BIAIR

BULLETIN

WELCOME, BOARD CHAIR MARIA VINCI SAVETTIERE

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TRANSFORMATIVE
LEADERSHIP OF
FORMER BOARD CHAIR
DOUG KIMMELMAN
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MEET THE DEAN OF EQUITY, INCLUSION & BELONGING EVAN THOMAS

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On Exhibit



Lisa York

In Solitude: Celebrating Functional Art in the Home October 17-November 18 in Blair's Romano Gallery

Artist talk: November 10 at 7 p.m.

Ceramic and wood artist Lisa York uses functional pieces of pottery and fine woodworking to celebrate art in the home. Inspired by the solitude that resulted from the pandemic, she crafts utilitarian sets to be used by an individual or in a small, intimate setting to elevate the home dining experience.

On the Cover:

As Blair celebrates its 175th anniversary in 2023, we also welcome the School's 20th Board Chair, Maria Vinci Savettiere P'17. This issue of the *Bulletin* is dedicated to thanking Blair's 19th Board Chair, Doug Kimmelman P'12 '13 '15 '22, and introducing the School community to Ms. Savettiere, who is pictured with Head of School Peter G. Curran on the cover.

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Meet Board Chair Maria Vinci Savettiere

As Blair celebrates its 175th anniversary in 2023, we also welcome the School's 20th and first female Board Chair, Maria Vinci Savettiere P'17. Learn more about the diverse personal and professional experiences that have helped shape the vision and priorities of Blair's next leader.



Blair Family Celebrates Transformative Leadership of Former Board Chair Doug Kimmelman

Blair Trustees, parents, alumni, faculty and staff came together on April 29 to honor the incredible leadership of Doug Kimmelman P'12 '13 '15 '22, whose tenure as Blair's 19th Board Chair came to a close in June.



Blair Celebrates Class of 2022 at 174th Commencement

In May, families gathered on Sharpe House lawn as the Class of 2022 received their diplomas and celebrated the accomplishments of classmates and faculty.



Meet Blair's Dean of EIB Evan Thomas

After a national search, Evan Thomas, an accomplished educator with deep experience leading diversity efforts, has been appointed Blair's inaugural Dean of Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (EIB). Mr. Thomas introduces us to his family, his philosophy and his passion for building communities where everyone feels that they belong.



Introducing the Blair Arts Guild

In 2022, Blair created an Arts Guild to recognize and celebrate the outstanding artistic achievements and contributions of our community. We are proud to introduce the talented members of the Arts Guild's inaugural class.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Blair's **Emily (Xiaoyu) Wang '23** Addresses the United Nations



According to the United Nations, nearly 140 people die each hour from AIDS-related causes. While the international community has made progress in combating the disease,

nearly 37 million people continue to live with AIDS, and halting the spread of HIV remains one of the public health challenges of the 21st century.

On March 18, Blair's *Emily (Xiaoyu) Wang '23* lent her voice to the critical issue, delivering a 20-minute speech to the 66th United Nations' Commission on the Status of Women that addressed the causes of elevated HIV/AIDS transmission rates and provided potential solutions aimed at youth. "This was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity where I could both represent students from Blair and learn from the other attendees," Emily says. "I'm so grateful for the experience."

Emily has long held an interest in using education—and her talent—to make the world a better place. In middle school, she tutored public school students from rural Liangshan, China, volunteering to teach English and creating an art textbook titled *Let Me Draw the Vocabulary* that is now used by her former pupils. At Blair, Emily stepped up to teach a seminar to classmates during 2021's Asian American and Pacific Islander

Heritage Month, and this year, she led one of Blair's Black History Month seminars, educating her peers and the school community about the American civil rights movement. After faculty members John Redos' Human Rights class and Evan Thomas' Art for Social Change class sparked her interest in human rights, Emily applied for an internship at a nonprofit focused on HIV education in China. That nonprofit's website led her to an application to address the United Nations—and that is how the Blair junior found herself speaking to a conference of 200 international dignitaries in March.

Although she blushes when called a representative of global youth, Emily is delighted to have had the opportunity to inform policy on an international level and to be an advocate for using education to combat HIV/AIDS. "My advice at the U.N. conference was that students are a powerful tool in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Peer education promotes dialogue and helps combat the deep-seated stigmas that can lead to a lack of health education worldwide."

Currently in the process of applying for a position on the United Nations' Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Youth Forum, Emily hopes that her international work to improve the lives of others is just beginning. As she told the U.N. conference in March, "We cannot be satisfied until everybody, in both developing and developed countries, receives the care they need to lead healthy lives."

Staff

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SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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



It has been an incredible

fall as Blair begins to celebrate its demisemiseptcentennial year; throughout 2022-2023, we will honor our history and everything we have learned over the last 175 years about education, challenging students and encouraging them to step outside their comfort zones and expand their horizons. Relationships are integral to creating an extraordinary educational experience and an environment where students feel seen, heard and known. I look forward to spending time with many of you at a host of events in the coming year as we mark this historic milestone.

While we double down on the quintessential elements of the Blair experience, we also continue to innovate and be forward-thinking. We are preparing our students for jobs that do not even exist yet, so our initiatives and programs that teach students skills such as self-advocacy, team-based problem solving, healthy risk-taking, cultural humility and effective communication are more important than ever in this always-evolving landscape. The

"We want our students, faculty and staff to make eye contact, talk to one another and to be present in the moment—these are critical life skills that will serve students well in college and beyond."

boarding school environment is uniquely situated to develop these skills in a safe community where you are encouraged and supported to embrace new passions and build ties to classmates and teachers that can last a lifetime.

My first head of school told me early on in my teaching career that most professionals, regardless of their industry, have between five and 50 interactions a day. However, for boarding school educators, that number is between 50 and 500. While COVID naturally reduced this number, it has made us even more intent on prioritizing interactions and constantly connecting with students, as well as one another, as we move forward.

We know that all interactions, positive or negative, impact our students and, often, the most important conversations are the smaller ones. With this in mind, I started this year's opening meetings with an exercise where faculty and staff identified how they connect with students based on a few prompts. The goal of this exercise was to encourage dialogue about the many different strategies we employ to hold students accountable when giving them feedback—while still prioritizing feelings of belonging.

Our commitment to community and connection, with one another and with students, is why we will continue to reinforce policies prohibiting walking and texting or wearing headphones on our pathways. We want our students, faculty and staff to make eye contact, talk to one another and to be present in the moment-these are critical life skills that will serve students well in college and beyond. Our students belong to a generation that has never known life without social media and cellphones, so we are purposeful about eliminating the inevitable pull of our vibrating and flashing devices wherever we can. Our accessibility and willingness to engage inform the way we interact and the bonds we create with one another.

That's why, going into this anniversary year, we will be resetting some of our cultural norms and leaning in to all that makes a Blair education transformative; our ultimate goal is for our students to go out into the world as ethical leaders and changemakers who not only benefit from the sense of community and belonging they experienced at Blair, but also develop the agency to create it in their own communities as they leave our hilltop. That is our mission, and we couldn't be prouder to deliver on it for 175 years and beyond.

Rober G. Curran

Peter G. CurranHead of School

Meet Blair's 20th

& First Female

Board Chair

by Suzy Logan '99

AS BLAIR CELEBRATES its 175th anniversary in 2023, it is hard to believe that the School has been led by only 20 Board Chairs, a testament to the longevity of Trustee tenure and how fortunate we have been to have committed and selfless leaders over the course of our long history. This issue of the Bulletin is dedicated to thanking Blair's 19th Board Chair, Doug Kimmelman P'12 '13 '15 '22, for his near decade of transformative leadership and inspiring philanthropy and introducing the School community to incoming-and Blair's first female-Board Chair Maria Vinci Savettiere P'17. A proud parent to *Michael '17* and Trustee since 2015, Maria brings to the position a commitment to the power of relationship-based learning and a passion for promoting adolescents' health, wellness and sense of belonging.

With an extensive legal background in corporate law and valuable experience in nonprofit management, including financial planning, marketing strategy, donor relations and special events coordination, Maria graduated from American University in 1984 with a bachelor's degree in international relations and earned her JD from American University's Washington College of Law in 1987. She worked as a senior staff attorney for Hughes Network Systems, LLC, where she was responsible for international contract negotiations. Maria also served as assistant vice president and counsel to New York Life Worldwide for a brief period in 1994 before working as an independent legal and business advisor to multiple well-known clients, including TGI Fridays restaurants, Telecom Applications Corporation and GTE Spacenet, among others.

In 2003, Maria became executive director of Deirdre's House in Morristown, New Jersey, where she puts her legal and business expertise to work on behalf of victims of child abuse and neglect. Deirdre's House is a nationally recognized child advocacy center and is the only site in Morris County to offer comprehensive services to child abuse victims, including medical examinations and treatment, forensic interviews by law enforcement interviews, clinical counseling and trial preparation.

Over the course of her time as a Blair Trustee, Maria has served as Vice Chair of the Board, Chair of the Education and School Life Committee, and as a member of the Executive, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and Advancement Committees. She became Blair's 20th Board Chair by a unanimous vote at the spring 2022 Trustee meeting.



"I believe in the transformative nature of education and wanted to contribute in any way I could."

Savettiere

You have served on Blair's Board since 2015. With your son, Michael, enjoying his sophomore year at that time, what drew you to service?

When Doug asked me to serve on the Board of Blair, I did not hesitate. As everyone who knows him can attest, it is hard to say no to Doug for two reasons: He never asks more of you than he has already done himself and because each of us has benefited from his good counsel, big heart, generosity and fierce loyalty. I also very much believed in the mission of Blair and its dedication to preparing its students for challenges beyond Blair. I believe in the transformative nature of education and wanted to contribute in any way I could. There have been many people in my life who have helped me along the way through scholarships, mentoring and job opportunities, and I wanted to pay that forward.

Since 2003, you have been executive director of Deirdre's House. Could you tell me a little bit about the organization and your work there?

When there is a report of abuse or neglect in Morris County, a child is brought to Deirdre's House to be forensically interviewed by law enforcement, medically examined and treated, and clinically counseled—all free of charge, all under one roof. The mission of Deirdre's House is to provide hope, healing and justice for child victims of abuse and/or neglect. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. As executive director, I am a jack-of-all-trades: I execute and direct all



fundraising, special events and grant writing, manage all financial aspects of the organization and, most importantly, ensure that we deliver high-quality, trauma-focused, clinical counseling, mental health and medical services to child victims. I also work directly with the county prosecutor's office, the FBI and the New Jersey Child Protection and Permanency Agency to ensure that those who perpetrate crimes against children are brought to justice.

How has your earlier experience as a corporate attorney and business advisor informed the professional and personal experience you bring to the Blair Board of Trustees?

Before Deirdre's House, I was a senior staff attorney for Hughes Network Systems, LLC, where I was responsible for international contract negotiations, and worked as assistant vice president and counsel to New York Life Worldwide, where I was responsible for opening new international offices and divisions. I also served as an independent and business advisor to a variety of corporate clients, focused on ways to expand their businesses in emerging markets. All of this involved extensive worldwide travel. At Hughes, I was responsible for negotiating contracts for satellite telecommunications systems throughout the world, with a focus on developing markets like China, Brazil, Indonesia and Mexico. In the early 1990s, I spent most of my time in Beijing, Shanghai and some very remote Chinese cities. Often, I was the first American woman whom locals had ever met.

Witnessing an economy and a country that was transforming itself in such significant ways in record time was an incredible experience. It was in that very challenging environment that I learned to be most resourceful and to think out of the box to achieve outcomes that had not been possible before. I was confronted with some very difficult situations and tough choices, many times unable to rely on the guidance of others because I was breaking totally new ground. When I first arrived in Beijing, the only store was the "Friendship Store," an outlet where only Chinese domestically manufactured goods were available; there were two currencies, one for foreigners and one for Chinese citizens. Home ownership was not permitted, and luxury hotels did not exist. Within three years, luxury brands, hotels and department stores opened, the country adopted one currency and Chinese citizens were allowed to

buy property. It was incredible to witness and take part in this transformation. Throughout my corporate career, I continued to work in emerging markets where I had to build consensus among diverse stakeholders, as well as persist in the face of what could appear to be impossible obstacles. I learned that listening and understanding other points of view are key to achieving success whatever the circumstance and that, if you want to get to "yes," you must be open to innovative ideas and perspectives.

My work at Deirdre's House has given me knowledge and understanding of the mental health challenges that young people face. Social media, the pressure to meet impossible standards, lack of tools to process childhood trauma and everyday stressors, along with the social and academic isolation of the pandemic, are all contributing factors to a mental health crisis for today's youth. This is why I am so committed to giving health-and-wellness tools to Blair students so they can reach their full intellectual and personal potential.

When you and your husband, Greg, first looked at Blair with Michael, what were your first impressions? What made you choose Blair?

The first person we encountered was [Associate Head of School] *Ryan Pagotto '97*, who greeted us so warmly; I immediately knew that Blair would be quite different from the other high schools we considered. [Then Dean of Admission] Peter Curran and Michael hit it off incredibly well, and, after our tour, we knew it was the perfect fit for Michael and our family. We chose Blair for its academic offerings and rigor, but also for its powerful sense of community, the fact that faculty members really know students and are uniquely qualified to challenge them, and for the School's incredible leadership opportunities and commitment to develop caring, kind, good people who leave Blair understanding the value of balance and well-being as much as the value of academic and professional success.

What was your favorite part of being a Blair parent while Michael was a student?

Watching Michael and his close group of Blair friends develop their confidence as student leaders and community members. I loved listening to the videos the English department records as part of the Blair Leadership Stories Project, which illustrate the growth the kids made from first-year students to seniors in their view of the world and



their part in it. I especially loved going to School Meeting and Chapel and experiencing the power of adolescents developing the confidence to stand up in front of 600 people to speak publicly and their deep care of others as they celebrate one another's accomplishments. The enthusiasm and joy of those gatherings are infectious.

You are an experienced Trustee. What are some of the most important lessons you've learned from this volunteer work that you apply to your leadership role at Blair?

Over the years, I have served on the boards of the Westmont Montessori School, Greater Morristown YMCA, Preschool Advantage Inc. and Deirdre's House. I was also appointed to and served on New Jersey's Child Advocacy Center and Multidisciplinary Team Advisory Board. I have learned that the most important thing you can contribute to any organization is your passion for its mission. By communicating that passion to your fellow Board members, potential supporters and stakeholders, you can move mountains, influence decision makers and really catapult the organization forward.

The common thread in all the organizations I have served is that children are at the center of each of their missions.

BLAIR BULLETIN 07

Meet Blair's 20th & First Female Board Chair Maria Vinci Savettiere

In my various roles, the most important lesson I have learned is that the most precious gift you can give a child is opportunity—and, at the core of the gift of opportunity, is education. Education gives children options—options to better themselves, their families and their communities, as well as the ability to overcome life's challenges. In my leadership role at Blair, I will continue to focus on ensuring that each Blair student is best prepared for life's opportunities and challenges.

What about your work as a Trustee has been most meaningful to you over the seven years you've served on Blair's Board?

My contributions to the overall student experience at Blair. I am proud to serve on a Board that truly cares about the School and the students we serve. Our Board is very active and engaged, and they are laser-focused on improving every aspect of the student experience; we respond to Blair's needs quickly and decisively. Looking ahead, I am excited to continue to partner with Head of School Peter Curran and others in Blair's administration to engage our various stakeholders and further generate enthusiasm for the School's future as we celebrate our 175th anniversary.

You were appointed as Vice Chair of the Board in 2021 and became the School's first female Board Chair this summer. What do you hope to accomplish most, with the School's long history and this distinction in mind?

As every Board Chair has done before me, I hope to continue to move Blair forward. Under Doug's leadership, every aspect of the Blair student experience has been made better. Improvements like the construction of the Chiang-Elghanayan Center for Innovation and Collaboration with its facilities for creative thinking in science and art, the renovation of Bogle Science Center with its state-of-the-art labs and glass-walled classrooms, and the addition of two new dorms and the winter sports complex has given our students the opportunity to live and learn in spaces that inspire deeper thinking, create community and encourage them to challenge what is possible for them both at Blair and beyond.

Blair's focus has always been to prepare our students for success and happiness in life when they venture from our hilltop campus into the wider world. To best prepare them for success and to ensure they leave Blair understanding the value of giving back and serving their communities, we must give



them every tool necessary to thrive in today's rapidly changing world. We recognize that those tools are not purely academic ones, that we must teach students how to be resilient and to cope with stress and anxiety in healthy ways. They will not be able to unlock their full potential if we fail to give them those tools. Social-emotional intelligence is a critical component in future success and fulfillment. My commitment is to maintain academic excellence at Blair, while also creating an environment where health and wellness is recognized as a necessary pillar for succeeding at and after Blair.

As for being the first female Board Chair in the School's history, as any first female knows, being the first doesn't count for much; it's what you do with that first that's meaningful. I believe that the best decisions are not made in echo chambers. You have to listen, reach out, persuade and build consensus. I will continue the Board's commitment to expanding and encouraging the participation of varied voices and fresh perspectives on the Board and in the Blair community.

What have you learned from Blair's 19th Board Chair, Doug Kimmelman, as a colleague and friend? How do you hope to further his legacy moving forward?

I first met Doug when our children were in kindergarten at Far Hills Country Day School in Far Hills, New Jersey. For those of us who have worked with Doug over the years, he has given us a master class in transformational leadership. Doug has never sought any leadership position for the prestige of it. He is compelled to lead and contribute because of his commitment to leave places better than he has found them. In one of my first conversations with Doug, he spoke about the influence that educational philanthropy at the elementary and high school level can have on the life of a child, how during that time period, our giving can have the most impact. That conversation stuck with me. What also impressed me was that Doug's definition of philanthropy does not just include financial support. He has always coupled his incredibly generous financial support with his time and talent—and that has made all the difference in creating positive change in every place he has touched. His dedication to, and vision of, impactdriven philanthropy will continue to be the voice in my head as I take on the task of continuing to move Blair forward.

Going into your first year as Board Chair, what are your priorities for Blair?

My priority will continue to be ensuring that all Blair students are prepared to navigate college and life while realizing their full academic and life potential. This means continuing to move forward with our work to promote the importance of health and wellness and diversity, inclusion, equity and belonging initiatives, while also never losing sight of the importance of academic rigor and great outcomes. Another priority is continuing to foster opportunity and spaces for students to interact and grow. I believe that one of the extraordinary advantages of a Blair experience is the continuous interactions and strong relationships of students, parents, alumni, faculty and staff. Our faculty really know our kids. This is what sets us apart, and it is a huge factor in the success of our students.

How do you think your educational background has played a role in how you approach your work on the Board of a school that draws students from almost 30 countries around the world?

My undergraduate experience at American University's School of International Service (AU) profoundly influenced the way I look at the world and how I make decisions. AU has an extremely diverse student body and faculty. As an undergraduate, I was exposed to people from every corner of the world, each with a unique perspective and experience. I lived and learned with students whose parents had fled from communist Cuba, refugees from the war in Lebanon, students who had experienced apartheid in South Africa and young women who left behind countries where it was forbidden to be educated. The diversity of my fellow students' backgrounds, experiences and perspectives widened my own thinking and, I believe, made me a more thoughtful and empathetic person. This experience taught me the value of diversity in any learning experience and informs my commitment to maintain and encourage a diverse community at Blair.

My law school education at American University's Washington College of Law taught me to see opportunities not obstacles, to seek solutions and not get stuck in the weeds of any problem. As anyone who knows me can attest, it is extremely hard for me to accept that any obstacle cannot be

overcome. I believe that there is always the possibility to achieve any goal if we just think differently and persist.

Having seen Blair grow and evolve over the last seven years, what do you feel makes it such a special institution?

The dedication of its faculty and staff to the education and well-being of their students. The best interest of students is always the foremost consideration in every decision that they make. The relationships that our faculty and staff have with Blair students make all the difference in the quality of the Blair experience. Positive and supportive relationships with caring adults are the leading factor in achieving success for young people.

The strength of relationships between the faculty and students is Blair's "secret sauce" and what makes Blair stand out when compared to other boarding schools. This emphasis on having strong relational ties has always been the foundation of a Blair education. I think that when parents and prospective families visit Blair, they see and feel the warmth of the Blair community. Visitors to campus see kids smiling, greeting one another, making eye contact and engaging instead of being buried in their phones. I think that those factors, combined with our academic excellence and strong college outcomes, have made every admission cycle more competitive than the last.

Over your tenure on the Board, you have worked closely with the School's Head of School. What does your partnership look like in your new role and in what ways do you each build off of each other's strengths?

Peter Curran is a student-centered leader who also knows and appreciates the value of a committed and engaged faculty. He truly knows and loves Blair and the Blair community. His level of engagement with students and faculty and staff is next level. My role is to support him in his initiatives, to act as a sounding board, to give good counsel, and to help brainstorm new ideas and directions. The strength of our relationship is our ease and openness with each other. My legal background, corporate experience, and time spent as a nonprofit leader will help inform the ways that I can assist Peter in his work and in his goals for Blair.

Where do you hope to see Blair in five years under your leadership as Board Chair?

Despite all of Blair's success, we can never be complacent.

There are always ways to improve the Blair experience and to better prepare students for life beyond our hilltop. My goal is to continually move the School forward in creating lifelong learners who are successful, create options and take advantage of opportunities, and are changemakers striving to better themselves and their communities and to be people that have a deeper understanding of themselves and empathy for others.



Nineteenth Board Chair Doug Kimmelman P'12 '13 '15 '22 and 20th Board Chair Maria Vinci Savettiere P'17.



Maria, with son, **Michael '17**, and daughters, Adriana and Gabriella.

and dynamic community and work to amplify our forward-thinking programs, while also doubling down on the student-centered philosophy and commitment to academic excellence that are at the heart of the Blair experience. We also continue to enhance our historic and scenic campus by adding state-of-the-art facilities and are always working to secure the School's long-term financial strength—

all with the goal of ensuring that future generations of students have the opportunity to learn and grow and take advantage of all of Blair's extraordinary educational offerings. As we mark our demisemiseptcentennial year, here is a brief look back at the School's growth since it was founded.

			1	1
Blairstown Presbyterial Academy welcomes "a handful" of students, est. 3 faculty	2022-23 2023 Blair Academy:	1 & 463 Acres of campus	1 & 6 Academic buildings	-
	477 students, 95 faculty	in 1848 (1) & 2022-23 (463)	in 1848 (1) & 2022-23 (6)	
	~\$140M Endowment today	Ist dorm Insley Hall (originally called Blair Hall)	Number of dorms today	
A snapshot of the	early curriculum: reading,	spelling, etymology, penma	anship, arithmetic,	

A snapshot of the early curriculum: reading, spelling, etymology, penmanship, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, surveying, bookkeeping, English grammar, Greek, Latin, rhetoric, botany, natural philosophy, astronomy, geometry, history, composition, geology & declamation.

A snapshot of our curriculum today: analytical reading, communication skills, global issues, scientific inquiry, algebra, geometry, immersive language learning, English grammar, Greek, Latin, rhetoric, biology, chemistry, physics, philosophy, astronomy, engineering science, psychology, U.S. history, constitutional law, software design, architecture, photography, ceramics, statistics...and much more!

Blair's founders: Mr. John I. Blair, Mr. John Bunnell, Rev. John A. Reiley.

"AGREEABLE TO NOTICE, PUBLICLY GIVEN, the citizens of Blairstown and vicinity convened in the Presbyterian church, in Blairstown, this day, for the purpose of selecting a site for an Academy, and appointing a committee whose business it shall be to superintend its erection...

The hilltop west of the Methodist Church and south of the

burying ground in Blairstown was selected for the site of the building, and was offered gratuitously for the purpose by the possessor, John I. Blair."

—Blair Academy, A Sesquicentennial History by Arthur T. Hamlin '29

Visit Blair's demisemiseptcentennial website to learn more about upcoming events, as well as explore the School's milestones, get lost in vintage photos and test your knowledge of all things Blair: www.blair.edu/demi-semi.

Blair Family
Gathers to
Celebrate 19th
Board Chair's
Transformative
Leadership



Blair Trustees, parents, alumni, faculty and staff came together on April 29 to honor Doug Kimmelman P'12 '13 '15 '22, whose tenure as Blair's 19th Board Chair came to a close on June 30, 2022. The tribute to Mr. Kimmelman's transformative leadership included remarks from family, colleagues and friends, including Maria Vinci Savettiere P'17, who began her tenure as Blair's 20th Board Chair on July 1, 2022.

The evening event took place in the winter sports complex, affectionately known as the Blair "bubble" over the tennis courts, an addition to campus that was the idea of Doug's late wife and former Blair Trustee, Carol, who had a passion for athletics and education and wanted to provide Blair students with the opportunity to practice indoors during all seasons.

"One reason we are gathered in this space tonight is to dedicate the 'bubble' in honor of Carol Kimmelman," said Head of School Peter G. Curran in his opening remarks. "Carol was affectionately known as 'Lulu' to many, and was a gifted athlete and educator and true inspiration to all who knew her. This space, which has done so much to expand our athletic and activity offerings over not only the winter months, will be forever known as Lulu's Place."

Following his opening remarks, Mr. Curran introduced Monie Hardwick, wife of Blair's 15th Headmaster Chan Hardwick, who directed the School's advancement office and strategic planning during her time at Blair. She spoke about the Kimmelman family's relationship with Blair and how it grew through their four children: *Annie '12*,

Robert '13, Tommy '15 and Scottie '22. She also explained why she and Chan looked to Doug to lead Blair forward when they left in 2013.

"Doug Kimmelman was Chan's and my final—and perhaps most important—legacy to Blair," said Mrs. Hardwick, who met Doug and Carol when Annie arrived at Blair for her interview. She described Carol as an "all in" person who did nothing halfway and noted the "outsized impact" the Kimmelman family has had on the Blair that is today. "All transitions in leadership are fraught with challenges.

Chan and I knew that the greatest gift we could leave Blair was an outstanding leadership team within the School partnered with strong Board leadership guided by vision and by values."

Doug's leadership has been defined by a few things, she went on to say: inspiring change and making change happen, and asking others to give but never asking more than he gives himself. Calling Doug forward-looking and decisive, as well as a powerful listener and observer, Mrs. Hardwick concluded: "Doug's service is completely and totally unselfish. He accepted the role as Board



Doug (center) with his children (from left to right): Annie '12, Robert '13, Tommy '15 and Scottie '22.

Blair Family Gathers to Celebrate 19th Board Chair's

Transformative Leadership

Chair because he believes deeply in making the world a better place and because he loves his family and wanted his children—and other children—to have the very best education possible."

Mrs. Savettiere, a proud Blair parent and Trustee since 2015 who has known Doug since their children were in kindergarten, stepped onstage to honor her predecessor and mentor and award him the Citation of Merit, Blair's highest honor. "The word 'transformative' is one that is often overused and exaggerated," she said. "But, in the case of Doug and Carol Kimmelman, that word does not even come close to describing the impact that they have had on Blair. No aspect of student life has not been made better because of their philanthropy—residential life, academics and athletics at Blair have been forever changed because of their vision. Their example challenges us to do better, to see opportunities not obstacles, to leave any place we touch better than we found it."

That change has set the bar incredibly high, and Mrs. Savettiere commended the Kimmelman family for dedicating time, talent and treasure—which she called the three pillars of philanthropy—with such ease, dedication, finesse and humility.

The Kimmelman children then took the stage, with Scottie at the microphone, speaking on their behalf. Noting that he has come to cherish Blair during his four years, as well as watching his siblings go through the same experiences, Scottie said, "We are so grateful for what our parents have done to support Blair and, thanks to the financial support of Trustees, alumni, parents, past parents and friends, Blair has created the Kimmelman Family Scholarship, and together, this group has raised nearly \$400,000 in support of a deserving student who, without this scholarship, would not be able to attend Blair." After hugging his children and expressing his gratitude, Doug thanked everyone for coming together to celebrate.

"Even if we didn't have this event, having all four of my kids in one place is as good as it gets," he said, noting he would miss his Blair family, despite knowing nothing about the School when daughter Annie wanted to take a look at Blair in 2008. Over the last 14 years, the Kimmelmans went on to develop deep friendships with faculty and staff, and Doug gave special thanks to those who impacted his children the most.

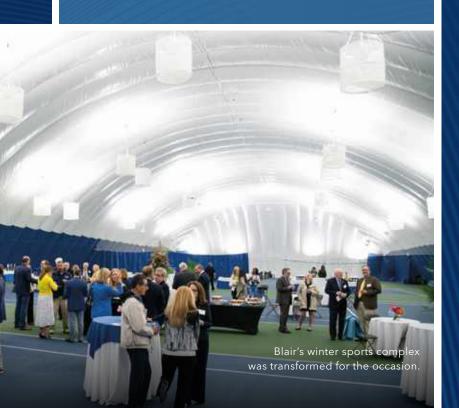
Ending his remarks on a personal note, Mr. Curran thanked Doug for teaching us all that "Reaching our goals means doing the unexpected, thinking creatively, and proving our value by working hard and delivering, day in and day out." The best way to honor Doug's leadership and legacy, he concluded, is to collectively live these values every day moving forward and leave this incredibly special place better than we found it.











Reception Honors the Generosity of Benefactors

During the 2022 Leadership Reception, Mr. Curran also expressed deep gratitude to the evening's 13 Arch Print recipients, and honored Meena and John Grizzetti P'20 '22 '23 '26 as Meena was on campus for Blair's Board of Trustees meeting earlier in the day. Expressing his thanks to the other generous donors who could not be present to be recognized in person, Mr. Curran expressed deep gratitude to:

Mr. Matthew J. Cressotti & Mrs. *Tina Vandersteel Cressotti '86*

Mr. *L. John Dughi Jr. '65* & Mrs. Virginia Dughi

Mr. Pavel Grachev & Ms. Anna Gracheva P'25

Mr. David A. Juge & Mrs. Anne W. Juge P'21

Mr. David Lau & Ms. Wei Da P'23 '24

Mr. Lewis Y. H. Liao & Mrs. Wendy S. W. Tseng P'22

Dr. Johnny Liu & Mrs. Yi J. Shi P'23

Ms. Karen H. Thomas P'20 '22 '22

Mr. Roger W. Thomas P'20 '22 '22

Mr. Jordan Turkewitz & Mrs. Heather Turkewitz P'22

Mr. Jue Sun & Ms. Yang Jiao P'25

Mr. Liangbo Yao & Ms. Yanling Wu P'25

"Through your leadership, philanthropy and commitment, we are able to offer Blair students extraordinary educational opportunities that would not otherwise be possible. We are grateful for your investment in our students, teachers, facilities and programs, and we are especially pleased to come together in person to recognize you for your loyal support of Blair Academy."

– Head of School Peter G. Curran



Blair Appoints **Dr. Abascal as New Director of Integrated Science Research**

When science department chair Kelly Hadden introduced the Integrated Science Research (ISR) program in 2018, she did not expect the student interest to more than double by 2022, particularly through

the pandemic. Yet, that's exactly what has happened. The oneand-a-half-year-long, student-directed science research course has grown so exponentially that the need arose for a dedicated director of the program. Luckily, Blair chemistry and ISR teacher Nadia Abascal was excited to take up the challenge of leading this initiative full time.

A 2017 graduate of Yale University, Dr. Abascal gained significant laboratory experience as a postdoctoral researcher in the university's molecular biophysics and biochemistry department, where her work focused on the assembly of a ricin biosensor. At Blair, she is dedicated to teaching her students transferable scientific skills that set them up for research success in whichever field they decide to pursue. "The two-part course with Foundations of ISR in their spring semester leading up to the actual research the following year is really a fantastic design," Dr. Abascal explains. "The first semester helps students learn how to break down their topic into answerable questions, how to read and assess the validity of a scientific source with a discerning eye, how to think critically and ask good questions, how to communicate research in understandable terms, how to set a plan and timetable for research and how to reach out to

mentors and gain their support. The skills they develop in that first semester help set them up for success, not only in their research at Blair but also if they choose to pursue lab sciences or even any other research-based field in college and beyond."

Once students complete the classroom instruction, they spend their summers communicating with potential mentors in their chosen field. Using the literature they have read as a basis, each student reaches out to at least 20 potential mentors, asking to set up email or Zoom relationships, supported and supervised by their ISR teacher. However, Dr. Abascal has hopes that these mentorship relationships can develop further. "I think the mentor piece is really the area for the most growth," she says. "I'd love to develop a network of professionals who can advise, potentially donate, offer facilities or offer internships." Dr. Abascal explains that such a reliable network would help our students develop their research beyond what a secondary school can provide.

One ISR student, *Ksenia Burdiuzha '24*, understands the importance of looking outside Blair for additional mentor support. "My ISR project is on quantum cryptography and how that can improve cybersecurity. Of course, Blair doesn't have a quantum computing expert—what high school does? So it's important that I find a mentor. High school curriculum isn't designed to cover each student's specific passions; there just isn't enough time. But ISR has allowed me to spread my curiosity and investigate a topic that's interesting to me, all while giving me the skills I need to work independently and find outside experts to support my work."

"I'm incredibly grateful to have the opportunity to do actual research in bioengineering, a field I've been immensely passionate about since Ms. Booth's biology class in ninth grade. ISR has helped me improve my journal-reading skills and my ability to produce solid scientific writings. Moreover, I learned a lot about bioengineering in ISR, and I'm really excited to start lab experiments next year."

- Apple Wu '24



Ksenia Burdiuzha '24 presents her ISR proposal at Blair's annual science poster exposition.

"I love ISR because the process is designed for students to explore what they are interested in. We can create our own unique experiments to perform, all while earning the important elements and building blocks of a scientific study."

– Marc Lui '23

Dr. Abascal is excited for the 17 students pursuing ISR projects this fall, in addition to reading the applications from students hoping to begin the Foundations of ISR course in the spring. "This cohort has extremely varied projects. Working with students and seeing what comes out of their brains is the best part. Their interests are so diverse, and their creativity around different hurdles is fascinating to witness." In some ways, modeling being a scientist, using the skills developed in the Foundations course, is an extra icing on the cake. "To be perfectly frank, I'm never going to be the expert on quantum computing that Ksenia is," Dr. Abascal admits. "I can't be an expert in each of these unique projects. But I can be the Virgil to their Dante. I get to be the living embodiment of these transferable skills that we're telling them they are learning. They get to see how my experience and understanding of good research and good science can support their projects, even if the topics are completely different."

ISR Research Topics for the 2022-2023 School Year

- **Mark Bazsa '23**—Photodynamic UVA-Riboflavin Bacterial Elimination in Escherichia Coli
- Ksenia Burdiuzha '24-Quantum Computing, Quantum Cryptography & Their Application to Modern Cybersecurity
- **Charlotte Devereux '24**–Effects of Testosterone, Electric Currents & Bacitracin on the Regrowth of Starfish Limbs
- **Tobenna Esomeju '23**-Research & Development of a More Practical Source of Hydroelectricity
- **Georgia Goettel '24**–Testing the Lasting Effects of Climate Change on an Enclosed Biosphere by Implementing Trophic Rewilding
- **Angela Han '24**–Effects of Heat Shock on Yeast Fermentation
- **Arthur Huang '24**–Development of Novel Materials to Withstand the Growing Threat of Natural Disasters
- **Garrett Lee '24**–Production of a Transgenic Pea with Expression of AmA1 via Agrobacterium-Mediated Transformation
- **Temitope Ogunyomade '24**—Isolation of Citrinin from Extracted Monascus Purpureus Red Pigment
- **Haruki Ono '23**–Testing the Effectiveness of Sodium Cromoglycate in Inhibition of Chloride Channel in Arabidopsis Thaliana
- **Renee Tracey '23**–My-Ocardium: The Creation of an Innovative Model for Understanding the Heart & Circulation System
- Jene Vachirapong '23—Encapsulation of Cinnamaldehyde & Gingerol in Manufactured Sweet Rolls
- **Apple Wu '24**–Synthesizing Drug Cocktails to Curtail Antibiotic Resistance
- **Hayden Yau '24**—Recovery Capabilities of Stressed SMA-Rebar-Reinforced Concrete When Subjected to Temperature Fluctuations
- **Qiya Zhang '23**–Design of a Supercritical Control Rod in a Pressurized Water Nuclear Reactor
- **Tony Zhang '24**—Designing Smart Locks Using Facial Recognition
- **Jason Zhao '24**—Determining the Capacity & Modifying the Amino Acid N-Acetylcysteine

Senior Speeches Provide Culminating Moment for Public-Speaking Tradition

When the *Washington Post* reported in 2014 that Americans fear public speaking more than heights, bugs and needles, it came as no surprise to many. The fear of public speaking is common, and as many as one in four Americans report experiencing anxiety when presenting before an audience.



A Physiological Challenge

Winner of two public-speaking contests on the hilltop, Blair alum *Lily Starrs '21* understands that fear. "The first time I approached the podium in the DuBois Theatre," she remembers, "my heart was pounding, my hands grew sweaty and the voice that came out

Lily Starrs '21.

sounded too high to be mine." Though she didn't recognize it at the time, Lily's hypothalamus had likely activated, triggering the release of adrenaline that contributes to stage fright. Experts say public speakers' hesitancy often arises from a lack of experience communicating with a crowd.

Blair has long held that introducing public speaking at a young age has value and can ease the nervousness that some new speakers experience. During the last century, for instance, Blair students wanting to improve their public-speaking skills joined the Webster Society and delivered a certain number of mandatory speeches per year. AP psychology teacher Shelly Mantegna explains that such repeated exposure—providing opportunities to practice an activity in small increments—is a classic psychological technique used to help overcome fears. "I've had students say that they are not comfortable presenting in front of the class," Mrs. Mantegna recalls, "and, when that happens, I've had them start by presenting at their desk. Then, for the next presentation, they stand in front of the class, until, eventually, they progress to the stage."

Cross-Curricular Conditioning

For Blair's current seniors, the speech contest is the culmination of four years of practicing the art of effective communication as Blair teachers created opportunities across departments for students to practice what they have learned and get better at it.

Dean of Academics Nathan Molteni explains, "We try to make both formal speech giving and the application of storytelling a regular part of the learning experience here."

In the classroom, that might mean participating in the recent two-day Global Issues debate or making a public presentation of one's research proposal for Integrated Science Research class. On the field, it might mean standing up as a captain and addressing the team. Whether sharing thoughts with classmates while delivering a Chapel talk, making announcements to the student body at weekly School Meetings, or orating before an auditorium of parents and judges in the School's speech contests, Blair students have ample opportunities to put what they have learned into action.

A Culminating Moment

Blair's annual rite of passage, the senior speech contest, comes as the culmination of those years of conditioning. For this year's competition, students in AP English drafted remarks on a topic of their choosing and presented the finished product to their classmates. The top speakers from each class then advanced, going head-to-head on May 16 at Blair's annual Senior Public-Speaking Contest. Under the lights of the DuBois Theatre, the finalists covered a wide variety of topics, including the human heart and tattoos, the life lessons to be gleaned from buying a prom dress and the importance of appreciating your family. Several students modeled both vulnerability and courage, sharing their stories of triumph over challenging medical diagnoses and trauma.

A panel of faculty judges chose the winning speakers and announced their names at School Meeting on May 20: *Duc Dinh '22* received first prize, *Megan Donaghy '22* received second prize and third prize was awarded to *Sofia Ciminello '22*.

Mr. Molteni sums up what he appreciated most about this year's speeches: "It was a culminating moment for the senior class, one of the last shared academic experiences of the year," he says. "I enjoyed hearing students' stories come full circle—as they start with the leadership video in ninth grade and finish with these final speeches. In its best moments, the speeches offer us a unique window into the life of a senior, getting to







Winners of the 2022 Senior Public-Speaking Contest, **Duc Dinh**, **Megan Donaghy** and **Sofia Ciminello**.

know them in a new way even as they are preparing to depart the community. That makes their willingness to share freely of themselves all the more appreciated—leaning in at a time when they are also beginning their transition to the next steps in life."

Lessons Learned

Now at Brown University, Lily has left her racing heartbeat behind and hopes that this year's senior speech winners come away from the public-speaking competition sharing her experience: "I used to think that speaking in front of the School would go down as one of my most terrifying experiences at Blair, but, looking back, it was actually one of my most fun and rewarding experiences—and one that has set me up best to succeed in college. Congratulations to this year's winners!"



Folk-rock musician **Anthony D'Amato '06** performs "Ludlow" in Blair's DuBois Theatre.

Celebrated Folk-Rock Musician Anthony D'Amato '06 Returns to the Hilltop

RollingStone.com named him an "Artist You Need to Know" while *Newsweek* hailed his songwriting as "smartly sweet." On April 20, internationally acclaimed singer,

songwriter and indie-folk musician *Anthony D'Amato '06* returned to his roots, performing with the Blair Academy Orchestra and Singers.

A Blairstown native, Mr. D'Amato grew up playing piano and soon picked up guitar, bass, banjo and harmonica while also honing his vocal skills. He released his first album, "The Shipwreck from the Shore," in 2014, shortly after he graduated from Princeton University. Reflecting the classic sounds of American folk rock made legendary by his idols, Bruce Springsteen, Neil Young and Bob Dylan, the album was inspired by Mr. D'Amato's studies with Pulitzer Prizewinning Irish poet Paul Muldoon and garnered rave reviews. His 2016 release, "Cold Snap," resulted in Mr. D'Amato's first national TV appearance and recognition from *Rolling Stone* for his "folk music raised on New Jersey grit." *Billboard* has praised his latest release, "Five Songs from New Orleans," as "stunning."

Taking a break from preparations for his European concert tour, Mr. D'Amato returned to the hilltop in April for a two-day residency working with Blair's musicians in the classroom and culminating in a performance with the Orchestra and Singers on April 20. It is not the first time Mr. D'Amato has come home to give the next generation of musicians a hand up. A guest speaker for the Society of Skeptics and J-term courses "The Power of the Artist" and "Artistry and Activism," Mr. D'Amato has returned to Blair regularly to share his experience and talent with students.

Performing arts department chair and Director of Instrumental Music Jennifer Pagotto, for one, is grateful for his mentorship. "Anytime our students get to work with a professional artist," she notes, "they get a view into how they can grow. Because Mr. D'Amato is an alum, he really understands Blair and that deepens the connection for students—it allows our students to see themselves in him and see what is possible."

At the workshops, Mr. D'Amato was joined by Broadway musical director Lon Hoyt, who is known for his work on productions of *Footloose*, *Hair* and *Hairspray*, among others. The pair prepared "Ludlow" with students, a ballad arranged by Mr. Hoyt, which was performed before the entire Blair community at the concert.



Learn more about Mr. D'Amato and his upcoming concert tours here: www.anthonydamatomusic.com.



fter a national search, Evan Thomas, an accomplished educator with deep experience leading diversity efforts, has been appointed Blair's inaugural Dean of Equity, Inclusion and Belonging. A member of the School's fine arts faculty, Mr. Thomas first came to Blair in 2015 with his wife, Ally, Director of Counseling, and they were soon joined by their daughter, Kiley. Since that time, many in the Blair community have come to know Mr. Thomas from his work in the classroom, teaching courses including the popular Art for Social Change, or as facilitator of the Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity (SEED) program for Blair faculty, staff and partners and advisor to the Black and Latinx Student Union (BALSU).

In his new role, Mr. Thomas will serve as the strategic and academic leader of the School's diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging (DEIB) initiatives. Key responsibilities include partnering with administrators and colleagues to ensure that faculty training, schoolwide programming and current curriculum align with Blair's DEIB goals and working to enhance diversity in the employee talent pool. Using a databased approach, Mr. Thomas will work with Blair's academic and student life offices to guide equity and inclusion initiatives and measure ongoing growth in these areas. As Dean, Mr. Thomas will also liaise with the broader Blair community, collaborating with the Board of Trustees, parents and alumni on issues of belonging, while also serving as a resource, guide and thought partner to faculty and students.

Integral to this role, Mr. Thomas believes, will be connecting with students and sustaining a culture of ongoing engagement with them in every arena, whether that is in

the classroom, on the fields or in the dorms. "We are a community where everyone should feel safe, seen and valued. I am committed to that work and to ensuring that everyone has space to be their authentic selves," he says.

The last, slow days of summer found Mr. Thomas busily planning the year ahead and settling into his new Clinton Hall office, where, he promises, "There will be time for good music and snacks!" Read on to learn more about Blair's new Dean of Equity, Inclusion and Belonging.



Mr. Thomas, his wife, Ally, and their daughter, Kiley.



You, Ally and Kiley have made a real home at Blair. How did you decide that this was the place to invest yourselves?



We have become a family here. Ally and I came here seven years ago, and since then, we've gotten married and had Kiley. This place feels like a really special and unique part

of our lives. I remember the feeling I had when we brought Kiley back from the hospital to Insley Hall, where we lived, and students were waiting for us with posters and balloons. We feel connected here. I've also experienced times of incredible student engagement and sharing of knowledge, like during our 2021 J-term course "Exploring the Black Experience through the Arts." Experiences like those stand out to me and have helped us feel this is a place where we feel we belong.



What drew you to this position?



DEIB work, in general, has occupied more and more of my time. It is a passion that feels natural. I'm really excited about this being an opportunity to respond to the needs of this

community in this position. There's so much we can do to be deliberate and lift people, and that's what you need to keep DEIB sustainable. I envision this role touching the stakeholders in this space, supporting faculty and students. I am looking forward to digging into what the experience is like as a staff member or a parent at Blair. I am looking forward to building community and belonging across the space, and I want to bring an air of celebration and build on our strengths, which are our relationships with one another.



How do art education and diversity, equity and inclusion work intersect for you?



In a lot of ways, this position is a natural continuation of the things I started to explore in the arts studio. I love the skills-based aspect of teaching art, but art can also be a

vehicle for social change. Art can empower students to pursue ideas that are important to them, and it can teach them how to storytell. This interest in storytelling, humanity and imagining of worlds that have yet to exist lends itself naturally to DEIB work.



For the last two years, you've taught Art for Social Change. How has that course influenced your path?



I felt that class leaned into my professional goals by showing students how they can become advocates for themselves. In it, we focus on internal

reflection, and through telling stories, we show students how to point that outward. There's one activity called the "disagreement project" from the course that is very applicable. We discuss the topic of intellectual charity and the importance of empathy while having a respectful (but passionate) conversation with another person. That project, in particular, extends outside of class. I like the idea of having something that continues the work once the course has ended, and DEIB is an extension of that



How do you think your experience as a member of the Blair community will impact your new role?



The time that I've spent here gives me a general appreciation for all the wonderful things we already do at Blair, with the acknowledgment that we still have much more

work to be done. And, having those connections already is vital to the work, in helping establish trust and in having a view of where to begin. So, while there is always going to be learning that I need to do, it is good to start from a place of knowing the culture and community here. I already feel a sense of support and autonomy that is an important component. I feel excited and humbled. I am anticipating the work very much.

Mr. Thomas recently earned his certificate in school management and leadership from Harvard's Graduate School of Education, and he holds a master's degree in art education from Boston University and a bachelor's degree in art education from Kutztown University. An active member of the Art Educators of New Jersey and the National Art Education Association (NAEA), Mr. Thomas serves as president of the NAEA's Independent School Art Educators interest group and earned the NAEA's certificate for cultural competency in teaching and leadership last year. While earning that certification, he facilitated training that expanded access to professional development focused on DEIB on a national level.

WELCOME, NEW FACULTY & STAFF!

With the work of teaching and mentoring students already well underway, Blair is pleased to welcome its newest faculty and staff members. Here are the educators and devoted individuals who joined the Blair community for our 175th year.

ADMISSION

Susie Antonelli rejoined Blair this fall as full-time assistant dean of admission. Mrs. Antonelli earned her

bachelor's degree in early childhood education from Towson University in 1996 and worked for several years as an elementary school teacher at the Naval Academy Primary School in Annapolis before coming to Blair in 2014 and joining the admission team in 2015. For the last several years, she has taught first and second grade at Far Hills Country Day School. She lives on campus with her husband, Director of

Safety and Security Brian Antonelli, and their children, *Kate '20, Sammi '22*,

Topher '24 and Mikey '26.

Mackenzie Maguire joined Blair this fall as an admission associate and head girls' varsity lacrosse coach. Prior

to working at Williams College as an assistant women's lacrosse coach, Ms. Maguire earned her BS in business marketing with a minor in sports management from the University of Mary Washington in 2019. During her time as a student athlete, she served as a collegiate team captain, made four NCAA appearances and was named rookie of the year by various sports conferences. At Williams, Ms. Maguire worked as recruiting coordinator, a mentor for student athlete development, and as a coach on and off the field. Ms. Maguire's previous professional experience includes working as a sales and marketing associate for Trilogy Lacrosse and as a trainee in GEICO's management-development program for claims adjusters.

Blair welcomed Greg Rosnick this year as assistant dean of admission and head girls' varsity basketball coach.

Since 2017, Mr. Rosnick served as assistant coach of women's basketball at Columbia University in New York City. In addition to coaching and teaching physical education, Mr. Rosnick was deeply involved in the team's recruiting efforts, helping to bring the best student athletes to Columbia in his role as international recruiting coordinator. His responsibilities included strategy and analytics, scheduling and accountability efforts. Prior to Columbia, Mr. Rosnick served as assistant coach of men's basketball at Colby College in Maine (2013-2017), Haverford College in Pennsylvania (2012-2013) and Belchertown High School in Massachusetts (2011-2012). Since earning his BA in political science at Haverford in 2009 and MA in teaching from Smith College in 2010, Mr. Rosnick has been active in basketball camps as well, most recently co-founding and directing DiverseCity from 2007 to 2017. He is joined at Blair by his wife, Alison, and their children, Calvin, 3, and Tim, 2.

ADVANCEMENT OFFICE

Anna Andrasek P'24 '26 joined Blair in 2021 as associate director of annual giving, a position in which she participates

in outreach and fundraising. In addition to fostering a culture of giving among Blair's alumni, Mrs. Andrasek helps to manage Blair's 1848 Leadership Society and upcoming reunions. Graduating summa cum laude from Boston University with a bachelor's degree in communications, Mrs. Andrasek is also the proud recipient of the school's prestigious Scarlet Key and Blue Chip awards. She comes to Blair with extensive experience in

executive recruiting, as both the co-founder and managing partner of The Hardwick Group, a boutique executive search firm that specializes in the banking industry. She resides in Hardwick with her husband, Steve, and their children, *Avery '24* and *Nina '26*.

ARTS

Gina Trish, who worked at Blair in a part-time role as Leadership Stories Project coordinator from 2016 to

2018 while also serving as art history and design professor at Centenary University in Hackettstown, New Jersey, has returned to Blair as a full-time member of our fine arts department. Since 2018, Mrs. Trish has served as the digital communications and press lead for the New Jersey Lieutenant Governor's Office and the Department of Community Affairs. After earning a BA in fine arts with a concentration in visual communications from George Washington University in 1997, Mrs. Trish held a number of roles related to the arts, communications and marketing, beginning her career as a senior designer at Fidelity Investments in Boston and later becoming art gallery director of GJ Cloninger & Co. in Morris Plains, New Jersey. Following a yearlong stint as Peters Valley School of Craft's guest artist in residence in 2006, Mrs. Trish became a freelance web development designer. Her teaching experience includes serving as a painting and drawing instructor at The House of the Good Shepherd in Hackettstown and developing and teaching undergraduate-level courses at Centenary. She has also pursued a number of postgraduate arts courses on advanced painting, sculpture and drawing. Mrs. Trish coaches JV girls' soccer and track at the School. She, her husband, Tyson, and their children, Weston '25 and Cameron, 13, continue to live near campus in

downtown Blairstown.

COLLEGE COUNSELING

Courtney Cronin came to Blair in 2022 as associate dean of college counseling and a Blair lacrosse coach.

In addition to her experience at Thacher School in Ojai, California, as associate director of college counseling, head girls' varsity lacrosse and dorm parent, Ms. Cronin worked for eight years as a college counselor, French teacher and girls' lacrosse coach at Lawrence Academy in Groton, Massachusetts, where she also served as language department chair. Ms. Cronin graduated from Colby College, where she majored in French studies and history, and earned her master's degree in independent school leadership from the Klingenstein Center at Columbia University's Teachers College in 2017. In addition to serving as an advisor and mentor to students at Thacher, she also co-led adult and student anti-racist groups and ally spaces. At Lawrence, Ms. Cronin also served as dorm head, chaperoned "Winterim" trips to Belize, Peru and Ecuador, and chaired the Professional Development Committee. She joins the Blair community with her dog, Coach.

COUNSELING

A proud graduate of the Blair Class of 1996, Tara (Williams) Prezioso returned to Blair as school counselor. A

licensed clinical social worker in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, Mrs. Prezioso previously worked as director of Children's Services at Allies Inc. In this role, she oversaw the program directors and clinical teams who treat at-risk youth through residential programs. Her experience includes performing diagnostic evaluations via telehealth and working as an in-patient clinician for behavioral health as part of the Atlantic Health System in Newton, New Jersey, clinical coordinator of Morris County Juvenile Services in Morristown, New Jersey, and an in-patient clinician at Trinitas Regional Medical Center in Elizabeth, New Jersey. Since 2017, Mrs. Prezioso has supervised independent contractors providing in-community therapy to at-risk adolescents and their families through an LLC in her name. A 2005 graduate of Kean University where she earned a master's in social work, Mrs. Prezioso lives locally in Columbia, New Jersey, with her husband, David, and their son, Ty, 13.



ENGLISH

Blair's English department welcomed
Nathan Johnson, who has taught
sophomore English and a senior film
and literature elective at Lexington High School
since 2002. Mr. Johnson completed his undergraduate work
at Amherst College and earned his master's degree from
Middlebury College's Bread Loaf School of English. He joins

his wife, Dean of College Counseling Niki
Applebaum, in Hoby House on Main
Street in Blairstown.

Amira Shokr joined Blair's history and English departments this year. A 2019 graduate of Lehigh University,

where she majored in English and minored in creative writing and film, Ms. Shokr has served as a teaching fellow at Lehigh for the last two years while she earns her master's degree in English from the university, expected in 2022. During her time as a student, she worked as a writer for the Lehigh online publication, Southsider, as well as copy editor and journalist at *The Commuter* in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and social media coordinator at Lehigh's literary magazine, *Amaranth*. Ms. Shokr also edited documents as a quality assurance specialist at FCI Multiple Services in Easton, Pennsylvania, during college.

HISTORY

In 2022, Eddy Thornton became a member of Blair's history department and began to coach the School's cross country and track teams. Since 2009, Mr.

Thornton has taught various levels of history classes at Union Catholic Regional High School in Scotch Plains, New Jersey. Over the course of his tenure there, he served as summer school principal and worked with the athletics and admission offices on marketing and recruiting. He began his teaching career at St. Benedict's Preparatory School in Newark, New Jersey, after earning his BA in historic preservation from the University of

Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia, in 2008. Mr. Thornton went on to continue his studies in educational leadership, management and policy at Seton Hall University in South Orange, New Jersey, from which he earned an MA in 2012. Mr. Thornton is joined on campus by his wife, Ashley, and their 1-year-old son, Felix.

MATHEMATICS

Stella Chen joined the math

department full time in the 2022-2023 academic year after serving as a substitute math teacher at the School since spring 2022. Prior to Blair, Mrs. Chen served as a private mathematics and SAT tutor, as well as a student teacher at Roberto Clemente Charter School in Allentown. Pennsylvania. Earlier in her career, she worked at the Sharon Chinese School in Sharon, Massachusetts, where she taught Chinese. Currently, Mrs. Chen is earning her master of education degree in secondary education (mathematics) from Lehigh University, as well as working toward a certificate of college counseling through the UCLA Extension. She also holds a BA in economics and English from Peking University in Beijing, China, and a master of business administration degree in finance from Bryant University in Smithfield, Rhode Island. She

volunteers at the Lehigh Valley American Regions Math

League team in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and lives on campus with her husband, Frank, and son, Charles, 4.

Kat Francis completed her undergraduate degree in accounting at Ramapo College of New Jersey,

where she worked as a rowing coach for the Nereid Boat Club in Rutherford, leading their first women's varsity quad to Youth Nationals, along with a women's varsity single. After college, Ms. Francis gained experience in accounting at WithumSmith+Brown, PC, in Whippany, as well as rowing while coaching for Gippsland Grammar during a year abroad in Australia. Prior to coming to Blair, Ms. Francis worked at Fordham University as a women's head rowing coach and at

RowAmerica Rye as assistant rowing coach. After working at Blair as a math department intern and crew coach last spring, she continued in that capacity

full time this fall. She is joined by her fiancé, fellow mathematics instructor Dylan Gould.

Math teacher and rowing coach Dylan Gould came to Blair from Brunswick School, where he taught

computer science and coached rowing since 2020. He earned his undergraduate degree in economics from Cornell University in 2013, where he also rowed on the varsity lightweight rowing team, and then went on to earn his master's degree in information technology from Virginia Tech in 2017. Earlier in his career, Mr. Gould taught math, coached rowing and served as a dorm parent at The Storm King School in Cornwall-on-Hudson, New York, and at Ross School in East Hampton, New York. From 2015 to 2020, Mr. Gould served as head rowing coach at the Nereid Boat Club in

> Rutherford, New Jersey, where he met his fiancée, Kat Francis, who has also joined Blair's math department.

A 2002 graduate of Hamilton College in Clinton, New York, Patrick Link majored in mathematics and

began his teaching career at the Dublin School in New Hampshire as a math teacher and assistant sailing coach, ultimately becoming head of the women's crew team. Prior to that, he worked in quality assurance and as a tutor before joining The Kiski School in Saltsburg, Pennsylvania, in 2007 as a math teacher, dorm head and cross country coach. In 2020, after 13 years, Mr. Link and his wife, Eliza, moved to St. Edward's School, in Vero Beach, Florida, where he taught a wide variety of math classes and sponsored the Social Justice Club and served on the Honor Board and Discipline Council. He joined Blair this fall as a mathematics teacher.

RELIGION/PHILOSOPHY

Longtime community member the Rev. David Harvey joins Blair in 2022-2023 as chaplain, adjunct

faculty member, member of the religion and philosophy department, director of the Chapel program and advisor to the Christian Fellowship. The Rev. Harvey, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Blairstown since 1994 and a Blair Trustee since 2000, has long chaired the Board's Covenant Committee and served as a member of the Executive and Education and School Life committees. A 1985 graduate of Northeast Missouri State University (now called Truman State University), he earned a BS in health and psychology, and graduated from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in 1989 with an MDiv. A member of the Presbytery of the Highlands, he is involved with the North Warren Clergy Ministerium and the Blairstown Historic Preservation Committee, while also serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the Northern New Jersey Truck Stop Ministries, which provides counseling support to truckers at the Travel Centers of America Truck Stop in Columbia, New Jersey. The Rev. Harvey and his wife, Teri, will continue to live in Blairstown, where they have resided for almost 30 years.



SCIENCE

Since 2015, Dana Donlon worked as a science teacher at West Morris Central High School in Chester, New Jersey.

Prior to that, she taught at Voorhees High School in Glen Gardner, New Jersey, as well as at Northern Valley Regional High School in Demarest, New Jersey, where she also served as a field hockey, track and field, and swimming coach. After completing her undergraduate work at The College of New Jersey, where she majored in biology and minored in mathematics and chemistry, Mrs. Donlon went on to earn her master of science education from Montana State University in 2016. Early in her career,

she worked as an educational consultant who mentored middle and high school teachers at Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken. Mrs. Donlon joined Blair this fall in the role of science teacher and lives with her husband,

Kevin, and children, Brendan, 18, Ryan, 14, Kellen, 12, and Ciara, 9, in Knowlton,

New Jersey.

This fall, Megan Ehrenwerth joined Blair's science department after 11 years at The Hill School in Pottstown,

Pennsylvania, where she served as a chemistry teacher, dorm parent, advisor, varsity swim coach and JV field hockey coach. Prior to that, she was an adjunct professor at Lawrence Technological University, where she lectured and planned labs. A graduate of Haverford college, Ms. Ehrenwerth earned her BA in chemistry in 2004 and her MA in chemistry from Johns Hopkins University in 2007.

BUSINESS OFFICE

Jo Ellen Redshaw joined the Blair business office this year, where she manages accounts payable and

purchasing and supports other members of the business office. Mrs. Redshaw held a number of positions in New Jersey prior to coming to Blair. Most recently, she was assistant office manager at Klae Construction Inc. in Oak Ridge; earlier in her career, she served as office manager at Byram Bus Inc. in Stanhope, and secretary at Ronetco Supermarkets, Inc. in Ledgewood. A graduate of Sussex County Technical School in Sparta, New Jersey, where she became certified in office and business technology, Mrs. Redshaw lives in Stillwater with her husband, RJ, and two children, Dominick, 20, and Madeline, 13.

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

A producer with many years of experience in storytelling through video and audio, CJ Palanca joined

Blair's communications office as video and marketing specialist. With expertise in all stages of film production acquired over nine years at Sound Imagination in Springfield, New Jersey, and over six years at Lindeblad Piano Restoration in Dover, New Jersey, Mr. Palanca has also freelanced for marketing teams and individual clients in a variety of industries since 2014, shooting and editing, interviewing and capturing B-roll. After earning his associate degree in digital filmmaking and video production from The Art Institute of Philadelphia in 2012, Mr. Palanca began his career as a videographer at Liquid Lightning Energy Drinks in Pompton Lakes, New Jersey. In the years since, he has honed his skills in camera operation, equipment, lighting, and combining audio, video and graphics through nonlinear editing and compositing. No stranger to Blair, Mr. Palanca and his daughter, Isabella, 7, live in Blairstown, and have many Blair family connections, including to uncle Paul Clavel, who oversees the athletics office, aunt Marivelle Clavel, who is assistant controller, and brother Chase Palanca, who serves as an admission associate.

TIMKEN LIBRARY

An assistant in a variety of capacities in the Warren County Library System since 2011, Christina Williams joined

Blair in 2021 as a Timken Library assistant. She holds an associate's degree in literature from Warren County Community College (2011), a bachelor's degree in literature from Ramapo College (2013) and a master of information degree from Rutgers University (2019). Ms. Williams lives in Hackettstown, New Jersey, and enjoys reading, walking and watching anime in her free time.

SOLAR POWER DELIVERS A WIN FOR THE

HILLTOP & THE PLANET

In January 2012, Blair turned on its first solar array on the roof of Hardwick Hall in an effort to provide more sustainable energy to power its campus. In late 2020, the School added a second array across Route 94. Operational for over a year now, this new field of panels has substantially bolstered the School's production of renewable electricity. Combined, the panels collectively provide an average of 25% to 30% of the School's energy, peaking at close to 50% over the summer months.

Chief Operating Officer Jim Frick has championed the panels as a win-win, with each array helping Blair move toward a more sustainable future and reducing the School's ecological footprint while also creating substantial savings on energy costs. Deeply attuned to the School's operational needs and expenses, Mr. Frick says, "Solar power helps



Blair's newest array of solar panels from the sky.

us reduce our carbon footprint and also provides a financial benefit of less expensive power than if we purchased directly from the utility. The cost of the solar power is established over the 25-year life of the panels, so these also provide energy cost stability over time."

Since its installation, the second array alone has meant Blair reduced CO_2 emissions by 3,524,816 pounds and operated on a partially renewable power supply that has reduced coal consumption by 1,706,657 pounds. The energy saved at Blair by that single array in its lifetime is the equivalent of powering 168 homes for a year.

A former member of Blair's sustainability club, *Hope Dragonetti '22*, feels passionately about renewable energy. "My family lives on the island of Bermuda, and it's so important, when you live on an island, to create energy in sustainable and affordable ways. Having sustainable energy is a huge advantage for an island, and it's one for Blair, too. It's a step in the right direction."

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

The new solar array across Route 94 saves...









3,524,816

fewer pounds of CO₂ emitted

168

homes powered for one year 1,706,657

fewer pounds of coal burned

179,995

fewer gallons of gasoline consumed

From inception to now



BLAIR COMMUNITY CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL WEEK

International Weekend has long been a favorite Blair tradition, highlighting the different cultures and regions that are represented throughout the School's student and faculty population. The event gives the Blair community a chance to share and celebrate the wide variety of traditions represented on campus, as well as to exhibit cultural learning.

This year, the intercultural learning exchange started early with a number of additional opportunities to express one's home culture and learn about the customs of peers and faculty. On April 6, faculty led a trip to an Asian market in Parsippany, and students began to plan for their exhibitions and the food tasting event that would happen on Saturday evening. On April 7 and 8, students sampled traditional cuisine in faculty homes, including Italian, Filipino and Thai meals, and attended events centered around important discussion topics such as arranged marriage in India.

When April 9 arrived, excited students shared in cultural exhibitions, such as information about Ramadan to prepare for the Iftar buffet at sundown, a Chinese dance demonstration with lessons, the cuisine of the

Spanish-speaking world and the cooking traditions of Thailand. Faculty cheered on their students, who had become the teachers, as conference rooms and classrooms hosted educational events in the Chiang-Elghanayan Center for Innovation and Collaboration (CECIC): a slideshow, discussion and educational quiz about Nigerian and Ghanaian cultures; and a presentation of the history of fashion in the Tang dynasty. Once the exhibitions concluded, faculty and students moved upstairs to the café to enjoy a food tasting, where they were able to experience a bit of gastronomy. The events in the CECIC were capped off by a presentation and fundraiser to benefit Ukraine. Students then traveled across campus to the turf as the evening ended with the Blair World Cup soccer tournament under the lights.

International Week concluded on April 10 with international tea and music on Insley Porch, crepe-making and *pétanque*-playing in one faculty home, dumpling-making in another and an Indian cooking lesson in a third faculty home, as well as a visit from the Portuguese Angry Chouriço BBQ food truck. Language department chair and Inclusivity Committee member Joyce Lang remarked,





"The events of this week are crucial to the growth of intercultural learning skills in our community. We will not soon forget the smiles on students' faces in the exhibition space as they learned the graceful art of holding a Chinese fan, listened attentively to the stories of Nigerian and Ghanaian traditions, and feasted their eyes on an exquisite Polish pottery display. The enthusiasm with which these events were met was heartwarming."

Members of the Blair Community who planned the events are grateful to all who contributed and participated. The hope is that there is a better sense of and respectful curiosity about our rich diversity and how that diversity impacts the vibrancy of our campus. Ultimately, we look forward to the ways in which this weeklong celebration will continue to deepen our appreciation for one another.



STAFF & FACULTY HONORED FOR SERVICE MILESTONES

This year, six faculty and staff celebrated milestone years of service with Blair Academy. At the annual Opening of School dinner on August 24, Head of School Peter G. Curran expressed his deep appreciation for the contributions of employees who have, for many years, dedicated themselves to moving the School's mission forward and supporting students and colleagues.

Troy Strunk, who has worked in Blair's maintenance department for 25 years, received an original painting of campus by former fine arts teacher Rita Baragona P'92 '95 in recognition of his years of service. Faculty and staff members

who marked 10-year milestones received wooden chairs engraved with the Blair seal. They include database administrator Harold Kay, J-term coordinator and language department chair Joyce Lang, Assistant Head of School for Strategic Communications *Suzy Logan '99*, Acting Dean of Students Andee Ryerson and Dean of Admission *Teddy Wenner '96*.

Mr. Curran expressed his sincere gratitude to the honorees for their commitment as all employees gathered at Sharpe House and in the Romano Dining Hall to celebrate the opening of the School's 175th year.

Blair elephales 174TH COMMENCEMENT







"The only person you are competing against is yourself. Do not strive to be perfect. Strive to be a little wiser and a little kinder by the day."

– **George Gan '22** Class of 2022 Speaker

May 26, morning light slanted softly over Blair's gabled roofs as a crowd of parents and friends began arriving. Their voices, animated and cheerful, rose like a wave, washing over the old stone pathways and wide green lawns, drifting around doorways and rising to dorm windows. Dressed in formal attire, parents, grandparents and friends made their way in pairs and scattered groups, hoping to catch a glimpse of their student as they walked across campus before the ceremony began. Blair's 174th commencement day had arrived.

As they have at graduation for many years, families found their places, this year, on the sun-dappled lawn in front of Sharpe House, and during the ceremony that followed, the members of Blair's Class of 2022 celebrated their accomplishments and promising futures before joining the School's alumni ranks.

As he stood before the assembled students at the conclusion of the ceremony, Head of School Peter G. Curran left each graduate with one request: "As you leave here today, please know that this place will always be your home and that your Blair connections deepen over time....We will remain curious and can't wait to hear about all of your adventures, so please stay in touch—and be proud of the lasting legacy you leave behind at Blair."

The entire Blair community extends heartfelt congratulations to the Class of 2022!





FACULTY AWARDS

Apgar Award for Teaching Excellence:

Language teacher Cristina Castillo

John C. & Eve S. Bogle Teaching Prize:

Language teacher Tim Devaney

Riether Residential Life Award:

English teacher Douglass Compton

Lillian & Samuel Tedlow Teaching Prize:

History department chair Jason Beck

Headmaster's Faculty Prize:

Science teacher Shelly Mantegna

STUDENT AWARDS

Headmaster's Prize: Archer Benedict &

Sophia Davis

Blair Academy Trophy: $\it Megan \ Donaghy \ \& \$

Keith Delaney

George P. Jenkins '32 Prize: George Gan

Appointment to the United States Naval

Academy: Etka Ayhan, Isabella Dugan &

Avery Robertson

Appointment to the United States Naval Academy Preparatory School: **Daniel Wask**













Blair Reforates 174TH COMMENCEMENT









(lass of 2022

College Matriculation List

Amherst College

Appalachian State University

Barnard College (2)

Bates College

Bentley University

Boston College (3)

Boston University (3)

Bucknell University

Canisius College

Claremont McKenna College

Clemson University

Colby College (2)

Colgate University

Colorado College

Columbia University (4)

Cornell University

Dartmouth College

Davidson College

Denison University

Duke University

Elon University

Emory University (3)

Escola Superior d'Administració i

Direcció d'Empreses (Esade)

Fordham University

Georgetown University (3)

High Point University

Hofstra University

IE University

Lafayette College (3)

Lehigh University (2)

Loyola University Maryland (2)

Montclair State University

Muhlenberg College

New York University (5)

New York University

(Shanghai Campus)

Northeastern University (4)

Old Dominion University (2)

Penn State University (University Park)

Princeton University (5)

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Rhode Island School of Design

Rice University

Scripps College

Smith College

Southern Methodist University (2)

Stanford University

Swarthmore College

Temple University (Japan Campus)

The American University of Paris

The University of Tennessee

(Knoxville) (2)

Trinity College

Tufts University (3)

Union College

United States Naval Academy (4)

Universidad de Navarra

University of California (Santa Barbara)

University of Connecticut

University of Denver

University of Miami (3)

University of North Carolina at

Chapel Hill (3)

University of Notre Dame

University of Oklahoma

University of Pennsylvania (3)

University of Pittsburgh

(Main Campus) (2)

University of Rhode Island

University of Richmond (3)

University of Southern California (2)

University of Virginia

(Main Campus) (5)

Ursinus College

Vanderbilt University

Vassar College

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and

State University (2)

Wake Forest University (2)

Washington and Lee University

Washington University in St. Louis

Williams College

Yale University

STATEOR ADMISSION

BY DEAN OF ADMISSION TEDDY WENNER '96



"As Blair moves
forward into our
next two centuries,
we will continue to
be innovative and
forward-thinking in
our extraordinary
educational offerings."

his year marks 175 years since Blair was founded, and the occasion provides a moment to pause and reflect on our history, as well as look to the future. As Blair moves forward into our next two centuries, we will continue to be innovative and forward-thinking in our extraordinary educational offerings, but we will also remain rooted in the values and traditions that are at the heart of the Blair experience. Strong faculty-student relationships and fostering a community in which students challenge themselves, grow and thrive are the foundation of everything

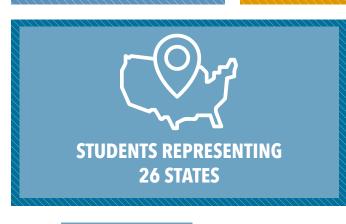
From the beginning, Blair has steadily grown and attracted students in everwidening circles. After opening in 1848 with a handful of students, that first decade saw students hailing from increasing distances from Blairstown; in fact, a catalog for the 10-year anniversary tells us that "The school… was remarkably well patronized, not only by the immediate community, but from adjacent neighborhoods, and numbers even coming from a distance" for the very practical purpose of offering

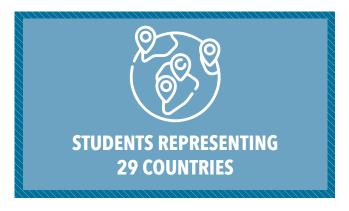
students an excellent education. By 1898, 50 years after Blair's founding, the student body had grown to 100 day and boarding students. In 1923, on our 75th anniversary, 300 boys representing 20 states and two foreign countries made the hilltop their home. Shortly after the Second World War, as the community celebrated 100 years, Blair received an influx of applications from international students and, in turn, accepted applicants from 15 nations. During the 2022-2023 admission cycle, as we kicked off our 175th year, we received a record 1,560 applications, the most in School history, and our acceptance rate dropped to 15 percent. Our incoming class joins a student body that now represents 26 states and 29 countries. Our community is diverse and dynamic, which is critical to carrying forward our mission of knowing our students so we may empower them to more fully understand themselves and the world—and to leave Blair not only as prepared undergraduates, but ultimately as global citizens contributing to the greater good.

Since 1848, Blair has sought to emphasize the importance of character and skill, meeting the challenges of an 38%
RECEIVING
FINANCIAL AID

17%
INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS

15%
ACCEPTANCE
RATE





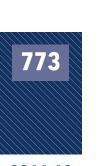
NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS



2001-02



2006-07



2011-12



2016-17



2022-23

ever-changing world and making a difference in it. We will continue to hold those goals close, sustaining the student-centered and relationship-based environment that has been foundational to our success, while also enhancing our facilities, technology and curriculum that best prepare our students for success in college and life.

There are not many institutions of learning that have sustained growth

for 175 years, and I hope you feel, as I do, that our demisemiseptcentennial is something special to celebrate. Thank you to the parents and families who have made Blair a trusted partner in their children's education. As a proud alum myself, I am grateful for the ambassadorship of our alumni body; we would not be the School we are today without your support and engagement. I look forward to celebrating our history

with you this year and, as we enter another busy admission season, attracting and enrolling the next generation of leaders, thinkers and innovators who will bring the best of themselves to Blair and the best of Blair to the world.

TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT



Courtney P. Hyder P'23

Courtney P. Hyder P'23 is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and The Lawrenceville School in New Jersey. She serves as guardian ad litem in the North Carolina court system to protect the needs of abused and neglected children. Courtney has also served for the past six years on the Board of Trustees of Charlotte Latin School and the Greater Western Carolinas Board of Directors of JDRF (which funds research on type 1 diabetes). She lives with her husband, Bill, and their three daughters in Charlotte, North Carolina. Their oldest daughter, Ellie, will graduate from Blair in May 2023.



Daniel H. Smith '09

Daniel H. Smith '09 is a Vice President in the Corporate Strategy Group at Ares Management, where he focuses on driving growth across the organization through acquisitions, balance sheet investments and partnerships. He has worked on numerous Ares initiatives, including the acquisition of Black Creek Group, a real estate investment advisory and distribution business, the formation of a business partnership with Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation and the acquisition of American Capital, Ltd. by Ares Capital Corporation (the business development company managed by Ares). Additionally, Dan supports the company's growth in the private wealth channel through new product development, such as the Ares Private Markets Fund. Prior to joining Ares in 2016, he worked at UBS Investment Bank, specializing in financial institutions. A graduate of the McIntire School at the University of Virginia, where he earned a B.S. in commerce, Dan began his career at BMO Capital Markets. Dan lives in Brooklyn and has remained engaged with Blair as a member of the Board of Governors since 2017.



The Rev. Dr. Nancy Young

The Rev. Dr. Nancy Young graduated with a bachelor of arts in vocal performance and English from Jamestown College (now the University of Jamestown in North Dakota) and earned a master of arts in vocal music along with doctoral work in performance and pedagogy at the University of Maryland. In 1993, Dr. Young graduated from the Princeton Theological Seminary and was ordained before continuing her doctor of ministry studies, which she completed at McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, Illinois. Over the course of her career, she has held various positions as a traditional pastor and coordinator of women's leadership development in the Presbyterian Church in New Jersey, and Louisville, Kentucky. Dr. Young, who retired from active ministry at the end of 2021, lives in Branchville, New Jersey, with her husband, David, who is the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in nearby Newton. They have three adult children, Adam, Micah and Molly, and are proud grandparents to granddaughters, Arden and Juniper.



"The strength of Blair's Board of Trustees is directly attributable to the diversity of experience and talent of its members and their passion for Blair's mission. With their breadth of experience, knowledge and dedication to Blair, our newest Trustees will help move the School forward and support the Board's commitment to providing the best student experience possible."

- Board of Trustees Chair Maria Vinci Savettiere P'17



Alexander J. Sloane '70

Alexander J. Sloane '70 graduated from the University of Virginia in 1974 with a bachelor of arts degree in history and from New York University in 1980 with a master's degree in business administration. He began his investment career in 1980 with the Commodities Corporation in Princeton, New Jersey, a group that is now the hedge fund investment arm of Goldman Sachs. In 1984, Alex joined Lehman Brothers, where he structured alternative investment products for high-net-worth international clients. While there, he launched the first closed-end hedge fund product to be listed on an exchange. In 1990, Alex went on to build Smith Barney's alternative investment business, focusing initially on managed futures. By 1996, he was an executive vice president of Smith Barney and CEO of Smith Barney's commodity pool operator. A year later, he founded the A.J. Sloane and Company LLC, which offers investment banking, trading, dealing and investment advisory services. Upon retiring in 2015, Alex broadened his focus on education as he and his wife, Jeanne, split their time between New York City and California. The Sloanes have given back to Blair generously over the years: A Trustee for more than a decade, class representative since 2007 and the Board's Investment Committee Chair since summer 2022, Alex counts the School among his top philanthropic priorities. Their many gifts to Blair include the Sloane Tennis House and three named tennis courts; the Hardwick Hall clock tower named for beloved history teacher Paul White; and three endowed scholarships. Alex is dedicated to providing scholarship aid to deserving students and, in 2019, pledged a third of his estate to Blair, a planned gift valued at approximately \$10 million-the single largest donation in Blair Academy's history. Alex also serves on the College Foundation Board of the University of Virginia's College of Arts & Sciences and the Board of the De La Salle Academy in Manhattan, which provides high-level education to middle school children who fall below the poverty line.





An artistic rendering of the completed Sigety Alumni House.

Coming Online in Fall 2022: Sigety Alumni House

In the spring of 1877, Blairstown's Main Street rang with the clean sound of hammers knocking and horses clopping down the road, bringing solid wooden beams to the homes rising in the center of town. Blairstown was undergoing a construction boom in anticipation of the Blairstown Railway, recently paid for by railroad magnate John I. Blair. Eagerly awaiting the train's July 4 debut along with the townspeople, Mr. Blair sold a piece of land for the construction of a home that would eventually become a beautiful Italianate residence with a wide wraparound porch overlooking Main Street.

Blair Academy is excited to announce the addition of this notable 3,200-square-foot home to its campus. Formerly known as the Branigan House and once occupied by the founder of Blairstown's fire department, the building serves as a prominent landmark in Blairstown's Historic District.

Once renovation is complete, the Sigety Alumni House, as the structure will be known, will serve as a guesthouse for Blair Academy, complete with a two-bedroom faculty apartment on the first floor and five guest suites featuring private baths on the second and third floors. Available for the use of the extended Blair family, the residence will be open to alumni, parents of current or former students, as well as prospective families who would like to spend more time on campus.

Renovating this historic structure has long been the vision of one Blair alum: Chair of Blair's Buildings and Grounds Committee *Rob Sigety '75* P'16 '18 '20 '21. "I have long felt that there is a real need for faculty and visitor housing," he said. Having traveled to and from Blairstown for nearly 25 years, Mr. Sigety recognized the need to accommodate alumni and visitors to Blair, as well as to continue providing the housing that helps recruit and support accomplished faculty. The project also reflects Mr. Sigety's ongoing efforts to restore structures around campus and Blairstown that are in need of improvement.

Under the guidance of Mr. Sigety and his Building and Grounds Committee colleagues, Blair's Board in recent years has overseen the transformation of the maintenance-and-grounds complex located at the base of Blair's campus, as well as the historic Kathleen House that overlooks downtown Main Street, enhancing the viewshed as visitors enter and exit the School.

Opening in late 2022, the new Alumni House will add another piece to the puzzle. "It's great that we are not only helping our faculty and alumni, but also restoring a piece of New Jersey history that needed it," noted Mr. Sigety.

The restoration and renovation of the Sigety Alumni House is being funded entirely through generous philanthropic gifts. For more information about naming opportunities and supporting the School community with this project, please contact Chief Advancement Officer Craig Hall at hallc@blair.edu or (908) 362-2032.

Hoby House Offers 'Safe' Retreat as a Faculty Home



Blair Trustee Hoby Van

In Baltimore, the SpringHill Suites by Marriott uses its historic bank vault as a boardroom. In Laurel, Mississippi, the cool recesses of the former First National Bank vault are now stacked to the

Deusen '54 and his wife, Nancy. ceiling with vintage merlot, transformed into a wine cellar. As more Americans embrace digital banking, many financial institutions have been forced to shrink their brick-and-mortar presence, and as a result, many communities have turned to repurposing historic banks and their iconic vaults.

When Blair Trustee Hoby Van Deusen '54 and his wife, Nancy, both former bankers, saw that the former First National Bank on Main Street in Blairstown was available, the opportunity struck them. "For years, we had always peeked in the window and appreciated what an attractive building it was while it was on the market," explained Mr. Van Deusen. "This seemed like the perfect way to help support Blair's housing needs and renovate a beautiful building."

Blair Academy is pleased to announce the addition of this beautifully restored 1,700-square-foot, two-bedroom faculty apartment. Located at 16 Main Street, the renovated building furthers Blair's strategic priorities of providing excellent faculty housing on or very near campus while also continuing the tradition of improving downtown Blairstown.

Home to the former First National Bank of Blairstown, the site has a rich history, which is part of what attracted Mr. and Mrs. Van Deusen to the project. "We led the establishment of the historic district in Watertown, Connecticut, so we are very interested in historic buildings, and we loved this one because of its beautiful architecture," said Mrs. Van Deusen. Originally opened in 1911, the bank's notable architectural features include an ornate marble facade supported by three polished columns of Vermont granite. Inside, a massive vault manufactured by the Diebold Safe and Lock Company of New York sits, complete with iconic swirling locks, steel cylindrical bolts and 100 safedeposit boxes, which were modern innovations in 1911. Both



The exterior of "Hoby House," Blair's newest faculty housing on Main Street in Blairstown.

the building's exterior and the vault have been retained; the vault now doubles as a new and unique office.

Named "Hoby House," the project will be funded entirely through philanthropic gifts, including a very generous lead gift from the Van Deusens. The renovated two-story building features two bedrooms, living room, dining area, sitting area, kitchen and office inside the vault, as well as a patio with a stone path to campus.

Head of School Peter G. Curran, who will oversee the building's dedication this fall, notes that Blair has a long history of teachers who dedicate themselves deeply to their students, getting to know them well, investing in their well-being and developing their intellectual curiosity. Faculty accommodations like Hoby House make it possible to attract and support those incredible individuals.

And, not unlike old factories converted into airy urban lofts, Hoby House's refurbished interior offers Blair teachers a unique, modern take on one of Main Street's historic gems. The new building provides the community with a highly coveted living space, for, as Mr. Van Deusen puts it, "No other faculty in the country will live in a vault!"



Class of 2022 Scholarship Breaks Records

When Alice Sun P'22 thinks back to her humble beginnings in China, she never imagined that her daughter would one day work on a cure for Alzheimer's disease with labs across the globe during high school. "The opportunity for a young woman to collaborate and contribute to a STEM discipline was unheard of during my childhood," she recalls. Inspired by the work her daughter, *MeiMei Xue* '22, undertook as part of Blair's Integrated Science Research course, Ms. Sun donated \$50,000 to the Blair Class of 2022 scholarship in the hopes of connecting

other students, who would not otherwise have access to a Blair education, to opportunities like these.

"For Blair to be the accelerant of this change, in so many young people, and a better future, engenders a special place in our family's heart," Ms. Sun explains. "We only hope our gift serves as an echo...and ripple...for many years, and generations of Blair alumni, to come!"

Indeed, it will. Thanks to the incredible generosity of parents like Ms. Sun, as well as Shibo Jiang and Yaping Gao P'22 '22, who made a donation to

Blair in the amount of \$200,000, the Class of 2022 raised a record-breaking \$374,310 for its scholarship.

"We are very fortunate to have generous parents and friends of the School who value philanthropy and understand that it makes a huge difference in being able to offer deserving students the opportunity to attend Blair and take advantage of all the School has to offer," says Associate Director of Advancement Susan Long.

Since the inception of the seniorclass scholarship in 2019, generous



Alice Sun and her daughter, *MeiMei Xue '22*, celebrate a moment together at Commencement in May.

members of the Blair community have donated more than \$1 million. "That's life-changing for students who wouldn't otherwise be able to afford a Blair education," says Chief Advancement Officer Craig Hall. Given the continued momentum in support of the seniorclass gift, its positive impact on student scholarships at Blair and the example that is imparted to students about the value of philanthropy, Blair will continue the effort for future classes. Ms. Sun, for one, is glad for that.

"As a mother, I appreciate everything Blair has offered to MeiMei, and I am committing myself to fully continuing to support this community. I believe that is the best way to educate MeiMei that she has more to give the world. Thanks to Blair, while she is working to make herself better, at the same time, she is helping other people around her grow to be better, too."

Bogle Brothers Scholarship Luncheon

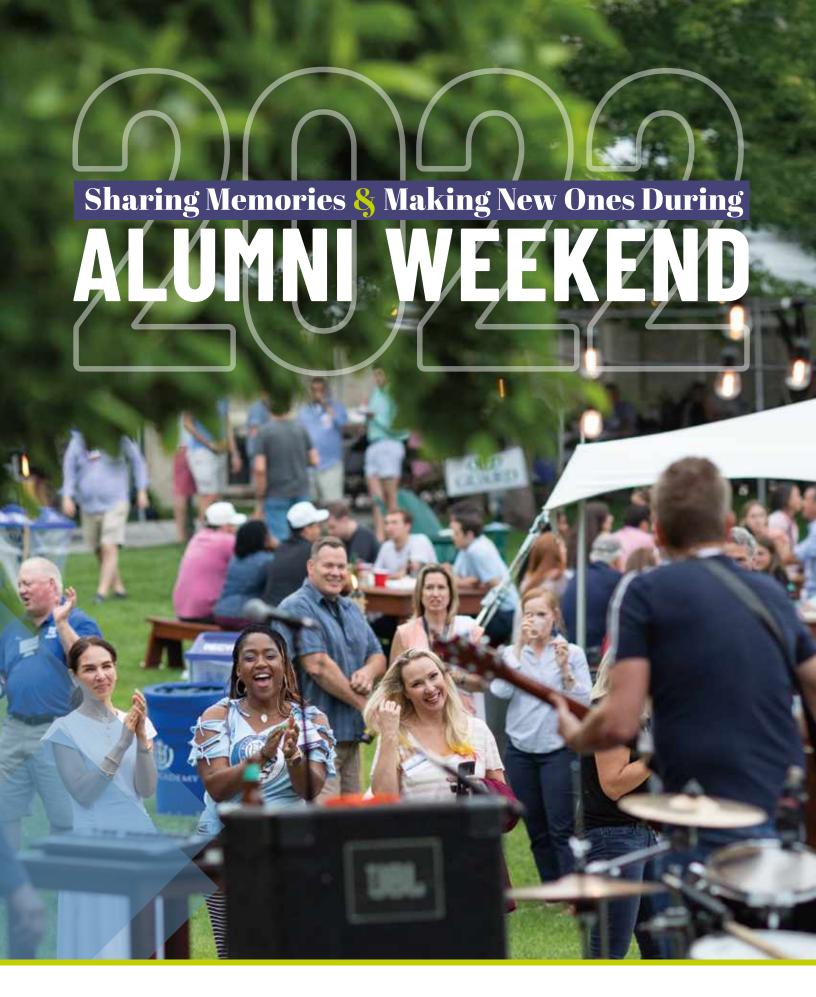
Established in 1968, the Bogle Brothers Scholars Program has, for over 50 years, provided the gift of a Blair education to more than 150 students. Blair Board of Trustees Chairman Emeritus *Jack Bogle '47* delighted in meeting his scholars at an annual luncheon and kept in touch with many of them long after graduation. Since Jack's passing in 2019, his brother, *Bud Bogle '45*, has continued that tradition.

On May 25, Bud hosted the Bogle Brothers Scholarship luncheon at Sharpe House, welcoming former scholars *Singleton Cox '90, Kristen (Bogart) Salmon '01, Emmanuel Bello '04* and *Yonny Reichel '12*, along with incoming Board of Trustees Chair Maria Vinci Savettiere P'17 and 11 current scholarship recipients. Using the opportunity to create deeper connections between students and alumni, attendees shared their Blair memories, as well as their plans for the future, over finger sandwiches and sun tea.

"This is always a terrific opportunity to network and allow these students and alumni the chance to connect and learn more about one another. We are thrilled to keep this tradition alive and honor Jack Bogle's life and legacy," said Chief Advancement Officer Craig Hall. ■



From left to right, **Yonny Reichel '12**, former Trustee **Singleton Cox '90**, **Bud Bogle '45**, **Kristen (Bogart) Salmon '01** and Chair of the Blair Board of Trustees Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee **Emmanuel Bello '04** pose in front of Sharpe House.





The 2022 Peachey Awards were presented to outstanding volunteers: (from left to right) Class Representative of the Year, **Darryl De**Marzio '92; Outstanding Class Correspondents, **Christy Burkart**'97 and **Ryan Pagotto '97**; Head of School Peter Curran; and Alumni Volunteer of the Year, **Kawanzaa (Upshaw) King '92**.



During Alumni Weekend, *Tim Launders '20* and *Spencer Beriont '11* face off in the alumni lacrosse game.





Pictured with Head of School Peter Curran and his wife, Sarah, the Class of 1972 celebrated their 50th reunion. From left to right, first row: *Kurt Kosack, Rob Zirkle Jr.*, Sarah and Peter Curran, *Greg "Wash" Washburn* and *Ken Cramer*. Second row: *Steve Romano, Carl Cramer, Doug Liva Sr.* and *Bob Plunkett*. Third row: *Billy Levine, Rick Sutliff Jr.* and *Leo Bonisese Jr*.

Blair alumni returned to campus in June, arriving by plane, train and car for Alumni Weekend 2022, an event during which former Buccaneers reconnected on the hilltop during three days of spirited celebration.

Approximately 500 alumni and their families came together to attend the events beginning Friday, June 10, and concluding Sunday, June 12. Among them was the Class of 1972, which was celebrating its 50th reunion and generously named the Class of 1972 Scholarship in honor of this milestone. On Friday evening, members of the class reflected on the fact that they have raised children, watched their families grow, enjoyed long professional careers, and through all of that time, many have stayed connected to the School and their classmates.

At the kickoff barbecue by Blair Lake, Head of School Peter G. Curran conferred diplomas to *Barbara McClelland '72* and *H. Seth Romanow '72* (see page 128 in Class Notes), and Blair Board of Governors President *Bob Van Stone '69* inducted the newest members into "The Old Guard," a lauded society of alumni celebrating their 50th reunion and older. Bob, whose 50-year reunion occurred three years ago, continues coming back to Alumni Weekend because, "It's difficult to describe

what Blair means. As an institution and as a community, it gets into you and lasts a lifetime. I'm more than happy to come back and help other alumni experience that."

While members of the Class of 1972 reunited for their weekend of camaraderie, ceremony and celebration, other alumni took to Blair's rolling golf course, teeing off in Friday's golf scramble before sampling a variety of activities. They also got creative in the maker space and attended classes with veteran faculty in Engineering and Integrated Science Research before gathering with old friends for an evening under the lights with a live band. Relaxing to the music of Avenue 16 and *Nicole (Nicusanti) Tipton '93*, attendees capped off the evening with a fantastic fireworks display.

Saturday's schedule of events featured some tried-and-true Blair traditions—and a new one. Honoring a tradition that began seven years ago, alumni attended the Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony, recognizing **John H. Dumont '59, David Waddell '76, Major Ray Mendoza '87,** the 1996-1997 Blair girls' tennis team, **Michael Kerrigan '03** and **Temi Fagbenle '11** for their achievements in athletics (see page 46). Introducing a new tradition, Mr. Curran then





The 2022 Athletic Hall of Fame inductees are (from left to right) tennis captain Sarah Apgar '98 and Coach Todd Smith '90 representing the 1996-1997 Blair girls' tennis team, David "Moochie" Waddell '76, Michael Kerrigan '03, Temitope (Temi) Fagbenle '11, John Dumont '59 and Blair Athletic Director Paul Clavel '88.

Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2022

The Blair Athletic Hall of Fame Committee is pleased to announce the athletes chosen for the Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2022: **John H. Dumont '59, David Waddell '76,** Major **Ray Mendoza '87,** the 1996-1997 Blair girls' tennis team, **Michael Kerrigan '03** and **Temi Fagbenle '11.**

"We have an outstanding group of individuals to induct into the Blair Athletic Hall of Fame," notes Director of Athletics **Paul Clavel '88**. "Their respective accomplishments are very impressive, and I am so excited to honor and recognize these former Blair student-athletes. The legacy that they have left on the Blair athletic program continues to resonate throughout our athletic teams."

In keeping with the School's tradition of athletic excellence, Blair established the Hall of Fame in 2016 to honor the accomplishments of its alumni

and coaches. To be considered, nominees must have exhibited the highest caliber of athletic accomplishment during their time at Blair and have been outstanding members of the School community in the areas of scholastic achievement, citizenship, integrity and moral character. Selection is based primarily on athletic accomplishments while a Blair student or coach, although subsequent achievement in athletics may be considered. Alumni nominees become eligible for the Hall of Fame in the 10th year following their graduation, while coaches become eligible after their retirement from Blair.

Joining the ranks of Blair's greatest Buccaneers, these former players were celebrated during an Alumni Weekend induction ceremony on Saturday, June 11, 2022.



The Class of 1997 came together to celebrate its 25th reunion. (From left to right) Sam Martin, Tanner Homlish, Ryan Pagotto, Victoria Bailey, Michael McDonald, Christy Burkart, Kevin Recor, Laura Inkeles, Christina Almeida, Joanna Schwartz and Samantha Ranaghan.



Classmates from 2011 **Maggie Hoffman, Temi Fagbenle, Anu Akinbamidele, Mikal Davis-West** and **Marjory Kling** enjoyed the festivities.



(Left to right) Richard Liuzzi '77, Laura (Cochran)
Morris '75, Bob Van Stone '69, Anne Cramer '75, Chief
Advancement Officer Craig Hall and Norm Beatty '58 and
attendees enjoyed a laugh together during the Athletic
Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony.

welcomed the inaugural class of Blair's Arts Guild: **John Sebastian '62, Dick Boak '68, Adam Shoenfeld '92, Tasha Williams-Arroyo '92, Maggie Harding '07** and Rita
Baragona P'92 '95 (see page 54).

In addition to observances honoring Blair's distinguished alumni in the fields of athletics and the arts, the reunion presented ample opportunity for former Bucs to simply spend time with friends. Whether batting once more behind home plate, lifting one's voice in song with the alumni choir or handpainting pottery to be donated to local nonprofit Project Self-Sufficiency, the weekend offered something for everyone.

"This weekend brought out everyone's Blair spirit," noted former Director of Alumni Relations Shaunna Murphy. "I love hearing the laughter of old friends reconnecting and realizing that, even after 50 years, Blair memories remain fresh. Blair really is so much more than a place. It is a community of friends and a lifelong experience. I loved seeing our alumni embrace that and enjoy every moment."

During the Head of School Assembly, Mr. Curran shared with attendees a slideshow that brought the 2021-2022 school year to life, recognized the weekend's awardees (see photo on page 45 and box on page 49) and thanked

the Class of 1962 for its incredible efforts to raise funds to support their scholarship, renamed in honor of beloved classmate and longtime Blair faculty member, **Dennis Peachey '62**, who passed away in 2020. Since changing the name, they have raised nearly \$150,000 in Dennis' honor, bringing the scholarship total to more than \$260,000.

MANY THANKS FOR THE MOUTH-WATERING CATERING & BEVERAGES PROVIDED BY:

Tom Kehoe '83, Yards Brewing Company
Melissa Matarazzo '93, Serena Matarazzo '96,
Robin Matarazzo '97 & Sadie Matarazzo
Smith '01, Four Sisters Winery
Mark McLean '98, Remarkable Cuisine
Emily Downs '02, Emily's Hearth
Shaun Mehtani '02, Mehndi
Melissa Fairchild Clark '05, Fairchild's Fromage
Matt Gallira '08, Big Mozz



The Class of 1962 celebrated a new record for 60th-reunion giving with a total gift of \$705,562 and renamed the class scholarship in memory of beloved classmate, *Dennis Peachey '62*.



Hundreds of alumni arrived on Blair's campus in June, ready to meet up with old friends, reminisce about their school days and enjoy a weekend full of programs and festivities. This year's alumni parade was led by **Hoby '54** and his wife, Nancy Van Deusen.

2022 Alumnus of the Year Carl Cramer '72

His colleagues and veteran golfers on the putting green at the Northampton Country Club in Easton, Pennsylvania, know him for his calming influence. They call him "the Buddha," but the Blair community knows that Carl Cramer is much more than his mindfulness and wisdom. Carl Cramer is a man who gets things done.

Each year, Blair Academy awards the Alumnus of the Year to the single former student who best exemplifies outstanding and dedicated service to the School. In the five decades since he graduated from Blair, few alumni have given their time and experience to support Blair's mission as charitably and consistently as Carl.

As a generous benefactor, devoted class representative, former member of the Board of Governors and an energetic Blair ambassador, Carl has been instrumental in so many activities that bring our community together. All those who have participated in Alumni Weekend's bicycle tour through the bucolic New Jersey countryside or cheered on the next generation of Bucs racing across Underwood Field during a varsity soccer game have enjoyed the fruits of Carl's labors. If you have reunited with a friend to swing a club at Blair's Alumni Weekend golf tournament, the Blair Cup, you too have witnessed Carl's dedicated and steady work outside the limelight. Never one to seek recognition, Carl dedicates his time and effort to pay forward his own Blair experience and to honor his family's long legacy at the School.

ADDITIONAL ALUMNI HONORED INCLUDE:

Alumni Volunteer of the Year:

Kawanzaa (Upshaw) King '92

Class Correspondents of the Year:

Christy Burkart '97 & Ryan Pagotto '97

Class Representative of the Year:

Darryl De Marzio '92

Outstanding Reunion Committee: Class of 1982

From the time that Carl entered the gates of Blair Academy in the fall of 1968, his steadfast determination to work hard and his

eagerness to lend a hand inspired many who met him. Carl made a deep impression on Director of Admission Peter Hahn, who wrote: "I have never felt as certain about the prospects of success for a youngster...as I do about Carl. He works like the dickens in academics and extracurriculars and is a positive influence on campus." A natural leader, Carl volunteered his time while on the hilltop, serving as prefect for the day boys, table foot at formal dinners, and lending his teammates on the golf course and cross country team a hand whenever it was needed.

After matriculating at Colgate University and receiving a bachelor's degree in economics in 1976, Carl embarked on a successful career in corporate real estate. As a manager for Air Products & Chemicals for over 40 years, he traveled the globe, managing the acquisitions of land, office space and utilities for his organization, while raising a family with his wife, Jill. Through it all, he remained deeply loyal to his alma mater.

Elected to the Board of Governors in 2014, Carl visited the hilltop frequently as a member to learn of the newest information about Blair and share it with his classmates. Quick to build connections with members of the community, Carl has not hesitated to send an email, make a call or, better yet, meet up on his favorite green in the name of strengthening the Blair network.

Fellow Board of Governors member **Bob Van Stone '69**, who was a day boy prefect when Carl started at Blair, sums up his friend best: "Anything that you would ask Carl to do, he will do it. You can't ask for a better friend or alumnus than Carl."

As he celebrated his 50th reunion this year, it is with great pride that we award the 2022 Alumnus of the Year to a man whose fidelity and quiet acts of service have defined every decade of his relationship with Blair: Carl Cramer.



Blair Hosts Second Annual Women's Symposium

There was a period in *Kawanzaa (Upshaw) King '92's*life when she was intently searching for her purpose.
"Serendipitously," she remembers, "my search happened to turn up my senior yearbook. I came across a quote from my classmates who voted me 'Most Likely to Become the Next Oprah Winfrey." That moment started Ms. King on a course that would lead her to create her own business with a mission to empower women, girls (and the men who support them) to lead purposeful lives.

On March 26, Ms. King joined an all-star cast of panelists at Blair to discuss her experience at the second annual Blair Women's Symposium. "The goal of the symposium is to motivate, uplift and connect Blair alums and parents through conversation and networking opportunities," explained former Director of Alumni Relations Shaunna Murphy. Discussing topics such as leadership, wellness, mindset, marketing and financial health, symposium

attendees had the opportunity to learn from diverse, successful panelists around a variety of topics that affect women.

"Women are reaching higher and deeper than ever before in business," noted Mrs. Murphy. "Having the support of—and collaborating with—other female leaders who have paved the way can boost that growth and open doors."

With that in mind, the Blair Women's Symposium started in 2021 as a means to connect women in the community with others who can identify with the struggles many women face along their career paths, motivate one another with their personal perspectives, and not only share advice and strategies to guide the way but also establish a network of support.

This year, the women's symposium took the form of fireside chats and moderated discussions with panelists, along with welcome and generous attendee participation.











Showcasing women from all corners of the Blair community, the day's lineup included:

Kawanzaa (Upshaw) King '92, owner & principal consultant for Harvest Partners

Melissa Matarazzo '93, principal & coach of Huron Studer Education

Leigh Aschoff '98, person-centered healing practitioner

Ashley Thompson '08, co-creator & CEO of MUSH

Evelyn Tilney '05, sales associate at Kienlen Lattmann Sotheby's International Realty

Quinn Kennedy '13, senior associate, Investor Partners Group at Golub Capital

Rocky Granahan P'24, managing director & head of institutional relationship management for State Street Global Advisors

Over the course of the event, leaders sought to give attendees not only the benefit of their experience but also the tools and strategies to approach a variety of issues that can prove difficult in one's career, such as finding balance and moderation, becoming comfortable with disappointment and saying no, and the importance of financial literacy and the role it plays in creating long-term stability for many women.

Keynote speaker *Melissa Matarazzo '93* noted that one gift we can give our female colleagues is mentorship and sponsorship, becoming personally invested in and taking positive steps to position others to develop and advance. "When I was first a leader, it was about getting things done," Ms. Matarazzo told the audience, "but now I think leadership is really about cultivation."

To that end, Mrs. Murphy hopes that guests will be inspired by this year's symposium and pay it forward. "The symposium is about empowering one another and taking the steps to achieve our goals," she reflected. "I am delighted that we were able to bring together so many accomplished professionals to do that."



Third Annual Finance Summit in NYC Focuses on Blockchain Technology

An event that has been a major success since its launch in 2019, the annual Blair Finance Industry Summit took place for the third time on March 31 in New York City. Former Board of Trustees Chair Doug Kimmelman P'12 '13 '15 '22 and Head of School Peter G. Curran invited alumni, parents and friends of Blair to take part in an evening discussion led by industry specialists in the financial sector as they explored blockchain technology and its impacts on decentralized finance, cryptocurrency and non-fungible tokens (NFTs). What began as an hour-long conversation with the featured panelists quickly turned into an engaging question-and-answer session followed by a cocktail reception where participants networked, mingled and shared their unique perspectives.

Mr. Kimmelman, founder of Energy Capital Partners, started the event with a welcoming address before he and co-moderator Elizabeth Crain P'24 introduced the program's guests, four meritorious Blair alumni: **Tommy Kimmelman '15**, head of artist relations at Nifty Gateway; **Stephen Patane '09**, bitcoin expert on the Fidelity Digital Assets team at Fidelity Investments; **Keefer Taylor '09**, founder of Hover Labs and Tessellated Geometry; and **Graham Williams '09**, expert in cryptocurrency at Cryptocurrency Derivatives Exchange.

Together, the speakers delved into blockchain technology, a revolutionary concept whereby technology is used to create a system to record information that is nearly impossible to change, hack or cheat. A blockchain, essentially, is a digital ledger of transactions that can be duplicated and distributed across an entire network of computer systems that also participate in the blockchain.

Mr. Kimmelman stressed that "a secure network is a must for consumers to have trust and faith in how their digitized information and assets are held." During the discussion, panelists pointed out additional advantages enabled by blockchain, such as giving consumers an immediacy currently impossible with traditional fund transfers and reducing the risk of theft. "No one can walk up to you and steal your crypto, the way they can your credit card number," explained Mr. Williams. "Blockchains are opening up transparency that doesn't exist now," he added. "We now have the ability to have a public ledger of transactions that can be viewed by anyone across the globe, at any time, for the purpose of verifying those funds exist....That's a massive paradigm shift. The future of being able to track money is based in crypto."









Finance Summit moderators and panelists included:

Doug Kimmelman P'12 '13 '15 '22, Blair Academy's 19th Board Chair, & Energy Capital Partners founder & senior partner

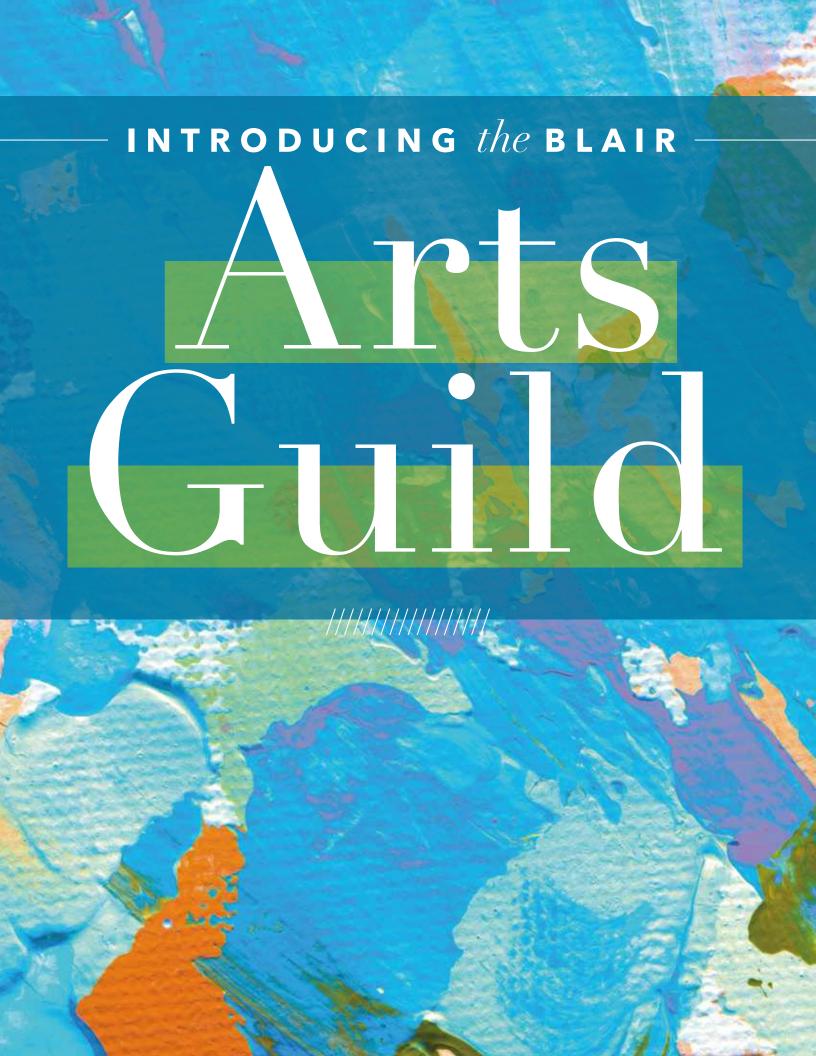
Elizabeth Crain P'24, chief operating officer & founding partner at Moelis & Company

Tommy Kimmelman '15, head of artist relations at Nifty Gateway

Keefer Taylor '09, founder of Hover Labs & Tessellated Geometry

Stephen Patane '09, professional in bitcoin for the Fidelity Digital Assets team at Fidelity Investments

Graham Williams '09, expert in cryptocurrency at Cryptocurrency Derivatives Exchange





Congratulations to Arts Guild inductees (from left to right): Adam Shoenfeld '92, Tasha Williams-Arroyo '92, John Sebastian '62, Maggie Harding '07 and Rita Baragona P'92 '95. (Not pictured: Dick Boak '68.)

IN 2022, Blair Academy created an Arts Guild to recognize and celebrate the outstanding artistic achievements and contributions of its alumni and former faculty. Nominees were evaluated on their involvement and achievements in the fine arts while at Blair, as well as their accomplishments in the visual or performing arts after graduation.

Performing arts department chair Jennifer Pagotto explains that the Arts Guild seeks to highlight how students' interest in the arts, which sparks in school, can bloom as they continue in life. "By creating an Arts Guild, we are hopefully helping draw attention not just to the arts here, but how much our inductees accomplish beyond the bounds of Blair."

Led by fine arts department chair Kate Sykes and Mrs. Pagotto, a steering committee considered more than 70 nominees for the Guild's inaugural class. Nominees must have

been outstanding members of the School community in the areas of scholastic achievement, citizenship, integrity and moral character. Mrs. Sykes notes, "These artists brought a creative spirit not only in the arts classes where they showed a mastery of their craft and a strong work ethic, but certainly to the community at large."

"Artists and performers create empathy for others and a sense of belonging to a greater community," she elaborates. "They create reasons for people to come together to enjoy and celebrate the beauty, wonder, and troubles of our world and can lead the discourse about what matters in life. These inductees are celebrating life with their artistic work and I look forward to celebrating them!"

Here, we are proud to introduce the Arts Guild's inaugural class.

John Sebastian '62



reenwich Village native John Sebastian's contribution to modern music is unparalleled. The multi-instrumentalist singer-songwriter has graced a wide spectrum of styles through his 60 years in music. John's performances on records for Bob Dylan ("Bringing It All Back Home") and The Doors (harmonica on "Roadhouse Blues") are the stuff of legend. John was the co-founder of the Lovin' Spoonful, often referred to as the American Beatles, who scored an incredible seven huge hits from 1965 to 1969, including "Daydream," "Summer in the City" and "Do You Believe in Magic."

After the Lovin' Spoonful disbanded in early 1969, John went solo and, by August of that year, was immortalized for his performance at the Woodstock Music and Art Fair and in the Warner Bros. movie *Woodstock*. The film chronicled his impromptu performance before an audience of 400,000 on August 16, 1969.

In 1975, John's self-penned solo hit, "Welcome Back" became the theme for the perennial sitcom *Welcome Back, Kotter*: The song soared to the top of the charts to again weave his music into the fabric of our popular culture. His songs have been covered by hundreds of artists and he continues to write, tour, record, and make significant contributions to modern culture and is long considered the spokesperson for his generation.

(Biography courtesy of johnbsebastian.com.)



Dick Boak '68

Illustrator, woodworker, author and musician *Dick Boak '68* "nearly lost his eyesight at the age of 6, and he has concerned himself with visual details ever since." As a Blair student, Dick was well known for his creative writing and his exquisitely detailed pen-and-ink drawings, a talent he continued to cultivate as an art instructor at the School from 1972 to 1973 and at the Stowe School in Vermont, where he taught subjects ranging from illustration to architecture to soccer.

In 1973, Dick discovered C.F. Martin & Co., a renowned maker of acoustic guitars. Hired in 1976 as a design draftsman, Dick embarked upon his 42-year career, helping to conceptualize and bring to life more than 100 signature guitar collaborations with the top musical talents of our time. His six acclaimed books capture the stories of his collaborations with Eric Clapton, Paul Simon, Joan Baez, Willie Nelson, Johnny Cash, Jimmy Buffett, Mark Knopfler and many others. Retired since 2018, Dick has continued working as a freelance pointillist illustrator, archiving for his esteemed neighbor Mario Andretti, building 10 acoustic guitars in his workshop and recording two CDs of primarily original music.



Adam Shoenfeld '92



Professional guitarist, songwriter and producer *Adam Shoenfeld '92* is one of the nation's premier studio musicians. Based in Nashville, Tennessee, he specializes in modern country music, and his guitar musicianship has been featured on over 400 albums, including those by superstars Luke Bryan, Keith Urban, Blake Shelton, Rascal Flatts and many others.

As lead guitarist for music duo Big & Rich, Adam performed on the band's debut album, "Horse of a Different Color," which reached the top of the Billboard Country Albums Chart, and has played on every Big & Rich album to date, co-authoring many of their hits, including "Real World" and "High Five."

After lending his signature sound to the song "Hick Town" on country star Jason Aldean's debut album, Adam secured the position of musical director and lead guitarist on every other Aldean release to date. For the last nine years, Adam has balanced studio work with touring with Tim McGraw's band. A seven-time nominee for the Academy of Country Music's Guitar Player of the Year, he has played on over 45 number-one songs, including Faith Hill's hit, "Mississippi Girl." His critically acclaimed solo debut album, "All the Birds Sing," was released this January.

Tasha Williams-Arroyo '92



During her time at Blair, performing artist *Tasha Williams-Arroyo* '92 distinguished herself in productions of *Our Town* and *Grease*, as a performer and choreographer for the Blair Academy Dancers and as stage manager for a variety of productions. After studying performing arts at Fordham University, she embarked upon a successful career in local and regional theatre and television, scoring roles as an actress, singer and dancer, starring as Ruth Younger in *A Raisin in the Sun* and as Mrs. Muller in *Doubt*, a role for which she won the NJACT Perry Award for Outstanding Featured Actress in a play. She recently portrayed Deloris Van Cartier in interACT Theatre's *Sister Act-The Musical*, and she is the proud recipient of interACT's Audience Favorite Award in 2017 and 2019. As the resident director of youth productions for interACT Theatre Productions, Tasha runs a drama camp for children, and in her free time, the versatile artist performs with her band, Flip Da Skrip.

Rita Baragona P'92 '95



onsummate artist and beloved former art department chair Rita Baragona has influenced countless students with her passionate commitment to teaching art. Joining Blair's faculty in 1989, she inspired a generation of students with lessons in painting, drawing and the importance of art in one's life in addition to serving as the Romano Gallery's curator and assistant director. Devoting herself to expanding the quality and breadth of the art department, Rita propelled the program to be competitive with fine arts programs across the country during her 24 years at Blair. She continues to be affiliated with the School, painting campus scenes to commemorate faculty and staff with 25 years of service to Blair.

A graduate of Carnegie Mellon University and New York University, Rita has been a professional artist since 1972 and has held 12 solo exhibitions at the Bowery Gallery in New York City. These shows have been positively reviewed in the Examiner.com, *Art in America, The New Criterion* and the *New Republic*, among others. In *Art in America*, Jed Perl wrote, "What a nature painter must do is impose some human logic or private poetry on the natural world….By this measure, Rita Baragona is a very interesting painter." She remains an active member of the arts community, exhibiting her paintings in single and group shows throughout the United States, including the Dutot Museum in Pennsylvania and Fairleigh Dickinson in New Jersey. This season, her work can be seen at Wright University in Ohio, the Gamut Gallery in Pennsylvania and Blair's Romano Gallery.

Maggie Harding '07

Jewelry artist *Maggie Harding '07* first drew the attention of her fine arts teachers at Blair, who noted that she was "a natural" with "superb" talent, excelling in her drawing, ceramics and art portfolio classes. Falling in love with metalwork and textiles while studying in Florence, Italy, Maggie matriculated at Skidmore College, graduating with a degree in studio art in 2011. After college, she embarked upon a career selling batik textiles that were often enriched with lace and hand-embroidery before transitioning her art back into metalsmithing. Today, working out of her studio in Saratoga Springs, New York, Maggie lovingly crafts each piece of artisanal jewelry by hand using silver, gold and gemstones. She is a featured designer at the Silverado Jewelry Gallery of Saratoga. ■







Oh, the Places You'll Go: Mr. Manni & Blair's Vocal Music Program

Blair's Director of Vocal Music Ryan Manni sat in the music room of the Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts after wrapping up a day of teaching, his fingers resting on the piano. As he looked around the room, he felt satisfied with the transformation. The risers, long a staple of many music rooms, had been removed to allow students more movement. As he reflected on the day's classes, Mr. Manni saw evidence that his plan was working. The removal of the risers meant students were moving more. They were experimenting with their musicianship and building new connections with one another. Most importantly, he thought, he saw students singing with an abundance of joy.

A summa cum laude graduate of Westminster Choir College, Mr. Manni came to Blair in 2016 and brought rich musical experience with him. He had studied with leading choral conductors and was a member of the Grammy-nominated Westminster Williamson Voices and Symphonic Choir. He had performed on some of the world's great stages, including Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center, and participated as a full conductor at the Choral Institute at Oxford. He felt excited at the prospect of directing Blair's singing groups—the Singers, Sopralti, Treble Choir, Blairitones and Chamber Choir—and prepared to step

into the role of teacher of Blair's AP Music Theory and Digital Music classes. What Mr. Manni did not expect, he says, was to be given such broad support to develop the School's musical programs. "This position has been a dream come true to me," he explains. "I've had pedagogical autonomy to create a program and to work in a place that supports the choices I make. They give me a wide berth to choose what we can do."

A Vision Takes Root

Changing the physical layout of the music room has been just a small part of Mr. Manni's expansive vision for the vocal program at Blair; he has no shortage of ideas to spur his students' growth. Mr. Manni broke the choir into high and low voice ensembles, for example, giving vocalists the option to work in more groups and be challenged. Shortly after he assumed his new role as Director of Vocal Music, he also created the position of student conductor, giving students leadership opportunities.

"I have a student-centered teaching philosophy," he explains.

"The students are in partnership with me, and it's really important to give them ownership over their work. As part of that, students elect their own student conductor." Blair's vocalists, Mr. Manni

notes, have consistently recognized great musicianship in the students they have chosen to lead. This year, the Singers chose *Sadie Donnelly '22* to lead "Over the Rainbow" during the seniors' final performance, the Spring Concert.

With the support of the administration, Mr. Manni also established a digital music program at the School, hoping to challenge students, both technically and conceptually, to create, record and produce their own music. One of the course's first digital music graduates, *Wils Acker '19*, Mr. Manni proudly relays, just released his first professionally produced album. Growing each year, Digital Music has become one of the performing arts department's more popular courses as students escape to the School's recording studio and use software such as Logic ProX to produce professional-quality recordings. "We have a professional recording studio," Mr. Manni notes with a wide smile. "And our students create amazing music in it. How many high schools can say that?"

Oh, the Places You'll Go

As for where he sees the music program going, Mr. Manni would like to focus on the Singers in the upcoming academic year. Long the centerpiece of the vocal music program, the Singers hold a special place in Mr. Manni's heart. "Choir is what I love to do, and COVID really affected us," he reflects. "We found ways to make music during the pandemic, but I would like to focus on getting us back to where we were."

In the past, the Singers have taken an international tour every three years, so that, at least once in their Blair career, vocalists get the benefit of performing on an international stage. In 2018, Blair musicians performed in England, traveling to Oxford, Cambridge, Ely and London, creating harmonies in ancient cathedrals and studying under Oxford University professor Dr. James Whitbourn, who is also a Grammynominated composer and conductor.

Mr. Manni is excited to announce that, during the 2022-2023 year, the Singers, as well as musicians from Blair's orchestras and bands, will return to form—and Europe. With an itinerary that includes England and France, Mr. Manni notes, "I'm really looking forward to gracing those stages again, making music that is impactful to the audience and meaningful to us."

Many Hats & Talents

A Renaissance man, Mr. Manni wears many hats at Blair: He is a choir conductor, digital music producer and band accompanist.



Whether serving his students as travel agent, music theory guru or directing them in the techniques that make vocal performances stand out, Mr. Manni finds his simple role of teacher is the one that brings him the most satisfaction. "My goal as a teacher is to serve the students," he says. "I'm here to help them meet their goals."

And his students appreciate that. While there is no doubt that Mr. Manni's creative vision is inextricably linked to the growth of Blair's music programs, soprano *Nikki Kirkwood '22* feels that it is Mr. Manni's infectious energy, and his ability to make students feel seen and supported, that she will remember most from her four years in Blair's vocal program. That and how, when he takes to the podium, Mr. Manni uses his whole carriage to communicate. "Some conductors use their hands, but Mr. Manni uses his whole body. He'll stand on one leg when the music swells, and when the music gets louder, his foot comes up," she says. "You can just see that he feels the music and loves what he does. And when he says 'Amen, friends'? That's his special way of saying we did that very well."

Seated behind his piano, reflecting at the end of a long day on how the vocal program has grown since he joined the faculty in 2016, Mr. Manni appears thoughtful. While the physical transformation of the music room has brought benefits, he says, it is the transformation of students that stands out most to him. "My most beautiful moment of teaching so far took place when we were working on a difficult piece for an upcoming concert. A student-conductor took the chamber choir off into a corner and got the piece ready. It was a full-circle moment." That transformation—of his students coming into their own—is what inspires Mr. Manni and gives him joy. Looking up, he smiles and adds, "Can I get an amen?"

Celebrating Student Artwork

Enthusiastic chatter filled the Romano Gallery on the evening of May 5 as students, faculty, staff and parents gathered to view the Student Art Exhibition. Displaying 240 pieces by more than 130 students, the annual show provides an opportunity for Blair artists to showcase their work for their classmates to enjoy. The walls of the gallery were filled with paintings, drawings, photographs, architectural drawings, cyanotype prints and more, while the center of the gallery contained pedestaled sculptures and ceramic works.

"The student art show is always a favorite of mine because it gives our community the chance to appreciate the artwork their peers have been creating all year long," shared fine arts department chair Kate Sykes. "This show is like our state championship game. It's the culmination of months of effort, persistence and growth. It's always so rewarding to see the pride on our students' faces as they explain their pieces to their family and friends."

The student exhibition also allows our students to experience a new element of being an artist and consider questions as professional artists: How do you want your work to be displayed? How can you best present your work so the viewer will understand your intentions? *Duc Dinh '22*, a seasoned photography student at Blair, used the exhibition as an opportunity to combine photographs from throughout his Blair career into an interactive experience. Taking inspiration from early childhood viewfinder toys, Duc created slides for each of his favorite pieces and meticulously taped each one into a View-Master wheel. The result was its own miniature, interactive and immersive gallery of Duc's work that visitors could enjoy.

"Being part of the student show was truly phenomenal," explained Duc. "I got to connect with people around campus I otherwise wouldn't see. Through my work that I have dedicated a significant amount of time to, as well as others, we were able to form a community connection. It is amazing to see how all



"The Night of Seoul" by Christine Jeong '23, a National Gold Medal-winning piece.



McKenzie Ohene '23 explores the View-Master of original pieces created by Duc Dinh '22.

artwork was consumed, talked about and appreciated by people of all ages. I especially loved seeing the different messages viewers took from the art, depending on their stage of life!"

While the cheers in the gallery did not quite rival those of stadium stands, a contagious excitement filled the room as community members explored the gallery, asking questions and exclaiming over their favorite pieces. The celebratory energy certainly felt like a culminating championship after months, or even years, of dedication.



Jazz Luminary Curtis Lundy Captivates Blair

On April 11 and 12, Grammy-nominated composer, arranger and recording artist Curtis Lundy captivated the Blair community, performing with a jazz combo and holding a series of master classes for students in the School's Jazz Ensemble, Orchestra and Singers. A renowned jazz bassist, Mr. Lundy began the two-day event with a concert at School Meeting, during which he and a jazz combo, featuring Miles Lennox on piano, Wallace Roney Jr. on trumpet, Bobby Watson on saxophone and Victor Jones on drums, played a mix of familiar jazz and Motown hits that had feet tapping in DuBois Theatre. During a post-concert question-and-answer session, Mr. Lundy chatted with students, capturing the attention of hip-hop fans as he recounted his experience working with Kanye West and how the rapper sampled Mr. Lundy's arrangement of "Walk with Me" for his Grammy Award-winning hit "Jesus Walks."

The following day, Mr. Lundy hosted a series of master classes for Blair's musicians, providing an opportunity for student learning that delighted performing arts chair and Director of Instrumental Music Jennifer Pagotto. "Anytime we have a guest performer, it's a chance for all of our musicians to bring their skills and also be open to new ways of being led as a performer," said Mrs. Pagotto.

At the workshops that he led for the Singers and Orchestra, Mr. Lundy taught Blair's musicians a song, demonstrating how to riff on certain passages. Since Blair Singers and Orchestra students traditionally perform fixed compositions, Mrs.

Pagotto noted, "This master class allowed those students to step out of their boxes and try learning by ear and improvisation." For the students in Blair's Jazz Ensemble, who are more practiced in spontaneous musicianship, Mrs. Pagotto observed, "They worked directly with the jazz combo, honing their skills and learning from very skilled professional musicians."

Member of the Jazz band *Laila Davson '22* had high praise for the experience, describing Mr. Lundy's workshop as intense. "Mr. Lundy pushed us to elevate our playing from simply notes on the page to what he and his ensemble demonstrated to us at School Meeting: Jazz *music*. We got to see classmates come out of their shells and improvise as well. It was awesome!"

Raised in Miami, Florida, Mr. Lundy hails from a musical family that includes his sister, acclaimed jazz vocalist Carmen Lundy. After studying at the University of Miami under the tutelage of bassist Dr. Lucas Drew, Mr. Lundy burst onto the New York jazz scene in 1978. Best known for his performances with jazz vocalist Betty Carter's band, Mr. Lundy quickly gained notoriety playing rhythm on the albums of fellow





jazz luminaries John Hicks, Bobby Watson, Steve Nelson and Johnny Griffin and is noted for his collaborations with musicians Art Blakey, Branford Marsalis and Wynton Marsalis.

Mr. Lundy came to perform at Blair thanks to a fortuitous musical connection with Blair alum *Darryl Jeffries '73*. His visit is part of the School's Bartow Series, a program endowed with the mission to expand students' artistic experiences by bringing professional performers from far and wide to the Blair stage. The series honors Nevett Bartow, a dedicated music teacher and talented composer who helped shape Blair's music program. Mr. Bartow taught at Blair from 1961 until his death from leukemia in 1973 at the age of 39.

The Maestra & the Gift of Music:

Blair's Spring Concert

Blair Director of Instrumental Music Jennifer Pagotto may be a rarity among conductors: a genuinely nice person, a masterful teacher possessing incredible expertise and a sense of humor about the art of music. She defies, in many ways, the traditional stereotypes of conductors that come to mind: the Chicago Symphony's legendary Fritz Reiner commanding the stage with dictatorial flair or Italian conductor Arturo Toscanini, as famous for his temper and theatrics as for his musicianship.

Yet, it is clear to veteran Blair audiences why Mrs. Pagotto has been called to teaching and conducting. As maestra, she holds the audience in the palm of her hand, keeping time for her musicians and deftly weaving each student's musical interpretation into the wider composition. As teacher, she leads Blair's Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra and Jazz Band to push their creative boundaries and take risks. Standing before the assembled musicians with arms raised, she guides her students with surgical precision and creates breathtaking musical moments.



An Avant-Garde Repertoire

On May 6, attendees of the Spring Concert got a taste of Mrs. Pagotto's magic when she and the Symphony Orchestra debuted a sampling of classical favorites, as well as a few unconventional choices, including "Sogno di Volare," the theme to a video game. With a sweeping melody that Mrs. Pagotto described as "artistically stunning," the orchestral piece was selected by her and Director of Vocal Music Ryan Manni because of its dramatic beauty, created by its rich orchestration and dynamic vocals, and so that students could take part in a growing genre.

"Movie scores started out years ago as pleasant background music, and then, somewhere along the line, composers started writing really beautiful and



intricate scores for the cinema," she explained. "The same thing may be happening now with video games."

When Mrs. Pagotto and Mr. Manni, who work in tandem to bring the Spring Concert to life, came across Civilization VI's choir-and-orchestra piece, they agreed that it would be the perfect opportunity to push students' musical boundaries. "Video game music is growing as a genre, and our musicians haven't performed a choir-and-orchestra piece since before COVID, so this was both a return to form for our students and a chance to explore new horizons."

Blair's jazz musicians, who had the opportunity to study under jazz legend Curtis Lundy in April, played incredibly well, noted Mrs. Pagotto, and performed pieces including "All Blues" by Miles Davis, a quintessential "cool jazz" composition, and "Come On, Come Over" by Jaco Pastorius, a jazz-funk song that became a Blair student favorite last year. "It's a little closer to Motown and rock and roll," Mrs. Pagotto said, "and

our musicians really latched on to it."

The Blair Academy Singers, led by Mr. Manni, captured the audience's ear with "Ner Ner" by Jake Runestad, a piece requiring extended vocal technique from Blair's performers, and their imagination with "Kaval Sviri," a Bulgarian folk song that introduced students to an Eastern European style that was new to them. In another highlight, *Sadie Donnelly '22* made her debut as the Singers' student conductor with "Over the Rainbow."

Mrs. Pagotto noted that the concert was the product of many hours of practice from Blair's students, and she hoped that the audience noticed the level of commitment and skill the performers demonstrated on these pieces. "To see their progress, how our musicians stepped up and played, was amazing," she said.

Swept Away in Sound

Prior to the concert, first-year student *Courtney Payne '25* looked forward to sweeping the audience away in waves of music during the evening, and she hoped that family and friends would appreciate how the performers' skills have developed. A clarinetist in the Symphony Orchestra, Courtney credited Mrs. Pagotto with enabling Blair's instrumentalists to blossom, saying, "She is just the nicest teacher and is, at the same time, so commanding. In one sweep of her arm, the room grows quiet. She has this way of pulling out the best from each of us."

When asked what advice she has for members of the community in advance of the concert, Courtney put it simply: "Expect to be amazed!"



To watch a recording of the Spring Concert, go to: www.blair.edu/2022-spring-concert.

Paul & Erika Clavel



He was playing wiffleball with a friend one day when he spotted her across the street. Then a senior at Old Dominion College, Director of Athletics **Paul Clavel '88** knew Erika from psychology class. She was a sophomore, and they had friends in common. "When the opportunity presented itself, I took it," he says, smiling at the memory. When the college sweethearts married in 1995, they began

tandem teaching careers that took them from the classrooms of Virginia's public schools to obtaining their master's degrees in education before an open position for math teacher and assistant wrestling coach led them to Blair in 2004. Returning to Paul's alma mater, the Clavel family—Paul, Erika, *Avery '19* and *Emma '24*—found a home at Blair, and since then, they haven't looked back.

In the ensuing two decades, Paul and Erika have taught a generation of Blair students both in the classroom and on the field. Currently Director of Athletics, Paul taught Geometry Honors and Algebra 1 in the early years of his Blair career, getting to know his students as a math teacher, golf and wrestling coach, and dorm head in Mason Hall dorm. Erika presently serves as an associate in Blair's admission office, but she has filled a variety of roles in the last 18 years, from studyskills tutor and LEADS teacher to yearbook advisor and director of Blair's early healthand-wellness program, CHAT. One of her favorite memories, she recalls, stems from the time she served as dorm monitor for South

Cottage. "It was such a nice way to get to know the students," she says. "Those girls got me hooked on *Vampire Diaries*!"

Take a moment to learn more about Paul and Erika outside the classroom, as they reflect on their work, their time with students and how they remember raising a family at Blair as one of life's sweetest experiences.



The Clavels in 2017 on a family vacation at the Outer Banks of North Carolina, one of their favorite summer spots.



The 2022 varsity girls' golf team with **Paul '88** and Erika on their preseason training trip to the Dominican Republic.



Paul '88 with fellow math teacher and mentor Latta Browse at the 2014 Anja S. Greer Institute on Mathematics and Technology at Phillips Exeter Academy.

Questions for Paul:

Q: Who are the people who have most influenced you as an educator?

A: One of the reasons I became a math teacher was Latta Browse. He was my Geometry Honors teacher when I was a student here. [English teacher] Robert Brandwood taught me as well, but one of the reasons I love math is Latta. His daughter, **Annelies '13**, was in my Geometry Honors class a few years ago, and that was such a good, full-circle moment. I hope that I inspired her in math the way he did for me.

Q: You've served Blair as a math teacher and now as Director of Athletics. Those are very different roles. What have you enjoyed about each position?

A: As a teacher, I liked working directly with students, having touch points with

students on a daily basis. Living in the dorm, coaching and teaching, have all been very rewarding for me. One of the reasons I initially came here was that the School was offering a math position and an assistant wrestling coach position. So, I've always been very involved with sports. My Director of Athletics role allows me to indulge my love of sports. I'm still supporting students, but now I am much more involved logistically, making sure our athletes have the transportation, equipment and scheduling to succeed. I'm still making the Blair experience the best that it can be for students, just in a different way.

Q: How have the last two years been for you in terms of managing sports during the pandemic?

A: The last two years have been a challenge. I've had to become an infectious-disease expert, counselor

and, sometimes, a meteorologist, too.

I welcome the return to normal!

Q: Your dad, Dr. Everardo Clavel, was Blair's doctor for 35 years, a mainstay of the School and surrounding community. Many members of your family have also attended Blair. What has that experience been like?

A: I moved here in 1974. As the town doctor, my dad had an office in our house, and people would knock on the door at 1 a.m., at all hours, needing stitches or some kind of urgent care. You get to know a lot of people. A lot of families that are at Blair now went to my dad. My family, in terms of legacy at the School, is third or fourth with the most people who have gone to Blair. It's such a benefit, that legacy. Our kids have grown up with a lot of family.



Paul '88 giving a pep talk and advice to the 2022 golf team before the Swing Against Cancer fundraiser.



Avery '19 (second from left) with her Blair diploma and family after the 2019 Commencement ceremony.



From left to right: *Emma '24* and *Avery '19* in front of the 2018 Peddie Day bonfire.

Questions for Erika:

Q: You are originally from Richmond, Virginia. What was it like when you first moved from the South–from tidewater Virginia–to a school in the Northeast?

A: It wasn't unfamiliar, because we always came up here to visit Paul's family. Paul always maintained connections with wrestling at Blair, and, for years, when we would come up and visit, we would always wonder, "What would it be like to live and work there?" I was always impressed by Blair, and the people were very welcoming, so that eased the transition that we had.

Q: You have also held a variety of positions as an educator at Blair.
What appeals to you about the work that you do now?

A: There is something to like in every role that I've had. I have a side to me

that likes the arts, so I really enjoyed the process of designing the yearbook when that was my responsibility. Within the admission office, I am the parent ambassador liaison, and I travel a good bit for school fairs and presentations and to meet prospective families. I do like travel, as it's fun to get off campus and out of town to different areas to talk about Blair and meet new people! It's fun work talking to students as they think about their next steps and consider boarding school. I also enjoy talking to the parents and reflecting on what's important for them as they consider boarding school as an educational option.

Q: What has it been like to raise your daughters, Avery and Emma, at Blair?

A: Raising them here has been really wonderful. Even though Blair is their school, it's also their home. They carry pride in the traditions here. Even before they were old enough to

attend class, the kids were part of the community, dressing up for Peddie Day, attending the bonfire, picking their own team for Headmasters' Week. They traveled with this crew of faculty children who called themselves "The Bike Gang" because they rode everywhere on their bikes.

I remember, all the faculty families used to sit in the family dining room and Avery would eat with some other family, because that's how comfortable they were. All the adults would end up on the front porch of Insley Hall after dinner, and the kids would just run and play tag on the front hill. The adults would watch them, talk and drink our coffee while the sun went down. It's just so sweet. Really good memories.

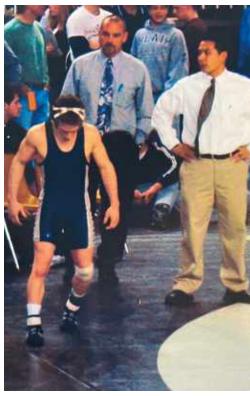
Questions for Paul & Erika:

Q: As much as you enjoy campus life, where do you go when you need to recharge?

Paul: The golf course. I love to play golf. I'm very passionate about the game, even though it drives me crazy.



A 2019 family portrait in Blair's "secret garden." From left to right: **Avery '19**, Erika, **Paul '88, Emma '24** and Bogey.



Paul coaching math teacher and current Blair head wrestling coach **Ross Gitomer '05** in the 2005 National Prep Wrestling finals at Lehigh University.

Erika: My getaway is nature—the Outer Banks (of North Carolina) and the beach.

Q: As you think back over your 18 years at Blair, what are your favorite memories?

Paul: I had so many running the dorm and coaching. I built a lot of great, close relationships there. I don't think I have a one, specific, favorite memory since I've been here at Blair. Years of preparing wrestlers before they entered the heat of battle, watching golfers make a putt for the win and having "life lesson" conversations during dorm duty are memories that I fondly think about. And, how could I forget the time my fellow faculty members did the "Single Ladies" skit during a pep rally....

Erika: My mind goes to our parenting years and all the different people whom we've met here, who are really special people. A young faculty member named John Padden taught math at Blair, and my older daughter would play pranks on him. She would play "ding-dong ditch" on him, and he would prank her right back. Once, Avery stole his flip-flops from under the table, and he dumped a bucket of ice on her!

We've had a whole community of students and adults—supporting one another over the years. Former English teacher Charles Danhof was like a young, cool uncle for years to our kids. He was always up for anything, and when asked if he'd like to come to Avery's carnival game birthday party, not only did he come, he put trash bags over his whole body, wore a hat and goggles, and sat in a chair and let the kids throw pies at him for a pie-throwing contest—a real trooper!

Paul is also really good at off-the-cuff random things that kids love.
On our spring training trip with the golf team to the Dominican Republic in March, we were at this poolside café with students, and Paul told them to get their phones out and "Send the funniest picture you have of someone." They called it the "No Hard Feelings" game. In no time, 10 of us were howling at the table. Those little moments like that. I remember those.

BUCCANEERS







- **01** *Chris Tung '22* was the varsity baseball team's ace pitcher this season.
- **02 Ella Sloan '23** plays lockdown defense against the Lawrenceville attacker.
- **03 Nicole Patterson '22** leads the Blair squad in the 200-meter dash.
- **04 Serena Khanna '25** leads Blair during their girls' varsity golf match vs. Hill.
- **05 Ethan Turkewitz '22** warms up before competing as the Blair boys' varsity tennis team's number-two singles player.
- 06 (L to R) Petra Csanyi '22, Dylan Bentley '22, Isa Dugan '22, Caroline Johnson '22 and Sami Goldman '24 racing against Hill on Paulinskill Lake.
- **07** (*L to R*) **Wes Neely '23, Truman Crystal '23, Jason Zhao '24, Christopher Hansen '24** and **Lyra Phelps '24** race down Paulinskill Lake
 against Hill.
- **08 Jocelyn O'Keeffe '24** looks to score a run for the varsity softball team from second base.
- **09** *Michael Diaco '23* catches a pass while Blair boys' lacrosse is on the offensive attack.
- **10 Tim Xi '22** leads the pack during Blair's home track meet in May.















David Ojabo '19 scored a touchdown against The Lawrenceville School.

Baltimore Ravens David Ojabo '19 & Odafe Oweh '18 Make a Pass-Rushing Pair to Watch

What has seemed like a slight possibility for a number of months has now become a sensational reality. In April of this year, *David Ojabo '19* was drafted to the Baltimore Ravens in the second round of the 2022 NFL draft, joining former Blair teammate and Ravens rookie standout *Odafe Oweh '18*. During the 2017-2018 Blair football season, the potent pass rushers dominated the defensive side of the ball every Saturday, recording multiple sacks and making big-time plays. As outside linebackers, both Odafe and David will look to wreak havoc on NFL offenses on Sundays this fall.

The Blair careers of these defensive linemen started off similarly. Both Odafe and David came to Blair in the hopes of becoming standout basketball players. Former Blair head football coach Jim Saylor convinced Odafe that with his physical size and impressive athleticism, he could earn a college scholarship to play football. Once Odafe had an

impressive football season his first year playing, it did not take much to convince David to do the same.

Odafe and David had incredible high school football careers at Blair, making profound impacts after playing only a few games in their lives. Odafe went on to find success at Penn State University, while David trailblazed at the University of Michigan.

In a recent radio interview on the *Jim Rome Show*, Odafe spoke about his old friend and teammate's potential as an NFL player. "[David] is a natural savant in pass rushing," Odafe said. "You can see it in the way he spins, you can see it in the way he takes the edge." He mentioned that not only is David incredibly athletic, he also has an advantage over most rookies. He will be playing in the same defensive scheme as he did at the University of Michigan under Baltimore Ravens defensive coordinator and former University



David Ojabo '19 (*left*) and **Odafe Oweh '18** (*right*) get ready in the locker room before their game.

of Michigan assistant coach Mike Macdonald. Confident in their prospects for the year ahead, Odafe told Jim Rome, "I am feeling blessed. I am happy to have my brother with me. We are just going to wreak havoc."

The Baltimore Ravens opened their season with the New York Jets at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey, on Sunday, September 11.

Collegiate Athletes to Watch

Blair Academy is proud of a number of alumni who have excelled in athletics after their time on the hilltop. Over the past year, several Buccaneers have garnered accolades in college athletics and professional sports for their championship wins, rookie-of-the-week honors and notable performances during the regular season. Here are a few alumni whose talent and tenacity are a pleasure to watch as they accrue impressive athletic accomplishments beyond Blair.

Olivia Miles '21

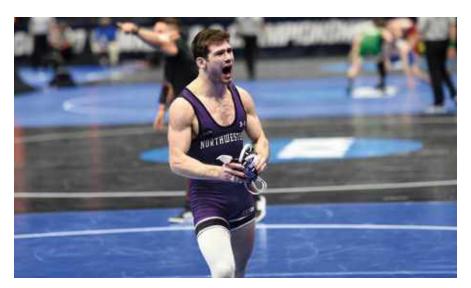
Basketball standout Olivia Miles made her NCAA tournament debut rather special by scoring a triple-double in the Notre Dame Fighting Irish's 89-78 win over UMass in the first round. She totaled 12 points, 11 assists and 11 rebounds to record the 18th tripledouble in the history of the women's tournament. In her first year at Notre Dame, she garnered first-team All-ACC honors, became a top-five finalist for the Nancy Lieberman Award and a WBCA All-American Region I finalist, and she ranked as the No. 2 freshman women's basketball player in the country, according to ESPN.

Chris Cannon '19

Northwestern University Wildcat wrestler Chris Cannon earned his second consecutive All-American honors this year, placing seventh at the 2022 NCAA Championships at 133 pounds with a 4-2 record. Additionally, he placed fifth at the 2022 Big Ten Championships and earned a 20-7 regular season record.



Olivia Miles '21 drives the lane as she looks to advance Notre Dame in the 2022 NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament.



Chris Cannon '19 celebrates as he earns a victory at the 2022 NCAA Wrestling Championships, leading him to secure his second consecutive championship.

PJ O'Rourke '19

A Fordham University junior, linksman PJ O'Rourke finished in the top five at the 2022 Men's Golf Atlantic 10 Championship, finishing three strokes under par in three rounds. This is the highest-ever placement at the conference championship in Fordham history. With an average score of 73.6, PJ tied for the lowest mark in the last 20 years of program history.

Jesse Schable '19

With an arm renowned for accuracy and velocity, Jesse Schable has become the Drexel University Dragons' ace pitcher. This season, Jesse holds a 2.82 earned run average with 10 total strikeouts. In 2021, she helped the softball team achieve the program's highest regular season win percentage (.737) and, along with it, clinched the Colonial Athletic Association North Division regular season championship.

Tucker Richardson '18

Senior guard Tucker Richardson not only led the Colgate University men's basketball team to two straight NCAA tournament appearances, but also recently was named Colgate's Scholar-Athlete of the Year. A three-time All-Patriot League honoree, Richardson averaged 12.7 points and 5.7 rebounds per game for the Raiders this season. Tucker has also made significant contributions to the sport of basketball off the court; he helped create a software program that analyzes in-game basketball statistics and is now used by more than 50 NCAA Division I schools.



Tucker Richardson '18 hits the floater during the 2022 NCAA Championship versus Wisconsin.



PJ O'Rourke '19 sinking a putt during the 2022 Men's Golf Atlantic 10 Championship.



Jesse Schable '19 looks for the strikeout as she leads Drexel University from the mound.

An Epic Season for Blair Girls' Rowing

For all scholastic rowing programs, there are two distinct national championships: Scholastic Nationals, a competition for only high school teams, and USRowing Youth Nationals, a competition for any qualifying rowing team, club or school. In 2021, the Blair girls' rowing team placed second in the United States at Scholastic Nationals and 12th overall at USRowing Youth Nationals—proving that our team can compete with the top programs in the nation.

In addition to earning their first sculling medals at the Head of the Housatonic, last fall the team welcomed varsity assistant coach Annie Gardner, who completed an amazing coaching team that included novice coaches Latta Browse and Marianna Paone. Coach Gardner played a monumental role in the team's success, and her expertise in both rowing and the biomechanics of the human body led to the increase of our rowers' athletic maturity, on and off the water.

With the onset of last winter, the coaches and crew moved into Blair's new indoor rowing center on Park Street. The ability to use the dynamic ergometers, weight room and an eight-person indoor tank proved to be a game changer. The coaches focused on technical skills that previously could only be approached on the water, and the countless strokes taken on Park Street were the final touch in the lead-up to our spring season.





The Blair girls' Youth 4 and U17 4+ at the USRowing Youth Nationals with coaches Annie Gardner (top left) and **John Redos '09** (top right).

Spring began with a successful training trip to Austin, Texas, followed by the start of racing season at Mercer, where we witnessed the varsity team sweep Peddie by double-digit margins in all races. Our top girls' four took bronze at Mercer Sprints, one of the most competitive regattas in the country, and seized gold at the Garden State Championships, Cooper Cup, USRowing Mid-Atlantic Championships, Stotesbury Cup Regatta and Scholastic Nationals. This marked the first time that a Blair girls' crew had won any of those regattas, and it was the first Blair crew in history to win Scholastic Nationals. These achievements left the coaching team beyond proud.

However, in the junior rowing world, the most important event is USRowing Youth Nationals. This year, for the first time in school history, Blair qualified a U17 4+, which earned silver at Mid-Atlantics.

In Florida, Blair's top girls' four, consisting of seniors *Petra Csanyi*, *Dylan Bentley, Isabella Dugan* and *Caroline Johnson*, as well as sophomore *Sami Goldman '24*, had the regatta of their lives. They

finished second in the nation. It was, without a doubt, the race of the regatta. The U17 four of *Lyra Phelps '24, Emily Tierney '25, Riley Bacinski '25, Hannah Mathews '25* and *Sophia Shah '25* came in seventh overall. They finished as the top high school in the country in their event, taking down extremely competitive clubs along the way.

While the Blair season ended with smiles from ear to ear, the train did not stop. Over the summer, *Ava Gamble '21* and *Petra Csanyi '22* made the United States and Hungarian National teams. They competed at the U23 and U19 World Championships in Italy and were the first Blair girls to make a national team. Over the past four years, our crew team members have learned to challenge themselves, take risks and discover what it means to believe in themselves. Congratulations, to all of Blair's elite rowers and coxswains, on an outstanding year.



Ashley Thompson '08.

Blair Trustee and entrepreneur *Ashley Thompson '08* co-founded MUSH, a better-for-you consumer packaged goods company, in 2015 with the conviction that better outcomes in life begin with better food.

Ashley Thompson '08's MUSH Wins 2022 Mindful Award

The company has come a long way in seven short years. Starting locally, Ms.

Thompson initially sold MUSH, a plant-based, ready-to-eat breakfast food made with clean, natural ingredients, at farmers' markets. In 2017, Ms. Thompson and her business partner appeared on *Shark Tank* and secured the backing of investor Mark Cuban, helping to build the brand's national recognition and followers. The company has continued to grow exponentially since then and is now sold at Whole Foods, Amazon, Costco and Target, among other major retailers across the United States.

Now the company has one more feather in its cap: In June 2022, MUSH won "Breakfast Product of the Year" from Mindful Awards. An independent recognition platform, the Mindful Awards Program honors companies helping to create a better world environmentally, economically and from a human perspective. In 2022, an independent panel of industry experts selected winners from more than 1,650 nominations. Congratulations, Ms. Thompson and MUSH!

Basketball Coach Joe Mantegna Leads the 2022 USA Nike Hoop Summit Team

For the greater Blair community, Joe Mantegna has become a household name synonymous with excellence in athletics and leadership. The head boys' varsity basketball coach and associate dean of college counseling is often seen and heard around the world, leading teams to victory and training upcoming players through basketball programs. In April, he was seen on the national stage.

On April 8, 2022, Coach Mantegna led the 2022 USA Nike Hoop Summit Team in Portland, Oregon, as they faced off against the 2022 World Select Team, according to a USA Basketball press release. This was the first time the Nike Hoop Summit has been held since before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Selected by the USA Basketball Men's Developmental National Team Committee, the 2022 USA Nike Hoop Summit Team featured 12 top-recruited athletes from across the nation. "I coached the 12 best seniors in the USA against some of the world's best junior players," Coach Mantegna said. "Every NBA team was on-site scouting, and this was a wonderful opportunity to coach and learn from these future pros." The team was led by assistant coaches Scott Fitch and Chet Mason,

in addition to Head Coach Mantegna. According to the statement, the contest has been held annually since 1995 (with the exception of 2001-2003 and 2020-2021).

The Blair community congratulates Coach Mantegna on his success in Portland. For more information about the nationally televised Nike Hoop Summit, visit www.nikehoopsummit.com.



Coach Joe Mantegna.

ALUM ANITA (RICKETTS) SARATE '88 PAYS IT FORWARD WITH PLANNED GIVING GIFT & HONORS HER LATE GRANDMOTHER

"Let me put it this way, my grandmother and I went to Blair. As much as I was responsible for my success, my grandmother was right there with me, supporting me any way she could," said *Anita (Ricketts) Sarate '88*, who recently confirmed that her plannedgiving gift to Blair would be in honor of her late grandmother, Lisher Lee.

At the young age of 9, Anita's mother passed, leaving the resilient, curious girl from East Orange, New Jersey, to be raised by her grandmother—an astute and shrewd guide dedicated to charting her granddaughter's future.

Knowing that Anita's mother's income was limited to Social Security, Mrs. Lee decided early on that she would only take \$50 per month from that pool to raise her granddaughter. For the remainder, she would supplement from her own Social Security payments so that Anita's mother's funds could be saved.

"She did that from the time my mother passed until it was time for me to go to college. That money, because I had no other support to go to college, became what I'd live off of, and that money actually became the funds I used for the down payment on my first house."

"And I guess that's where it all ties together," reflected Anita, "when we talk about paying it forward and generational wealth. That small act, which wasn't small by any means, of supporting me from her Social Security payments, became how I succeeded in life. I was able to graduate from college with very little debt and was able to purchase a house."

Some of Anita's fondest memories of her grandmother occurred while

she was a young student at Blair: From receiving gift packages to traveling home from Blair to find her favorite meal on the stove, Mrs. Lee did her best to support, comfort and educate her granddaughter.

"When I did go back home, and when I woke up the next morning, my clothes would be washed, dried and ready for me. She would drive wherever I was competing or performing while I was at Blair," said Anita.

Sagacious as she was independent, Mrs. Lee knew that the rest of her granddaughter's education, though, would have to come from school. Thus, she trusted Anita's middle school counselor, who wanted the highachieving 12-year-old to enroll in a more rigorous institution.

"My middle school guidance counselor started looking for potential private schools when I was in the seventh grade. She found Blair, and she actually drove me and my grandmother to my interview and sat outside in the hallway with my grandmother."

"It came down to two schools: Blair and a day school that I could have gone to. I remember that Blair felt friendly and warm and there were opportunities to study abroad and take different kinds of classes, which I was all really interested in. And, the difference of being in a boarding situation and living in that setting was what helped tip the scale for me."

A Turrell Scholar at Blair, Anita ended up making a home on the hilltop and winning the Freshman of the Year Prize. "My first year, I was involved in everything. I ran track and was involved in the School play. I was an honors



Anita (Ricketts) Sarate '88.

student and basically did all the things a first-year student could do," she said.

Her curiosity and commitment to advancing did not stop with Blair.
Upon graduating, Anita earned her bachelor of arts in international relations, with honors, from Stanford University. A few years later, she obtained her master of business administration from Rutgers University.

Looking back on her academic and professional career now, Anita credits her grandmother and Blair for much of her success.

"Blair has been in my will for many years. I was always grateful to Blair because it was there where I was encouraged by my teachers to be open and to really push myself. I felt accepted. I was a nerdy kid, and it wasn't bad to be a nerd at Blair. The level of acceptance and preparation that I received—about how to think critically and develop a growth mindset—was really important to me personally and professionally.

"Blair met me where I was, and one gift [my teachers] gave me was that they were never surprised that I actually succeeded."

For Anita, the gifts she received from the modest school upon a hill fostered her decision to give back to Blair years later—with special recognition and loving bestowment to her grandmother.



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

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

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

Following is a roster of members:

Anonymous Mrs. Sarah Dubben Calley

1939

Mrs. William T. Reilly*

1942

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

Mrs. M. Michael Lobsitz*

1944

Nancy Strickland LaFountain

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

1946

Mr. Herbert J. Siegel

Mr. William N. Davies

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

1949

Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Neff

1951

Bob and Lynne Kiley

1952

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

1953

Mrs. Jean L. Hoff Mr. William R. Timken

1954

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

1955

Anonymous Robert R. Burn

1956

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

Mr. Stewart H. Cole

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

1957

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

Mr. Steven R. Losa Mrs. Zoe S. Pappas

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

1960

Mr. and Mrs. Philip W. Koebig III

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

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

Mr. Marc W. Suffern II*

1962

Anonymous Dr Samuel R Barnett Mr. Richard L. Doremus Mr. Mark Gottesman Mr. Willard H. Johnson, Jr. Mrs. Lynn Peachey*

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

Mr. Donald C. Hazard*

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

1964

Dr. Dennis E. Bradford Arthur and Lori French Jim and Edie Heath

Mr. Andros B. Thomson*

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

1965

Chervl Clutsam Mr. J. Jeff Corwin Mr. William W. Durland*

Mr. Robert M. Lay

Mr. Robert S. Weiner*

1966

Mr. James P. Jenkins

1967

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

1968

Art and Marylou Ambrose

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

Mr. Robert Hoppenstedt and Dr. Peggy Gallup Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey D. Karp Alexander and Jeanne Sloane

1973

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

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

H. Blair Gentry Mrs. Jennifer A. Woltjen

1976

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

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

Steven and Lin Jastrabek Marianne Lieberman and Carolyn Grant

Mr. Scott D. Jones

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

1982

Mr. William H. Abbott Roger D. Gershman

1984

Mrs. Kristine C. Lisi

1986

Ms. Linda M. Fellows

1988

Anita C. Sarate

1990

Mr. Ned Montenecourt

1993

Anonymous Greg Romagnoli

1996

Ms. Melissa L. Guyre

1997

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

2001

Niki Applebaum

2003

Dan and Brady Seals

2004

Mr. Emmanuel Bello

2008

Elliott W. Anderson

Hardwick III

Faculty

Mr. William W. Finley* Mr. and Mrs. T. Chandler

Friends

Mrs. Yolanda Ciancia Mr. John M. Dempsey, Jr. Ms. Anne L. Kalemjian Mr. A. A. LaFountain III Mr. Chris Tsiouris, Jr.

Parents

Anonymous Ms. Carolyn M. Buck Luce Ms. Suzanne Q. Chamberlin, Esq. Mrs. Barbara E. Clark Mr. Olin A. Cramer Mrs. Kenneth H. Crandall, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. Gerald R. Decker Mr. and Mrs. David N. Denker Richard and Chrysa Graber Madison F. Grose and

Honora A. Grose Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Hayward III Ms. Jane A. Hulick Mr. and Mrs. David C. Hull, Jr. Mr. Douglas W. Kimmelman Dr. and Mrs. Gilbert I. Martin Mrs. Stacey Willits McConnell Mrs. Colleen McNultv Mr. John E. Skvarla III Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Solar

* Charter Member

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

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



Thank You from the Board Chair

Dear Blair family,

It is bittersweet writing this last thank-you letter to members of the Blair community after nine years as Board Chair. It has been almost 15 years since my family first visited the School, and we feel so grateful for the incredible impact that Blair has on students. Over the years, it has become a family tradition to volunteer our time, host events and support projects because we saw firsthand just how much the School was doing for our own children,

Annie '12, Robert '13, Tommy '15 and Scottie '22, as well as their classmates and friends. We were also inspired and moved by the care and commitment that so many members of the Blair community show every day in ensuring a Blair education is extraordinary and paying forward their own experience to future generations of Bucs through volunteering, philanthropy and engagement.

As I write this, Blair is celebrating the opening of its 175th academic year, a historic occasion that we will mark with a host of festivities throughout the weeks and months ahead as we honor our

traditions and affirm our commitment to being innovative and forward-thinking. We have learned a lot over the last 175 years about how to best prepare students for success in college and in life, and a big part of that is staying true to the values that form the foundation of teaching and learning at Blair: meaningful relationships among students and faculty, and a warm, supportive and welcoming community where adolescents can discover their passions before going on to thrive in the next chapter of their educational journeys.

Prospective families embraced this philosophy more than ever during our 2021-2022 admission cycle; we received more than 1,500 applications, the most in School history and, when school opened earlier this fall, we welcomed students from 26 U.S. states and 29 countries.

We are incredibly proud of all that our community's gifts to Blair make possible, from a strong and growing endowment, financial aid and state-of-theart facilities and programs to professional development and enhanced residential spaces for faculty and staff. Our diversity, equity and inclusion work is also critical to ensuring we are attracting the best students and educators and that Blair is a place where everyone feels a sense of belonging. Blair prioritizes people and embraces the importance of living our "Five Fundamentals," which express the School's values and hold community members to a standard of living and working together.

All of this is made possible by your support: This year, the Blair Fund reached a record \$3,429,408, the largest amount ever raised in a single fiscal year, and our capital and endowment gifts totaled \$7,048,825. In all, we raised more than \$10.4 million–exceeding \$10 million for only the fifth time in School history.

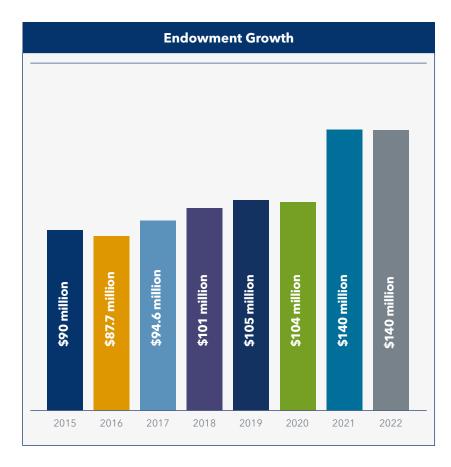
Our commitment to financial aid for Blair students has continued to grow and

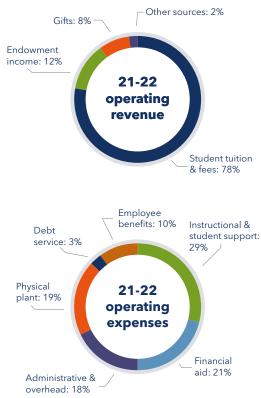
inspire others to give; this year, we offered a total of 115 named scholarships and \$7.8 million in scholarship dollars. Scholarships named by classes are also on the rise: We are now up to a total of 15, including the classes of 1972 and 2022, which raised funds in honor of their 50th reunion and graduation, respectively, as well as the Class of 1997, which strived to fully fund its scholarship before its 25th reunion in June. Overall, alumni giving is up to 27 percent across the board, and 80 percent of parents made Blair a philanthropic priority last year.

Of this year's total gifts, more than \$2.2 million was designated for campus enhancements, including Bogle Science Center, the outdoor basketball court (which students named The Shipyard), Crew Training Center, our proposed new health-and-wellness center, Sigety Alumni House, Hoby House and golf course renovations.

In 2021-2022, the admission team juggled providing a welcoming and authentic in-person experience for prospective families, while also supplementing those efforts with myriad opportunities for virtual connection. Families came to campus for interviews, tours, Revisit Days and our spring preview, and members of our admission office traveled across the country attending fairs and sharing why the Blair experience is so transformative.

Our advancement office continues to develop exciting new programs that keep members of our community connected. After a couple of years of relying on Zoom to engage with members of the Blair family, we were thrilled to fully open our campus and get back out on the road, starting with a Marlins game in Miami in September and continuing to gather throughout the year with 12 pre-Peddie Day celebrations, a host of parent and alumni events in New York City,





the second-annual and first in-person Women's Symposium, and the Finance Summit on cryptocurrency.

This year, we also launched the Arts Guild, which, like our Athletic Hall of Fame, showcases the impressive talents of Blair alumni at and beyond Blair; the first class of talented fine and performing artists were inducted this June during Alumni Weekend. The advancement team has also leveraged the volunteermanagement software GiveCampus to help class representatives better keep in touch with classmates. And we are continuing to use Zoom to regularly update our volunteers about what's happening on campus with a new series called Blair Buzz, which features a different be the school it is today without you presenter every quarter.

It is no coincidence that Blair's position of financial strength is tied to the fact

that there have never been more opportunities to connect and engage, and I couldn't be prouder to leave Blair in this position as I stepped down as Board Chair in late June. I know that longtime Blair Trustee and my successor, Maria Vinci Savettiere, whose son, Michael, graduated from Blair in 2017, will continue to move the School forward to even greater heights. I look forward to applauding all of those successes and remaining a member of the Blair family as an ex-officio member of the Board of Trustees' Investment Committee and extremely proud and grateful parent.

Again, thank you for your support over these many years. Blair would not and our momentum in continuing to double down on our student-centered philosophy, which has done much to

enhance and expand our reputation in new and existing markets. We have also built a tradition of strong philanthropy across constituencies and remain committed to innovation while celebrating our past, allowing us to reach our demisemiseptcentennial anniversary as a flourishing institution with a bright future. And, of course, as Board Chair, I have been deeply grateful for the work we have done together and the relationships we have shared as Blair enters a new chapter.

With much gratitude,

LKinh

Doug Kimmelman P'12 '13 '15 '22 Board Chair (May 2012-June 2022)

Endowment & Capital Gifts Re	ceived	July 1, 2021-Jւ	ıne 30, 2022
Scholarships		Prizes	
Marcos Alvarado Scholarship	\$34,000.00	Marguerite Deysson Habermann Memorial French Prize	\$1,500.00
Blair Academy-Far Hills Country Day School Endowed	\$150,000.00	The Alexander "ARob" Roberts Award for Spirit	\$50,600.00
Scholarship Prize	\$130,000.00	Lee Rose Memorial Trophy	\$500.00
Bolton Family Scholarship	\$1,000.00	Total Prizes	\$52,600.00
The Budd-Liuzza Scholarship	\$26,649.05	Enrichment	
Ciancia Family Scholarship	\$1,000.00	Auto Club-Mechanical and Electrical Engineering	\$15,000.00
Class of 1951 Scholarship	\$348.00	Nevett S. Bartow '52 Fund	\$250.00
The Class of 1962 Dennis Peachey '62 Memorial	\$46,339.75	Black Science Fund	\$500.00
Scholarship		Class of 1969 Faculty Wings Fund	\$14,330.00
Class of 1964 Scholarship	\$5,708.17	Film Fund	\$10,000.00
Class of 1965 Scholarship	\$2,250.00	James R. Kelley Sabbatical	\$200.00
Class of 1966 Scholarship	\$5,100.00	Professional Development	\$15,000.00
Class of 1967 Scholarship	\$5,000.00	Total Enrichment	\$55,280.00
Class of 1972 Scholarship	\$45,100.00		\$33,200.00
Class of 1993 Scholarship	\$6,383.42	Teaching	¢2E0.00
Class of 1997 Scholarship	\$27,809.76	Class of 1962 Teaching Fellow	\$350.00
Class of 2019 Scholarship	\$55.00	Class of 1963 Faculty Chair	\$15,550.00
Class of 2022 Scholarship	\$374,876.06	Total Teaching	\$15,900.00
Mollie Howard Conklin '71 Memorial Scholarship	\$2,022.60	Other Endowment	
Clifford L. and Joan B. Cramer Scholarship	\$10,000.00	Endowed Academic Support	\$115,000.00
Grohowski Family Scholarship	\$2,500.00	Aquatics Fund	\$30,000.00
The Holenstein Family Scholarship	\$25,000.00	Auto Club-Mechanical and Electrical Engineering	\$10,000.00
James and Selena Howard Memorial Scholarship	\$1,500.00	Class of 1968 Society of Skeptics Endowment Fund	\$1,290.00
Hudson Farm Scholar	\$1,200,450.00	Dalling Wrestling Fund-Restricted	\$6,000.00
George P. Jenkins '32 Scholarship	\$10,000.00	Diversity & Inclusion	\$160,800.00
The Jimmy Scholarship Fund	\$10,500.00	Faculty Compensation Endowment	\$1,269,483.35
Willard H. Johnson '62 Scholarship	\$3,750.00	Girls Basketball Fund	\$7,000.00
Kalemjian Family Scholarship	\$5,000.00	Girls Lacrosse	\$5,000.00
The Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kiley '51 Scholarship	\$100.00	ISR-Robotic Initiative	\$75,000.00
Kimmelman Family Scholarship	\$308,809.10	John I. Blair Operations	\$5,000.00
Martin Krugman Memorial Scholarship	\$500.00	Robert L. Marcalus, Jr. '65 Tree Fund	\$250.00
Alfred A. LaFountain '44 Memorial Scholarship	\$15,000.00	J. Ronald McLean Memorial Fund	\$1,100.00
Robert M. Lay '65 Scholarship	\$2,000.00	Ryan Andrews Newton '08 Global Service Award	\$25.00
David T. and Candida C. Low Scholarship	\$1,700.00	Peachey Fund	\$2,708.70
Joe Mantegna Scholarship	\$5,000.00	The Alexander "ARob" Roberts Forum on	\$50,100.00
Fernando Marcial International Student Scholarship	\$19.95	Holocaust Education	\$50,100.00
Miller Family Scholarship	\$17,777.56	Total Other Endowment	\$1,738,757.05
The Robert "Bobby" Neff, Jr. Memorial Traditional		Capital Unrestricted	
Values Scholarship	\$8,000.00	Capital Unrestricted	\$1,050.00
David A. Ogden '87 Memorial Scholarship	\$148.23		
The Dennis Wm. Peachey '62 Scholarship	\$115,178.00	Total Capital Unrestricted	\$1,050.00
Col. Ronald E. '50 and Barbara M. Philipp Scholarship	\$25.00	Capital Restricted	
Pooled Scholarships	\$50,000.00	Bogle Hall Renovations	\$791,659.57
Reverend Robert E. Rea '43 Memorial Scholarship	\$100.00	Chiang-Elghanayan Center for Innovation and Collaboration	\$102,600.00
The Herbert J. Siegel '46 and John C. Bogle '47	4407.000.00	Crew Capital Fund	\$366,704.68
Scholarship Fund	\$197,000.00	General Building Fund	\$92,023.35
David Worthington Sobel '09 Memorial Scholarship	\$10,000.00	Golf Course Renovations	\$35,500.00
Kurt W. Socha '06 Memorial Scholarship	\$1,050.50	Health & Wellness Center	\$145,000.00
Dean G. Tanella '78 Scholarship	\$25,000.00	Hoby House	\$61,000.00
Thomas Family Endowed Scholarship named in honor	\$100,000,00	Pending Donor Designation	\$96,000.00
of Carolyn Conforti-Browse	\$100,000.00	Pool Restoration Fund	\$25,000.00
Gerard and Margery Thomas Scholarship	\$500.00	Sigety Alumni House	\$485,500.00
William R. Timken '53 Scholarship	\$102,500.00		
Voorhees Wrestling Scholarship	\$20,000.00	Total Capital Restricted	\$2,200,987.60
Wildrick Family Scholarship	\$1,500.00	Grand Total	\$5,484,195.28
Total Scholarships	\$2,984,250.15	Grana Iotal	93,404,173.2 6

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Mr. David D. Wakefield '48 Wilmington, Delaware

1848 Society

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Members of the Headmaster's Society contributed leadership gifts of \$100,000 or more.

Anonymous

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Mr. Leiming Chen
Community Foundation of New Jersey
Corner Foundation, Inc.
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Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Elghanayan '66

Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund

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Mr. Liangbo Yao and Ms. Yanling Wu

 $\mbox{Mr.}$ Qing Yao and $\mbox{Ms.}$ Ye Chen

Mr. Hui Zhao and Ms. Jianbei Chen



"Going to Blair truly changed the trajectory of my life. It was such a special experience and set me up for success both academically and personally. I learned to always work hard, but, more importantly, to always do what's right. For me, what's right is to do all I can with the resources we have to help others have that same experience."

- **Victoria Bailey '97,** Trustee

Old Academy Society

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

The Estate of James E. Burcham '59

Ms. Jordan M. Ehmann '97

Mr. Liang Gan and Mrs. Hong Xiang

Mr. Matthew Harris and Ms. Jennifer Harris

Mr. Jia Huang and Mrs. Xiaolan Zhang

Mr. Xuli Li and Mrs. Xuemai Yuan

Mr. Lewis Y. H. Liao and Mrs. Wendy S. W. Tseng

Dr. Johnny Liu and Mrs. Yi J. Shi

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Mr. and Mrs. Dominick J. Romano '74

RoNetco Supermarkets, Inc.

Schwab Charitable Fund

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Mr. Hongwei Wan and Mrs. Li Li

Mr. Kenneth Wolff and Mrs. Laura Wolff

Mr. Hong Yan and Mrs. Yingling Wei

Insley Society

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

Anonymous

Mr. Marcos Alvarado '99

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Mr. Alexander W. Barth and Mrs. Mary T. Barth

Mr Emmanuel Bello '04

Mr. and Mrs. Robert R. Burn '55

Mr. Richen Cong and Mrs. Haixia Zhang

Ms. Michele Eubank

Mr. Donald B. Fedor '69

Foundation for the Carolinas

Mr. Robert Franz and Mrs. Jill Franz

Mr. Roger D. Gershman '82

Mr. and Mrs. Richard R. Graber

Gravic Inc

Mrs. Meena Grizzetti and Mr. John Grizzetti

Mr. and Mrs. Leo P. Grohowski

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Mrs. Rebecca Marcus '10 and Mr. Brian Marcus

Mr. Domonic A. Mata '20

Mr. Max Mathies '07

Mr. Craig M. McConnell '07

Mr. Graham N. McConnell '10

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Mr. Ethan Simon '15

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Annual & Capital Fund Total	No. of Donors	%	Total Giving
Alumni	1,720	27%	\$1,951,179.91
Current Parent	388	80%	\$6,056,784.48
Parent of Alumni	174	6%	\$366,301.95
Friend			\$1,726,135.47
Estates	5		\$291,114.93
Matching Gift Company			\$62,765.30
Foundation			\$2,072,219.00
Corporation			\$154,926.75
Alumni and current parent totals include matching gift company giving	Tot	al	\$10,478,233.00

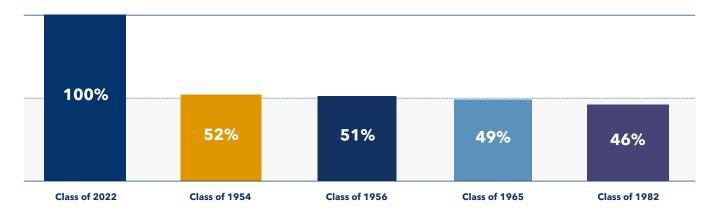
• Alumni and current parent totals include matching gift company giving.

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

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

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

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^{*} Top-five list includes the classes of 1947-2022.

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Class Rep: Elmer A. Bannan

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Class Rep: Robert A. Neff Mr. Ralph P. Balzac* Mr. Howard I. LeVine Mr. Robert A. Neff*

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Class Rep: Eugene Krohn

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Class Reps: Robert E. Kiley Frederick W. Rose

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Mr. G. William Hamilton* Mr. Eugene W. Holland

Mr. James R. Kelley, Sr., Hon. '51,

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Mr. William N. Martin Mr. Irving C. Pettit, Jr.

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

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"My student experience at Blair allowed me to develop and cultivate skills and confidence that served me incredibly well throughout my post-Blair education. Perhaps even more importantly, though, those skills helped me achieve success in my career while also contributing to the person I am today. In tribute to all those Blair faculty, administrators, Trustees and others who contributed to my Blair experience, I feel genuinely privileged to have the opportunity to pay it forward."

- **Keith Rauschenbach '76**, Trustee & Governance Committee Chair

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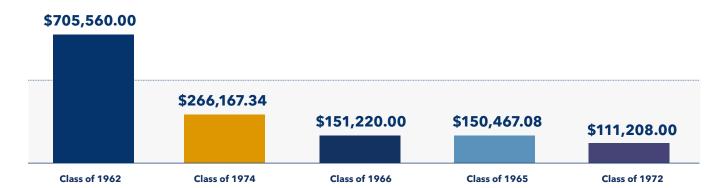
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^{*} Top-five list includes the classes of 1947-2022.

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Mr. Kenneth A. Deneau

Ms. Marianne Lieberman* Mr. G. David MacEwen

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Mr. Randy L. Stowell Dr. Tamsen I. Thorpe*

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"I volunteer my time at Blair because I like to stay updated on what's happening on campus. I hope that the small role I play will benefit current students and faculty. It's my way of giving back for all the good Blair has done for me as a student and as an alum. Maybe my kids will experience the same thing one day."

– Winnie Lizardo Orbe '06, Board of Governors, ex-officio Trustee

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Ms. Caroline B. Manogue* Mr. Sean P. Smith Mrs. Rada T. Starkey* Mr. Fritz G. Trinler Mrs. Tina Vandersteel Cressotti*

Class Rep: Marnie Raines-Almand Mrs. Marnie Raines-Almand*

Mr. James R. Anderson Mr. Quinten A. Clarke Mr. Craig U. Dana, Jr.* Mr. Bruce D. Goettel, Jr. Mr. Philip M. Helmstetter Mr. Nicolas E. P. Mosko Mrs. Diana P. Schad Ms. Heather M. Wooding*

Class Reps: Matthew R. Hennessey Charles H. A. Inkeles Mr. Willard A. Anderson II*

Mr. Paul S. Clavel* Mr. Brian F. DeCesare Mr. Daniel M. DiCarlo III* Mr. Aaron S. Goranson Mr. Matthew R. Hennessey Mr. Charles H. A. Inkeles* Mr. Glenn R. Kepic Mr. Toshihiro Matsuo Mr. David Miller Mrs. Emily A. Oliver Ms. Anita C. Sarate* Ms. Rebecca L. Selengut Mr. William D. Wyckoff

Ms. Daphne Borowski

1989

Class Reps: Chrysta A. Argue David T. Low, Jr.

Mrs. Chrysta A. Argue* Mrs. Jennifer J. Bear-Molinoff* Mr. Gary H. Cheng Mrs. Tamara C. Duffy* Mr. Joshua B. George*

Mr. Darvl K. Schaedel

Ms. Nancie E. Tengi

Mr. Christopher J. Steere

Ms. Sandra L. Steinvoort, Esq.

All-Time Reunion Class Gift Records					
Reunion Year	Highest Participatio	Highest Participation Percentage		Highest Dollars Raised	
60th Reunion	Class of 1956	74%	Class of 1962*	\$705,560	
55th Reunion	Class of 1956	91%	Class of 1953	\$1,094,448	
50th Reunion	Class of 1945	100%	Class of 1966	\$385,656	
45th Reunion	Class of 1944	59%	Class of 1976	\$746,391	
40th Reunion	Class of 1961	60%	Class of 1976	\$218,684	
35th Reunion	Class of 1956	46%	Class of 1974	\$80,040	
30th Reunion	Class of 1977	55%	Class of 1974	\$64,312	
25th Reunion	Class of 1990	58%	Class of 1997*	\$91,006	
20th Reunion	Class of 1974	35%	Class of 2002*	\$31,581	
15th Reunion	Class of 1981	39%	Class of 1993	\$30,764	
10th Reunion	Class of 2002	46%	Class of 2003	\$14,798	
5th Reunion	Class of 2008	75%	Class of 2006	\$12,482	

^{*}New record established this year.

Mr. Christian G. Kasper

Mr. James R. Kelley, Sr., Hon. '51, '89*

Mr. Stirling B. Levy*

Mr. Keith H. Liddle

Mr. David T. Low, Jr.*

Mr. Kevin D. Nofsinger

Mr. Eugene Pak*

Mr. Gregory D. Rianhard

Mr. David M. Schiff

Mr. Geoffrey M. Shearing*

Mrs. Christina H. Slimack

Mrs. Virginia L. Stevenson

Ms. Lesley H. Underwood*

Ms. Brenda L. Waardenburg

Class Reps: Ned E. Montenecourt Todd C. Smith

Dr. Hiromitsu Aizawa

Mr. Scott H. Bolton

Dr. Danielle M. Buda*

Mr. Jason K. Cashill*

Ms. Janine P. Clifford

Ms. Singleton A. Cox*

Mrs. Cassandra Davson

Mrs. Andrea L. Fleming*

Mr. P. Seth Greer*

Mrs. Carolyn C. Houston

Dr. Barbara L. Inkeles*

Ms. Christina G. Lagoda

Mrs. Heather K. Loeber

Mr. Tyler P. Magnusson Ms. Shari F. Markoff

Mr. Ned E. Montenecourt

Ms. Jennifer C. Movizzo

Miss Stephanie A. Murray

Mrs. Jill A. Prehodka Coleman* Ms. Anna Ring*

Mr. Steven M. Roethke*

Mr. Douglas R. Sweeney* Ms. Alexandra E. Teller Mr Vincent A Vesce*

Mr. James J. Waterer*

1991

Class Reps: Erin M. Cosgrave Meredith Magrone-Wiacek Elizabeth W. Webster Elizabeth Wenner

Mr. William B. Bean Mrs. Erica E. Bromley

Miss Danette A. N. Charles

Ms. Cynthia E. Corliss

Mr. Patrick J. Folts

Dr. Shakirah C. Harrington

Mr. David Leonardis* Mrs. Sarah H. O'Connor

Ms. Katherine L. Owsley

Dr. Tiffany S. Russell*

Mr. Alexander M. Scharnberg*

Mr. Keith R. Walker*

Mrs. Elizabeth W. Webster*

Ms. Elisabeth J. Wenner*

1992

Class Reps: Darryl M. De Marzio Kawanzaa S. King Daniel C. Millner

Tasha R. Williams-Arroyo Mr. Drew N. Behmer

Mrs. Julie B. Bucalos

Ms. Sarah E. Burke Mullins*

Mr. Stephen D. Dartley

Dr. Darryl M. De Marzio* Mr. Theodore J. Doremus*

Mr. George J. Ernst, Jr.*

Mrs. Alissa D. Ferry

Lt. Christopher L. Fussell, USN

Mrs. Heather S. Haldeman

Mrs. Heather E. King

Mrs. Kawanzaa S. King

Mrs. Nancy E. Knowdell

Mr. Jordan R. Kobert

Dr. Vikram B. Mansharamani

Mr. Jonas R. McDavit

Mr. Marcelino E. Menendez

Mr. Daniel C. Millner*

Dr. Yaron G. Rabinowitz

Miss Valerie A. Rosenberg

Mrs. Heather A. Schneider Flanders

Mr. Adam Shoenfeld

Mr. Michael Stabile III

Dr. Matthew W. Strobeck

Mrs. Kimberly M. Vesce Panzanaro

Mrs. Tasha R. Williams-Arroyo

1993

Class Reps: Bernadette M. Clifford John J. W. Inkeles **Nicole Tipton**

Capt. Brian Antonelli

Mrs. Molly A. Dunne*

Capt. David W. Filanowicz, USN*

Mrs. Melina O. Fisher* Mrs. Hollie S. Foley

Mrs. Lena R. Geandreau

Mrs. Mclane Goard*

Mr. David E. Greenberg

Mrs. Lauren N. Haley*

Mr. Hyun Seok Hwang*

Mr. John J. W. Inkeles*

Mr. John D. Leonardis*

Mr. James M. Moore, Hon. '93*

Mr. Mark W. Neilan

Alumni Weekend Reunion Attendance Records

Attendance records				
Year	Highest	Percentage		
2022	1962	25%		
2019	1969	42%		
2018	1968	40%		
2017	1942	43%		
2016	1956	35%		
2015	1965	43%		
2014	1964	32%		

Note: The traditional program was suspended in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic.

Dr. Ian M. Paterson* Mr. Derek M. Peachey* Ms. Karin E. Roethke-Kahn Mr. Marcos Rollan Mr. Gregory G. Romagnoli Dr. Sharon B. Sutherland Mrs. Nicole Tipton* Mr. Richard W. Wenner* Mr. Walter B. West II

1994

Class Reps: Bryan P. Kelly John P. Weesner Joanne L. Wrzesinsky

Mr. Michael R. Bloch Mr. Michael J. Brennan II* Mr. Devin S. Chodorow Dr. Jessica A. Deede* Mrs. Amy L. Del Turco* Mrs. MacKenzie A. Guyer Mrs. Chloe A. Holderness* Mrs. Amy B. J. Koehler Ms. Rachel L. Koenig Ms. Suzanne A. Lombardi* Mrs. Lanisha D. Makle-Ridley* Mr. James P. McFadden, Jr. Mr. Rodrigo A. Menendez* Mrs. Lynne A. O'Hearn Mrs. Catherine B. Rosenthal Mr. Brendan P. Smith Ms. Melissa J. Stock Mr. John P. Weesner Ms. Joanne L. Wrzesinsky*

1995

Class Reps: Stephanie J. Marcial E. Courtnay Stanford

Mr. Carlin R. Binder Mr. Todd A. Bowie Maj. Carlos R. Cuevas Mrs. Inger K. de Montecinos Ms. Leslie A. Drescher Mr. Warin L. Epstein Ms. Emily M. Ferguson* Ms. Jennifer B. Harper* Mr. Thomas H. Hart* Ms. Samantha A. Haspel Mr. Gordon H. Hull* Ms. Stephanie J. Marcial* Mr. Daisuke M. Nakamura Mr. Edwin S. Neely Mr. Brandon D. Nothstine* Mr. Guillermo Pineda-Bours* Mrs. Liesel J. Schopler* Mr. John M. Skvarla Mr. Andrew B. Solar Mrs. Stacey A. Spring Capt. Caren M. Standfast, USMC Mrs. E. Courtnay Stanford* Mr. SangWon Suh* Ms. Jaya Vadlamudi

1996

Class Reps: Stefanie R. Kuhner Summer J. Passannante Anthony C. Powell

Dr. Kathleen C. Wawrzyniak Webb

Mr. Nicholas M. Almeida Mr. Matthew J. Bracken* Ms. Megan H. Brodbeck*

Dr. Addrain S. Conyers Mr. Justin C. DeCosta Mrs. Brett M. Douglas Mrs. Melissa A. Erne* Mr. Charles S. Evans* Mr. Francis C. Gaitskill Ms. Victoria A. Golden Ms. Melissa L. Guyre* Mrs. Stefanie R. Kuhner* Dr. Tamika M. Lasege* Mr. Jeffrey M. McGinn* Mrs. Sabrina S. Novick Mrs. Meghan C. Peachey-Bogen* Mr. Anthony C. Powell* Mrs. Courtney C. Rathweg* Mr. Aaron J. Rettaliata* Mrs. Jaclyn M. Roecker* Ms. April M. Ruggiero* Miss Latoya Sims Mrs. A. Kathryn M. Skrzat Mrs. Winifred S. Smith Ms. Kelly S. Sokol Mrs. Christine M. Togno Chapman* Mr. Francis A. Volpe* Mr. Edward T. Wenner*

1997

Class Reps: Christy L. Burkart Ryan M. Pagotto

Mr. Aaron Applebaum Mr. Patrick I. Arangio Mr. Daryl Auguste Mrs. Victoria P. Bailey* Mrs. Christy L. Burkart* Mr. Matthew E. Castimore Ms. Tara S. Clarke* Mr. James-Christian S. Davin Mrs. Erin F. Dow* Mr. Alexander W. Egan Ms. Jordan M. Ehmann Lt. Bradley S. Gilliatt Mr. David A. Goodman* Mr. Tanner M. Homlish Mr. Thomas F. Horne, Jr. Ms. Laura J. Inkeles* Ms. Natasha Leitch-Huggins* Mr. Thomas P. Lynch Ms. Sarah F. Lyon Mr. Samuel F. Martin* Mr. Kyle D. V. Mason* Mr. Brian J. McArthur Mr. Ryan P. McCarthy* Mr. Michael E. McDonald* Ms. Kristy L. McGlaughlin Ms. Stefanie M. Meilinger* Mr. Ryan M. Pagotto*

1998

Class Reps: Brian M. Agresta Charisse L. Manzi Jamiyl R. Peters

Mr. Christofer L. Ayers Mr. J. Joseph Beaudet Mr. Joshua M. Carle

Mr. Kevin M. Recor

Mr. Lee Ting*

Mr. Robert A. Riether

Ms. Kristen A. Tegenborg

Mrs. Rebecca A. Van Kirk

Dr. Carey L. Zimmermann

Ms. Robin S. Castimore Mr. James H. Conklin Ms. Catherine M. Dwyer Kegley Mrs. Aisha Gayle Turner* Mr. John Giacche Dr. Eric M. Katerman Mr. David H. Kunes* Ms. Maria Lane Ms. Charisse L. Manzi Mr Ned P Marcalus Mr. Michael L. Rosenthal Dr. Brita Roy Mr. Christopher C. Strickland Mr. Adam A. Tannir* Dr. Christy C. Visaggi* Ms. Sarah B. Wiss* Mr. Nowell Zimmerman

1999

Class Reps: Bridget D. Hodakowski Amy E. Jablonski Kathryn S. Piotrowski Mark T. Rosenthal

Mr. Marcos Alvarado Mrs. Megan C. Apgar* Mr. Robert D. Apgar* Mr. Waleed M. Bississo Ms. Heather L. Buchholz Mrs. Emily B. Gotowka Mr. Thomas O. Hay* Mrs. Bridget D. Hodakowski* Mrs. Amy E. Jablonski* Mr. Drewry J. Jones III Mr. Timothy A. Lamb* Mr. Jesse A. Lehrhoff Mr. R. Hunter Lippincott* Mrs. Suzy A. Logan* Ms. Jessica T. Mullin Ms. Kathryn S. Piotrowski* Ms. Nicole S. Pouliot Mr. Jeremy R. Samet Mr. Adam V. Sampieri Mr. Neal Santosuosso* Mrs. Samantha VK Sintros Mr. Oliver F. Sterlacci Mr. Jason Van Volkenburgh

2000

Class Reps: Logan K. Garrels Meredith M. Seidel Wells

Mrs. Amanda E. Apple Mr. Michael J. Carbonaro Mr. Mark Dankiewicz* Mr. Logan K. Garrels* Mr. Richard G. Huizenga Mr. Paul W. Jablonski* Mr. Casey W. Krugman Mrs. Elizabeth N. McDowell Mr. Andrew D. Peters* Mrs. Meredith M. Seidel Wells Mrs. Jane M. Spann* Dr. Michael A. Tessel* Mr. Panos J. Voulgaris* Mr. Charles L. Washington, Jr.*

2001

Class Reps: Kweighbaye Kotee Maria Lieberman Smalley

Ms. Nicole A. Applebaum* Mr. William Balderston V

Mr. Justin P. Berutich Mrs. Kristen E. Bogart Salmon* Mrs. Amy P. Boyle Mr. Douglas P. Freeman Mr. Jay C. Garrels* Mrs. Amanda P. Gentile Mrs. Cormany K. Koeppen Ms. Kweighbaye Kotee Mrs. Sally A. Lidinsky* Mrs. Maria Lieberman Smalley* Mrs. Kelley A. Mack* Mrs. Ashlyn E. Rector* Mr. Justin P. Rumore Ms. Ashley T. Tanis* Mr. Seniboye E. Tienabeso Mr. Michael Trillo Mr. Charles A. Weber

2002

Class Reps: E. Meredith Gal Stephanie A. Garbutt

Chelsea N. Grefe McCann Mr. Peter K. Ahn Mr. Matthew J. Alario* Mrs. Brooks Anderson Whitten Mr. Michael B. Ashton Mr. Gregory E. Baser Capt. Steven J. Benedetti* Mr. Christopher W. Curcio* Mrs. Rebecca R. Fehskens* Mr. Benjamin S. Fertig* Mrs. E. Meredith Gal* Mrs. Deborah L. Gamarekian Mr. Akhil Garg* Mr. Jeffrey B. Graupe Dr. Chelsea N. Grefe McCann* Mr. Jason Haas* Mr. Andrew A. Lebed Mr. Thomas S. Lieberman* Mr David A Lin Ms. Victoria R. Lombardi Ms. Vanita Mansharamani* Mr. Colin C. McAdoo* Mr. Max Meltzer Mr. Andrew R. Pearce* Mrs. Jane P. Poirier*

2003

Mr. Andrew M. Price

Mr. Christopher D. Smith

Mr. Gabriel R. Vallejo*

Mrs. Victoria C. Vallejo*

Ms. Sophie W. Wiss

Mrs. Alexandra Weichert

Mr. John-Thomas Young

Class Reps: Jessica A. Hess Brandon D. Lucien Christine L. C. Nalty Sarah C. Soden Stephanie E. Tucker

Ms. Neva J. Anthony* Mrs. Evette A. Berardi-Cox Mr. Brian N. Brewster Mr. Ethan Bucarey Mr. Alan M. Carr Mrs. Virginia S. Case* Ms. Ahra Cho* Mrs. Amanda A. Floyd Mr. Andrew J. Floyd Mr. Todd F. Haselton

Mrs. Jessica A. Hess* Mrs. Donna R. Kampschuur Mr. Michael P. Kerrigan Mr. Nicholas D. Lieberman* Mr. Matthew J. Maciag* Ms. Rebecca A. McAndrew* Ms. Jessica E. McShane* Mr. Christian Morelli Mrs. Sara J. Morey Mrs. Christine L. C. Nalty* Mr. Andrew J. Peters* Mr. Robert B. Preston Ms. Elizabeth J. Ricca Mr. Walter Schoen Mrs. Susanna R. Scott Gewirtz Mr. Daniel G. Seals Mrs. Sarah C. Soden Mr. Michael Stival* Mr. Stephen A. Swentzel* Mrs. Stephanie E. Tucker Mrs. Jennifer T. Turner* Mrs. Elizabeth M. Wearin Ms. Joanna L. S. Weber Mr. Michael E. C. Wilson* Mrs. Lindsey Zacharias*

2004

Class Reps: Matthew J. Dwyer Kaitlin G. Maillet Matyasovsky Philip J. Mauriello, Jr.

Mr. Christopher Alvarez Mr. Emmanuel Bello* Ms. Jessica A. Cicchino

Ms. Carolyn R. Davis* Mrs. Samantha C. Doheny Mr. Matthew J. Dwyer Ms. Courtney L. Fields Mrs. Meredith E. Habermann Mr. Zachary I. Hammond Mrs. Kathryn L. Hanson

Mr. Nicholas C. Hindle Mrs. Caroline A. Interrante* Ms. Ga Young Jang

Mr. Andrew S. Kaskel* Mrs. Carly E. Kaskel*

Mrs. Kaitlin G. Maillet Matyasovsky* Mr. Philip J. Mauriello, Jr.

Ms. Molly V. D. Mesnard* Mr. Kevin T. Reese*

Mrs. Cortney A. Romyns-Sinegra Mr. William N. C. Scott

Mr Fric J Steere Mr. Todd Tamagnini*

Mr. Douglas J. Weltman

2005

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

Ms. Staci N. Alario* Ms. Lauren E. Anderson* Ms. Katherine M. Brandwood Mr. Matthew L. Brazaitis Mr. Jonathan R. Carroll

Mr. Hwan Choi Ms. Deborah M. Clarke* Ms. Sasha Ewan

Ms. Courtney Fairclough Mr. Matthew D. Fields

Mr. Scott R. Findlay Mr. Daniel K. Frey Mr. Robert Gilbert*

Mr. Ross E. Gitomer Dr. Elizabeth A. Hall

Ms. Mary J. Hall

Mrs. Marian M. Hass Mrs. Lauren C. Hopfer*

Mr. Bradley C. Horth Mr. Ty W. Johnston* Dr. Avishek R. Kumar*

Mr. Justin Lubliner* Mr. Rvan A. Lutz

Mrs. Marion O. McAdoo*

Mrs. Faith C. McNeill* Mrs. Kathrvn H. Nelson* Mr. Dominic Nocerino

Mrs. Claire C. Noel* Ms. Erica L. Parra

Mr. Jonathan R. Slawson* Mr. Jordan Steans

Mr. Julian F. Swayze* Mr. Tyler S. Thurgood Ms. Evelyn B. Tilney*

Ms. Jennifer C. Welsh* Mr. Geoffrey E. Weyl*

Ms. Jessica C. Young*

2006

Class Reps: Alexander B. Graber Kelly L. Hart Elizabeth A. Hinman Anne E. Newall

Ms. Natessa P. Amin Mr. Daniel Auguste Mrs. Christine E. Bacon Mr. Timothy M. Bacon* Ms. Phaedra Ballard Ms. Lara A. Bucarey Mr. Michael J. Cronce Ms. Tamara J. De Vine

Mr. Alexander B. Graber Mr. Michael V. Guttilla

Ms. Kelly L. Hart*

Mr. Craig A. Hendrickson Ms. Elizabeth A. Hinman*

Mr. Daniel E. Kraines'

Mr. Jordan N. Liebowitz* Dr. Edwina O. Lizardo Orbe*

Mr. Matthew Maillet*

Mr. Corey A. Minerva* Mr. Tyler W. Pruce

Mrs. Sarah L. White

2007

Class Reps: Kymbia P. Ainsworth Margaret L. Harding Marisa S. Nedderman Cooper A. Smith

Ms. Kymbia P. Ainsworth* Ms. Gelihsa Arjoon* Mr. Alexander R. Auger Ms. Angela C. Celeste*

Great Teachers The following past & present Blair faculty & staff were honored with gifts this year.

Ms. Nicole A. Applebaum '01 Mr. Selden D. Bacon, Jr. Mrs. Rita Baragona Mrs. Emma K. Barnes O'Neill Mr. Jason E. Beck Mrs. Edythe D. Bertoldo '79 Ms. Julia Booth Mrs. Maria K. Bowditch Mr. Gregory J. Bowman

The Rev. Peter L. Amerman

Mrs. Joanne A. Brandwood Mr. Robert C. Brandwood Mr. R. L. Browse Mr. Jeffrey P. Buxton Ms. Caroline Chamberlain

Mr. Quinten A. Clarke '87 Dr. Richard E. Clarke Mr. Paul S. Clavel '88

Mrs. Claire Coffey Mr. Douglass Compton

Mrs. Carolyn M. Conforti-Browse '79

Mr. Robert C. Cooke Ms. Alex Cullen Mr. Peter G. Curran Mr. Ronald J. Czajkowski Mr. Charles W. Danhof Mr. Timothy Devaney Mr. Foster Q. Doan Mr. Edwidge Dorelien

Mrs. Melissa A. Erne '96

Mr. Craig E. Evans Mrs. Kaye R. Evans Mr. David Facciani Mr. Anders Fogel

Mr. James A. Frick

Mr. Christopher M. Fortunato, JD, LCSW

Mr. Michael Garrant Mrs Casandra D Gerdsen Mr. W. Rod Gerdsen Mr. Ross E. Gitomer '05 Mrs. Kelly Hadden Mr. Craig C. Hall Mr. Robert Hanson Mrs. Monie T. Hardwick

Mr. T. Chandler Hardwick III Mr. Huntley R. Harrison Mr. Andrew C. Hay

Mr. Daniel P. Hazen

Mrs. Bridget D. Hodakowski '99 Mr. Dale P. Hurley

Mr. G. Thomas Hutchinson Ms. Janet M. Hutchinson Mrs. Amy E. Jablonski '99 Mr. Steven Kampmann

Mr. James R. Kelley, Sr., Hon. '51, '89

Mrs. Joyce Lang Mrs. Allison Leddy Mrs. Susan C. Long Mr. C. Carter Lorant '08 Mrs. Candida C. Low Mr. David T. Low, Sr. Ms. Velma A. Lubliner Mrs. Jennifer Lusardi

Mrs. Jenny S. Maine, Hon. '77 Mr. David Mamukelashvili

Mr. Ryan Manni

Mr. Joseph W. Mantegna Mrs. Michelle E. Mantegna Mrs. Laura E. Martin

Mr. Richard M. Martin Mr. Kyle D. V. Mason '97 Mr. Carmelo Mazza

Mr. James W. Mell Dr. Martin S. Miller, Hon. '81 Ms. Cara B. Mohlmann

Mr. Nathan A. Molteni

Mr. James M. Moore, Hon. '93 Mr. David R. Naysmith

Mr. John Padden Mrs. Jennifer Pagotto Mr. Ryan Pagotto Mr. Chase Palanca '15 Ms Marianna A Paone Mr. Thomas M. Parauda

Mr. Kevin Parsons Ms. Lorry Perry Ms. Caroline Queally Mr. Wayne G. Rasmussen Mr. John P. Redos '09

Mr. Jeffrey A. Reed Mrs. Andrea Ryerson

Dr. Michael J. Sayers Mr. Martin Schmalenberg

Ms. Pamela Schulman Mrs. Kristine M. Scialla

Mrs. Leucretia Shaw Ms. Alexandra Solms

Mrs. E. Courtnay Stanford '95

Mr. Lewis M. Stival Mrs. Lois M. Stival Mr. James H. Stone Mr. Brad Strauss Mr. Andrew D. Sykes Mrs. Katherine E. Sykes Mrs. Allison Thomas Mr. Evan Thomas

Mrs. Nicole Tipton '93 Mr. Mitchell Towne Mr. Tyson R. Trish

Dr. Elliott C. Trommald, Hon. '65

Mrs. Amy B. Vachris Mr. David R. Vachris Mr. Joseph Wagner Mrs. Lian Wang Mr. Charles Warner Mr. Edward T. Wenner '96 Mrs. Ann Williams Ms. Caroline A. Wilson Ms. Rosalyn Zamora

2021-2022 Reunion Committees

Reunion Committee volunteers help to ensure their classes have meaningful Alumni Weekend experiences. Committee members reconnect with classmates, encourage Alumni Weekend attendance and lead their class gift efforts. Blair is grateful for the long tradition of generous donations to the School by reunion classes that commemorate these milestones to benefit current students and faculty.

Mr. Frank R. Barnako, Jr. '62 Mr. James A. Fox '62 Mr. Mark Gottesman '62 Mr. Willard H. Johnson, Jr. '62 Mr. Gerald L. Manning '62 Mr. Creed R. Terry '62 Dr. Donald J. Weinstein '62 Mr. Carl R. Cramer '72 Dr. Douglas F. Liva, Sr. '72 Mr. Philip M. Marbach '72 Mr. Robert J. Plunkett '72 Mr. Eduardo Poma '72

Mr. E. Scott Sumner '72

Mr. Gregory A. Washburn '72 Mr. Douglas R. Wolfe '72 Mr. Harry D. Gates '77 Mr. Paul R. Goring '77 Mr. Richard T. Liuzzi, Esq. '77 Mr. Scott E. McKee '77 Mr. William H. Abbott '82 Mrs. Kirsten T. Bushick '82 Mr. Raymond Castellani III '82 Mrs. Marivelle S. Clavel-Davis '82 Mr. Roger D. Gershman '82 Mr. William G. Holenstein '82 Mr. J. David Woods '82

Dr. Darryl M. De Marzio '92 Mrs. Heather E. King '92 Mrs. Kawanzaa S. King '92 Mr. Daniel C. Millner '92 Mrs. Tasha R. Williams-Arroyo '92 Mrs. Victoria P. Bailey '97 Mrs. Christy L. Burkart '97 Mrs. Erin F. Dow '97 Ms. Natasha Leitch-Huggins '97

Ms. Erin J. Washington '02 Ms. Gelihsa Arjoon '07 Mr. Kevin M. Lieberman '07 Ms. Olivia R. Clavel-Davis '12 Mr. Samuel F. Martin '97 Ms. Ali N. Johnson '12 Mr. Kyle D. V. Mason '97 Mr. Jacob N. Saxton '17 Mr. Brian J. McArthur '97 Mr. Tys M. Sweeney '17 Mr. Ryan M. Pagotto '97 Ms. Lauren C. Tung '17

Mr. Ryan D. Class Mr. Hudson L. Collins Mr. Alex Cournover* Mr. Colin B. Daddino* Ms. Jaclyn L. Donohue Ms. Arlana Egan* Mrs. Allison M. Eisenhauer Mr. Jeffrey W. Ernsting* Mr. Christopher Z. Eu Mr. Dennis W. Flores* Ms. Dominique D. Frasier Mr. Jameson R. Gay Mr. Alexander G. Imperatore Ms. Zoe Jameson Mr. Dixon B. Jelich* Mrs. Alexandra K. K. Kilgore Mrs. Alexandra R. Lavorato* Mr. Kevin M. Lieberman* Mr. Max Mathies Mr. Craig M. McConnell* Mr. Michael G. Pouliot* Mr Kellen F Russell Mr. Michael S. Russell Mr. Brendan S. Schaffer

Mr. Matthew C. Gallira* Mr. Filip M. Gzella* Ms. Madeline A. Hargis* Mrs. Alexa M. Jachowski* Mr. Derek S. Jonsson Mr. Lukas Kozlowski Mr Todd P Lewis Mr. Edward H. Lim* Mr. C. Carter Lorant Ms. Elizabeth H. Martens Ms. Marissa Mattar* Ms. Taylor C. McKay* Ms. Laura A. McNeill* Mr. Alex S. Motiuk* Mr. William S. E. Neff Mr. Timothy D. Peacock* Ms. Caitlin Pinkard* Mr. Kenneth H. Shin Ms. Ashley H. Thompson* Ms. Samantha M. Tilney* Ms. Tina A. Tozzi* Mr. Anthony M. Valles Mr. James L. Walton Mr Samuel W Wood* Mr. Adam C. J. Ziff*

Mr. Kyle Stevens Mr. Patrick T. Sweeney 2010 Class Reps: Sarah E. Bugen Jin Ryang Chung Michael DeTogni Dillon R. Hoffman Rebecca A. Marcus **Brittany T. Small** Saul Sparber Neil P. Zimmermann Ms. Arielle Aikens' Ms. Heather M. Britt Ms. Asia M. Bryant

Ms. Sarah A. Kerrigan

Ms. Jenna A. Lubliner*

Mr. Eric H. Panicucci*

Mr. Stephen V. Patane

Mr. Daniel H. Smith*

Mr. Elliot Parauda

Ms. Sarah E. Bugen Ms. Jacqueline E. Carter* Ms. Jenna N. Catalano* Mr. Celil N. Cavusoglu Mr. Jin Ryang Chung Mr. Timothy C. DeBerry* Mr. Michael DeTogni* Ms. Maeve A. Fahey* Ms. Lindsay Gilbert* Mrs. Julie C. Graber Mr. Dillon R. Hoffman* Mr. Keunrak Kang* Ms. Sara P. Loveys Mr. Marcus A. Luise Mr Patrick Maillet* Mrs. Rebecca A. Marcus* Mr. Graham N. McConnell* Ms. Kirsten R. McKenna Ms. Rebecca L. Merrifield

Ms. Kathryn C. Middleton

Mr. Anuphab Phraewphanarai

Mr. Jeffrey D. North*

Mr. F. Calder A. Powel

Mr. Nathaniel A. Reichel Mr. Terence E. Rhea Mr. Theodore J. Welch Mr. Neil P. Zimmermann*

Ms. Samantha Ranaghan '97

Dr. Chelsea N. Grefe McCann '02

Mr. Matthew J. Alario '02

Mr. Benjamin S. Fertig '02

Mrs. E. Meredith Gal '02

Class Reps: Anu C. Akinbamidele Emily A. Collins Margaret B. Hoffman Nicholas M. Hogan Quinn C. McKay Rebecca H. Smith-Fuentes

Ms. Anu C. Akinbamidele Mr. Spencer Beriont Mr. Ben H. Brandreth Ms. Cynthia M. Buchanan Mr. Daniel V. Cioffi* Ms. Emily A. Collins* Ms. Sydney M. Cordero* Mrs. Claire J. B. Daddino Gonzalez* Mr. Mikal Davis-West* Ms. Elizabeth L. Deehan Mr. Cheng Ding Mr. George H. Erlandson Ms. Eleanor F. Fielding* Mr. Morgan J. Gardiner Mr. Taylor C. Greik Mr. Liad Herrick Ms. Margaret B. Hoffman* Mr. Nicholas M. Hogan* Ms. Ashley lannone*

Ms. Kristin A. Jasinski Ms. Margaret E. Joest Mr. Soomin Kay Ms. Kathleen P. Kennedy Ms. Marjory L. Kling Ms. Kohiyama E. LaFountain* Ms. Nicole C. Lem* Mr. Tucker C. Markus

Ms. Quinn C. McKay* Mr. Christopher Morales Ms. Kelsey A. Stevens Mr. Matthew J. Stocker Mr. Robert A. Sutherland*

2008

Anonymous

Class Reps: Madeline A. Hargis Alexa M. Jachowski Katherine I. Johnson **Birchette** Alex S. Motiuk Ashley H. Thompson Samantha M. Tilney

Mrs. Natalya Schluechter*

Mr. Alexis Wangmene

Ms. Taylor C. Willis*

Mr. Elliott W. Anderson Mr. Nicholas T. Browse Mr Louis R Cirillo Mrs. Kaitlin E. Deane* Mr. Lamar C. Duffy Ms. Laura A. Esposito Mr. Jonathan D. Gallagher

Mrs. Christine H. Thompson* Ms. Amanda C. Zranchev

2009

Class Reps: Raleigh F. Dierlam Janak N. Padhiar Mr. G. Gavin Allen Mr. Andrew S. Celeste Mr. Paul C. A. Clairmont

Ms. Melissa L. Collins* Mr Adam B Daddino Mr. Ricardo De Zulueta Lt. James F. Diddell* Mrs. Raleigh F. Dierlam* Ms. Alyssa B. Drazin Mr. James B. Fahev*

Mr. Nicholas A. Graber

Ms. Sarah E. Clark

Mrs. Alexandra S. Sweeney* Mr. Cole S. Tashijan Mr. Matthew T. Thees Mr. Eric S. Timken Miss Kelsey A. Vella* Mrs. Rebecca E. Vondell* Mr. Amory S. Weld Mr. Dominick R. Zook 2012

Class Reps: Meredith A. Berry-Toon Olivia R. Clavel-Davis Timothy J. Hettinger Ali N. Johnson Timothy M. O. Kui Phoebe M. O'Rourke

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Mr. Griffin Beriont Mr. Adam Berkman

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Ms. Carolyn A. Wan Ms. Sierra C. Yit*

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Mr. Parama Viprakasit

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Mr Daniel R Wask

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Mr. Emery J. Castimore

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"It's very important to give back to those who helped one get one's start and to make this opportunity open to others helping them on their journey. Not just parents, but teachers, mentors and peers drive who we are and will become. The Blair environment and community had a profound impact on me, which is why I founded the Blair Club of Asia alumni group 15 years ago and am helping spin up a Blair job and internship program today."

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"The reason we give to Blair is to thank the School for all it did for our little family. I've been volunteering for many years—beginning when Jenny Maine, Hon. '77, was the alumni director—how can you refuse Jenny? Marian and I also enjoy coming to campus to watch athletics and especially enjoyed cheering on basketball star **Luol Deng '03**. Being around the students and young alumni is a true joy for us. In addition, we gain satisfaction from reintroducing the School to older alumni. Our photo was taken at Blair's 150th anniversary celebration. Our work and involvement give us hope for the next 150 years!"

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Mr. and Mrs. L. Nelson Behmer

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Mr. Mark Benedict Ms. Sandra L. Benedict

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Mrs. Sharon Chapski

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Mr. Justin Lubliner '05

Ms. Jenna A. Lubliner '09

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Mr. and Mrs. Joe P. Neely

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Ms. Adriana G. Scialla '22

Mrs. Kathleen M. D'Ambrosio Mr. Mark Scialla and Mrs. Kristine Scialla

1946	Donald C. Breiby Sr. March 20, 2022 Overland Park, Kansas	1954	Robert M. Hawekotte Jr. April 14, 2020 Lyons, Georgia	1982	Hans H. Gochenaur March 21, 2022 Fair Lawn, New Jersey
	Andrew Davlin Jr. May 7, 2022 St. George, Utah		John H. Lewis Jr. June 16, 2022 Hershey, Pennsylvania	1984	S. Nissley Gingrich II May 15, 2022 Wilmington, Delaware
1947	Donald A. Legg March 23, 2022 Cresskill, New Jersey	1955	Brian D. Bennett May 20, 2022 Newtown, Connecticut	1994	Brian Meeney March 17, 2022 Maywood, New Jersey
	Henry McCool January 1, 2022 Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania	1956	Peter M. Black May 28, 2022 Bayonne, New Jersey	1995	Kyle P. Tipson April 16, 2022 Winooski, Vermont
	Alfred M. Schmidt Jr. March 27, 2022 Vero Beach, Florida	1961	David H. Permar June 21, 2022 Raleigh, North Carolina	1996	Rafael E. Alvarez March 2022 Miami, Florida
1949	William E. Hopler March 5, 2022 Long Valley, New Jersey Oscar Paz-Arias	1968	Charles M. Belmer Jr. January 22, 2022 Marblehead, Massachusetts Richard C. Johnston	Former	Trustee Anthony F. Daddino August 1, 2022 Greenwich, Connecticut
	October 3, 2021 Panama City, Panama		May 15, 2022 Absecon, New Jersey		Michael F. Price March 13, 2022 Rye, New York
1951	David E. Flatow March 15, 2022 Longboat Key, Florida	1969	William A. Flint III March 30, 2022 Stuart, Florida	Past Pa	
	William H. Kiehnle February 23, 2022 Osprey, Florida	1977	Thomas A. DeMartin May 23, 2022 Long Beach Township, New Jersey		Hong Kong Katharine K. Sigety October 30, 2021
1953	Raymond D. Lutz September 30, 2021 Vernon Hill, Illinois		Gregory W. Schmidt January 17, 2022 Hillsborough, New Jersey	Former	Pipersville, Pennsylvania Staff Hal S. Eaton
					April 6, 2022 Middleville, New Jersey

1946

Donald C. Breiby Sr. Don participated in tennis during his one year at Blair. He graduated from Lafayette College with a bachelor's degree in business administration, and he and his wife owned and operated a Baskin-Robbins ice-cream franchise. Don served in the U.S. Army during World War II and was a Lions Club member for 34 years. Don loved to travel and enjoyed music, dancing and spending time with his family. He was predeceased by his first wife, Pat. He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Phyllistine, six

children, 11 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Andrew Davlin Jr. Andy was a steadfast supporter of the School and a loyal alum who served as a class representative. He was a member of the golf team and the ACTA while at Blair and graduated from Princeton University with a bachelor's degree in economics, and, later, earned a master's degree from Columbia University. He served three years in the United States Navy during the Korean War as ensign and commandant of the

Third Navy District. He was stationed in Newport, Rhode Island, and in western Europe and attended both the U.S. Naval Justice School and Gunnery Officers Ordnance School. His service also earned him the European Occupation Ribbon and the American Defense Service Ribbon. With his first wife, Mary, Andy had six children, five of whom survive him. Andy worked in Manhattan as a partner at Tucker Anthony brokerage and then as a partner for Hambrecht & Quist in San Francisco. His passion for travel extended to a pilot's license,

Emeritus Trustee

John H. Lewis Jr. An emeritus Trustee on Blair's Board and former Board of Governors member, John was a proud alum of the Class of 1954 who went on to graduate from Princeton University in 1958 and from Harvard Law School in 1961. Over the course of his career, he served as a major and judge advocate in the United States Air Force and as counsel of Langfitt PLLC in Gladwyne, Pennsylvania. Prior to joining that firm, John was a senior litigation partner with Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, where he served for over 10 years as head of the firm's litigation section for all of its offices. In addition to these responsibilities, John was chairman of its antitrust, trade regulation section and chairman of its professional liability practice group; he also served three terms on Morgan Lewis' executive committee and governing board. A fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, John resided in Gladwyne, Pennsylvania, where he and his late wife, Mary Ann, raised three sons, David, Mark and Peter. Peter was a math and science teacher at Blair from 1985-1989. John served on Blair's Board from 1977 to 1996, at which time he was elected to emeritus membership. He was particularly proud of his years of service on Blair's Board of Trustees, including co-chairing a search committee for a new Head of School in the late 1980s.

John attended Blair for four years and was a leader on campus, serving on student council and being elected student council secretary as a junior and president as a senior. He also took leadership roles as president of the Forensic Society, vice president and president of the

International Society, vice president and president of the Webster Society and secretary of the Dramatics Club. He was also active in the Debating Society, Stylus Society and the Cum Laude Society. He won a number of subject prizes during his Blair career, made the honor roll and played JV football. The 1954 ACTA noted that the Lafayette, New Jersey, native "obtained a name for the school and for himself which will not soon be forgotten. In addition to his outstanding scholastic achievements and his extracurricular work in writing, dramatics and debating, John found time to be a capable leader of the senior class. He has also moved off campus to become a public speaker and television personality. We, who knew him on the Hill, will always remember him. His future, for which he has prepared himself here so well, is sure to be a successful one." John fostered long and lasting relationships with administrators, faculty and fellow students, and commenced his focus on public speaking, debate, and community engagement.

In his legal career, he relished mentoring and working with peers and junior colleagues who were much more than professional partners—they and their families were dear and lasting friends. His sense of service as an attorney at law was evident to those who knew him and worked with him as he devoted countless hours of pro bono work to other individuals and organizations.

John was preceded in death by Mary Ann and his son, David. He is survived by his sons, Mark and Peter, grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

and he flew his children back and forth in his Helio Courier, which provided for an abundance of fascinating and terrifying stories, laughs, incredulous antics and lasting memories. In 1983, Andy married Doris, the mother of his two stepchildren. They traveled together, and Andy focused on entrepreneurial business pursuits, including aquaculture, gold mining and managing equities. Andy was an avid reader and learner, reading dozens of periodicals, and kept all his alumni magazines. Stacked shelves confirmed that printed publications dating back to the sixties trumped digital editions. He is survived by his children, nine grandchildren and four step-grandchildren, including Hannah L. Ochtera '17.

1947

Donald A. Legg. A four-year Blair student, Don was a member of the football team. He studied at Colgate University, where he was a member of Phi Delta Theta. Don served in the U.S. Coast Guard from 1951 to 1953 before commencing his career as a corporate executive at Union Carbide. He and his wife retired to Brewster, Cape Cod. A lifelong member of Englewood Field Club, he enjoyed biking, sailing, golfing and always remained active. He is survived by his wife of 66 years, June, seven children, 14 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Henry McCool. After graduating from Blair, Henry enrolled at Lafayette College and left after one year to join the Navy, where he served in the Amphibious Forces. Early in his career, he served as the Monroe County deputy sheriff and, later, as chief probation officer, a position he held for 29 years. While working for the probation office he received his bachelor's and master's degrees in education and psychology, after which he taught courses on juvenile delinquency and psychology to police officers at Northampton and Lehigh community colleges and East Stroudsburg University. In 1981, he became district court judge for Pocono,

Former Trustee

Anthony F. Daddino. Tony served on the Blair Board of Trustees from 2006 to 2012 and was an ex-officio member of the Budget Committee until 2014. During his time on the Board, Tony was involved in developing the School's 2011-2016 Strategic Plan and served on the Education and School Life and Investment committees, in addition to the Budget Committee.

Tony completed his undergraduate work at St. John's University, graduating in 1962. He went on to become the longest-serving partner at Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette, Inc. before his retirement as chief financial officer and chief accounting officer. Tony was also an active board

member of other organizations, including Greenwich Adult Day Care, St. Luke's Lifeworks, the Field Point Park Association, and the Boys and Girls Club of Greenwich. He was also a member of the Belle Haven Club, Stanwich Club and GlenArbor Club.

The Daddinos have left quite a legacy at Blair: Tony and Susan's three children, *Colin '07, Adam '09* and *Claire '11*, made many contributions to our community during and after their time at Blair. Over the years, Tony and Susan hosted a number of Blair receptions at their home in Connecticut and served as terrific Blair ambassadors at every opportunity.

Hamilton and Jackson townships, and served in this position until he retired in 1994. After retiring, he was appointed by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court as the first senior district court judge serving Monroe County and held this role until 2004. He is survived by his wife, Connie, and family and friends.

Alfred M. Schmidt Jr. Al graduated cum laude from Blair in 1947 and had a lifelong connection to the School as an alum, parent and a member of the Alumni Board of Governors. He matriculated at Dartmouth College, where he was a member of Phi Delta Theta. After college, he entered his father's business, a knitwear manufacturing and importing company, where he had the opportunity to travel the world. Subsequently, he became vice president of marketing at Brooks Brothers, Bergdorf Goodman and The Franklin Mint. Al started a catalog consulting firm, The Schmidt Group International. He was a pioneer in the direct marketing field and served domestic and international clients. For 60 years, he and his wife, Joan, raised their three children at the Jersey Shore and in Mendham, New Jersey. As a family, they enjoyed golf, skiing, tennis and swimming and were members of the Green Gables

Croquet Club in Spring Lake, New Jersey. He was predeceased by his first wife, Joan, and is survived by his second wife, Mary June. Al is also survived by his three children, six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren, as well as Mary June's five children, 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

1949

William E. Hopler. In 1948, Bill graduated from Morristown High School. The following year, he graduated from Blair Academy, and was a member of the choir and the football manager. A graduate of Lehigh University, Bill worked at Allied Chemical/Allied Signal in Morristown, New Jersey, in different managerial and director positions before retiring in 1982. Following his career at Allied Chemical, Bill served as the manager at American Hoechst in Leominster, Massachusetts, and vice president of Air Blast in Randolph, New Jersey, and later managed the houseware department at Epstein's in Morristown before the store closed in 2004. He was also a church elder at the Presbyterian Church in Morristown. Bill is survived by his wife of 41 years, Ann, his daughter, four grandchildren and two greatgrandchildren. He was predeceased by his first wife of 25 years, Carol.

Oscar Paz-Arias. At Blair, Oscar was a four-year senior, ran track and was the captain of the soccer team. He continued his education at Tri State University. Following graduation, Oscar returned to Panama, where he worked as a civil engineer for Krupp de Panama, a canal company, for over 30 years. He is survived by his loving family.

1951

David E. Flatow. Following his one year at Blair, David received his undergraduate degree from Lehigh University. He earned a JD from New York Law School after serving in the U.S. Army as a second lieutenant stationed at Fort Benning, Georgia. He recently received a master's degree in English from Long Island University. David and his wife, Ellen, founded New York Surety Company and DEF Brokerage Company. He loved the outdoors and was an accomplished sailor, golfer, skier and tennis player. He enjoyed jogging, biking, swimming and taking long walks. David was a lifelong learner and natural teacher, and he always encouraged and supported his children and grandchildren in their educational and professional pursuits. He was a consummate host, an able captain and a

Former Trustee

Michael F. Price. Father of Jordan Price '97, Andrew M. Price '02 and Jonathan C. Price '02, Michael was a steadfast supporter and friend of the School. Michael is a member of the Circle of Benefactors; served on the Board of Trustees from 1995 to 2001; and was an active member of the Finance Committee and the Investment Committee, supporting great growth and change.

An avid athlete and football player, he headed west to the University of Oklahoma, where he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration. In 1973, he joined Heine Securities in New York where he began his career as a research assistant to Max Heine. Over time, the two men managed three funds, including the original Mutual Shares Fund, focusing on undervalued stocks and investing in bankrupt companies. At age 34, Michael took over the leadership of the firm and, following Max's death in 1988, purchased Heine Securities and rebranded the fund family as the Mutual Series Funds. Under Michael's leadership, the firm grew to more than \$17 billion under management. In 1996, he sold Mutual Series to Franklin Resources, thereafter focusing his time on his own office, MFP Investors, his philanthropic efforts and his family. As a legendary stock picker, Michael was tenacious in his pursuit of misunderstood and overlooked investment cases. He was inquisitive, insightful and demanding but had a charm that

earned him respect from colleagues and adversaries alike.

What was less well known was that Michael applied these same characteristics in the development of others, giving a unique opportunity to myriad young graduates who might not have had the type of credentials Wall Street was seeking. The word "mentor" has been used by many. Behind the tough exterior was a man who gave the same type of opportunities he had been given so many years earlier.

Michael stayed loyal to his Oklahoma Sooners and, in 1997, established the Michael F. Price School of Business. He continued to support his beloved alma mater in the years to follow and was proud to have his three sons matriculate there. In 2001, Michael joined the board of the Einstein School of Medicine and established the Michael F. Price Center for Genetic and Translational Medicine. Additionally, in 2017, The Price Family Center for Comprehensive Chest Care was created at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital. On a smaller scale but just as impactful, Michael regularly gave to individuals in need who crossed his path, hoping to create opportunities otherwise unattainable.

Michael is survived by his wife of 21 years, Jenny; their children, Charlie, Grace and Teddy; his older children, Jordan, Andrew and Jonathan; and 10 grandchildren, including **Taylor M. Ehmann '25**.

gifted raconteur. David and Ellen retired to Longboat Key, Florida, in 1998, where he served as president of the Grand Bay community board and his building for several years. He is survived by his wife, Ellen, five children including **Leon D. Greenberg '84**, and eight grandchildren.

William H. Kiehnle. A two-year Blair Buc, known to his classmates as Bill, he was a three sport athlete. The 1951 *ACTA* notes that Bill was an honor student, served on the athletic council and was a member of the *ACTA*. Bill was a proud captain of the football team, basketball team and ran track. He is survived by his family.

1953

Raymond D. Lutz. Raymond was born in Bloomfield, New Jersey, and traveled with his parents to Germany prior to World War II. He was separated from them during the war, reunited and returned to the United States after the war. Raymond returned to New Jersey and spent three years at Blair. After serving in the U.S. military in Germany, Raymond graduated from Lafayette College in 1961. He embarked on a career that led him to general management in manufacturing. Raymond was an avid collector of Marklin model trains, building layouts of varying gauges from HO to Z. He treasured his time in Naples, Florida, where he wintered for the last 10 years. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, a son, two stepdaughters and four grandchildren.

1954

Robert M. Hawekotte Jr. Bob completed only his junior year at Blair but remained close to his classmates. He and his wife lived on Lake Hopatcong before relocating to Georgia. Bob started in the construction business and went on to the fuel oil business. He spent 40 years with Paragon Oil. He is survived by his wife, Marion, three children and grandchildren.

1955

Brian D. Bennett. Following four years at Blair, Brian went on to New York University. He established his professional career in advertising in New York and then moved to St. Petersburg, Florida, where he co-founded the advertising firm, Bennett and Neubert, Inc. He later moved to Connecticut

where, while semi-retired, he worked at Newtown Savings Bank. Brian had a passion for theatre and found such joy attending Broadway shows and traveling to the West End in London. He was known for his quick wit and infectious smile, and he held a special place in his heart for his friends at the F.A.I.T.H. Food Pantry of Connecticut where he volunteered. His biggest joy was his family. Brian is survived by his two daughters and two granddaughters. He was preceded in death by his ex-wife and lifelong friend, Felice Lundy, and his beloved dog, Mame.

1956

Peter M. Black. Peter was a John C. Sharpe Society member and a steadfast supporter of the School. During his four years at Blair, he was a multi-sport athlete-a member of the football, basketball and baseball teams. The 1956 ACTA notes that Peter's ambition was to be an "insurance man," and his career led him to become the president of Tanenbaum Harber Insurance Group. Peter was a very loyal alum, and together with his roommate, class rep Peter Fritts '56, they attended many class reunions and alumni events. He is survived by his wife, Ellen, and his daughters.

1961

David H. Permar. A two-year Buc who remained a loyal alum, David began his undergraduate education at Duke University and graduated from the University of Maryland. He served as a captain in the United States Army and worked in the Army Intelligence Corps, specializing in Mandarin Chinese and electronic intelligence, and was employed by the National Security Agency. He went on to earn a law degree at The George Washington University and was hired by Hatch, Little & Bunn, practicing municipal, insurance and environmental law, and retired his

partnership after 45 years. He was a member of the Wake County, North Carolina, and American Bar associations, the Transportation Lawyers Association and the North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers. David was a dedicated member of First Presbyterian Church, where he was a deacon, an elder and elder emeritus, a high school Sunday School teacher, a longtime member and past president of the Vanguard Sunday School Class. He volunteered with local organizations with great effort and energy, dedicating his time to preserving and improving them for future generations. He loved family trips in a big van, live folk and bluegrass performances, the outdoors, history, sailing, practicing law, and longterm, stable, slow-growth investment strategies. Preceded in death by his daughter, he is survived by his wife of 53 years, Ann, his two children and five grandchildren.

1968

Charles M. Belmer Jr. During his three years at Blair, Chad was a football player and captain of the swim team. He matriculated at the University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce Law Center. He was a litigation attorney for over 40 years, with his own law practice in Salem, Massachusetts. Chad was licensed to practice law in several states and was a member of the American Bar Association, the Massachusetts Bar Association, the Maine State Bar Association, the New Hampshire Bar Association, the Pennsylvania Bar Association and the Essex County Bar Association. He was a court mediator and also served on the Board of Bar Overseers, reviewing attorney disciplinary cases. Chad was an avid sailor and a member of the Eastern Yacht Club for 44 years. He had a lifelong love of skiing, hiking, sailing, camping, kayaking and almost any outdoor activity presented to him. Chad is survived by his wife of 45 years, Merrill, two children and grandchildren.

Richard C. Johnston. The 1968 *ACTA* notes that Richard served on the student council, was a prefect and a member of the soccer and basketball teams. He matriculated at Muhlenberg College. He is survived by his brother, *Robert V. Johnston '64*.

1969

William A. Flint III. "Billy" was a threeyear football player at Blair and a proud Fighting Duck, having earned his bachelor's degree in landscape architecture from the University of Oregon. He joined his father in the family ladder-manufacturing business in New Haven, Connecticut, which had been established by his great-grandfather in 1880. Later, he relocated to Stuart, Florida, where he had a rewarding career in construction and landscape architecture for more than 40 years and served on the Mariner Sands Landscape Review Board. Billy was an outdoor enthusiast and enjoyed whitewater rafting, swimming, sailing, canoeing, hiking, tennis and spending summers at his cabin in western North Carolina. He spent time woodworking and sketching and loved gardening. He is survived by his two daughters and two granddaughters.

1977

Thomas A. DeMartin. Tom earned his bachelor's degree in political science at The College of New Jersey and his master's in real estate investment and development at New York University. While at Blair, he was a member of the football and wrestling teams. Tom worked for the New Jersey Department of Transportation and, later, served as tax assessor and chief appraiser for South Brunswick Township. He went on to form his own commercial real estate appraisal business, DeMartin Schwartz, Inc., which he successfully operated for 17 years. Tom also held the positions of

director of appraisal services for TIAA CREF/Nuveen Asset Management and senior director, review and compliance, at BBG, Inc. in New York City. Tom was an avid Philadelphia Eagles fan and witnessed the team's 2018 Super Bowl victory. His family was his greatest pride, and he enjoyed golf, fishing and family time at his home in Long Beach Island. He is survived by his wife, Beth, two sons, Thomas and Tyler, and his brother, **Robert T. DeMartin '74**.

Gregory W. Schmidt. While at Blair, Gregory ran track. He attended Drexel University, where he studied business administration, and later graduated from The College of New Jersey with a criminal justice and political science degree. In 1985, Gregory became a licensed real estate agent with Weichert Realtors. He advanced to become a broker/associate and moved his business to RE/MAX Preferred Professionals in Bridgewater, New Jersey. He continued his professional career at RE/MAX Realty Solutions in Raritan, New Jersey, from 2005 to 2010 and RE/MAX Premier in Warren, New Jersey, from 2010 to 2022. Gregory earned numerous awards throughout his career, including the coveted Platinum award from RE/MAX. Gregory is survived by his siblings.

1982

Hans H. Gochenaur. Hans was a four-year senior at Blair and a loyal classmate, often coming back to campus for alumni events. He earned a bachelor's degree in English at Gettysburg College. During his professional career, he owned and operated two small businesses, a karate studio called American Tang Soo Do in Philadelphia and Pedro's Firewood and Kindling Products in Jenkintown, Pennsylvania. Hans was a faithful attendee of Grace Redeemer Church in Glen Rock, New Jersey. He is survived by his sister, nieces, nephews and many friends.

1984

S. Nissley Gingrich II. Following his Blair graduation in 1984, "Niss" studied at Lynchburg College in Virginia. He continued his studies to become a Microsoft Certified Senior Engineer specializing in security. Niss loved playing guitar, as well as bass guitar, in many bands with his friends over the years. He had a passion for the water and enjoyed boating, swimming and fishing. He also enjoyed horse racing, NASCAR, baseball and football games. He is survived by his wife, Lisa, his siblings, and six nephews and nieces.

1994

Brian Meeney. A postgraduate at Blair, Brian was the co-captain and leading scorer of the basketball team. He went on to earn a full scholarship at Long Island University for basketball. Later, Brian transferred to Rowan University, where he played football and competed in a national championship. Brian was a teacher at Bergen County Technical Schools in Paramus, New Jersey, where he was the head football coach and assistant basketball coach. During his career, he was also the head coach at Trenton Catholic Academy (formerly McCorristin Catholic), Memorial High School in West New York, Hopatcong High School and Newark East Side High School. Most recently, he was the head football coach at St. Thomas Aguinas in Edison, New Jersey, and he led the team to an undefeated regular season in 2021. He also put his time and talent into coaching his daughters' youth basketball and softball teams for the Maywood Recreation Department. Brian was a member of the National Education Association, the New Jersey Education Association and the Bergen County

Education Association. "Meeney," as he was known to his friends, was a mentor and successful coach. His enthusiasm for the game and love for his players was inspiring to everyone who knew him. Brian is survived by his partner, Randi Cabana, their two daughters, Madison and Reilly, his mother, Helene Meeney, and his brother, **Keith Meeney '99**, his wife, Lexi Novak, and their daughter, River Meeney.

1995

Kyle P. Tipson. Kyle was a loyal friend to many in the Class of 1995. Although he only attended Blair for one year as a postgraduate, he had a great impact on the School and created lifelong friendships as an exceptional member of the football, basketball and baseball teams. He continued on to Hartwick College, earning a bachelor's degree in sociology while also excelling in baseball and football. He returned to Vermont, where he worked as a bartender and. later, became co-owner of CK's Bar. He also worked at Rhino Foods, where he was a production supervisor and a mentor and friend to his colleagues. A great loss to many, he is survived by his mother, brother, family and friends. He was predeceased by his father.

1996

Rafael E. Alvarez. Rafael was a beloved classmate, proud member of the soccer team and captain of the squash team while at Blair. He went on to Loyola University in New Orleans to study. During his career, he worked in marketing and sales in Miami.

Past Parent

Chen Yuen Chiang. Dr. Chiang devoted his entire life to industrial machinery and manufacturing technologies, his family and the community by giving back generously to all. Dr. Chiang founded Chen Hsong Machinery Co. Ltd., predecessor of the Chen Hsong Group, in 1958 and, in 1966, developed the first 10 oz. in-line plastic injection molding machine in Hong Kong, which earned him the title of "King of Plastic Injection Moulding Machines." Chen Hsong developed rapidly under Dr. Chiang's leadership and was eventually listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange in 1991 as one of the leading manufacturers of plastic injection molding machines worldwide. Due to his humble beginnings, Dr. Chiang firmly adhered to a motto that "industry enriches people's livelihood, leading to prosperity which strengthens the country." In 1990, he donated all of his shares in the Chen Hsong Group to establish the Chiang Chen Industrial Charity Foundation to promote technical education and training for Chinese industrial talent and industry leaders, and to support the development of China's industrial base. The Foundation regularly hosted technical training seminars, sponsored scholarships and donated to technical research projects. His philanthropic activities were recognized by many, and he was awarded the Grand Bauhinia Medal (Hong Kong's highest honor), the Order of the British Empire from the Queen of England, and many honorary doctorates. The Chiang family includes seven Blair graduates spanning two generations: former Trustee Lai Yuen Chiang '84, Lai Ling Chiang '84, Chi-Kin Chiang '86, Daisy Y. Kong '92, Timothy M. Kui '12, Yu Rong Lim '14, Yi Jun Lim '16 and Orson C. Yu '22.

Katharine K. Sigety. Kit, as she was known, received her bachelor of science degree in home economics from Cornell University in 1944. While at Cornell, she was active as a student leader and served as president of Risley Hall, president of her freshman class and president of the women's self-government organization. After graduating from Cornell in the midst of World War II, Katharine joined the American Red Cross and served in the European theatre in Italy and later, in post-war Germany, where she and other volunteers provided food, entertainment and a bit of a connection to home for American servicemen stationed overseas. Katharine began a career in the pioneering days of television, and she first appeared on-air in 1951 as Sally Smart on WOR-TV's "Sally Smart's Kitchen." She broadcast live on-air five days a week, providing viewers with everyday food recipes and suggestions, and she did all of the commercials herself. In 1953, she joined NBC's "Home Show," hosted by Hugh Downs and Arlene Francis, serving as the on-air food editor. She appeared on the "Home Show" from 1953 through 1956 as Kit Kinne, "TV's number-one food authority." Kit Kinne offered everyday cooking tips and provided meal preparation demonstrations and also introduced a number of new appliances and products, including the microwave oven, Saran Wrap, Heinz Ketchup, Duncan Hines cake mixes and more. In partnership with her husband, Katharine's experience led to the creation of Video Vittles, a company that specialized in preparing camera-ready food for television shows and commercials. She retired from her television career to raise her five children, including Charles B. Sigety, Kinne Sigety, Trustee *Robert* G. Sigety '75, Trustee Cornelius E.

Sigety '76, daughter-in-law ex-officio
Trustee Virginia W. Sigety and daughter,
Elizabeth S. Marcus. She came to Blair's
campus frequently over the years to see
her 12 grandchildren, including Griffin
H. Marcus '14, Sarah K. Sigety '16,
Charles E. Sigety '16, Bradford E.
Sigety '18, William H. Sigety '18,
Cornelia R. Sigety '19, Palmer E.
Marcus '19, Elizabeth B. Sigety '20
and George L. Sigety '21. She was
predeceased by her husband, Charles.

Former Staff

Harold G. Eaton. "Hal" worked as Blair's golf pro for more than 30 years, and we were incredibly fortunate to have him as a member of the Blair family. Hal loved Blair, and everyone who knew him and learned from him on the golf course appreciated his deep knowledge of the game and also his patience and ability to work with people at all levels of experience. He attended both Westchester and Luther colleges. He taught band and choir at Delaware Valley High School and Newton High School, and was the golf coach at both schools. For many years, Hal played trumpet at the Fallsview Hotel in the Catskills. He is survived by his wife, Kay, three sons and a daughter.

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