



Summer 2023

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

*Staying
Connected*



**2022-23 GOT OFF
TO A GREAT START!**



**ACADEMY DAY &
ALUMNI HOMECOMING 2022**



Staten Island Academy Mission Statement

Students are at the heart of the Staten Island Academy community. Rooted in our history as an independent school since 1884, Staten Island Academy provides an atmosphere that balances intellectual challenge, artistic expression, athletic engagement, and service learning. On our campus, we prepare students to be analytical and ethical thinkers, bold advocates, compassionate leaders, and lifelong learners. We embrace the differences of our shared humanity through open and ongoing dialogue, fostering an individual and collective sense of belonging. Ultimately, student growth is the measure of our success.

*- Adopted by the Employees and Board of Trustees
Spring 2023*



Joan Hammel Goetz '46



Bruce Patrick '71



Stuart Friedland '65

In Memoriam

Edmund Stirn Garcia '44

Joan Hammel Goetz '46

James McNeil '58

Keith W. Gabbett '61

Stuart Friedland '65

W. Kimberley Nelson '68

Bruce Patrick '71

Thomas Paine '72

Erlend Kjellstad '87

Douglas Powers '95

Carmen Marnell;

Staten Island Academy

Head of School 1996-2002





Dear Alumni,

I cannot say it enough; it is truly an honor to be a part of the Staten Island Academy family! For the past 28 years, I have figuratively called the Academy home. As I enter my first full year as Head of School, it is literally my home as I proudly live in Merrick House. I invite you to come to my home, your home, anytime, see some familiar faces and meet new ones. - Dr. Crig

On Thursday, December 8, 2022, the Parents' League hosted a new event, *Light Up the Campus* in the Front Circle of the Academy. Our entire community came together to view the multiple displays of festive decorations honoring the many different cultural traditions our families celebrate. Our goal was to bring the entire school community back on campus after COVID regulations were lifted and to embrace one another's cultures and learn about each other's celebratory traditions.



Our families enjoyed hot cocoa and snacks while the countdown began to Light the Campus! Newly appointed Acting Head of School, Dr. Eileen F. Corigliano, welcomed the excited crowd and explained how the colorful display of lights represented six holidays celebrated by our families; Christmas, Chinese New Year, Diwali, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, and Ramadan. After the pomp and circumstance, everyone joined Ms. Stevens as she directed the choir in singing some festive songs. That was followed by an instrumental concert under the direction of Ms. Washington-Wheatley. The planning for 2023 has already begun!



**Emilee '12, Jack '13, &
Dr. & Mrs. Urbanek**

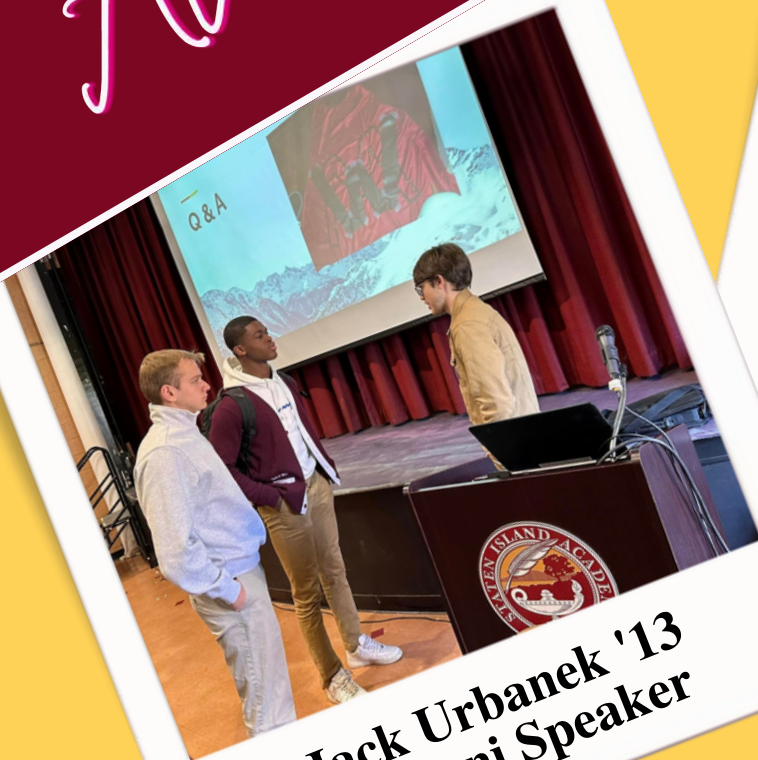
Thanks to Our



Alumni In The House!



Alumni Panelists



**Jack Urbanek '13
Alumni Speaker**

**Matthew Sawh '04
Natalie Nicelli '11
Joe Bronzo '14
Patricia Miller '87
Daniel L. Master, Jr. '71**



2023 Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

Jillian Auteri '16



James Melillo '02



1981 Boys Varsity Soccer Team



Michael Langford '13



Eric Brinzenskiy '12

Yvette Wheatley-Washington honored as one of the Staten Island Advance Women of Achievement



I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Mr. Laline and to Caroline Diamond-Harrison, publisher of the Staten Island Advance, for hosting the Women of Achievement Luncheon each year. Thank you to Claire Regan who captured my story so meticulously. I enjoyed seeing the lovely photographs of me working with my Brighton Heights Youth Orchestra and the students at Staten Island Academy that were taken by Jan Somma-Hammel and Derek Alvarez. Thank you for your artistry. Thank you to those who nominated me and the selection committee for including me in the ranks of such esteemed women.

Receiving the call from Brian Laline was one of the most shocking and humbling experiences of my life. I remember as a child looking forward to reading the annual edition of the Women of Achievement in the SI Advance. I marveled at the stories thinking of how special each of the honorees were. I am grateful, humbled and proud to be chosen as one of the Class of 2020 Women of Achievement.

It is amazing that Mrs. Diamond-Harrison has kept her father, then Advance Publisher Richard E. Diamond's longtime tradition alive, especially after all that has taken place in the world recently. Receiving this award is a full-circle moment for me. When I arrived on the campus of Staten Island Academy in 1983 to answer a call for a String Specialist, Mr. Diamond was a member of the Board of Directors at the Academy. He was reluctant to hire a young teacher with very little teaching experience. It was Mr. Diamond's nod of approval that started me on my 40-year journey at the Academy. I am grateful to Dr. J. Stevens Bean, Head of the School at the time, Mr. Diamond, Dr. Ronald Avis, and other distinguished members of the Board at the time of my hiring for seeing promise in my abilities. I'm sure that Mr. Diamond would be proud.

Thank you, Staten Island Academy, for providing me with the tools and guidance needed to become a strong educator. It is a privilege to be working alongside such an amazing and passionate group of educators each day.

I am grateful to my dear friends Kelly Vilar, CEO of the SI Urban Center, and Soraya Candelario, who introduced me to Brighton Heights Reformed Church. It all started when Kelly asked me to accompany her son Nico, who was six years old, while he played his first violin solo in church. I fondly remember the warm welcome that I received from the late Reverend James Seawood and the congregation at BHRC. As I continued to return to the church with each solo that Nico played, children began to approach me about learning an instrument. Soon after, with encouragement from Kelly and support from the Men's Fellowship, the Brighton Heights Youth Orchestra was formed in 2011. Being able to enrich the lives of children through music and give back to the community has truly become my life's passion. Kelly, thank you for your vision and for allowing me the opportunity to offer our Black and Brown children experiences that they may not have been exposed to otherwise.

I give thanks to Reverend Dr. Alfred Correa and Marilyn Correa, the BHRC Consistory, for providing me with a safe and peaceful environment to create with the children.

I am forever indebted to the amazing teachers, conductors, and mentors who have guided me along the way. Thank you, Dorothy Kimmerer, for pushing me into my first major teaching performance. You saw in me something that I never knew existed. Thank you, Leonard Orgen, for placing a violin in my hand. Thank you, Arnold Obey, for being the epitome of brilliance and calm. Thank you, Sheila Rohan, for your grace. Thank you, Susan Olsen Maren, Margaret Graves, Gabriel Kosakoff and Jonathan Strasser for teaching the importance of hard work and dedication. You are the model and inspiration behind what I do today. My parents, Bernice and Charles Washington, were two of the most amazing and gracious people. My brilliant brothers Kenny, Reggie, and I were blessed to grow up in a home filled with love, great music, and a strong value of family. They instilled in us the importance of excellence. I wish my Mom and Dad were here to celebrate with me, but I am confident that they would be proud of the three of us and all that we are accomplishing. My daughter Ayana, precious grandson Josiah, Kenny, Reggie, and my close "Sister Friends" who stand with me today have been my pillars of strength. Thank you for your never-ending love and support.

Most of all, I thank God for the many blessings in my life. I pray for stamina and the gift of good help as I continue to do the work I love so dearly.

Lauren Washington '01
2023 Keynote Speaker



welcome home

Joyce & Douglas Johnson '64
with Donna Griffio Johnson visiting
Keith E. Johnson's '60 Memorial Tree



Academy legacy families:
Suzanne Stirn Ainslie '72
Allison Cohen '07
Mary Pat Roggenburg



**Sam Trimboli '19 takes a
detour before heading
back to Yale**



**Jeremiah Geneve '21
stops here first during
college breaks**

#SupportingFamilyForever



**Dr. Avis '79 - a great mentor!
Omar Rifi '22 & Charlie Crane '22**



**Meagan Lee '25 Performs and
Academy Family members support!**



**SIA Alumni Faculty Members
#OnceATigerAlwaysATiger**



Celebrating Jillian Porrino '09





**Andrew Dash '05, Lindsey Greenfield '06,
Jaime Squeri '05, Drew Marin '05,
& Mr. Weissman**



**Grace Acquilano '18, Kate Acquilano '22,
Nicoletta Miner '22, Nicholas Acquilano '26**



**Members of the Staten Island Academy
Board of Trustees & Lauren Washington '01**



**Emma Master, Julia Xia, and
Claire Crane, Class of 2015, in DC**



**GraceAnn Kinsale '23, Amelia Elizondo '20,
and Sean Franzreb '22 meet up at a
favorite local coffee shop**

SLA



Distinguished Alumni Inductee,
Carol Brown Moskowitz '57,
& her sister, Nancy Brown Duvall '48



Lawrence Skutelsky '19, Jason Vosk '19,
Marcello Sciarrino, III '19, and Matt
Pelosi '17 at the Alumni Mid-Winter
Gathering at Osteria Santina



Tigers compete at the Tiger Tennis Tournament 2023



Omar Rifi '22, Charlie Crane '22, Sebi Cauz '22, Phineas
Larson '22, & Gabe DeLaCruz '23 reunite with Dr. Crig!



The Mazellas, Savinos, Sgarlatos, & O'Briens enjoying
Grandparents' & Special Friends' Day

At The Academy, we foster the growth of compassionate leaders. Each and every student is inspired to leave a positive mark on our vibrant local community.

Alumni and Students Re-Connect for Community

GraceAnn Kinsale '23 receives a scholarship award for service



A Chain of Kindness: Staten Island Academy's Blanket Donation Initiative



**“If you can dream it,
you can do it.”
—Walt Disney**



Left to right: Julio Vincent Gambuto '96 releases his book *Please Unsubscribe, Thanks!*; John Hannafin '16 named Asst. Coach, Lafayette College Women's Basketball; Jahir Higgs '17 performs in *MJ The Musical* in Chicago; Andrew Mayer '07 on the set of *Law & Order*, Jonathan Knobloch '16 becomes a NY State Trooper; Christina Caruso '96 jewelry designer, ChristinaCaruso.com; Jordan Caruso '17 Mustangs basketball; Cap't Vincent Savino '17 opens Savage Charters; Welsey Day '17 at Albert Einstein Medical School; Christina Carmona '08 founds handbag company islandtoeastside.com & creative event space studioites.com

Mark Your Calendars!

Saturday, October 14, 2023

Academy Day and Alumni Homecoming - 11 AM-4 PM

Sunday, October 15, 2023

Triple Crown Tournament – Bocce, Pickleball, Tennis - 10 AM-4 PM

Friday & Saturday, November 3&4, 2023

Upper School Drama Production - 7 PM-9:30 PM

Friday, November 17, 2023

Tiger Texas Hold'em - 7 PM-Midnight

Monday, November 20, 2023

Alumni Speaker, Miriam Camara '06 - 10:30 AM-11:15 AM

Tuesday, November 21, 2023

All School Thanksgiving Celebration - 2:15 PM-3:20 PM

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Light Up the Campus - 6 PM-7 PM

Friday, December 22, 2023

All School Holiday Assembly - 1:30 PM, Annual Grinch Reading - 2:35 PM

Alumni Reception - 3:30-4:30 PM

Wednesday, January 17, 2024

Alumni Panel Discussion - 7 PM-8:30 PM

Friday, February 2, 2024

Alumni Mid-Winter Gathering Osteria Santina, Staten Island - 7 PM-9 PM

Saturday, March 9, 2024

Annual Auction Dinner Dance Nicotra's Ballroom - 7 PM-Midnight

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, March 15-17, 2024

US Musical Production - Friday & Saturday 7 PM; Sunday 3 PM

Saturday, May 18, 2024

Alumni Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony & Alumni Reunion - 11 AM-3 PM

Thursday, June 13, 2024

2024 Commencement - 10 AM-1 PM (Rain Date Friday, June 14)

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST ALUMNI!

CONGRATULATIONS!



The Class of 2022's graduation took place in the front circle of Staten Island Academy. The class members sat patiently on the platform of Haugen Hall, eagerly waiting for their names to be called and to be named The Alumni Class of 2022!

Thank you to James Frevola '11, who traveled from Virginia with family to be the Keynote speaker.

The Alumni Class of 2022 matriculated to the following colleges and universities:

Barnard College
Bucknell University
Catholic University of America
Chapman University
College of the Holy Cross
Drew University
Furman University
Harvard University
Haverford College
Kenyon College
Lafayette College
Lehigh University
Montclair State University
New York University
Nova Southeastern University
Pace University

Purdue University
Rider University
Rutgers University
St. Joseph's University
Stevens Institute of Technology
Stony Brook University
University of Illinois
University of Notre Dame
University of Richmond
University of Southern California
University of Tampa
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin - Madison
Wagner College
Wake Forest University
Worcester Polytechnic Institute



CONGRATULATIONS!

Just when we thought we were out of harm's way with COVID behind us, massive brush fires from the north required the Commencement Ceremony to be held in the OJ Buck gymnasium. With all hands on deck, including some parents, the gym was transformed into a festive ceremonial venue. Head of School, Dr. Corigliano, made sure that the graduates had the same experience as fellow graduating classes before them, including rubbing the Tiger that resides in front of Crowe Hall. Thank you to Lauren Washington '01, who traveled in from Texas to be the Keynote speaker.

The Alumni Class of 2023 matriculated to the following colleges and universities:

Barnard College
Bates College
Colgate University
College of Charleston
Cornell University
CUNY College of Staten Island
Drew University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Harvard University
Haverford College
High Point University
New York University
Penn State University
Pratt Institute
Rochester Institute of Technology

Rutgers University
Salve Regina University
Skidmore College
Susquehanna University
Trinity College
United States Naval Academy
University of California, Davis
University of Massachusetts, Lowell
University of Delaware
University of Minnesota
University of Notre Dame
University of Pennsylvania
University of Richmond
Vassar College
Villanova University

Class of
2022



CLASS
OF
2023



2023-2024

Staten Island Academy Board of Trustees



Marcello Sciarrino, President

Allison L. Factor, Vice President

Angela Kardel Ardolic, Treasurer

Robert Urs, Secretary

Robert Annicharico

Lorenzo Ansuini

Eileen F. Corigliano, EdD, Head of School *

Eric De La Cruz, MD

Hon. Marina Cora Mundy

Denise Rossilli, Parents' League President *

Michelle Savino

Hon. Remy Smith



***Ex Officio**



Remember, Reconnect, & Reminisce

<https://www.statenislandacademy.org/giving/alumni/alumni-contact-information>

Update your contact information and share your milestones. We love to hear from our alumni!

zelle[®]

siapayments@statenislandacademy.org



Be A Class Captain!

Keep your Class Informed and Connected

Interested in Being an Alumni Speaker?

Contact The Development Office

Teresa Pelosi Tpelosi@statenislandacademy.org

Michelle Savino Msavino1@statenislandacademy.org