

Linden Hall

Biographies of Search Committee



Tija Hilton Phillips, Search Chair

Ms. Hilton Phillips served as a Common Pleas Court judge for two years after law school. Subsequently, she joined the Law Department at Pennsylvania Blue Shield, which is now Highmark. Tija is currently the Director of Regulatory Affairs at Highmark. Ms. Hilton Phillips was also ordained in 2014 and is currently an interfaith minister. She serves as a minister at Lancaster Metaphysical Chapel in Lancaster, PA.

Tija is also a former parent. Her daughter attended Linden Hall from 2011–2019 (grade 5 through grade 12). She has been a board member for six years, as well as serves as the vice chair of the board and chair of the DE & I committee. In addition, she serves on the governance and Future Forward committees.

Olivia Coral Daniels '15

Ms. Daniels is an associate in the Tax Department at Debevoise & Plimpton LLP in New York City. She received a J.D. and LL.M. in International and Comparative Law from Duke University School of Law *magna cum laude* and Order of the Coif in 2022, where she was a member of the top 5 percent of her class and a recipient of the Justin Miller Award for Intellectual Curiosity. Olivia served as an executive editor for the Duke Law Journal and a student submissions editor for the American Journal of International Law. She received a B.A. in History *magna cum laude* from Davidson College in 2019, where she was a William Holt Terry Fellow, a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and the 2019 recipient of the Kendrick K. Kelley Award and Earl Edmondson Prize.

Ms. Daniels graduated in 2015 from Linden Hall, where she had been a seven-day boarding student since 2011. She has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Linden Hall Alumnae Association since January 2023 and has served as President of the Linden Hall Alumnae Association since January 2024.

Denny Foreman

As a graduate of Grace College with a B.A. in Fine Art, Mr. Foreman began his career as a visual merchandiser/advertising agent for three of Lancaster's major department and specialty stores. His life changed when he was called upon to start a drama team ministry with a large church. In time, Denny recognized his call to become a pastor, leading to his licensure and eventual ordination. During this time, he led the theater departments of two local high schools, as well as led his youth group's award-winning drama program. He was co-chair of three Lancaster County Aids Walks in the early 90s.

While called upon to direct Linden Hall's fall play in 2001, Denny was asked to return full-time as Theater Director and Residential Director during the summer of 2002. During his 22 years at Linden Hall, he has served in administration and managed the residential life program. He

currently teaches middle school art classes, has developed a thriving theater arts program, and — most notably — serves as the campus chaplain.

Lisa Herman

Ms. Herman has a dedicated career at a global bank with a concentrated focus on risk management across different lines of business. Lisa has been a trustee at Linden Hall for two years and serves on the finance committee.

Debbie Hurd

Mrs. Hurd serves as the Director of Advancement at Linden Hall, joining the school administration in May 2021. She brings over 23 years of experience in non-profit fundraising. Before Linden Hall, she served eight years as the Director of Advancement at Ursuline Academy, an independent school in Wilmington, DE. Prior to that role, she served as a consultant helping schools, churches, and non-profits raise funds to meet their philanthropic goals. Debbie has extensive experience in fundraising, relationship building, strategic leadership, alumnae relations, and marketing and communications. Throughout her career, she has become a passionate advocate of all-girls programs and is accustomed to working with schools that have long, historic pasts.

Melissa Landis

Ms. Landis has been a resident of Lititz for over 35 years, and she has worked at Linden Hall School for six years as the Director of Finance. Before Linden Hall, she was the Financial Director/Partner at a local architectural firm. Melissa's focus is sound business sense and financial sustainability. Moreover, with a daughter of her own, she has a deep commitment to Linden Hall's mission of educating young women to reach their highest potential. With a strong belief in community, giving back, and volunteering, she has served on several local boards and strategic planning committees. An avid tennis player, she is a member of the United States Tennis Association Middle States Board of Directors, assists with coaching the Linden Hall tennis team, and has developed and taught wheelchair and adaptive tennis programs.

Cindy Meier

Ms. Meier joined Moravian Manor Communities in 1997 and previously held the positions of Staff Accountant, Business Office Manager, Controller, and Vice President of Finance. Recently, she was promoted to Executive Director. She oversees the day-to-day operations of the facility while managing the daily expectations of staff, residents, and families. Within the local community, Cindy currently serves as a board member for Your Neighborhood Connections and Linden Hall School for Girls.

Cindy's active engagement with Linden Hall began in 2018 as a parent. Her daughter, Bella, enrolled at Linden Hall as an eighth-grade student. Bella graduated from Linden Hall last spring (2023). Ms. Meier began her tenure on the Linden Hall board in 2020 and has served on the finance committee during that time.

Rebecca (Becky) Merritt '88

Ms. Merritt is an alumna of Linden Hall and holds a master's degree in educational leadership. She worked for over 20 years as an administrative assistant in the Equine Science Department. Becky has been a member of the Linden Hall board for four years. She serves as the liaison to the Alumnae Association and is a member of the safety, governance, finance, and Future Forward committees. Outside of Linden Hall, she serves as a member of the American Driving Society and the Pleasure Driving Committee.

Angela Odjidja Boateng

Ms. Boateng, Associate General Counsel, joined WellSpan Health in February 2020. Before joining WellSpan, she worked with the Pennsylvania Medical Society (PAMED) for six years as the organization's Regulatory Counsel and, later, General Counsel. In those roles, she provided legal advice and information to the organization and its members on various health law and corporate governance issues. Before PAMED, Angela worked with the Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Maternal and Child Health Bureau as a policy and program development leader.

Angela obtained her Juris Doctorate from the University of Baltimore School of Law, where she graduated *cum laude*. In addition, she received her Master of Health Science from the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health and her Bachelor of Arts in Biology and Sociology from the University of Maryland Baltimore County. She is licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania and Maryland.

In her spare time, Angela is actively involved in the community. She supports a few nonprofit organizations, including the York County Bar Foundation, the York County Bar Association's Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Committee, and the Harrisburg Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. as the organization's parliamentarian and chairperson of its Physical and Mental Health Committee.

Ms. Boateng has been a Linden Hall trustee for six years and is currently the Secretary of the Board. In addition, she chairs the governance committee and serves on the DE & I and Future Forward committees.

Douglas Planeta

Mr. Planeta has more than 30 years of experience in the investment arena. He has worked with public capital markets, private equity, real estate, and more, where he focuses on institutional and private client experience.

Doug is the parent of a current student who began at Linden Hall as a sixth-grade student and is currently a junior. He has served on the Linden Hall board since 2020 and is a member of the finance committee.

Natasha Solomon

In her eighth year at Linden Hall, Ms. Solomon wears a variety of hats to support robust student life programming at the school. With the Student Affairs team, she oversees residential life, physical and mental health services, and a wide range of on and off-campus programming such as clubs, student council, and the DEI committee. She also teaches Business and Entrepreneurship, advises the school's DECA chapter, and oversees the Health & Wellness program.

Previously at St. Anne's-Belfield School in Charlottesville, Virginia, Ms. Solomon served in several roles, including theater arts teacher, Director of Summer Programs, residential life faculty member, and member of the school's Diversity Committee. Before beginning her career in education, Ms. Solomon worked in theater as an actor, director, and instructor.

Priscilla Stoner

Ms. Stoner has worked for 37 years in public education, where she was a third-grade teacher, reading specialist, district reading supervisor, and language arts coordinator. She also worked as an elementary school assistant principal. Priscilla holds both bachelor's and master's degrees from Millersville University and a reading supervisor/principal certification from Lehigh University.

Priscilla has served as a Linden Hall trustee for nine years and has worked with the governance, DE & I, and Future Forward committees.