his fear that Ukraine's assimilation into Russian culture was becoming impossible. Two consequences of the invasion have been a need to reexamine Russian history and the emergence of a narrative of Ukrainian heroism.

—Louise Berry Strait

1964

LOUISE BERRY STRAIT
lbstrait@gmail.com

LEA JABLONSKI UHRE shares that her daughter, Katharine Gregorio, has recently published a book, *The Double Life of Katharine Clark: The Untold Story of the Fearless Journalist Who Risked Her Life for Truth and Justice*. Lea writes: "It is about my Aunt Katharine, my mother's only sibling, who was a foreign correspondent with assignments all



LEFT: Daniel Bernstein '55, Alan Bernstein '59, and George Bernstein '64 in Miami CENTER: Thatcher Morse '58, Annie Morse (alum of Sandy Springs Friends), and Susan Morse '64 RIGHT: Susan Morse '64, Lexi Ludovina, Daniel Krass, and Deborah Krass



over the world, but primarily in Eastern Europe. It is about her friendship with a Communist dissident, Milovan Djilas, who was vice president under Tito in Yugoslavia, which led to her being able to smuggle out his manuscripts to the West. He is best known for his book *The New Class: An Analysis of the Communist System*. As the Russian tanks started rolling into Ukraine, all I could think of was when the Russian tanks invaded Hungary in 1956, I was 10 years old at the time and vividly remember my aunt's stories appearing as a special byline on the front page of *The Washington Post*." According to *The Wall Street Journal*, "Gregorio tells Clark's story in engaging, well-researched, and vivid detail. ... An eloquent tribute."

Classmate and former Sidwell Friends faculty member **Carl Wilbur** offers another poetic reflection:

"Limerick"

*Mr. Cicada is a curious fellow.
In search of a mate, he is wont to bellow.
He flies a path neither straight nor true;
And if you're not careful,
He'll land on you.*

GEORGE BERNSTEIN: "In February, Rose and I drove to Miami to see my brothers, **Daniel '55** and **Alan '59**, visiting some friends along the way. Dan and his wife, Ann, were spending a couple of months in Miami (where Alan and Jayusia live) to escape the New York winter, so this was a wonderful opportunity for the

three of us and our wives to get together for the first time in four years. It was every bit as great fun as we had expected it to be." (See photo above.)

SUSAN MORSE: "A romance instigated by two Sidwell Friends alumni has resulted in the recent wedding of my daughter, Alexandra (Lexi) Ludovina, to Daniel Krass in Carmel Valley, California, in May. Five alumni attended: **Peter Enemark '62**, **Meme Lund Enemark '62**, **Mary Bralove**, **Thatcher Morse '58**, and me. The instigators, Peter and Meme, had suggested that Daniel, a former neighbor and friend of Peter's son, might be a good match for Lexi. (Advice to daughters, and sons: when someone says, 'You really ought to meet...' don't pooh-pooh them. Good things can happen!) It was a beautiful romantic wedding and lots of fun for us all, including the opportunity to get together with family and friends. At least two other alumni of Quaker schools also attended. Quaker education has an impact for life, and for good! Peace to all." (See photos above.)

1965

KEN LESURE
ken.lesure@gmail.com

KEN LESURE: "After retiring in 2010 after 30 years as a psychology professor, I moved from Ohio to the Poconos in 2012,

where I have enjoyed hiking, biking, and other outdoor activities in a beautiful mountain setting near the Delaware Water Gap and Appalachian Trail. Three years ago, I came out of retirement by volunteering as a class leader and board member of The Older Adult Learning Center in East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania. In that capacity, I have taught non-credit psychology and history classes for other local retirees. Adding to these pleasures are frequent visits by my elder daughter, Elizabeth, her husband, and my two grandsons. In 2011, she taught briefly at Sidwell Friends in the Upper School English department in a temporary paternity leave assignment. She currently works as an administrator and teacher at Berkeley-Carroll School in Brooklyn, New York, making her a third-generation LeSure educator. I am writing a book about my family and our lengthy Sidwell Friends experience, which will include photographs and reminiscences of the School. I look forward to publishing it soon under the Friends of Friends Press imprint. I am hoping that some of the hundreds of students from many classes and staff who knew my parents would be willing to share their memories of them, either in anecdotal form or in photographs. If you are one of them, please contact me at ken.lesure@gmail.com." (See photo on next page.)

CLASS OF 1967 REUNION Recap

The Class of 1967 was well-represented at its 55th Reunion. In addition to participating in the many on-campus events, on Friday night 20 or so of us enjoyed a wonderful home-cooked meal at the home of Steve and Ruth Yackee Handelsman. Steve's paella was superb. On Saturday evening, Denise and Peter Glassman hosted an elegant meal at Matisse. It was great to see old friends and reminisce.

—Peter Glassman



1966

CHRIS DEMATATIS

cdematatis@aol.com

CARL EIFLER: “I have finally left Wall Street and financial services after 47 years to do something more relaxing. My original plan was to make a bunch of money and retire at 45, but I picked a famous firm that consistently proved it couldn't get out of its own way, so that didn't work out. Finally, I've reached my retirement-portfolio size objective, and, following a suitable period of mourning, I'm going to start part-time work with my wife's client-research firm called 74&WEST. They figure out how clients and other stakeholders really feel about difficult topics. I'm going to try

building out a nonprofit arm of the business to provide a similar service to that huge sector, ranging from professional organizations to foundations and public service charities. What do association members really value, what's the community impact of a program, how do you validate and accelerate a new program? If you or your children need something like that for an organization you care about, please get in touch. In the meantime, don't forget the Class of '66 Scholarship Fund!” (See photo on next page.)

1967

STEPHEN BATZELL

swb.abacus@gmail.com



Ken LeSure '65 is writing a book about Sidwell Friends and his family's service to the School. Anyone with a LeSure memory is encouraged to write to Ken at ken.lesure@gmail.com.

PHILIP KHOURY: “In July, I begin my 41st year on the MIT faculty. I'm trying to wrap up a long memoir and working on a WWII history project. I resumed travel for work in November, and Beth, who remains at Smith, and I had a much needed vacation in Sedona in April. Together we plan to be in Turkey, the UK, and Ireland over the coming five months for work but also for a little touring. We hope to spend as much of the summer as we can at our Berkshires lake house imbibing the arts. I stay in touch with **Hans Carter**, **Steve Batzell**, **Alex Scott**, **John Philipsborn**, **John Parkin**, and **Bob Kramer**, whom I was delighted to catch up with over dinner here in Cambridge recently. I'm really sorry to have missed our 55th and hope all who attended had a really fun time together.”

1968

ROLLIE FRYE

rolliefrye@gmail.com

JANE ESKEW BLONG: I have been living for the past 10 years in Marco Island, Florida. Except for the politics in the state, it is a nice place to live. I play tennis, do a lot of walking, read, and volunteer at our local food bank. I also visit DC, where I offer to hang out with **Betsy Paull**, **Lynn Johnson McCown**, and **Kay Burgunder Stevens**. And I have spent time with **David Mann** and his wife in Marco and Rehoboth. Wishing all my classmates all the good that life has to offer.

CATHY RITZENBERG MCCULLOCH: “My husband, **Scot McCulloch '64**, and I attended **Craig McNamara's** book talk and he was a total star. Standing Room Only! The book is such a compelling read. I have Craig's permission to submit this photo of us at Politics and Prose (see photo on next page). I catch up with Craig and his wife, Julie, in Martha's Vineyard in summers. It's such fun to stay connected to a friend from 50 years ago! My news: I have four wonderful grandchildren, two of whom are at Sidwell Friends, **Samantha '29** grade and **Logan '32**. Their parents, **Matt McCulloch '97** and **Jill Romansky McCulloch '97**, are both Sidwell Friends



LEFT: Carl Eifler '66 with his grandchildren CENTER: Cathy McCulloch '68, Craig McNamara '68 RIGHT: Kate Waits '68 wears a scarf she knit in Cleveland Browns colors for her Etsy shop, YourTeam by Kate Waits.

alums, too. So, my grandkids are third generation! My other son, Jon, and his wife, Katie, have two little girls and live in Chicago, so we visit there often. Family reunions take place at our home in Martha's Vineyard, our happy place.”

CRAIG MCNAMARA: “I hope that this note finds you in good health and at peace. After almost three years of writing and a year of editing, my memoir *Because Our Fathers Lied*, about my relationship with my father and to the Vietnam War—and how both played into my becoming a farmer—was just published by Little, Brown in May. I would be honored to have you follow me as this next chapter of my journey unfolds. I had my first event for the book at University of San Francisco, at the close of the *Waging Peace in Vietnam* exhibition. It was a wonderful way to kick off the next stage of this journey. I was very lucky to be interviewed by the historian Philip Taubman, Stanford associate vice president for university affairs, who is working on what I think will be the definitive biography of my father. The large room was standing-room only, with an audience spanning all the generations, from Vietnam veterans and protesters to students, many of whom joined us for a reception afterward. Julie was kept very busy selling copies of my book while I signed them! Please check out the new and improved craigmcnamara.org, where you'll be able to read about the book, plus the latest reviews (*Esquire* included it in Best Memoirs of 2022!), and more upcoming events. With a little help, I am also on Twitter now as [@rcraigmcnamara](https://twitter.com/rcraigmcnamara); if you are too, please follow, and tag me if you tweet about the



book. Posting on Facebook is also helpful. I have been told that pictures of the actual book in your hand on any social media are apparently very good for getting attention. So are reviews on Amazon if you have the time and inclination.” (See “Fresh Ink” on page 50.)

KATE WAITS: “I've been an avid knitter and crocheter for some six decades (!). In the past year, I've turned that hobby into an Etsy business. My shop is ‘YourTeam by Kate Waits.’ All items are made with my own hands. I've been having a lot of fun with it. My focus is on hats, scarves, and blankets in team and non-team colors. I also love custom orders—so feel free to contact me! Just FYI... I have a ton of maroon and gray yarn in stock!” (See photo above.)

1969

Want to be a class representative?

Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

EVERETT SHOREY: “When he was a freshman at Sidwell Friends, my brother, **David Shorey '71**, took nearly 400 photographs at the high school and another series at the Lower School (and, seemingly, not the Middle School) in what seems to be the spring of 1968. Most of the high school ones are of our class with some people from the classes above us and below us. The presence of people in the class of 1968 helps date the photos. Unfortunately, my brother died several years ago so there is no way to ask him about why he took

the photos. I have digitized the negatives and given the physical version to Sidwell Friends for its archives. I would be happy to share the link to the digital version with anyone who wants it. You can reach me at eshorey@shoreyconsulting.com.”

MARI HILDENBRAND THOMPSON: “My dog, Tildy, and I made another cross-country trip this spring, and I'm back to being bicoastal—half the year in Bend, Oregon, and half in St. Cloud, Florida. The last FaceTime with my granddaughter, London, is what finally and completely decided me. All it took was a laughing, giggling London to suddenly break into tears and say, “Granny, I want you back here!” So, being a dutiful granny, as one should be, I bought a truly tiny, manufactured home in a gated community nearby. The community sits along a lake, and my little abode (which I'm calling ‘Lil-liputia’) has a partial lake view out back and a nice view of the channel. There's enough greenery around the house for Tildy, and, once I put in a doggie door and a small fence, she can run outside on her own. One thing that cracks me up, and I do realize I'm easily cracked up, is seeing moldy-oldies riding around on their golf carts. At 71, I might actually be a spring chicken compared with some of these folks. I will be in Bend for the summer to be there during fire season, when Michael will be deploying to disaster sites with the Red Cross in one of his many volunteer roles: being a Disaster Action Team (DAT) responder; setting up and supervising shelters; handing out Common Access Cards so the un-homed have money for clothing, food, and a budget





Bob Morrow, Stephanie Fain Morrow '70, Cindy Dickinson '70

motel room; organizing transportation; and making disaster assessments. I, on the other hand, will stay in Bend with our critters in case we get a fire requiring evacuation—so I can get them (and myself) out fast. I have a go-bag in my car at the ready with enough clothing, meds, water, and dog food for at least a week. Weather permitting, I'll hopefully be back to volunteering at Healing Reins Equine Assisted Therapy. It is so wonderful to be around the amazing horses in an absolutely beautiful setting. Hello and blessings to all my Sidwell friends, and to Ukrainians in the face of devastating horror. *Nam myoho renge kyo.*"



Rebecca Gordon '70 surrounded by students after a guest lecture about her union fight

1970

MARGARET WEAVER KRULL
mwkrull@me.com

REBECCA ALLISON GORDON: "Just finished serving as a member-organizer and as a bargaining team member for my union, the University of San Francisco Part Time Faculty Association. It was a bitter nine-month contract renewal fight with a university whose motto, 'Change the World from Here,' applies to many aspects of our communal life but not to labor relations. We ended up getting less than we wanted, but more than we thought we would. These things aren't won at the bargaining table, but by organizing members, students, other on-campus unions, alums, and the larger San Francisco community. It was such a joy to work with a group of committed, kind, and brilliant colleagues. Like most universities in this country, USF's business model depends on the work of low-paid, contingent, part-time faculty. We hang in because, in the end, we love teaching, and we love our students. I often say I have the best job in the world: I get to talk with young people about their deepest values at the time in their lives when they are just figuring out what those are." (See photo below.)

STEPHANIE FAIN MORROW: "We finally made it to Spain! This trip, starting in Barcelona and covering northern Spain and south to Lisbon, was planned for 2020 with Cindy Dickinson! Although we followed much of the Pilgrims' Path along the Route of St. James, we focused more on wine, food, art, and a few beautiful cathedrals and churches." (See photo at top.)

SPOTLIGHT: Notes From a Zoom

Ken McCauley has been hosting regular one-hour Zoom calls for members of the Class of 1971. It typically includes 10 to 20 members. Conversations have been wide-ranging, including personal events, memories, the pandemic, and current events. Our May session included Dana Sack discussing the Oakland Zoo and **Julia Challinor** describing the efforts of Childhood Cancer International to get children who are undergoing cancer treatment out of Ukraine, first to Poland—with translation of medical records—and then on to other European countries for treatment. We also discussed the relationship between climate change and health, and ongoing U.S. inequities in regard to refugee asylum. Although missing recent calls, **Ann Yoklavich** and **Elizabeth Rhodes Reich** have both written that they have now retired. Ann is taking this opportunity to do some traveling but plans to be back on Oahu in late fall and winter, and welcomes visitors then.

—Brian Steinbach

1971

BRIAN STEINBACH
BSteinbach@ebglaw.com

DAVID SHOREY passed in 2014. His brother, **Everett Shorey '69**, wanted to write to his brother's class: "David Shorey was in the class of 1971 at Sidwell Friends and left after his sophomore year. David, our parents, and Sidwell Friends decided that a small boarding school in western Massachusetts would be a better fit, so David finished there. In the year before, as a freshman, he took over 400 photographs of the Upper and Lower Schools

CLASS OF 1972 REUNION Recap

The Class of 1972 gathered, in person and virtually, over four days for our 50th Reunion. We had a strong showing. Well over one-third of the class (33 graduates) attended, coming from all corners, and the center, of the country. We started with a Zoom call on Thursday, with a good number of classmates attending (including **Jon Huffman**, **Angella Tardy Barnes**, **Bill van Osdol**, and **Neal Wetzel**, who were unable to join the Reunion in person).

Friday's welcoming luncheon—under a giant tent at the foot of the Zartman House stairs—had us laughing as Assistant Upper School Principal Robbie Gross jogged our memories of high school. We will go down in Sidwell Friends history for setting up a lounge exclusively for seniors. And for managing to persuade administrators to change the School dress code so girls could wear pants in winter weather.



This year we made our mark again. Our class reunion gift, suggested by our classmate **Wendy Hudson**, was providing additional funding for the Upper School's new chair in African and African American Studies. The class responded to the call, and as of the Reunion had already far surpassed our \$50,000 fundraising goal.

Another proud moment for the class, and inspiration for all who attended and who know him, took place Saturday, when **Bill Johnson** was honored at an on-campus ceremony honoring Sidwell Friends Distinguished Alumni Awards winners for extraordinary service to their communities. Bill was recognized for his profound commitment to his patients during a career in family medicine. Bill had originally planned to be a surgeon, but a two-year stint with the U.S. Public Health Service treating migrant families on the Eastern Shore led him to switch paths. (We encourage those who can, to view the video about Bill, and the other videos the School put together to honor the award recipients: Available at sidwell.edu/reunion.)



Off campus, we shared more special moments on Saturday night, at a buffet dinner generously hosted by **Rick England** and his wife, Diana, in the backyard of their Bethesda home. Twenty-seven class members attended, some with spouses. Many laughs, reconnections, and hopes for staying in touch were shared. **Edgar Russell**, who has taken up singing, surprised and delighted with a performance of the long-forgotten Sidwell Friends School song, accompanied by **Guilford Queen**—a repeat of their spontaneous on-campus duet earlier in the day during Friends Meeting. Edgar, together with **Charles Bland**, then led a rousing rendition of the School fight song. "Sidwell Friends, we are here. We're ready to cheer. We'll stand behind our team..."

We also shared feelings of loss. Seven members of our graduating Class of 1972 students have passed away. At our gathering Saturday evening, Guilford led us in a moment of silence and remembrance for those class members: **Tim Meyers**, **Peter Johnston**, **Marcia Adler**, **Diane Rothschild**, **Blair Bucknell Gregory**, **Peter Daiger**, and **Mark Kenmore**.

The final event took place Sunday: a brunch for alumni and guests at the Kenwood Country Club, arranged by Rick. The weekend was filled with moments of warmth and gratitude that we could meet and call out the names of classmates we hadn't seen in five decades—but often recognized instantly.

When everything was over, **Joyce Jacobson** said it best: "I feel like I needed about 10 more events so I could have time to visit with everyone." We didn't have 10 more events, but we don't intend to let five more years go by without staying in touch. We have created a digital yearbook, where classmates can comment on their post-Sidwell Friends lives, causes, and passions—and also post remembrances of classmates who are no longer with us.

—Sandra Dibble and Bruce Adams

(in the Upper School, mostly of my class of 1969 when we were then juniors). I have digitized those photos and given the negatives to Sidwell Friends for its archives. If anyone wants to view the photos, please email me and I will send a link: eshorey@shoreyconsulting.com. David led a life of joy and adventure cut too short when he died of cancer at age 61 in 2014. His career mostly revolved around antique flutes; he was a historian and dealer, particularly of flutes in the transition from one-key flutes to the current fingering system and intermediate designs. Mostly, he loved his family, including his wife, Nina, and their two sons, Josh and Clyde, and now Clyde's son, Hayes. David and Nina first lived in a small town in Maine and then moved to Amsterdam, where his lifestyle fit better, and, finally, to Los Angeles. David's greatest accomplishment was his family and the time he spent managing a rock band in Europe led by a group of Bulgarians and where Clyde played guitar and bouzouki."

1972

JOYCE JACOBSON

joyce@brastedhouse.com

EDITOR'S NOTE:

See Reunion Recap on previous page.

1973

APRILLE KNIPE SHERMAN

shermaner@msn.com

REGINA DESSOFF KESSLER

reginadkessler@gmail.com

BEN DAVIS: "The Benjamin G. Davis Speaker Series was inaugurated in March 2022 at the University of Toledo College of Law thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor. The series is being organized by the Black Law Students Association. On April 4, 2022, the ambassador to the United States from France officially announced that the French Republic has granted Benjamin

G. Davis the Chevalier rank in the Ordre des Palmes Académiques for services rendered to France, its language, and its culture in the United States. The Ordre des Palmes Académiques is one of the oldest awards bestowed by the French Republic dating to 1808 and is a national order bestowed by the French Republic on distinguished academics and teachers and for valuable service to universities, education, and science."

1974

LESLIE WOLF-CREUTZFELDT

lcreutzfeldt@yahoo.com

LESLIE WOLF-CREUTZFELDT: "The Class of 1974 organized a virtual springtime get together, including a special dance performance by **Donna DeMarco** (serpentine.org) and guitar accompaniment by **Matthew Gamser**, who played 'You've Got a Friend.' Dancing and music—as well as friendship—are key to staying young! Stop by Donna's studio to say hello and to explore the wonders of eastern dance, the 'ancient art for modern health.' And watch the video here: bit.ly/serpentine-dance."

KARL BOSTIC: "I am working in Ukraine since the war broke out in February. I started working with PBS and am now working with the United Nations for crisis communications. This has meant interviewing displaced and deported people, which is more than heartbreaking. It's difficult to start the day knowing more sorrow and tragedy lies ahead. Air-raid sirens are a constant, interrupting everything from work to sleep, like an unwelcome guest at dinner. Last year, I was in N'Djamena, Chad, covering the coup following the killing of the president. A different kind of fear there: Silent fear everywhere. At Sidwell Friends, we had the best teachers you could ask for to prepare us for life. But the most important class for me is now the Quaker meeting. I cherish every moment of silence I can get each day." (See photos above right.)



Karl Bostic '74 in Odessa, Ukraine with Opera House in background barricaded with sandbags, and in N'Djamena Chad

BILL GRANT and **MATT GAMSER**, who regularly ride together on Saturday mornings, joined an adaptive colleague, Olaf Kula, and his hand-cranked trike, on part of the Face of America ride for veterans and first-responders from Washington to Gettysburg. A wonderful two-day event that featured about 15 adaptive cyclists reflecting various disabilities and hundreds of able-bodied support riders." (See photos on next page.)

ANDREW LAZARUS: "I have moved from retired (December 2019) to semi-retired. I am now teaching computer-programming part-time over Zoom for the non-profit Merit America. The students are adult learners who are taking 'Learn to Code' as advice for a better career—not snark. The job has made me surprisingly happy—returning to my first career after a 20-year absence from the classroom."

JOHN MARCOU: "I have been living in Jakarta, Indonesia, since 1993, except for a two-year stint in Perth, Australia, just to see what it would be like to live as far as possible outside the Beltway. I am married to Donna Mei Luksida, who is Batak, which is as close as you can get to Type A in Indonesia and therefore reasonably compatible with a certified East Coast nerd. Both my number one son and number two son are married, both are living in the Maryland 'burbs. My daughter is a resident in Massachusetts, just outside Beantown on Route 9. Grandchildren: Two, a girl and a boy, offspring of number two son. My mom is still active at 91; my dad died 2011. Sold the house, so sad to report no more parties at 5 Farmington Court. The rest of the Sidwell Friends Marcous are doing fine, all residents in or around DC. I am working for a large Japanese trading company on its Indonesian gas upstream interests for LNG production. Retire? Sure, when they pry my slide-rule from my cold, dead hands! I recently traveled to Mt. Ijen, eastern Java, Indonesia, to see the Api Biru Abadi (Eternal Blue Flame), which is located at the bottom of the volcano's caldera. As Donna and I made the treacherous descent, in the middle of the night, over a rain-slick, boulder-strewn path, with precipitous drops dimly apparent on either side, I was considering the fact that the Eternal Blue Flame is blue because there is an active vent

releasing deadly hydrogen-sulfide gas, which burns blue when combusted and which produces the very nasty combustion byproduct sulfur-dioxide. On top of that, my geological studies had taught me that here, practically on the center stone of the Ring of Fire, volcanoes are not truly extinct on a geologic time scale. I was reminded of an Albert Einstein quote: 'Any fool can know. The point is to understand.'" (See photo on right.)

CHRIS NORDLINGER credits the Quaker values of Sidwell Friends for why he has been fortunate enough to marry giving back with tech in Silicon Valley. After years developing partnerships for the Cisco Networking Academy and heading the Cybersecurity Academy for Palo Alto Networks (1,800 academies in 80 countries), he's now building the Splunk Academy. This global program of Splunk now offers free skills training to help learners land jobs in big data and cybersecurity, where there are over 6 million open but unfilled jobs due to a lack of qualified professionals. The diversity and inclusion focus of the program helps students gain what are often life-changing careers.

1975

ALAN DRUMMER

alandrummer@hotmail.com



John Marcou '74 and wife, Donna, are properly kitted-out for descent into a caldera. ("It may look like I am protectively embracing, but actually it's for support.")

NEVILLE WATERS: "I kicked off my year-long 'This. Is. 65. Birthday Tour' by joining **Ken Hyatt**, **Eddie Cornwell '74** (husband of classmate **Maggie Covington**), and **Eric Henry**—aka 'The Rowdies'—to collectively celebrate our 65th birthdays while enjoying a rowdy Super Bowl weekend on the Gulf Coast at Eric's home in Naples, Florida." (See photo below.)

In Memoriam:

Carol Lynn Langley '75

October 25, 2020



Bill Grant '74, Olaf Kula, and Matt Gamser '74 on the Face of America ride



Ken Hyatt '75, Ed Cornwell '74, Eric Henry '75, Neville Waters '75

1976

Want to be a class representative?

Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

TIM MAUDLIN: “Over the last three years, I have been engaged in establishing the John Bell Institute for the Foundations of Physics. Plans were interrupted by COVID, but if all goes well, this year we will secure our campus in Bojanić Bad, on the island of Hvar, Croatia. If anyone is curious, information about the Institute can be found at JohnBellInstitute.org. And if anyone is in Croatia in the summer, I will likely be there if you want to stop for a visit. Just drop me an e-line.”

TOM WARNKE: “I remain in Long Beach, California, and at Lambda Legal, as media-relations director. The past months have been both hectic and maddening, as state legislatures nationwide feel empowered to target one of the most vulnerable populations among us—transgender youth. I am working with allies in Texas, Oklahoma, Florida, Indiana, and, sadly, many other locations to fight back. Golf Digest (yes, really) recently ran a lovely piece about one of our clients: “Why a 14-Year-Old Boy Is Outlawed from Playing on His Golf Team.” Take a gander: bit.ly/transgolf.

KEEP IN TOUCH!

Go to sidwell.edu/classnotes and let us know what you've been up to. Don't see your class year? Contact alumni@sidwell.edu to become a class representative.

CLASS OF 1977 REUNION Recap



A small but stalwart group of Class of '77 friends gathered at dinnertime on the Saturday of Reunion weekend at Matchbox restaurant in Cleveland Park. In attendance were **Linda Sheffield, Charlie Meade, Helen MacIsaac, Shauna Miller Wertheim, Phillip Proctor, Su-Moon Paik,** and **Adam Kolker.**

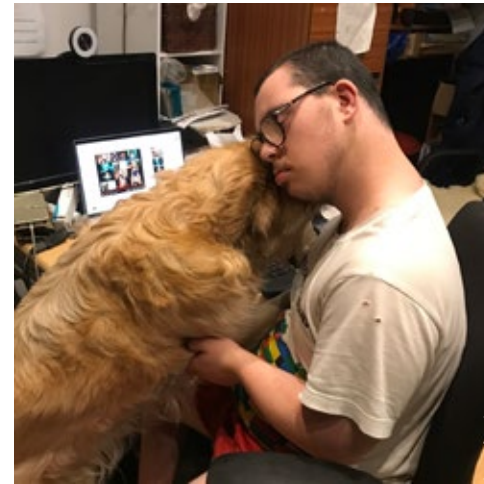


In that intimate setting, the years melted away, and we were genuinely able to reconnect and find out what each and every one has been doing, feeling, and pursuing over the years. Nostalgia ran deep as we watched several tables of prom teens socialize and depart for their final senior event prior to graduation. Linda gets the award for traveling the farthest—from Berlin, Germany. Su-Moon flew in from San Francisco; Adam trekked from New York City; the rest of us locals (Helen recently returned to the DC area!) were happy to have the company of our classmates. Other events of the weekend included the Friday evening reception (**Afroze Mohammed** attended with others); Meeting for Worship; tours of the Upton Street campus (**Jane Smedley**, now retired for the second time from the U.S. Naval Academy attended); and Alumni Classes taught by current faculty (including “Forensic ‘Science’: When Justice Isn’t Blind”).

We were all warmed by each other's presence, and collectively determined that there was no need to wait until our 50th to reunite. We heard from many of our classmates who wanted to be there—**Liz Barnes** and **Amanda Eastman Buschi** were attending their respective daughters' graduations; **Bill Hyun** was at his nephew's graduation; **Jeannine Perrot, Emily Rubin Jennewein,** and **Steve O'Neill** each were on various different traveling adventures; Robert Hyman was heading west to complete the construction project on his new home in Bellingham, Washington; **Jeff Pierson, Adam Stern, Beth Rubenstein,** and **Eddie Lazarus**, all West Coasters, and **Allison Milo Morelli** (Boca Raton, Florida) were conflicted by their schedules. Understandably, graduations, COVID, and weddings were big impediments for many.

To all '77ers, wishing you much good health, peace, and joy.

—Shauna Miller Wertheim



LEFT: Leonora Samuel '78 shares a photo of her son and dog. **CENTER:** Tina Berliner '80, Alice Clark Coogan '80, and Louisa Schneiberg Hollman '80 on a birthday trip to Charleston, South Carolina. **RIGHT:** The wooden chain Michael Davenport '80 created in Mr. Hoagland's Middle School art class

1977

ADAM STERN

adamcstern@aol.com

1978

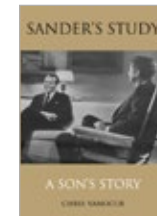
PETER MACDONALD

pmacdona@skidmore.edu

LEONORA ROTH SAMUEL: “It’s been a quiet year for me, procrastinating over paperwork and chores, glad to be alive. Here’s a photo of my 7-year-old golden retriever, Topaz, with my youngest son, who is now 18 and a half. We brought her into the family to be his companion. I’m her main caretaker, but she has a special relationship with him. I raised her by the book and only give her treats when she’s earned them. But my son gives her treats because ‘She likes them!’ Result: She will do things for him, for love, which she won’t do for me. That’s why I say that she and he have taught me the meaning of unconditional love.” (See photo above.)

CHRIS VANOCUR recently published a biography of his father, celebrated journalist Sander Vanocur. Chris sifted through nine decades worth of news reports, photographs, and letters in his dad’s study. In so doing, he discovered fascinating historical documents dealing with the Kennedys, the civil rights movement, and the Vietnam War. The book also covers Chris’s

own award-winning reporting career and the uncanny similarities between the two journalists. And, yes, Sidwell Friends is mentioned! The book is called, *Sander’s Study: A Son’s Story* and is available on Amazon.” (See “Fresh Ink,” on page 50.)



1980

WILLIAM RICE

williamrice63@gmail.com

ALICE CLARK COOGAN: “I just returned from a fabulous mini-reunion in Charleston, South Carolina, with Louisa Schneiberg Holman and Tina Berliner to celebrate our milestone birthday! Here’s hoping 60 is the new 40.” (See photo above.)

MICHAEL DAVENPORT: “Our family is blessed. Lady Chevalia continues to be a valuable player at the Census Bureau with business-as-usual running of the family business with a wave of her finger. Home projects are mysteriously completed during these COVID days by the honey-do-list fairy, ME! Prince Michael Philip Jr. holds down the fort as a store manager and manager trainer for his district. His son, Michael Philip Davenport III (a 4th grader), has colored his hair, orange top fading down to yellow on the sides. The young Davenport also broke

his arm this year by running and falling (SMH)! Didn’t we do that back in the day but never broke arms or legs? Diagnosis: Couchpotatoeism. Princess Chelsea enjoys her new apartment in Bethesda, continuing with her life-coaching on ‘Jill of All Trades’ website and degree at Penn State. Melrose is simply perfect. Got that from her mother, Chelsea. I have them both wrapped around my finger. The ‘old man gym’ is done. Photos of Chelsea and Melrose litter the walls, my cheerleaders in life. Scuba diving, martial arts, and affiliations with charitable organizations are still my lifestyle—as a master diver on my way to dive master. Archeological dive certification course is around the corner.” (See photo above.)

LOUISA SCHNEIBERG HOLMAN: “Professionally, I just coordinated a beautiful and successful 20th anniversary concert performance of Defiant Requiem: Verdi at Terezin at the Music Center at Strathmore. I have served as the executive director of the foundation now for 11 years. I work closely with our board chair, Stuart Eizenstat, who was recently named the council chair at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum. It is a great honor to continue working with him on our small but important project to promote Holocaust education and to confront and tackle antisemitism and all forms of hate and genocide (defiantrequiem.org). On the personal front, I just returned from a fabulous weekend in Charleston with Tina Berliner and Alice Coogan to celebrate our decade-changing birthdays this year. The



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

Sometimes, the class rep calls for notes. Sometimes the notes call to the class rep. For William Rice, a man has met his moment. Here's the best call for notes this editor has seen.

Saddlebags of Death

Class reps from all years, it's time to step up your game. Class of 1980, it's time to turn in those notes—and save the nameless rider.

Through lids drooping after eight hours in the saddle, the glint of a gun barrel from an outcropping of scrub snapped him to. But before he could draw, a bullet whizzed by his nose—so close he could smell the powder. He raised his calloused hands.

“Ain't got nothing worth stealing.” The rider steadily eyed the dusty bandit as he approached.

“Just you throw down yer shooting irons and them saddlebags, and let me decide.” The bandit angled a stream of tobacco juice toward the horse's hooves—the muddy puddle bubbled in the midday sun.

The rider tossed down his guns and bags then returned his front-facing palms to the sides of his hat. After flashing a cautionary glance at the rider, the bandit holstered his six-shooter and unbuckled the brown leather satchels. He kicked the contents out.

“What'd I tell you?” The rider grinned at the scattered pile of magazines.

The bandit grinned back. “You don't know what I'm prospectin' fer.” He scooped up one of the periodicals and leafed through it, continuing to address the rider while perusing the pages. “I been tracking you. I know you went to see that scientist feller what lives in the canyon. Uses 'lectricity to travel through time.” He looked up at the rider. “I know what you got here.”

“Ain't nothing but a bunch of shiny paper.” A rivulet of sweat found

its way slowly between the rider's sunburned neck and red bandana.

“T'aint just any shiny paper.” The bandit held up the magazine for the rider to see—the cover shimmered in the sunlight. “This here's *Sidwell Friends*.”

“Magazine,” the rider muttered. “What?”

“That there is *Sidwell Friends Magazine*. ‘Sidwell Friends’ is the name of the School what it reports on.” The rider shifted in his saddle.

The bandit turned the cover around to study it. “Is that so? How come they didn't give it a different name so's to distinguish the two? Sumpin' like *Fox Tales*?”

“Long story, pardner. Can I set my hands down?”

The bandit waved his approval while continuing to stare at the magazine cover. “Darndest thing.” He gave his head a quick shake. “The point is this here maggy-zine is valuable, on account of it's from the future and what's more it has special information.” He leafed through the pages again, this time with an intent expression. He ruffled to the end, backed up, tried again, then dropped the magazine and drew his pistol.

“Where are they, you low-down varmint?”

The rider lifted his hands again. “Where are what, mister?”

—William Rice

“The alumni notes from the Class of '80. That's what makes this here maggy-zine so particular valuable. But they's nothing here.”

“Durned if I know. Sure you're looking at the right issue?”

“Fall 2022. Class of '78, Class of '79, Class of '81. But just a whole lot of nuthin' where the Class of '80 notes is s'posed to be.” The bandit stepped up to the rider and aimed his pistol at his brow. “You know what I think? I think you done hid the real maggy-zine with all them valuable Class of '80 notes—about them there bonding family vacations, well-dee-served professional advancements, tasteful home renovations, and what not—and now you tryin' to palm these here forgeries off as the real McCoy.”

“I don't know nothin' about no forgeries—or tasteful home renovations.” The rider looked down the gun's black barrel.

The bandit cocked the trigger. “You got to the count of three to hand 'em over.”

Only you can save the nameless rider from a lonely death in the sunbaked desert! Be sure the next issue of our alumni magazine has plenty of news from the Class of '80. Keep them to 200 words (we don't want to weigh down the rider's horse) and have them in by Friday, May 6. Happy trails!



number is unmentionable, even though we are all at the same place. That is the good thing about your high school classmates, we are traveling the same chronological road together. Love, good health, and happy birthday to everyone in 2022!” (See photo on page 69.)

LISA IANNUCCI: “I am still a librarian, and work at both academic and public libraries here at the Jersey Shore—can't beat hearing the ocean at night! Considering a move as the husband and I edge toward retirement, but otherwise not much new, just the usual catching up with alums on social media and doing a bit of writing here and there, mostly music/arts reviews.”

CHARLES KUPFER: “When I got an invite to speak to the good folks at Quest Lancaster, a senior education community, I accepted. First, it's a good group. Second, it meant I could hang with my former Penn State colleague and mentor, Sidwell Friends grad Rob Bressler '55. After the lecture, Rob and I spent a fantastic two-hour lunch talking of all things under the sun, from Mr. Katzenbach to former Senator pitcher Jim Kaat. It is wonderful to have a friend like Rob close at hand, and while our Sidwell Friends experiences were in different eras, we bear the same positive imprint of the School we both love.” (See photo below.)

PATIENCE MOORE: “I live in Montclair, New Jersey, working as a therapist for kids, teens, and adults; specializing in trauma

“While our Sidwell Friends experiences were in different eras, we bear the same positive imprint of the School we both love.”

—CHARLES KUPFER '80

(EMDR), gender-nonconforming youth, and mindfulness-based stress reduction among other things. Free time—what there is of it—goes to cycling, swimming, the arts, hanging with my kids (two young adult sons) and pals, and walking my beloved 12-year-old rescue, Georgia. Check out patiencemoore.com if you want to say hi!”

WILLIAM RICE: “‘I don't know why everyone makes such a big deal out of graduations,’ griped my wife, Cathy, as we pulled out of our Ann Arbor Airbnb to drive to The Big House—the University of Michigan's 100,000 seat stadium—to witness the graduation of her daughter (my step-daughter), Sophie. No sooner were we seated on our spartan benches in the brisk April air than Cathy broke into

sobs at the sight of the energetic robed young people swarming the field. I tried to comfort her while still smiling out at the multitude of sincere, hopeful, righteous youth. I felt my late-middle-age crankiness about all the new language and ideas foisted upon us by the younger generation displaced with admiration: Yes, by golly, we should and will make it a more inclusive world where everyone can choose and shape their own identity down to the smallest detail! Later that weekend, we were all FaceTiming with Walter calling in from his program in Georgia. He had no ceremony in prospect, but each day he's gaining more insight into his fascinating and complex brain. The organization Cathy leads is making a place for him, and Sophie's cohort will make him feel comfortable there.” (See photo below.)

1981

ANDREW SZANTON
aszanton@rcn.com

DOUG GANSLER: “Following 23 years in government service, including eight years as Maryland's attorney general, I am currently running for Maryland governor. I am thrilled to have the support of so many friends from Sidwell on this journey from our exceptionally close-knit class, perhaps due to my focus on keeping crime down and justice up, on climate change and the Chesapeake Bay, on equitable



LEFT: Charles Kupfer '80, Robert Bressler '55 **CENTER:** William Rice '80 with his stepdaughter, Sophie, at her University of Michigan graduation **RIGHT:** Signe Allen Williamson '80 shares a photo of her son and granddaughter—both U.S. Navy, clearly.

CLASS OF 1982 REUNION Recap

First, a hearty thank you to **Eric Adler, Hadley Boyd, Jenny Bryant, Jon Gould,** and **Amy Thaler** for organizing the Reunion of the Sidwell Friends Class of 1982. The festivities began with a Zoom call organized by **Susan Popkin Cahn** to permit us to visit with classmates who couldn't make it to DC for the weekend, including, given the current reality, two who had to withdraw last minute due to positive COVID tests. About 20 class members—dialing in from a geographic divide spanning 12 time zones—joined the call. We reminisced about our high school years and caught up about developments in our current lives—professional accomplishments and personal triumphs, but also sorrows, including the hardships of the pandemic, and for altogether too many of us, the decline and death of parents. We also reflected on how dramatically societal mores have transformed in the 40 years since we graduated from high school and how positive so many of those changes have been.



The Reunion resumed in DC, where over 40 classmates (and a handful of intrepid spouses) attended at least one of the events scheduled over Friday and Saturday. The food at the Friday night welcome reception was astonishingly good,

prompting numerous sardonic comparisons to the cafeteria food of memory. At Meeting for Worship on Saturday afternoon, the role of **Alex Rossides** was assumed by a Class of '72 alum who serenaded attendees with the first verse of a Sidwell Friends anthem that no member of our class, including a healthy number of Chamber Chorus alums, had ever heard before. (A suitable prize to the person who can track down the anthem and explain its origins and consignment to such complete obscurity in less than 10 years.) The weekend culminated with the class-specific gathering at Lia's restaurant in Friendship Heights, thoughtfully arranged by our Reunion Committee in an outdoor space, no doubt to allay any continuing COVID concerns for our over-50 set.



Throughout the weekend, the anecdotes of our youth flowed easily, including a surprising number of disclosures that were brand new to their audience (many involving discipline at the hands of the School administration). And, of course, there were the occasional shared recollections (fond and otherwise) that will no doubt leave more than one public figure grateful that what happens at a Class of '82 Reunion stays at a Class of '82 Reunion. But the Reunion was suffused with more than just the exhilaration of that recalled; there was also the intangible gratification of sharing who we are now with people who have actual memories of us as we were 40 and more years ago. Not for nothing folks: We looked terrific.



A final Reunion development: The Class of '82 has a new Lady Whistledown. After more than a decade, **Ted Spitzer** has stepped down from his role as our class representative. We thank him for his able and dedicated service. I, in turn, look forward to keeping contact with all of you, employing, as necessary, unconventional methods to extract your news and sharing the events and milestones of your lives with your classmates. Let's honor the commitments we all voiced to one another at the Reunion and really endeavor to stay in touch.

—Jonathan Levine

economic recovery in the wake of COVID, and on protecting women's reproductive rights. dougansler.com"

ETHAN NELSON: "Elizabeth and I are fully enjoying the empty-nester life, although you would never know it by how often we have been able to get together during the past couple of years. Our three kids are spread out between DC, Tucson, Arizona, and Spokane, Washington. Elizabeth and I split our time between Las Vegas, Nevada, and Rockland, Maine. We are focused with new vigor on a variety of architectural and historical projects. We would love to see former classmates in the east or the west."

COLONEL SIDBURY: "Some news: My daughter, Claire, is spending her sophomore year in high school at the American School in Paris. Her first day she sent me a cell phone pic from the school parking lot of another child being picked up by his parent—Lionel Messi! She has since learned better discretion."

1982

JONATHAN LEVINE
jlevine1964@gmail.com

MAUREEN KLINE: "I moved to New York City in 2012 after 25 years in Italy, and was so grateful to local Sidwell friends for making New York fun and welcoming. When the pandemic hit, I left New York and moved to the U.S. headquarters of my company (Pirelli Tire) in Rome, Georgia, northwest of Atlanta. I meant to stay for a year but instead bought a wonderful 1901 house in Georgia and fixed it up. My work in public affairs and sustainability brings me to DC often, and I am on the board of the Public Affairs Council there and co-chair its Social Impact Committee. I chair the board of the Tire and Rubber Association of Canada and am on other boards and committees in the tire and automotive industries. In addition to working at Pirelli, I teach a class in sustainability at Clarkson University, write an occasional column on sustainability in *Inc.com*, and co-chair the board of Yale Blue Green, an

alumni special interest group focused on sustainability. You can tell what I'm passionate about..."

In Memoriam:

Jon Kumnick '82
October 3, 2021

1983

LINDA GAUS
gaushaus1965@verizon.net

1984

SARAH WILLIAMS
sarah@propelcapital.org

ANN CLARK ESPUELAS
aespuelas08@gmail.com

LIZ BERNSTEIN NORTON
lizbnorton@gmail.com

BECKY SEASHORE MAY: "I finally got our 100-year-old New Haven house off direct inputs of fossil fuels after 30 years of chipping away at it! We bought another house down the street, and I am renovating it to be both environmentally more sustainable and to create an affordable unit for a lease/purchase scenario (subsidized by renting the other unit at market rate) to increase diversity on our block, which was much more diverse when we moved here but has been subject to gentrification of late. Lastly, I have finally convinced our synagogue to make a policy that the only chocolate products it will allow must be verifiably screened for child slavery—and I'm making good progress with our kids' summer camp as well."

1985

HILARY DAYTON BUSCH
hcdayton@gmail.com

ALEXANDRA GARDNER: "Greetings from Charm City! I hope you are staying healthy and enjoying warmer weather wherever



Alexandra Gardner '85 shares a view of her front yard in Baltimore.

you may be. Autumn is my favorite season, but spring in Baltimore is pretty great as well. The front yard is lush and happy! It feels wonderful to attend live music events again. As much as I have appreciated the virtual events and live-streaming things of the past two years (and all of you who work your behinds off to make them happen), there's nothing like actual sound waves hitting your body. For new compositions, upcoming performances, consulting, and more, check out my website: alexandragardner.net." (See photo above.)

NICOLE JANIN SHEEHAN: "My recent news that is that my father and I authored a book on Yellowstone. We collaborated remotely for two years during covid to write it, and it was published just a few months ago! The title is Yellowstone: The History, Ecology and Future of America's First National Park (available on Amazon). I have two grown kids living productive lives in Boston, and one is married! My third eldest is graduating from high school this year and attending Wake Forest in North Carolina in the fall, and I have one more teen still at home." (See "Fresh Ink," page 50.)

1986

LAURA LONDON
lauramlondon@yahoo.com

CLASS OF 1987 REUNION Recap

The Class of 1987 continued its tradition of memorable Reunion weekends with a great celebration of our 35th. Many thanks to **Gautam Prakash**, **Megan Crowley**, **John Shakow**, and **Matt Hoffman** for their hosting, planning, and organizing. The weekend kicked off early with a Thursday night Zoom that allowed us to catch up with many who couldn't make it in person. Thanks to **David Colodny** for being graciously "volun-told" by Matt to facilitate and for keeping

us in line. It was a great opportunity to connect with classmates around the country. After the Welcome Reception at Zartman, John Shakow hosted a Friday night gathering at his house, which included several lucky souls who had braved a recent

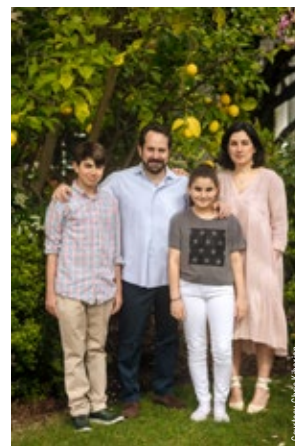
drive down 95 from New York. Other than a single broken glass, and some questionable attempts to re-produce Philos senior page photos, it was clearly a successful evening. After a morning coffee from the Fox Den (several are still having a hard time understanding how the School store has a coffee shop), Saturday began with a sequel of a social-impact discussion held at our 30th. Matt Hoffman once again coordinated an informal discussion among classmates to share ideas they are passionate about, with an eye toward cross-pollinating interests and resources where possible. While the group talked about issues that have national relevance, a common theme was the importance of engaging and sparking action at the local level. Attendees were also treated to a souvenir of **Andrea Ottesen's** great botanical photography. Several classmates proudly cheered on **Kelsey Wirth** at the Distinguished Alumni Awards presentation. We're so happy to see Kelsey recognized for



A total of 38 Class of 1987 classmates attended the dinner—33 are in the class photo above. Missing are **Tip Coffin**, **Jit Singh**, **Sambath Chung**, **Katherine Fleming Buckley**, and **Helen Goodwin Houseman**. BACK ROW (SIXTH ROW): **Julia Aledort Gaebler**, **Matt Hoffman**, **Alida Anderson** FIFTH ROW: **David Colodny**, **Helen Eaton**, **Megan Crowley**, **Deborah Colson**, **Lori Birdsong**, **Andrea Ottesen**, **Laura Gaines Jofre**, **Danae Wright** FOURTH ROW: **Mary Peters**, **Deb Weiss**, **Spencer Boyer**, **Nicki Hamilton**, **Jen Lloyd** THIRD ROW: **Ezra Borut**, **Wendy Kline**, **Joe Strathmann**, **Julia Harrington Reddy**, **Kelsey Wirth** SECOND ROW: **Dan Manatt**, **Bo Kemp**, **Josh Edelman**, **Denyse Bailey**, **Megan Bartsch Willems** Front row: **Meg Fullerton Regal**, **Laurie Bulman**, **Ted Stern**, **Nick King**, **Robin Gerber Nelson**, **James Heltzer**, **Gautam Prakash**

her great work with Mothers Out Front. Sharing a Meeting bench with old friends (and old friends' fabulous grown kids) also brought back great memories and vibes. Saturday ended with a bang at a dinner party hosted by Gautam and his wife, Anjali. The '80s-themed cocktails (and some of Gautam's poorly hidden wine) brought back memories of *Pretty in Pink* and other movies we enjoyed, but in retrospect, wondered, "Uh, why did we actually enjoy those?" Thanks to **Kris van Riper** for compiling the awesome playlist/soundtrack for the weekend, and to **Greg Henry** for putting together a slide show, and SNN "greatest hits" video (also shown in our Thursday Zoom). The mix of music, photos, and videos overloaded our senses, and led to plenty of reminiscing. In true Class of '87 fashion, we consistently annoyed our hosts by staying long past our welcome. We wouldn't have it any other way. Needless to say, it has been a challenging past few years for everyone, and it was great to catch up, connect, and share experiences with old friends, both virtually and in-person. We look forward to seeing everyone again, or for those who couldn't make it, finding a chance to get together before or at the next Reunion!

—Tip Coffin



LEFT: A photo of **Chris Kibarian '87**, his wife, Gohar, and kids, Hayk and Chloe, from 2018, when the family first arrived in California. 2ND FROM LEFT: WA moment from 19: *The Musical*, which **Doug Bradshaw '88** co-created. 2ND FROM RIGHT: **Mara Bralove '89**, **Genny Fulco '94**. RIGHT: **Kaile Shilling '90** with husband, Vince Beiser, and their children, Adara (15) and Isaiah (11), on Bowen Island in British Columbia, Canada



1987

TIP COFFIN

tip@teamcoffin.com

CHRIS KIBARIAN: "Gohar and I are enjoying California but are soon to be empty-nesters. Our son will be a freshman at American University, and our daughter will begin her International Baccalaureate program in Europe. Can't believe where the time went." (See photo above.)

1988

LOUISE ANDREWS

louiseandrews@me.com

DOUG BRADSHAW: "I am one of the creators of *19: The Musical*. *19* is the story of Alice Paul, Ida B. Wells, Carrie Chapman Catt, and the other Suffragists who fought for women's right to vote—the 19th Amendment. It premiered at the National Museum of Women in the Arts back in 2019. We were set to go to New York City for a performance in front of potential Broadway investors when COVID hit. We are now offering licensing of the show (directly from us) to high schools, colleges, and theaters around the country. For video clips please check out our Electronic Press Kit (19epk.com) or email me for more info: doug@throughthe4thwall.com." (See photo above.)

1989

ELIZABETH WYATT

ebwyatt@aol.com

MARA BRALOVE sees Genny Fulco '94 every Sunday at the Bethesda Farmer's Market. Genny has wonderful produce that she grows and sells as part of Local Growers Alliance in Ashton, Maryland. (See photo above.)

MARY QUILLIAN HELMS: "My family and I are well and still living on Capitol Hill. I run into KK Ottesen periodically, since she lives around the corner from me. My long-time family business, the 56-year-old Mr. Henry's restaurant, has survived the last two years. And, silly me, I opened a second restaurant, Crazy Aunt Helen's, in the middle of the whole pandemic last summer. (What was I thinking?) I have gotten away from attending our class Zoom Meetings for Worship but acknowledge the healing power they had for me in 2020 and 2021."

1990

JUSTINE WRUBLE FAHEY

justinewfahey@gmail.com

KAILE SHILLING: "In 2020, I was proud to hand off leadership of the Arts for Healing and Justice Network (the organization I founded), as the family relocated

to Vancouver, British Columbia, where we're now close to my husband's mother and endless number of cousins! I've started a job as the executive director of the Vancouver Writers Fest (one of the largest book festivals in Canada), and our Southern California kids are learning the joys of snow (skiing! sledding! hot chocolate!) and of a well-earned spring. Glad to say, I now have official status as a permanent resident of Canada, and welcome visitors anytime! Summer in BC is a truly spectacular thing." (See photo above.)

TRAN VINH is featured in the latest issue of American Builders Quarterly: "Tran Vinh Designs at the Place Where Beauty and Technology Meet." You can read it here: bit.ly/abq_tranvinh. Vinh is the vice president of global store design at beauty brand incubator Kendo Brands Inc. (owned by LVMH). When she isn't busy with her day job as an architect/designer, she's a music producer and deejay. Her website is robotran.com. (See photo on next page.)

1991

TIM HANRAHAN

tim.hanrahan@gmail.com

TODD JOHNSON: "I have continued my work in cancer research through a company called M2GEN, through which we have built the world's largest database

CLASS OF 1992 REUNION Recap

The Class of '92 kicked off its 30th Reunion weekend with a service project at Cultivate the City's rooftop garden at Nationals Park. **Meghan Terry Broadstone, Tracy Pizzo Frey, Malcolm Logan, Mike Robbins, Sanjay Advani, V.W. Fowlkes, and Wale Oyemade** weeded strawberry beds and potted seedlings for a great cause.

Many of the classmates who could not make the Friday afternoon service project found each other for the first time at the Welcome Reception behind Zartman House on Friday evening. It was a beautiful evening to be back on campus! We were excited to see some former teachers (and Class of '92 parents) there, including Karen Bralove Stilwell and Jane Hartquist. After the reception, approximately 30 of us gathered at **Aaron Kramer's** beautiful home in Chevy Chase for a welcome party of our own. We enjoyed some snacks and desserts while grooving to a curated Class of '92 playlist that included some of the songs we used to blast in the old Student Center (En Vogue's "Never Gonna Get It" being one of the favorites). Everyone was excited to see **Maia Horta** who had come all the way from Portugal to be with us. **Liz Welford Baer** and **Joseph "Chico" Bui** stopped by, which was lovely because neither of them would be able to join us on Saturday for the other events. **Cory Hartquist** and his fiancée, Katie McFarlin, came late to the party because they had been at the Caps playoff game, which went into overtime!

On Saturday, many of us met up on campus to cheer as our classmate Ambassador **Katherine Tai** received the Distinguished Alumni Award. Anyone who knew Katherine back in high school would have predicted that she

would go on to do great things. Our Reunion Committee Chairs Malcolm Logan and Tracy Pizzo Frey had a surprise in store to honor our distinguished classmate: stickers and temporary tattoos with Katherine's likeness on them in the style of a Shepard Fairey painting. They were a huge hit with everyone, but especially Katherine's husband. Sadly, lunch was the only time we got to see Katherine the whole weekend, as she had to jet off to Paris soon after—where she met up with our classmate **Katherine Herz** for breakfast! **Kate Fullerton** was also at the alumni lunch with her family, and it was great to see her as well.

After lunch, a small group joined the other Reunion classes at a moving and emotional Meeting for Worship. We were sobered to see the name of our classmate **Charlie Hababananda** on the list of alumni who had passed away on the walls of the beautiful Meeting Room. We definitely were thinking of Charlie all weekend. Another sad moment came when **Ben Fitzpatrick** was moved to speak about one of our beloved teachers, Neal Tonken, who had also passed away since the last time we gathered.



The Class of 1992 on Reunion weekend

Saturday evening, the biggest group of the weekend—some 40 classmates plus a handful of bemused spouses and significant others—gathered at **Mike Robbins's** beautiful home in NW DC. Everyone raved about Mike's recently renovated kitchen, which was designed by star architect **V.W. Fowlkes** and his wife, Catherine. (The Class of '92 likes to keep things in-house.)

We got lucky with the weather and were able to lounge in Mike's tranquil backyard and around the fire pit while enjoying the evening's signature cocktail, a Kentucky Buck, and some delicious food.

There was a big group of DC-based classmates in attendance at Mike's, including **Justin Gray, Nathaniel Carroll, Jon Stoel, Eric Schwartz, Aaron Kramer, Ben Fitzpatrick, Moyo Myers, Brooke Bralove, Lisa Franklin Topchik, Emily Topf Schmidt, Randy Hull, Rashida Wilson Prioleau, Emilie Karrick Surrusco, Jay Quash, Lisa Danzig, V.W. Fowlkes, and Antonia Fasanelli**, who technically lives in Baltimore. Some of the classmates who traveled to DC from elsewhere included **Tracy Pruzan-Roy** and **Ben Brashares** from New Jersey; **Olu Johnson, Tracy Pizzo Frey, and Vanessa Wruble** from California; **Jocelyn Arsht Spielberger** and **Sanjay Advani** from Colorado; **Sutton Stokes** from West Virginia; **Colin Findlay** from Virginia; **Malcolm Logan** from North Carolina; **Olivia Gentile** from New Hampshire; **Wale Oyemade** from New Orleans; **Cory Hartquist** from Memphis; **Meghan Terry Broadstone** from Boston; **Corey Rishworth** from Rhode Island; and **Emily Paster** from Chicago.

It was truly a magical evening of catching up, reminiscing, reliving old jokes, and nostalgia. It was after midnight when we all remembered how old we are and how many of us had to get up early the next morning. Saying goodbye was hard as no one wanted to wait five years to gather again. As Colin Findlay put it: "I've been dreading saying goodbye since the moment I arrived." The Class of '92 remains especially close-knit and genuinely fond of one another even 30 years after we graduated. We'll pick up again where we left off in 2027 with (hopefully) even more classmates!

—Emily Paster

of oncology genomic data usable for discovery research. My family and I continue to live in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. My wife, Bindi, and I are lamenting our three teenage daughters continuing to grow up—wishing we could pause time!"

1992

Want to be a class representative?

Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

1993

Want to be a class representative?

Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

CHRISTINE SCHOUX recently moved to Northampton, Massachusetts, after living in Denmark for the last six years.

CASEY COLEMAN HASSENSTEIN recently completed the Paris Marathon with her sister, Molly, in April: "It was amazing—definitely a great way to see the beautiful city of Paris. It doesn't hurt that the marathon is very flat too!" (See photo below.)

1994

BETSY STOEL

estoel@gmail.com



FAR LEFT: Tran Vinh '90 **LEFT:** Casey Coleman Hassenstein '03 after running the Paris marathon **RIGHT:** Brandye Lee '96 on location in St. Louis, Missouri **FAR RIGHT:** Eric Edelson '97 with his wife, Erika, and their daughters, Elsie (10) and Jolie (7)

1996

Want to be a class representative?

Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

BRANDYE LEE: "After completing a teaching residency at Dance St. Louis, I staged a new work at Charlottesville Ballet for their spring season. Even more thrilling, the pas de quatre, Requiem des Roses, was set to a score performed live by the Charlottesville Symphony. In tandem with the concert, I was a panelist for 'Democracy & Dance,' a conversation hosted by the University of Virginia Democracy Initiative. While coaching my local DC area students at the Youth American Grand Prix ballet competition in Orlando, Florida, I was overjoyed to catch up with my brother, **Ralph Lee '00**, sister-in-law, Jamie Lee, and niece, Siena Lee, who reside in Tampa. It was also great seeing my former adviser and teacher Mamadou Guèye and fellow alumni Natalie Randolph '98, Janée Hayes '97, Marcus Shaw '95, Chip Willoughby '96, and Nelani Lyde '19 at the Sidwell Friends boys' and girls' DCSAA Basketball Championship double-header. I'm now reading the riveting *America Goddam* by Treva Lindsey '00 (see "Fresh Ink," on page 50, and "Friends in Conversation," on page 44, for more on Lindsey's work). (See photo below.)

1997

ELLEN CORNELIUS ERICSON

eccornie@gmail.com

ERIC EDELSON: "First off, I'm very sad to be missing our 25-year Reunion. I think fondly on my time at Sidwell Friends, and credit the School and each of you for so much of what has inspired me. My family (celebrating 12 years with Erika in May; Elsie is 10 and Jolie is 7) and I are living in Mill Valley, California, and I am in my 14th year leading the team at Fireclay Tile. We've grown to over 250 teammates, and we're hoping to be a big part of Sidwell's new Upper School campus. I'm staying active and am currently coaching both my daughters' lacrosse teams. While the East Coast is still dominant, the West Coast is catching up! This past summer, we had a chance to visit with **Rebecca Kolsky** and her family in Seattle; her four kids and my two all had a total blast swimming and making smores!" (See photo below.)

ZACK ROYER SCHOLZ: "I am excited to share a special project called *Space for Time* that I have created at Commonwealth in Bolinas, California, as part of the exhibition *Alchemy of Place*. *Space for Time* invites viewers to slow down, experience the melancholic material beauty of a unique landscape and place, and observe both the accumulated and fleeting passage of time. It consists of five interrelated site-specific works. All five are made from the remnants

CLASS OF 1997 REUNION Recap

The Class of 1997 celebrated our 25th Reunion with several in-person events in Washington: an impromptu gathering at Barcelona after the Sidwell Reunion Welcome Reception on Friday; Saturday on-campus events, including the awards luncheon, Meeting for Worship, and a campus tour; and the Saturday night class gathering at Takoda. Classmates in attendance over Reunion weekend were

Oco Ballali, William Black, Serena Gibian Campbell, Ellen Cornelius Ericson, Riad deFreitas, Abby Dos Santos, Andrew Emmett, Matt Henry, Amos Huron, Lory Ivey Alexander, Ben Jordan, Deborah Kobes, William Krents, Jason Lewis, Molly Whitehead Love, Jill Romansky McCulloch, Meena Nankani, Soneela Nankani, Rael Nelson James, Channing Paller, Leila Rached, Amelia Hecker, David Sabel, Jessica Seidman, Matt Watkins, and Adrian Wilairat. It was great to see so many people in person, and we hope to see even more in another five years.

—Ellen Cornelius Ericson



LEFT: Alumni Omar Soliman '00, Nick Friedman '00, and Ralph Lee '00 with the Sidwell Friends varsity girls' and boys' basketball teams in Tampa, Florida. RIGHT: Jeremy Bernton '01, Annie Weissman '01, Albert Gore '01, Eliza Orlins '01, and Daniel Case '01 at the 2022 Let Your Life Speak morning for Upper School students at Sidwell Friends.



of a century-old crumbling carriage house located just behind Commonweal's main building and the detritus dumped in it over the decades since it went to ruin. These buildings were built in the 1920s as RCA's expansion of a turn-of-the-century Marconi radio station whose ruin is located a few hundred yards away toward the coast. Two of these works, *Shattered Sills* and *Shed Table*, are installed inside as part of the gallery exhibition. The other three works, *Rust Table*, *Stump Ring*, and *Rock Boat*, are *Sky Spaces* that exist outside, within the subtly refreshed carriage house itself, and will persist in those spaces long after the indoor exhibition ends in June." (See photos below.)

1999

Want to be a class representative?

Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

LEMA KIKUCHI: "After being in New York since 2005, I have moved back to Bethesda with my husband and two daughters. We love being close to both sets of grandparents and having lots of space for the girls to run around (and learn to walk!). We look forward to reconnecting with the DC area."

2000

Want to be a class representative?

Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

Class of 2000 alumni Omar Soliman, Nick Friedman, and Ralph Lee hosted a welcome gathering for the Sidwell Friends varsity girls' and boys' basketball teams during their trip to the State Champions Invitational Tournament in Tampa, Florida, at the home of Stacy and Omar Soliman. (See photo on next page.)

2002

CAMILO ACOSTA

cbacosta@gmail.com

EDITOR'S NOTE:

See Reunion Recap on next page..

ETHAN HEARD: "After many years in New York City, my husband and I are moving to DC. As the new associate artistic director of Signature Theater in Arlington, I'll be directing two shows next season."

CLASS OF 2002 REUNION Recap

The Class of 2002 put forth a stellar showing for our 20th Reunion. The weekend began on Friday night, as alumni attended the reception at the School, where Bryan Garman informed us that he was actually younger than we are now when he was teaching us American history back in the day. That little nugget left us sufficiently speechless and feeling a bit old (or maybe Mr. Garman was just a LeBron-esque teaching phenom back in the early 2000s?). Various alumni spent time on campus on Saturday, marveling at all the changes to the School since our heyday, including the beautiful Meeting Room, which, despite its new form, still holds some

classic memories for us (senior prank, anyone?). We closed out the weekend festivities with a bang at Midlands Beer Garden on Saturday night. With alumni from at least 10 states and DC (plus a few more who made virtual appearances via FaceTime), we had an excellent showing representing approximately 30 percent of the class. This was a night to enjoy a few pints, brats, and fond memories with our classmates. It was wonderful hearing about everyone's exploits since those halcyon days on Wisconsin Avenue. The event lasted well into the evening, until the Midlands staff turned out the lights on. We all reluctantly took our Ubers and Lyft's home, satiated with nostalgia and German hops. We can't wait for more good times five years from now!

—Ben Silverman, Tristan Kessler, Simon Salgado, and Anna Spiegel



Space for Time, new works by Zack Royer Scholz '97 on exhibit at Commonweal



Naabia Ofosu-Amaah '03, John Dell'Osso, and daughters, Dina and Carolina

NAABIA OFOSU-AMAAH and John Dell'Osso welcomed their second daughter, Carolina Gyasiwa Araba Dell'Osso, on March 17, 2022. They look forward to introducing her to many Sidwell friends: "We're all doing well, especially 2.5-year-old big sister, Dina." (See photo above.)

2004

ZEESHAN ALEEM
zeeshanaleem2@gmail.com

2005

RANDA TAWIL
randa.may.tawil@gmail.com
NASSER MUHAMMAD
nasser.muhammad.1@gmail.com

2006

JOHN SANDERS
jsanders36@gmail.com

2007

ALEX AKMAN
Akman.alex@gmail.com

2008

DELANEY KEMPNER
dckempner@gmail.com

2009

JAMES PARKS
jhpiv13@gmail.com

REUBEN HENDLER: "I am graduating in June from psychiatry residency at Mass General and McLean Hospitals. In addition to starting out as an attending, I'm excited to be launching a podcast called Psychiatry & Society, which explores what makes for a mentally healthy society. Available wherever you get your podcasts at the end of May!"

2010

KAI ZHENG
kaihuazheng@yahoo.com

2011

KIKI OCHIENG
akinyi.ochieng@gmail.com

2012

SALENA HESS
salenahess@outlook.com

JOHN VERGHESE
jjv2116@columbia.edu



among many others! Franny Weil and her husband, Charlie, got the prize for most jet-lagged, though, as they had arrived back from their honeymoon in France at 3 a.m. that morning.

Jonah Bromwich gave a beautiful toast to our classmate Quinn Coleman, who passed away in 2020. And while many of us made quiet exits after 9 p.m., rumor has it that an elite squad stayed so long that they got kicked out St. Vincent at midnight and had to move on to another nearby bar to continue the festivities. A smashing success!

—Anina Adelfio, Julia Lemle,
and Lindsay Johnson

CLASS OF 2012 REUNION Recap

The class of 2012 was lucky that our Reunion fell on a year when things are finally starting to return to normal. We had a small group of classmates meet in person at the Salt Line in Navy Yard. We were able to see and reconnect with old classmates, some of whom have not seen each other since graduation. The Reunion was in a beautiful setting overlooking the Anacostia river, in the shadow of Nationals Park. Everyone enjoyed



catching up and being able to be among friends in person again. It is nice to finally be returning to some of our in-person traditions, and this was no exception!

—Bobby Beecher

2013

CECILIA LAGUARDA
xenia.cecilia.laguarda@gmail.com

GRANT MULITZ-SCHIMEL: "In March, I got engaged to my fiancée, Emma! We live in Brooklyn with our cute small dog, Hazel. These days I'm a software engineer at a pharmacy start-up, Capsule, after a four-year stint in fintech. And for nearly a decade after editing The Oat, I've kept up with my comedy-writing roots, recently becoming a headline contributor for *clickhole.com* and a writer on a sketch comedy team in New York with monthly shows!"

2015

EMILY MILLER
emillerusa@gmail.com

DANIELLA CASS, a third-year student at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School (where she also received her undergraduate degree), has accepted the prestigious position of clerking for Supreme Court of the United States Justice Samuel A. Alito during the 2024/25 term. Before assuming her position with Justice Alito, immediately following graduation Daniella will clerk for the

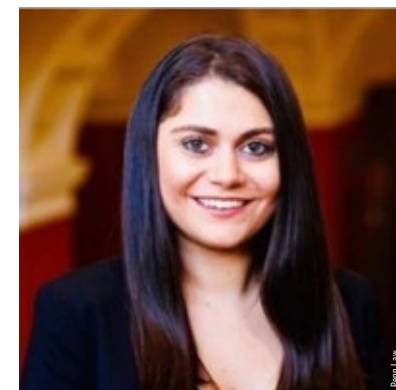
Honorable Gerald Tjoflat, senior circuit judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit (2022/23), and then for the Honorable Paul B. Matey, circuit judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit (2023/24). bit.ly/pennlaw-clerk (See photo below.)

2016

TALHA JILANI
jilani-talha@live.com

2017

Want to be a class representative?
Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.



LUCAS DE CARVALHO: "I am currently in the midst of finishing my master's degree in management at the University of St. Andrews. In the autumn, I shall be leaving Scotland for another foreign land: England, where I will be studying for a second master's degree, this time in Latin American Studies at the University of Oxford. I have not set foot in the United States since 2018, but I hope to be in the DC area for a few weeks near the end of summer before returning to the UK. I imagine that it would be great to see Sidwell Friends again." (See photo below.)

2018

Want to be a class representative?
Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

KENNEDI HOLLOWAY: "I just graduated college and am moving to New York with my best friend from high school, Elie McCoy."

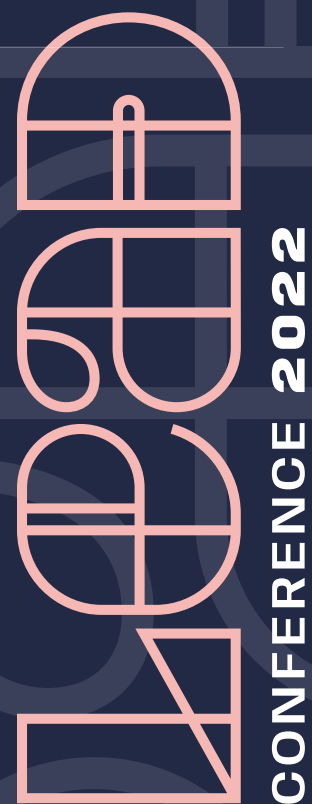
2021

Want to be a class representative?
Contact alumni@sidwell.edu.

MARK ANDERSON hiked the Camino de Santiago, a month-long, 500-mile hike beginning in the Pyrenees and ending in Santiago de Compostela, a Spanish city near the Atlantic Ocean. (See photo below.)



LEFT: Daniella Cass '15 **CENTER:** Lucas de Carvalho '17 on day trip to Glasgow to eat Chinese food **RIGHT:** Mark Anderson '21 at the km 0 marker of the Camino de Santiago in Finisterre, Spain



August 4 – 5, 2022
Leadership in
Equity, Action,
& Discourse

QUESTIONS?

LEAD@SIDWELL.EDU

LEAD CONFERENCE 2022

SIDWELL FRIENDS SCHOOL
 3825 WISCONSIN AVE. NW
 WASHINGTON, DC 20016



How do we grow ethical leaders who will be prepared to succeed in an increasingly globalized and diverse world?

Sidwell Friends School and Howard University invite fellow education professionals to join us for this inaugural event about race, equity, and justice in school communities.



Keynote speakers include **Professor Loretta Ross**, an activist, public intellectual, and professor at Smith College who has been a leader in the effort to “Call in a Calling Out Culture” and the fight against white

supremacy. We will also welcome **Dr. Gregory Hutchings Jr.**, the superintendent of Alexandria City Public Schools and author of “Getting into Good Trouble at School: A Guide to Building an Antiracist School System.”



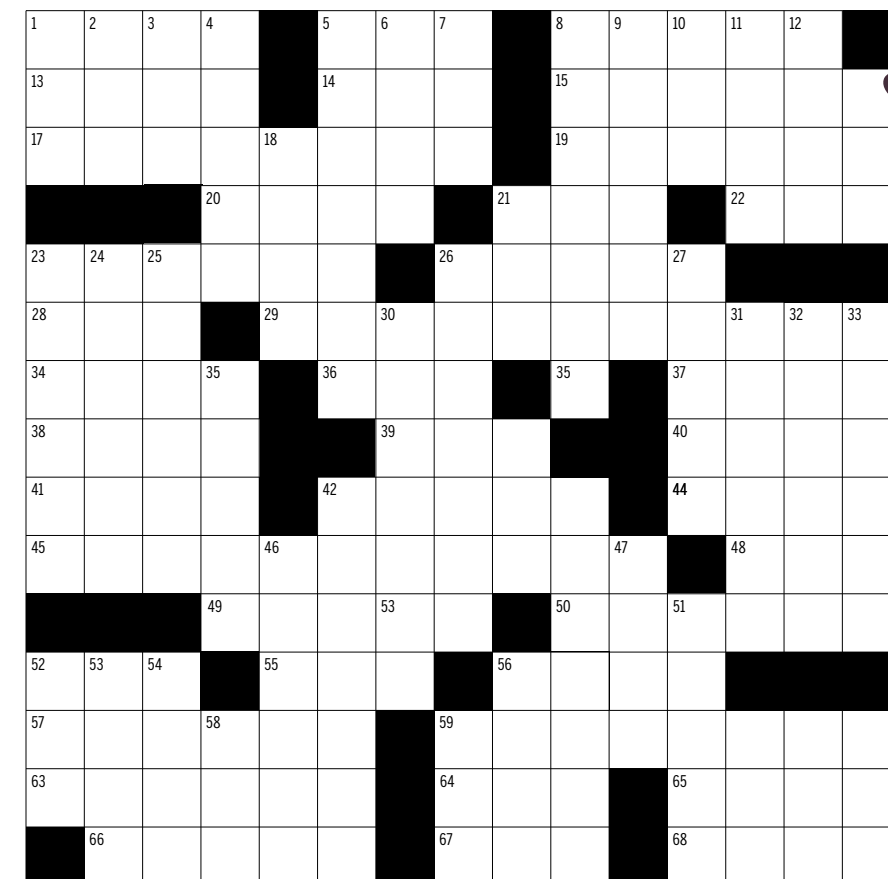
COME LEAD
WITH US.

sidwell.pub/lead

Words with Friends: Breaks in the Schedule

ACROSS

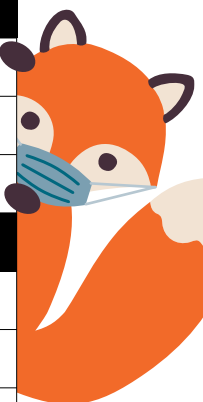
- 1 Follow
- 5 Poseidon's realm
- 8 “Nice to ____ you!” (common modern greeting)
- 13 TV explorer
- 14 Almond-colored
- 15 Regina Spektor song with the lyrics “Oh, I cut his hair myself one night...”
- 17 Optical diagnostic device created by Herman Snellen
- 19 Benjamins
- 20 Centers
- 21 ____-Town (midwestern city nickname)
- 22 “____ Twist, Scientist” (bestselling children's book)
- 23 Beer brand named for a European river
- 26 Mountain nymph
- 28 Nevertheless
- 29 World Cup cautions
- 34 Courts?
- 36 Beverage aisle options
- 37 TV's Hatcher
- 38 Muscat's sultanate
- 39 It's a blast!
- 40 Iniquitous
- 41 Like putting your backpack on a chair in a crowded subway
- 42 Wiped out
- 44 Chocolate or deodorant brand
- 45 Caveat emptor, in English
- 48 Range of knowledge
- 49 Sounds of pride?
- 50 Sleeping in instead of at work, say
- 52 “Mystic River” Oscar winner Robbins
- 55 Foxy
- 56 Machine that treats snoring, briefly
- 57 Slowly, in music
59. Time away from school, or what you can find in three answers in this puzzle
- 63 Lurch
- 64 Mellow, in some cases
- 65 Smoothie berry
- 66 “Yes!”
- 67 Was in first place
- 68 Frat party supply



Puzzle by Aimee Lucido

DOWN

- 1 Poetic tribute
- 2 “If I Were a ____” (Beyoncé song)
- 3 Before, poetically
- 4 Regatta entry
- 5 Appaloosas' enclosures
- 6 Corn servings
- 7 One in hill or farm
- 8 Stays away from
- 9 #1 hit song from “Flashdance”
- 10 Rock subgenre
- 11 This: Sp.
- 12 Word that follows peep, open or pigeon
- 16 Hush-hush grp.
- 18 Activist ____ P. Newton
- 21 Balkan country
- 23 Understand, as information
- 24 Hawaiian dress whose name means “cut off”
- 25 “Easy there”
- 26 *Yawn*
- 27 Out of style
- 30 Scratchers, for one
- 31 Withdraw
- 32 Motivated for success
- 33 Like some letters or partners
- 35 Sinister smile
- 42 Mollusk in a mother-of-pearl shell
- 43 In a 56-Down, perhaps
- 46 More optimistic, as an outlook
- 47 Onetime owner of StubHub
- 51 Give a keynote, say
- 52 Tic-____-toe
- 53 Lupino and Wells
- 54 Painter Chagall
- 56 See 43-Down
- 58 Nat ____
- 59 First name of a “Justice League” actress
- 60 Nail
- 61 Certain piano piece
- 62 Household nickname





Recipe For Success

Two parts friendship, one art class, one Quaker School, and a generous helping of curry.

Sophia Molina '22 and **Sarah White '22** first met in the Sidwell Friends cafeteria their freshman year, and Indian food was on the menu. Or as the two now-graduates call it: “*Findian*” (for Friends’ Indian Food). *Findian* is also the title of their artistic collaboration above. “We believe that the Indian food at School holds magical properties,” the pair say. “We once took a picture of ourselves jumping freakishly high after we ate *Findian*. We think the food gave us the power to jump majestically. The picture we took later went viral on VSCO, which was probably also *Findian*’s doing.” That viral photo became the inspiration for *Findian* the painting.

Molina and White used spray paint, oil pastels, colored pencils, glue, acrylic paint, brown paper, and “pure enthusiasm.” They also incorporated song lyrics that are particularly meaningful to them: “Oh Yoko” and “Beautiful Boy” by John Lennon, “Across the Universe” by the Beatles, and “Vincent” by Don McLean. Any text that isn’t a lyric, they say, is up for interpretation:

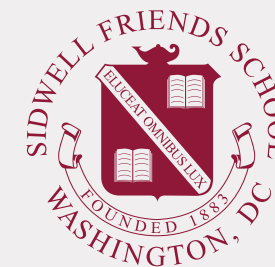
“We were inspired by Jean-Michel Basquiat’s neoexpressionist, unconventional approach to incorporating words and symbols within art to make bold statements about the importance of community and friendship. *Findian* is about exploration, imperfection, and abiding friendship. All the marks

we made were spur of the moment, yet none of them were mistakes. Every day, we took *Findian* in a different direction, figuring out what looked best while staying true to our artistic vision. Much like our friendship, *Findian* is joyous, unbashful, and a little hectic. We also think of *Findian* as a sort of love letter to the Sidwell Friends community. None of it would have been possible had it not been for the cooks at Sidwell, and our art teacher, Ms. [Catherine] Dunn. She is the most supportive of our artistic endeavors.”



NEW PRODUCTS ADDED!

THE FOX DEN



SHOW YOUR QUAKER PRIDE

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



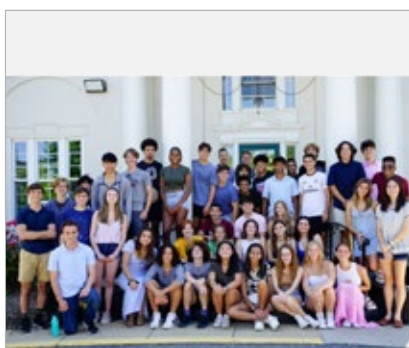
Shop today at **sidwell.pub/foxden**.

The prices are so good, it’s crazy—crazy like a fox!

Sidwell Friends

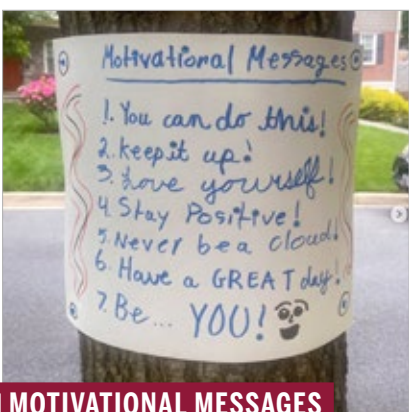
3825 Wisconsin Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20016-2999

Nonprofit
Organization
US Postage
PAID
Hagerstown, MD
Permit No. 93



📷 LOWER SCHOOL REUNION

A group photo of Class of 2022 students who also attended the Lower School earned 269 likes and lots of comments. #Lifers



📷 MOTIVATIONAL MESSAGES

Girls on the Run members made uplifting posters and decorated the Lower School neighborhood. Comments: "Such a beautiful group of kiddos!" and "Love this idea."



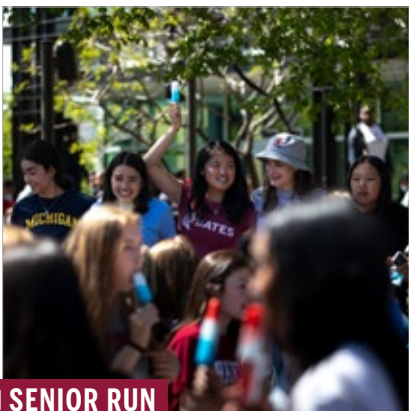
📷 FIGHTING FOXES

The senior robotics team, "Fighting Foxes," placed second out of 80 teams in the Chesapeake FTC Championship. "Fantastic! So proud of the robotics team."



📷 MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU

Star Wars Day at the Lower School, with 223 likes and numerous comments: "Awesome!" "LOVE THIS!" "This is amazing!"



📷 SENIOR RUN

As the last bell rang, the seniors raced through the Upper School and into the courtyard to eat ice cream and sign yearbooks. "Congrats class of 2022!"



📷 OUR OWN DISTRICT DIVA

Lower School PE teacher Coach Gainey is a wide-receiver for the DC Divas. "So proud SFS has you as a Coach AND an example for young girls in your position with the DC Divas!"