

# LEGACIES



March 2024



## HOLIDAY HOOPLA 2023

Holiday Hoopla is one of our community's favorite traditions, connecting everyone through friendly, team competition. The gymnasium was filled with wonderful energy and cheer as we welcomed home alumni and their families and friends for a fun game of basketball. A team made up of staff and alumni took on our varsity basketball players while Coach Lewis emceed. There were burgers, halftime games, laughter, and for a second year in a row, the alumni and staff took home a win! 94-66. Thank you to all who came out to play or fill the stands! We look forward to doing it again on 12/19/24!



## CDS FAMILY BUSINESS DIRECTORY

The CDS Family-Owned Business Directory was created to support and highlight our current Carolina Day School families and alumni who own small businesses, have private practices, or offer professional services. Our community touts many talented entrepreneurs, business owners, and practitioners, and most members of our community are eager to know where they can support other family businesses and professional services. We encourage you to check it out to see if anyone in our community can serve your needs! [Click here](#) to view the directory.







## ACDS HISTORICAL DISPLAY & RECEPTION

As one of Carolina Day School's (CDS) predecessors, Asheville Country Day School operated from its founding in 1936 until it merged with St. Genevieve-Gibbons Hall in 1987 to form CDS. Every year, CDS pays tribute to one of its predecessor schools and their alumni with a historical display of yearbooks, uniforms, pictures, athletic trophies, historical documents, and other ephemera. This past January, the Asheville Country Day School Historical display filled the CDS Lower School Oreck Library for students, staff, faculty, alumni, and parents to relive old memories and learn new histories.

Through the display, viewers learned from the ACDS Meeting Minutes taken by Margaret Dodge in 1936 that the first proposed name for ACDS was "Calvert School," because founding parents had wanted to base the school on the Calvert System of Education. The second motioned name of "Asheville Country Day School" was accepted in June 1936. Viewers of the display also learned about how many of Carolina Day's traditions, like the Bell, the Moving Up ceremonies, and the Honor Council stem from ACDS practices. They flipped through old issues of the ACDS yearbook, "The Silhouette," and learned how ACDS alum Gene Hamilton (ACDS '64) became the number one tennis player in NC with a 65-7 record. He won an Atlantic Coast Conference singles and doubles title in 1967 and was later inducted into the NC Tennis Hall of Fame in 1989 and into the CDS Alumni Athletics Hall of Fame in 2005. At the end of the display's time in Oreck, alumni attended a cocktail reception where they viewed the historical display alongside friends, family, faculty, and students, both new and old.

Make sure you visit the [ACDS Memories Photo Album!](#)

## ALUMNI CONTACT UPDATES

Thank you to all of the alumni who updated contact information at the end of 2023. We sent out more than 30 small gifts as a token of our appreciation. We loved hearing about career updates, family additions, engagements, and so much more! You can update your contact information with us by completing the [contact information form](#) on our website.

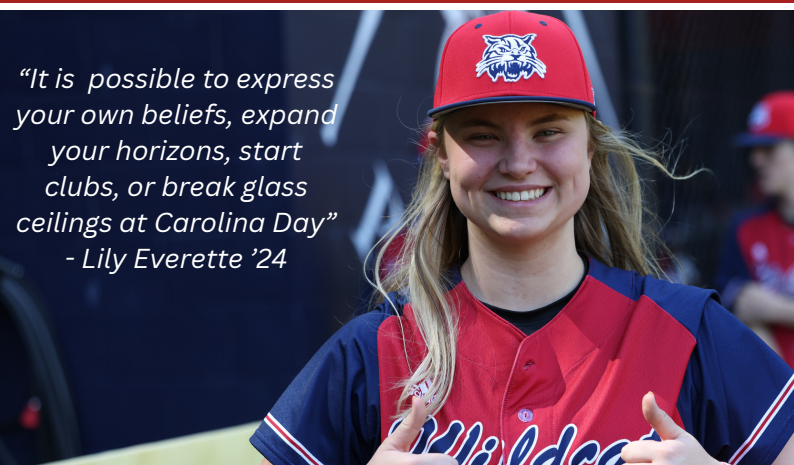
## LOCAL ALUMNI PINT NIGHT

Local alumni gathered at Wicked Weed Brewpub on February 29th. Wicked Weed Brewery is owned by our very own Ryan Guthy '04! Thanks for hosting us and making "leap day" a lot of fun!



## SAVE THE DATE!

We will be holding our **Alumni Association Annual Meeting on Thursday, May 9th** in the Oreck Library at 5:30pm. All alumni are encouraged and welcome to attend. A zoom link will be provided to those who cannot attend in person. Please [register](#) to attend. Annual Meeting is an important aspect of the Alumni Association and this year we will be adopting updated bylaws, appointing new leadership, and discussing future plans of the Association and Advisory Board. If you wish to learn more about these agenda items prior to the meeting, please email [alumni@carolinaday.org](mailto:alumni@carolinaday.org).



*"It is possible to express your own beliefs, expand your horizons, start clubs, or break glass ceilings at Carolina Day"*  
- Lily Everette '24

## RIISING ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT - LILY EVERETTE '24

Lily is a CDS Hallelujah Senior and Legacy Grad (Kim Everette SG-GH & Mary Margaret Ingle SGP '59) [Click here](#) to read more about Lily's own CDS Legacy.

**Homecoming 2024 has been scheduled!**

We hope you will join us on Thursday, October 10th!



The Alumni Association is always happy to share great stories about our alumni who are out making a difference in the world! If you know of an alumni who would make a great featured story, please [reach out](#) to the Alumni Office!



### CELESTE MORGAN HERRERA '99 BECOMES HEAD OF SCHOOL IN NEW YORK CITY

When asked to share a little bit about her time at CDS, Celeste Morgan Herrera '99 told a story about how shared interests between teachers and students in the Upper School led to the creation of a stream ecology class. The class took a field trip to a local stream near her family farm to learn more about components of local waterways. This kind of consideration for students learning and an “individualized approach to harnessing students interests and abilities” was what Celeste said she appreciated the most about being a Wildcat.

As a Wildcat, Celeste also learned to self advocate, partner with adults in service to her own learning, and ask questions to expand her understanding beyond the classroom. This set the groundwork for Celeste to build connections with her college professors at UNC Chapel Hill and later with her own educational and professional teams as an educator herself. Celeste was recently appointed as the Head of School at The Calhoun School (NYC) after serving 12 years at The Dalton School as the Associate Director of College Counseling, the High School Director and as the Assistant Head of School. Celeste said “I face this transition with boundless gratitude for all I have learned at Dalton.” The Calhoun School, located in Manhattan, prides itself on its open concept and inquiry-based learning.

Celeste, her husband (who is also a school administrator), and three kids still visit the mountains of WNC each year to stay connected to nature and her family farm. Celeste also has stayed involved as an alumni. Mountain roots run deep. Congratulations to Celeste as she begins her tenure at Calhoun this summer!

### SGP ALUMNA HONORED AT PHILANTHROPY LUNCHEON

Dasha (Daria) O. Morgan SGP '61 was recently honored and recognized as a Life Member of the Children's Well-Being League (CWL). Since its founding, CWL of Asheville has held one common purpose: to improve the lives and education of the children of Buncombe County. Today the nonprofit organization supports promising, but financially vulnerable, high-school students by providing them much needed monthly stipends. Amongst other activities they give emergency funding to students identified by their high-school social workers. All of this is supported by tireless volunteers like Dasha who served as President from 2002-2003. Being a part of the CWL has been a family affair! Dasha's grandmother, Mabel (Mrs. David Morgan Sr.) was one of the founders, and Dasha's mother, Dolly (Mrs. David Morgan Jr.) served as the President from 1957-1959.

Dasha has been very involved in nonprofit work and activism. Projects near to her heart have included integration in WNC, the Junior League, teaching English as a second language, and she is currently the United States Representative for Care & Fair, which fights child labor around the world. Congratulations to Dasha on this lifelong achievement award!







## ALISA HARRIS ACDS '86 TAKES ON SHOW BIZ

Alisa Harris arrived on the campus of ACDS as an enthusiastic sixth grader hoping to reach her full potential after being accepted as a trustee scholar. She blossomed as a student, an artist, and an athlete under the attentive supervision of kind and knowledgeable ACDS teachers whom she still has a lot of love and respect for. Not only was she the editor of the yearbook and a founding member of the theater club, before graduating Alisa became a Morehead-Cain (full ride scholarship to UNC Chapel Hill) semi-finalist, the first female ACDS student body president, a Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award recipient, and was the first female to earn the ACDS Athletic Scholar Award. As a self-proclaimed “over achiever,” she definitely gave back to the school that gave her so much.

Alisa went on to attend Boston University where she double majored in Communications and Psychology. After moving to Wilmington, NC to start a career in advertising and marketing, she got involved with the show business industry. First through marketing for theater companies and film and television, then by becoming a talent agent. Now Alisa is acting full time. She was recently cast in a Duke Energy Commercial, Netflix's *Outer Banks*, and Disney's *The Haunted Mansion*, and this winter she starred as Truvy in a theater production of *Steel Magnolias*. She also finds time to give back through nonprofit work, serving on her local art council board and she ran a dinner theater in Wilmington that spotlighted local writers and talent. When asked what her favorite role has been, it is hands down being a mother to her son.

## SGP SEAL AND COAT OF ARMS RESEARCH

While doing research on Pierre de Chaignon le Rose (1872-1941), Dr. Chad Krouse came across the beautiful SGP seal and was immediately intrigued. He recently shared his findings in his [personal blog](#) and with us in the hopes that it would enlighten us and our alumni about the possible origins of this seal we hold near and dear to our hearts. After more than 10 years of research, Dr. Krouse will be writing a book about the life and heraldic work of Pierre de Chaignon le Rose. If any of our SGP alumnae has information about the origins of the seal, please [email](#) Dr. Krouse.



## UPCOMING EVENT

### PALs Event

Join other *Parents of Alumni* for a fun social event on  
Thursday, March 21st.  
For more information,  
[email](#) the Alumni Office.

## Going Through the Archives

Did you know that the first Gala Auction was held by ACDS in 1976? Almost 50 years later we are still hosting a biannual Auction to raise money for the school. Some of the earliest auction items on record included a party boat on Lake James, square dancing lessons, a Honda 350 motorcycle and all the accompanying accessories, and based on this photo found in the archives, a car! This year's Gala Auction will be held on April 13th! For more information about donating items or attending the event, please visit our [Gala webpage](#).



The **CDS Alumni Office** is here to help you! Are you planning a Class Reunion? Do you want to purchase some school swag? Do you need to update your contact information so you can stay connected with classmates and the school? Do you wish to make a donation or set up an endowment? The office can help you do all of that and more. Just [email](#) the Director of Alumni Engagement, Becky Vlachoyannis.