

Oxbridge

Today

OXBRIDGE ACADEMY

Strategic Plan:
Our Future

Sixth Grade
Begins

2022-2023
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Welcome Message from Our Head of School

In this third annual issue of *Oxbridge Today*, we celebrate a journey that spans over twelve years, starting with the establishment of Oxbridge Academy by visionary William “Bill” I. Koch in 2011. Bill’s dream was to create a unique educational environment where experiential learning was paramount, imagination and engagement thrived, and students were equipped to address present and future challenges. His vision fostered a culture of mutual respect, compassion, kindness, individuality, and inclusivity. A cornerstone of Bill’s vision was his dedication to making Oxbridge accessible to all academically driven students, irrespective of their economic circumstances.

In just over a decade, Bill’s dream has not only come to fruition but also thrived, in some ways surpassing expectations at an astonishing pace. It is a remarkable accomplishment resulting from unwavering dedication, perseverance, unshakeable belief, and good old-fashioned hard work. Of course, none of it would be possible without Bill’s generous support and the support of all our donors.

Guided by Bill’s leadership and vision, Oxbridge has consistently pursued growth and innovation. Initially established as an upper school, we have expanded to incorporate a middle school, allowing us to prepare students for upper school and deliver our unique curriculum to a broader range of students. This year, we welcomed our inaugural sixth-grade class, launched an exciting international study program with a two-week immersion in Cadiz, Spain, and revived our varsity football program, providing a jolt of adrenalin to our school spirit and another opportunity to create a stronger, more connected community.



In the coming weeks, we will unveil a new, ambitious strategic plan to redefine the educational experience for future generations. This comprehensive blueprint will guide Oxbridge into the next decade and beyond. Refreshed mission, vision, and value statements are at the heart of this transformative journey. You can learn about this plan and many more school and student accomplishments in the coming pages.

This is an inspiring time at Oxbridge. I feel deeply honored to lead such a remarkable institution.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Ralph E. Maurer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Ralph E. Maurer, Ph.D.
Head of School



In 2011, when I founded Oxbridge Academy, I envisioned establishing a school that offers transformative educational experiences for all students, irrespective of economic background. As I reflect today, I am proud to say we have realized this vision.

To truly measure our success, I invite you to peruse the many achievements of our current students and the Class Notes section of this magazine. There, you will discover our alumni embodying entrepreneurial spirit: some have launched their businesses, others have taken roles in multinational corporations, and some are pursuing advanced physics and clinical psychology studies. We have alumni excelling as professional musicians, athletes, and globetrotters conducting groundbreaking cancer research, and even a few who have returned to Oxbridge as educators. These stories reflect individuals who, bolstered by the education and values from Oxbridge Academy, are courageously pursuing their dreams.

Though we have achieved remarkable milestones over the past 12+ years, our journey is far from over. The realm of education is dynamic, evolving with our changing world. Oxbridge Academy remains committed to adapting, innovating, and leading the way.

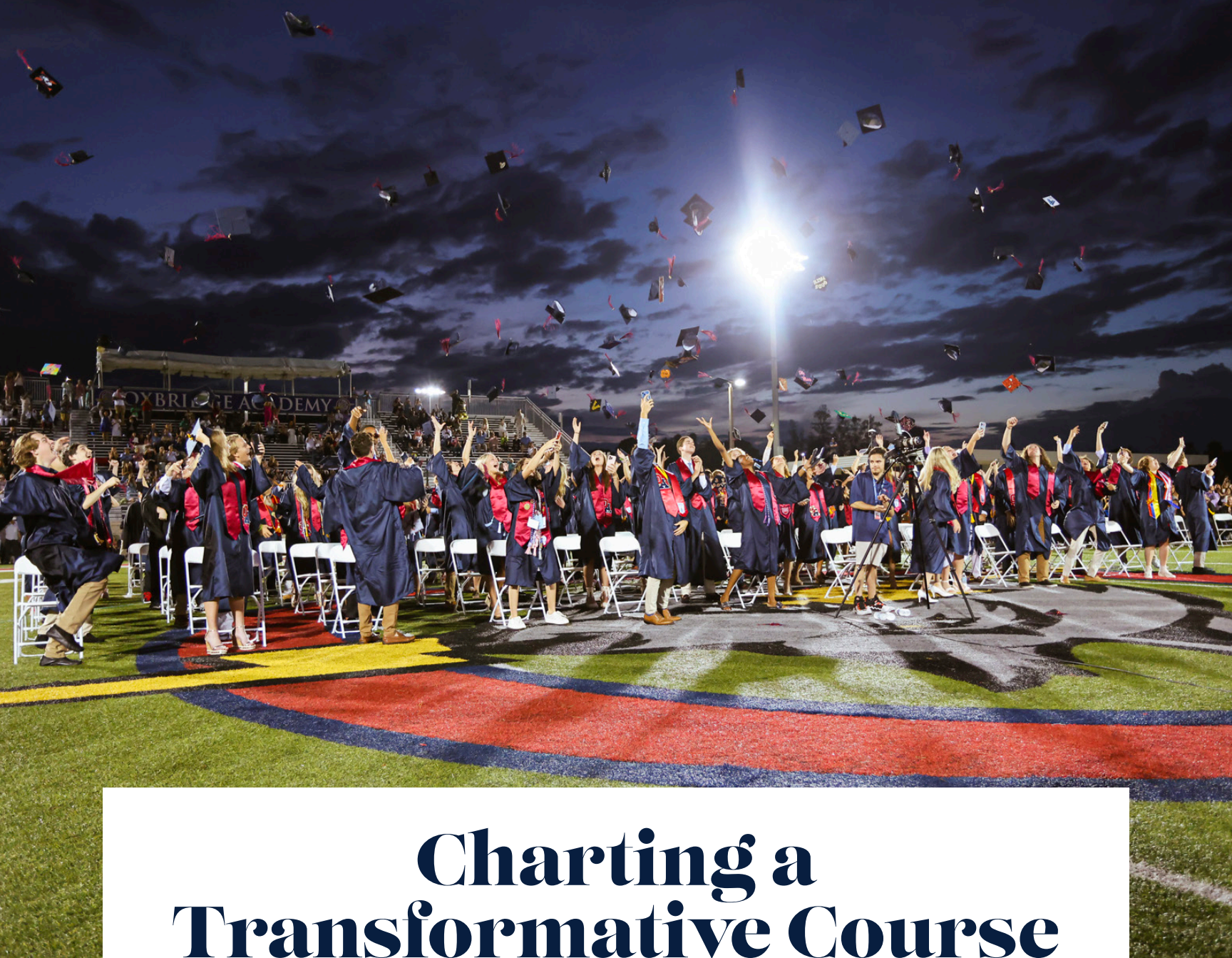
This year, we will launch a strategic plan to steer Oxbridge Academy into the next decade. With your unwavering support, we pledge to maintain our tradition of delivering exceptional experiences within a nurturing and inclusive environment.

A Message from Our Founder

As graduation day for the class of 2024 approaches, I eagerly anticipate the opportunity to congratulate each student in person, as I have done for most graduation classes over the years. I am excited for their achievements today and look forward to the remarkable stories they will add to our Class Notes in the future.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bill Koch". The signature is written in a casual, cursive style.

William Koch
Founder, Oxbridge Academy



Charting a Transformative Course

Foundations for the Future 2024-2029

In 2011, visionary and philanthropist, William “Bill” I. Koch founded Oxbridge Academy with a dream and a mission to establish a unique school where experiential learning thrived, input and imagination flourished, and students were prepared to tackle the challenges ahead. His bold thinking included creating an environment of kindness and compassion that embraces individuality and inclusivity. Equally important was his commitment to ensuring Oxbridge Academy was accessible to students possessing a love of learning and a high academic standard, irrespective of economic circumstances.

Through Mr. Koch’s vision and guidance, Oxbridge Academy has thrived, exemplified by the outstanding achievements of both its students and faculty, continued

successful growth as an institution, and expanded offerings in academics, athletics, and the arts..

As we celebrate our many accomplishments, we remain focused on the future in an ever-evolving, competitive academic landscape where adaptability and forward-thinking ideas are vital. Over the past year, we have initiated the first phase of a comprehensive strategic plan that will redefine the educational experience for future generations at Oxbridge Academy. This blueprint is designed to empower students and faculty to reach their highest potential, highlight a dedication to personal and professional growth, and reflect a keen awareness of the changing needs of students and the broader community.

Mission, Vision and Values



Snapshot of the Foundations for the Future Strategic Plan, 2024-2029

The official launch of the plan and next steps to implementation will be shared with the community in the near future.


The following refreshed mission, vision, and value statements are the cornerstone of this transformative journey, reaffirming Oxbridge Academy’s core principles and setting the institution’s course into the next decade and beyond.


Foundations for the Future


Mission:
Lead with Kindness, Act with Courage.


Vision:
Empower students through a distinctive curriculum, an enriching environment, and an expert faculty to navigate their educational journeys with agility, confidence, and purpose.

Values: PACK

 **Purpose** – As essential community stakeholders, we are responsible for making the world a better place through education, service, teamwork, and philanthropy.

 **Agility** – We value meaningful interdisciplinary experiences in arts, athletics, and core academic disciplines, enabling our students to follow their passions, hone their skills, and achieve their goals to be happy in their chosen life.

 **Confidence** – We encourage students to advocate for themselves and seek the resources to succeed, helping them understand the difference between perception and reality and meet the challenges of today and tomorrow..

 **Kindness** – We promote a culture of kindness, valuing empathy, generosity, and compassion, with a deep awareness of local and global perspectives.

Strategies

How Will We Get There?

Oxbridge Academy will prioritize four key areas to remain at the forefront of educational innovation and solidify our school’s commitment to excellence, stewardship, and sustainability while upholding our renowned educational standards.

1.

We aim to elevate Oxbridge Academy’s student-centered culture by strengthening our comprehensive and balanced approach to curriculum, programs, and student life while highlighting student success.

2.

We will attract and retain an exceptional faculty and staff committed to the success of every student, who deliver an unparalleled education and ignite personal growth while exemplifying the mission, vision, and values of Oxbridge Academy.

3.

We will strengthen Oxbridge Academy’s commitment to being a community of kindness and inclusivity where all students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to share their experiences, thoughts, and perspectives respectfully and confidently.

4.

Secure a financially stable and sustainable future for Oxbridge Academy by optimizing enrollment, creating a culture of philanthropy, and exercising fiscal responsibility.



For 13 years, Oxbridge Academy has served as the premier educational institution for thousands of dedicated and talented students and faculty. This Plan strengthens the legacy of our graduates and provides the roadmap for future generations.

Oxbridge Board of Trustees Welcomes Three New Members

Oxbridge Academy is thrilled to introduce three new members appointed to our Board of Trustees. These dedicated members bring a wealth of experience and commitment to our school, further strengthening our community. “We are happy to add these exceptional individuals to our Board of Trustees,” said Dr. Ralph Maurer, Head of School. “As we embark on a new strategic plan and other important initiatives, we look forward to their guidance and governance.”

Simone Bonutti is a familiar face at Oxbridge Academy. She and her husband, Dr. Peter Bonutti, are proud parents of six children, including two Oxbridge alums from the classes of ‘22 and ‘23 and two current students graduating in ‘25 and ‘27. A native Floridian, Bonutti has resided in Manalapan since 2004 and currently serves as the town’s Mayor Pro Tempore. Over the past seven years, she has held various elected roles on the Manalapan town commission, as well as being appointed to the Architectural Commission (ARCOM), which oversees an annual budget exceeding \$15 million.

Additionally, she is an active member of the Advisory Board for the Lois Pope Life Foundation and the board of AC Delray, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing recreational and competitive soccer programs for youth. She has also contributed her time to the Literacy Coalition of the Palm Beaches. After earning her B.A. from the University of Mississippi, Bonutti began her career as an IT project specialist at the Ford Motor Company in Berlin, Germany. She later transitioned to the marketing department of Stryker Orthopedics and worked in pharmaceutical sales at Bristol Myers Squibb.

James Golden boasts an impressive career in talk radio production and hosting and is renowned for his 30-year tenure on *The Rush Limbaugh Show*. Since 2001, he has served as a producer/executive at Premiere Networks, the largest radio syndication company in the United States. As a senior partner of Golden Creative Communications, LLC., he successfully launched a podcast on iHeart Radio titled “*Rush Limbaugh: The Man Behind the Golden EIB Microphone*.” In 2021, Golden expanded his hosting duties

to include programs on WABC-AM and sister station WILR-FM, broadcasting on Saturday mornings and weekday afternoons. He is also the author of *Rush on The Radio: A Tribute from His Sidekick of 30 Years*, published in 2021.

David S. Mack is a senior partner and Vice President of The Mack Company, a real estate development firm headquartered in NJ and Arizona. He formerly served as a Director of Mack-Cali Realty.

In addition to his work as an Oxbridge Academy Trustee, Mack serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the MorseLife Health System and Morse Health Center; on the Board of Directors of the Kravis Center, Palm Beach Civic Association and the Fellowship of Christians and Jews; the Town of Palm Beach United Way; and is Chair of the Federation Liaison Committee of the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach. As a member of the Board of Governors of Palm Beach Country Club, Mack serves as President of the Foundation, Chairman of Community Relations, and a member of the Admissions Committee. He sits on the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority of New York, where he held multiple posts, including Board, Vice Chair, Commissioner on the Board of the Port Authority of NY and NJ, and Vice Chairman on the NY Motor Vehicles Board. He was a Deputy Superintendent, rank of Colonel, for the NY State Police and is a member of the Board of the United Nations Commission of NY State.

Mack received his B.A. from Hofstra University, where he serves as a member and Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees. He is a member of the Board of Overseers of Northwell Health and serves as the First Assistant Commissioner of Nassau County Police Department, First Vice President of Palm Beach Police Foundation and, Undersheriff Executive Assistant for Governmental Affairs for Palm Beach County.

With their wealth of experience, we look forward to our new trustees’ invaluable contributions to the Oxbridge Academy community.



Members of Oxbridge Academy's inaugural sixth-grade class. From Left: Kolton Dorsan, Jamir Girardi, Nathan Narcisse, George Beatty, James Butler, Dylan Youngman, Jackson Yankus, Reef Glucksman.

Sixth Grade Triumph

Oxbridge Academy's Newest Success Story

Oxbridge Academy has once again proven its commitment to excellence. In the 2023-2024 academic year, we welcomed the school's first class of sixth graders. The latest addition was a natural progression for Oxbridge, which has already solidified its status as one of the region's premier independent schools.

"Offering a sixth grade enables us to have more time to instill Oxbridge values and cultivate curious minds through instruction, exploration, and experiential learning opportunities," said Head of School Dr. Ralph Maurer. "Through earlier engagement, we can help build a stronger foundation, make a lasting impact, and better prepare students for success in the upper school and beyond." This strategic expansion into younger grades extends Oxbridge Academy's commitment to holistic education, allowing younger students to immerse themselves in our enriching culture that nurtures individual growth and instills core values within a diverse and inclusive community.

The inaugural class, comprised of 19 students, has wasted no time demonstrating their enthusiasm for the new educational journey. Middle School Director Rainey Wyatt describes the group as "tenacious," and their rapid



Jasmine David '30 engaged in a science experiment in Ms. Judith's class.

acclimation into the Oxbridge community has left no doubt. These new sixth graders are provided with the same exceptional academic experience as their older peers. They are encouraged to form clubs, engage in community outreach, and fully immerse themselves in the school's 'culture of kindness.' With sports playing a pivotal role in education, students are encouraged to try out for athletic teams, with some making a big splash on the swim team, including newcomers Johny Mann '30 and George Beatty '30. Beyond clubs and athletics, some

eagerly participate in helping inform prospective families about Oxbridge by helping at open houses, and touring others through the school. "They seem to be embracing all Oxbridge has to offer," Wyatt says. "I am so proud of how they have navigated this transition!" She adds, "I imagine it's daunting being among so many other students and being the youngest of the bunch, but they put on their brave faces in those first few weeks, and it has paid off." They are comfortable, confident, and are included in the Pack." The newest ThunderWolves are thriving and are poised to leave an indelible mark on the Oxbridge legacy.

COLLEGE BOUND

Class of 2023

- Anderson University
- Appalachian State University
- Barry University
- Bath Spa University, England
- Boston University
- Chapman University, California
- Citadel Military College of South Carolina
- Clarkson University
- College of Charleston
- Cornell University
- Elon University
- ESCP-Europe, Paris
- Fairleigh Dickinson University, Metropolitan Campus
- Flagler College

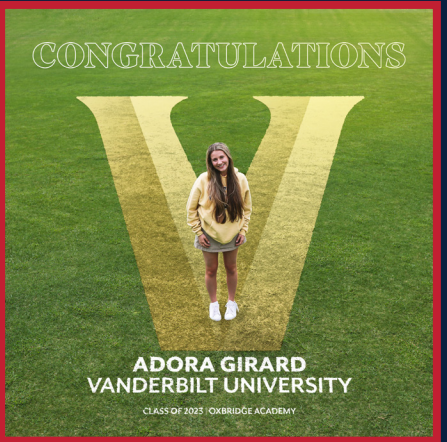


- Florida Atlantic University
- Florida International University
- Florida Polytechnic University
- Florida State University
- High Point University, North Carolina
- Howard University
- Indiana University, Bloomington
- Kean University
- Keiser University
- Lehigh University
- Lynn University
- Middlebury College
- New York University
- Northeastern University
- Northwestern University

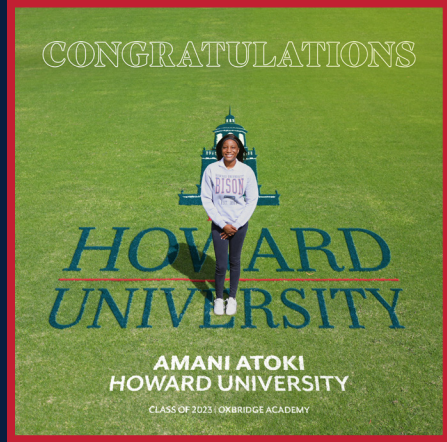


Savannah State University
 Southeastern University
 Southern Methodist University
 Springfield College
 Stetson University
 Suffolk University
 Syracuse University

Tallahassee Community College
 The Catholic University of America
 The New School
 The University of Alabama
 The University of Edinburgh
 Trinity College
 Tufts University



Tulane University of Louisiana
 University of Central Florida
 University of Colorado Boulder
 University of Florida
 University of Miami
 University of Michigan
 University of Mississippi
 University of Notre Dame
 University of South Florida
 University of St Andrews
 University of Wisconsin, Madison
 University of Wyoming
 Valencia College
 Vanderbilt University
 Villanova University



Palm Beach Atlantic University
 Palm Beach State College
 Piedmont University
 Rice University
 Rollins College
 Santa Fe College, Florida
 Savannah College of Art and Design



Wilkes Honors College of Florida
 Atlantic University

Congratulations to the Class of 2023!



From left to right: Mallory Forgatch, Kate Griffin, Drew Schaefer, Dawson Brown, Matthew Rancic, Chandler Barry, Kelley Dever, Noah Prissert, Ellie Nieporte.

Class of 2023 Student-Athletes Know the Emphasis is on Student

There’s a unanimous agreement for the ThunderWolf student-athletes heading to college: the emphasis is on ‘student’ Kelley Dever ’24, now pursuing a career in sports journalism while playing softball at Middlebury College, emphasizes this point. “Being a student-athlete means grinding in the classroom to earn the privilege to grind on the field. This dedication is something I’ve prided myself on throughout my athletic career and something I will continue to do in college.”

Dever’s perspective on balancing academics with sports is a testament to the disciplined approach required for success. She explains the importance of time management in this dual role. “Each student-athlete needs to allot a certain amount of time to their studies and time to practice their craft on the field. There is no magic number; it is up to the student-athlete to discover the perfect balance for themselves.” Finding time to relax is the third pillar in this balancing act. Dever says, “While school and athletics are important, student-athletes must enjoy their life outside the classroom and field.”

Echoing Dever’s sentiments, Noah Prissert ’24, a future Brown University lacrosse player, also exemplifies the essence of a successful student-athlete. The recipient of the 2023 Oxbridge Athletics Award, Prissert effectively used Oxbridge Academy’s resources to excel in the classroom and on the field. He shares, “To be a successful student-athlete, I utilized Oxbridge’s resources. When struggling in the classroom, I went to the math or reading and writing centers. For athletics, I showed up to practice and competed.” Away from sports, Prissert found solace in ceramics, mixed media art, chess, cooking, and beachcombing for shark teeth.

Similarly, La’Taviona Paticake Parke ’24 finds balance in and out of her athletic commitments. As a key player on Oxbridge Academy’s Regional Championship-winning softball team, Parke enjoys downtime with beach outings and creative pursuits in painting and photography. Committed to playing softball at Savannah State University, she, like her peers, strongly emphasizes her academic pursuits, primarily focusing on biology and forensic science.



This commitment to academics is common among ThunderWolves. For instance, Dawson Brown, a lacrosse player heading to Trinity College, has set his sights on studying economics and business. Similarly, Ellie Nieporte, who plays volleyball at Anderson University, is preparing for a future career in writing and communications.

Each students’ journey at Oxbridge Academy is marked by their adept balancing of academics, athletics, and personal interests, positioning them well for future success in college and beyond. Parke eloquently sums up their collective experience: “My time at Oxbridge taught me to adapt, overcome challenges, and find a harmonious balance between my personal life, academics, and athletics.”

Left: Noah Prissert;
below: Paticake Parke, Aryssa Sinclair, Amiyah Williams.



Where They’re Going; What They’ll Play

- **Chandler Barry:** Barry University / Softball
- **Dawson Brown:** Trinity College / Lacrosse
- **Kelley Dever:** Middlebury College / Softball
- **Mallory Forgatch:** Springfield College / Soccer
- **Kate Griffin:** Keiser University / Lacrosse
- **Ellie Nieporte:** Anderson University / Volleyball
- **Paticake Parke:** Savannah State University / Softball
- **Noah Prissert:** Brown University, committed / fall 2024 Lacrosse
- **Matt Rancic:** Rollins College / Lacrosse
- **Drew Schaefer:** Piedmont University / Baseball
- **Aryssa Sinclair:** Florida International University / Track & Field
- **Amiyah Williams:** Fairleigh Dickenson University / Track & Field



From left, Christelle Monawar, Francia Lamus, Errol Putigna, Maria T. Dona-Morice, Rochain Burrell, Jing Zhou, Jelena Rakovic, and Mary Judith.

World Wise

Oxbridge Faculty's International Backgrounds is a Benefit for Students

With a focus on meeting the world boldly, it is beneficial for Oxbridge Academy to have faculty members from around the world.

With several teachers at Oxbridge coming from countries, we asked them how their various international backgrounds serve them as teachers and to play tour guides telling us about their favorite spots back “home.”

Rochain Burrell

Born: Clarendon, Jamaica

Teaches: Mathematics

Joined Oxbridge: January 2016

Be Sure to Visit: Negril's Seven-Mile Beach ending the day at Rick's Café, known for its great food, exhilarating cliff jumping and beautiful sunsets.

Did You Know: Jamaica is an ethnically diverse country whose motto is “out of many, one people.”

Teaching Aid: Coming from Jamaica has undoubtedly made me a more

effective teacher. The education system is quite different from in the U.S. Having experienced both systems has allowed me to take effective strategies from each to guide my approach to education.

Yoshua Carhuamaca

Born: Huancayo, Peru

Teaches: Mathematics

Joined Oxbridge: August 2023

Be Sure to Visit: The vibrant streets of Lima, particularly the District of Miraflores and Avenida Larco. Here, they can experience the fusion of cultures, enjoy championship surfing waves, and relish the world-renowned ceviche.

Did You Know: The most important thing about Peru is its unparalleled culinary diversity. Lima is hailed as the gastronomic capital of the world, a melting pot of flavors influenced by various cultures.

Teaching Aid: Coming from Peru enhances my role at Oxbridge by infusing a global perspective into my teaching. My experience of arriving in the U.S. in 1990 during a challenging period in Peru's history instilled in me a deep appreciation for the opportunities and freedom it offered. This perspective enables me to enrich discussions on various topics and provide students with a broader view of the world.



Maria T. Dona-Morice

Born: Managua, Nicaragua, but raised in San Jose, Costa Rica

Teaches: Spanish / Spanish National Honor Society Advisor

Joined Oxbridge: August 2017

Be Sure to Visit: The Volcano Poas, hike, visit the waterfall, and see animals. The wildlife rescue center is also a must-see during a visit, ziplining and visiting the Mercados.

Did You Know: Costa Rica is truly a natural paradise; it has extraordinary biodiversity and is very eco-friendly. It is also the only country in Central/South America that does not have an army.

Teaching Aid: Coming from Central America enhances my ability as a Spanish teacher because I know the culture; I lived it. When we compare cultures in class, I can share my experiences with the students.

Mary Judith

Born: Silay City, Philippines

Teaches: Science

Joined Oxbridge: August 2021

Be Sure to Visit: The islands of Palawan, which boast some of the world's most beautiful beaches and pristine waters. I would island-hop to El Nido and Coron to see hidden gems of the Philippines' quiet, natural beauty.

Did You Know: The Philippines is an archipelago composed of 7,000+ islands, with only 2,000 of those inhabited. It has a rich history and culture and is known for its delicious cuisine, a fusion of various influences, including Chinese, Southeast Asian, American, and Spanish. It is a beautiful country with many natural resources, breathtaking scenery, and wonderful warm and hospitable people.

Teaching Aid: My perspective, cultural background, and understanding of Philippine history and culture can enrich my students' education as I help them develop a global mindset and expose them to diversity.

Francia Lamus

Born: Bucaramanga, Colombia

Teaches: Spanish

Joined Oxbridge: January 2018

Be Sure to Visit: Chicamocha Canyon and National Park to enjoy spectacular views, a pleasant climate, and extreme sports like paragliding and exploring the archeological sites. Visitors should also tour the coffee cultural landscape and enjoy the gastronomic tour-tasting experience.

Did You Know: Colombia is known for its aromatic coffee, beautiful emeralds, diverse musical rhythms, and exotic fruits and flowers. As the birthplace of magical realism, it is a land of contrast with the Andean mountains, the Amazon rainforest, deserts, and coastlines on two oceans. Colombians are known for their warm hospitality.

Teaching Aid: Coming from a multiracial family, a Colombian father and a Japanese mother, I have experienced different cultures, enjoying traditions from two other worlds. I bring a diverse perspective with cultural authenticity for students to think globally and a wealth of learning opportunities to promote empathy and empower students' appreciation of cultural diversity.

Christelle Monawar

Born: Poitiers, France

Teaches: French

Joined Oxbridge: August 2022

Be Sure to Visit: Bordeaux vineyards region where guests can taste various wines and local cuisine and visit 6,000 historic villages, medieval cities, archeological sites, and ancient Roman churches. I also love this region for the warmth of the local people.

Did You Know: The French are proud of their rich culture and heritage. Showing interest in their language and history goes a long way.

Teaching Aid: I can share, in an authentic manner, my knowledge of the language and culture. The fact that I was a second language learner who had to adapt to a new way of living helps me empathize with students' similar challenges.

Errol Putigna

Born: Toronto, Canada

Teaches: Spanish

Joined Oxbridge: August 2012

Be Sure to Visit: Any of the natural areas of Canada from British Columbia to the Northwest Territory and from Quebec to Newfoundland. Canada has a plethora of natural wonders!

Did You Know: Canadians are a friendly people with their own identity. We are also a land of opportunity for many.

Teaching Aid: Coming from a different country allows me to empathize with people from elsewhere. We are all people with different beliefs and customs, but we can all live under the same roof even if we disagree all the time. Life is full of nuances.

Jelena Rakovic

Born: Sombor, Serbia

Teaches: English

Joined Oxbridge: October 2020

Be Sure to Visit: Sombor and Northern Serbia, they are beautiful farm areas known for good food, wine, and live music. I would also take them on a cruise down the Danube to enjoy the many castles and fortresses, some of which date back to Roman times or earlier. Another must-see is Lepenski Vir, a Mesolithic settlement estimated to have originated between 9500 and 7200 BCE.

Did You Know: Sombor has produced world-renowned athletes such as Nikola Jokic and the world-renowned inventor Nikola Tesla.

Teaching Aid: Though I was born and raised in Serbia, I pursued my education in various countries before settling in Florida in 2020. A teacher training course in Oxford, U.K., followed my undergraduate studies in Serbia. I then pursued a master's degree in Lifelong Learning at the Danish School of Education, Copenhagen, Denmark, and The University of Deusto, Bilbao, Spain. I concluded my academic journey with a Ph.D. in Education from the University of Western Australia. Throughout these educational experiences, I cultivated a profound interest in the power of diverse perspectives, fostering empathy and nurturing an atmosphere of respectful discourse within a supportive learning environment.

Jing Zhou

Born: Xi'an, China

Teaches: Science

Joined Oxbridge: August 2022

Be Sure to Visit: Beijing, the capital city, is a must-visit. I would take you to the Forbidden Palace, one of the best historical relics representing China's history, and then enjoy a roast Peking duck or hot pot dinner!

Did You Know: Orange chicken did not originate in China; it comes from American Chinese restaurants.

Teaching Aid: English is not my native language, but as a science teacher, I must explain complicated concepts. I developed a way to describe them to ensure students understand. I did not realize I was doing that until one of my students told me: "I like how you explain things. You always find a way to make them easier to understand."

U.S.-Born Faculty Members with Overseas Experience

Faculty members from countries worldwide enhance the curriculum and environment at Oxbridge Academy. In addition, U.S.-born faculty also bring extensive experiences from their time studying and teaching abroad. Meet four new American-born faculty members whose experience benefits our students:

Nicholas Connelly has a Master's degree in literature and American Studies from the University of Manchester in England and has almost completed a master's in philosophy and literature from University College in Dublin, Ireland. While pursuing his undergraduate degree at Kenyon College,, he spent his junior year abroad at the University of Exeter in England. At Oxbridge, Connelly teaches English to ninth and 11th-grade students.

Mark Levine, boasts an Master's of Art and Master's of Philosophy degree in East Asian Language and Literature from Yale University and a Bachelor's degree in Asian Studies from Swarthmore College, has studied in China, and runs immersive programs for American college students. He has taught Mandarin and Chinese literature at the high school and college levels at various schools in the U.S. He has presented scholarly papers on Chinese literature at national and international conferences. He is conversant in Japanese, Spanish, French, and Hebrew. At Oxbridge, he teaches Chinese to ninth and 12th-grade students.

Virginia Flannery is from Jupiter, Florida, and grew up in a multi-lingual home speaking Spanish and English. She spent four years teaching English abroad to students in Spain. At Oxbridge, Flannery teaches Spanish to students in middle school.

Ariste Metaxas has a Bachelor's of English from UCLA and a master's in education from Newcastle University in the U.K. She lived and taught in Durham, England, for 11 years and was Head of the Media and Film Department at Sixth Form College. She also spent two years in Chiang Mai, Thailand, teaching children English as a Second Language and English as a Foreign Language. Before joining Oxbridge, Metaxas taught I.B. Language and Literature and Creative Writing at North Broward Preparatory School and spent five years as Chair of its English Department. At Oxbridge, she teaches Honors English and Creative Writing.



Jason Glick, the new Dean of Students, welcoming students at the first day of school assembly.

Meet Jason Glick, Dean of Students

Jason Glick, Oxbridge Academy's Dean of Students, arrived in August 2023 with plans to enhance student life at Oxbridge. He wasted little time in galvanizing students to participate in a series of community service events from replacing invasive plants in a county park with environmentally-friendly shrubs to leading a crew of students, faculty, and staff to make 2,000 PB&J sandwiches to help feed those in need. Glick has also planned and developed an upcoming overseas student trip to Thailand, set to take place in March 2024.

We sat down with Jason Glick to learn more about him and his upcoming plans for the students at Oxbridge:

Q: Can you tell us about your educational background and your journey into the field of education?

A: I started my journey as an educator in residential camping in 1999. I started as a young cabin counselor and discovered that I had a passion for working with children, so I eventually chose to become a teacher. I've worked at summer camps for my entire adult life and have spent the last 15 years as the Head Counselor for boys at Camp Starlight in Northeastern Pennsylvania for about 275 campers.

I hold a Bachelor of Arts in English and Environmental Studies from the University of Pennsylvania and a Master's

in education from Harvard University. I joined St. Andrews School in Boca Raton in 2007 and held various roles there, including teacher, lower school musical director, K-12 Director of Student Life, and Assistant Dean of Students. I even had the opportunity to lead a lower school trip to China, which was my first international educational experience.

Q: How did your time at Camp Starlight influence your style as an educator?

A: My time at Camp Starlight was the starting point and where I discovered my passion for working with young people, helping them learn and grow. While there, I learned valuable leadership, communications, and community-building skills, which have been invaluable throughout my career. If I was any good at being a teacher or an administrator, it was because I had a unique perspective on fostering positive relationships with students and having fun while learning.

Q: Can you share some of your key responsibilities and goals as the Dean of Students at Oxbridge?

A: My role is multifaceted. I have the privilege of overseeing various aspects of student life and well-being. Some

of my key responsibilities include promoting high standards and expectations for student performance, supervising student government and school clubs, and managing student life activities, including prom, Spirit Week, special grade-level events, and school-wide assemblies. Additionally, I maintain student discipline and expectations.

My goal is to create a supportive and inclusive environment where students thrive academically, socially, and personally. I want to foster a “culture of responsibility” where students are encouraged to be their best selves daily, aligning with Oxbridge’s longstanding “culture of kindness.” Ultimately, I am here for our students and committed to being their advocate, guide, and ally.

Q: Beyond your role at Oxbridge, tell us about your philanthropic work?

A: I am proud to serve on the Scott J. Beigel Memorial Fund board, a nonprofit organization that sends children affected by gun violence to summer camp. The cause is close to my heart because Scott Beigel was my best friend for nearly 30 years, and he tragically lost his life in the Marjory Stoneman Douglas shooting in 2018. Camp was a place where Scott and I shared countless memories, and this was a way for us to honor his memory and provide healing experiences to young survivors.

I am also an advisor to Stack the Caps, a nonprofit that organizes hat collection drives nationwide to provide hats to pediatric cancer patients. It’s a small gesture that can bring comfort and warmth to children facing challenging medical journeys.

Q: What do you enjoy in your role as the Dean of Students at Oxbridge?

A: There is so much! I enjoy working with our students and getting to know each individually. Creating a positive and nurturing environment for their growth and development is essential, so building strong relationships with the Oxbridge community is a priority. Ultimately, I want to support and guide our students, helping them succeed and enjoy their educational journey here at Oxbridge.

Kelly Hayek

Associate Dean of Students

Ms. Hayek began her journey at Oxbridge in 2013 as the Girls’ Assistant Varsity Soccer coach. She has since expanded her responsibilities initially serving in the Dean’s Office as Assistant Dean of Students and then assuming the role of Associate Dean of Students in 2022. As the Associate Dean of Students, Hayek plays a vital role in enforcing rules and regulations among the student population, serving as a valuable resource for students seeking guidance and mentorship throughout their Oxbridge experience. Beyond her Dean’s office duties, Ms. Hayek coaches the girls’ Junior Varsity Soccer team.



Errol Putigna

Middle School Spanish & Essential Skills Teacher, Middle School Student Life Coordinator

Errol Putigna has been a dedicated member of the Oxbridge Academy faculty since 2012. With a background in Spanish language, including studying classical / flamenco guitar in Spain and working for the American Institute for Foreign Studies, he brings a wealth of knowledge and real-world experiences to his classroom. Mr. Putigna also serves as the Boys’ Middle School soccer coach. In his additional role as Middle School Student Life Coordinator, he fosters positive relationships with students. Whether managing snacks and clubs or ensuring the cleanliness of campus spaces, Mr. Putigna is an invaluable presence, dedicated to ensuring all tasks are efficiently completed.

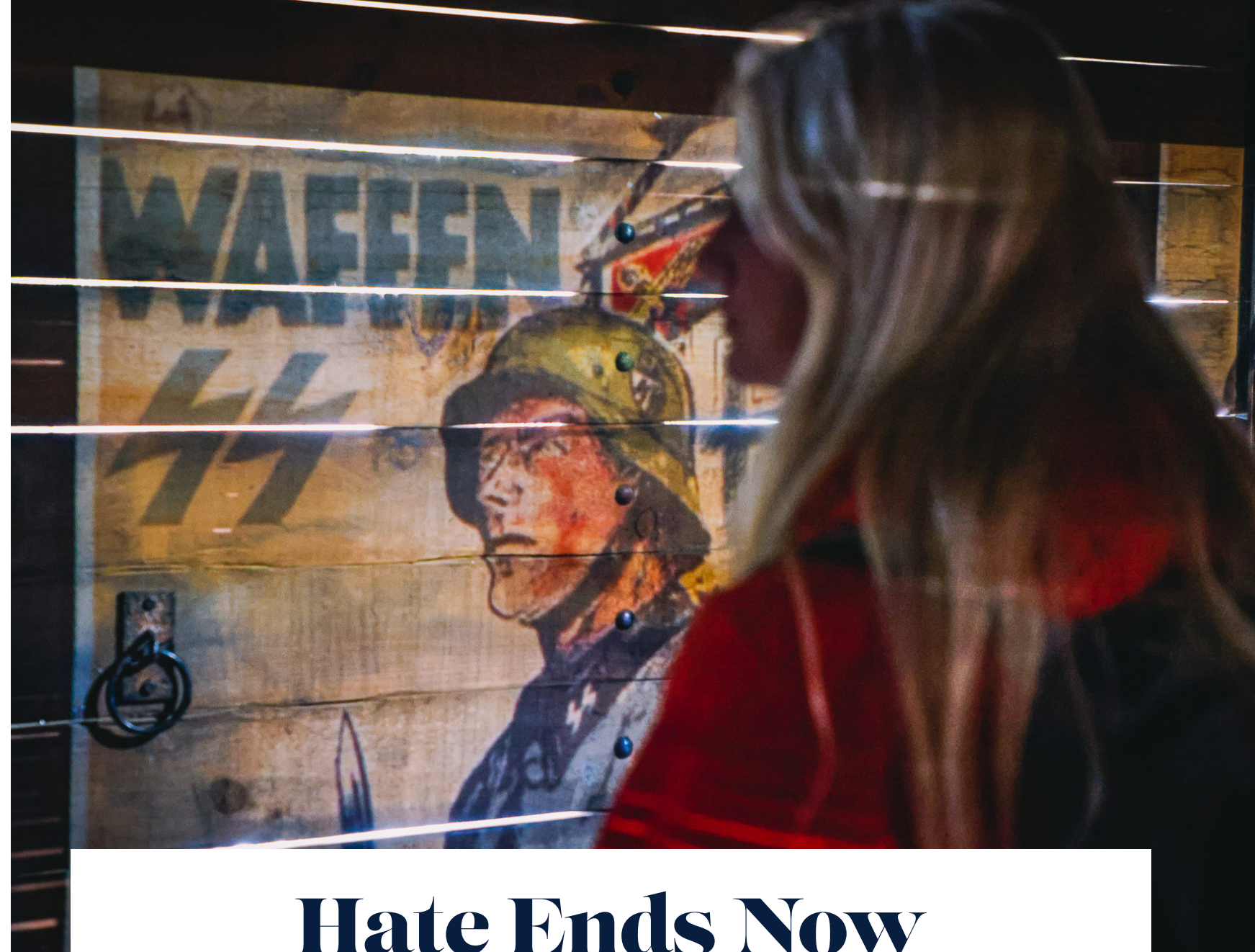


Ariel Chimelis

Physical Education Teacher, Middle School Student Life Coordinator

Before joining Oxbridge in 2022, Mr. Chimelis held various roles at The Pine School, including PE teacher, Assistant Athletic Director, Lower School Dean of Students, K-12 Dean of Students, Student Life Coordinator, and Head Volleyball and Basketball coach. At Oxbridge, he teaches middle school PE, coaches the Girls’ Middle School Volleyball team, and serves as a Middle School Student Life Coordinator.

As Middle School Student Life Coordinator, Chimelis fosters community through special assemblies and collaboration with student government members. His extensive experience in the Dean’s office enhances our efforts to guide students in their journey to becoming their best selves.



Hate Ends Now

Inside a Cattle Car, a “Powerful,” “Shocking” Holocaust Lesson

Over two days in April 2022, Oxbridge Academy students learned about the Holocaust in a unique way: They stood in the dark in a replica WWII-era box car, the same used to transport millions of victims to their deaths during the Holocaust. While clustered in the darkness, students viewed projections of survivors recounting their terrifying, real-life experiences of being transported to camps crammed in railroad cars—built initially to hold cattle—shown on the inside walls. Completely immersive, it was as if the students traveled back in time—not so long ago—and experienced the harrowing journey themselves.

These immersive sessions were part of a touring awareness program and exhibition titled *Hate Ends Now—The Cattle Car: Stepping In and Out of Darkness*, created by Canadian college students in 2015.

Docents touring with the railroad car led discussion groups after the experience so students could share their feelings and ask questions. “Powerful” and “Shocking” were frequent descriptors of the experience.

Assistant Head of School Courtney Portlock praised the program for providing Oxbridge students with the chance to deeply and emotionally engage with the horrors of ‘the Final Solution.’ Through this impactful learning experience, she believes that students were able to reflect on ‘hate and discrimination, the profound effects these issues have on society, and embrace a sense of responsibility to create a better tomorrow.’

This immersive and reflective approach was precisely what founder Jordana Lebowitz had in mind when she initiated the program. The committee produced the out-

of-the-box idea to find a cattle car like those used to transport Jews and other minorities to death camps, bring it to the campus, and have students spend time in it to feel what such cruelty was like while listening to survivor testimonies. Lebowitz spearheaded the search and located a replica car. The committee recorded survivors' accounts and lined the interior walls with photographs, posters, headlines, and stories describing the unimaginable atrocities during this time.

Witnessing the positive impact on participants learning of the inhumane “Trains of No Return” and seeing the growing ignorance of younger generations about the Holocaust, Lebowitz felt a sense of urgency to do something impactful and acted. She co-founded the non-profit group Shadowlight to “turn darkness into light” by taking the exhibition on tour to “enable people of all ages—especially students—to connect to the Holocaust on a personal level.” If Oxbridge students are any indication, she succeeded: “I thought the program was unique and interesting because of how personal it was,” said Wilson Stewart, president of the class of 2024. “We heard specific stories from real people. This, combined with the cramped cattle car, made the experience authentic and led me to reflect: It is easy to overlook that every single one of those people had families, hopes, and dreams. The Hate Ends Now program allowed me to see such a horrific tragedy’s personal, individual issues,” said Stewart.



Oxbridge Academy thanks the leaders of the Oxbridge Jewish Student Union and Ron and Leslie Schram, Drs. Talya and Abraham Schwarzberg, and Drs. Meg Butler and Ralph Maurer and families, along with many others, for making it possible to bring this exhibition to Oxbridge. We looks forward to presenting additional programming on these topics, which remain relevant today.

For One Student The Cattle Car Hit Close To Home

Zarielle Lis ‘25, knew she would be emotional when she entered the cattle car, the centerpiece of the Hate Ends Now program held last April. Not because she is claustrophobic or afraid of the dark, but because she is the granddaughter of Holocaust survivors, and had heard the stories from family members who lived it, and was unnerved by the idea of replicating their terrifying journey.

Her paternal grandparents, Zelig and Pepa Lis, were teenagers living in different Polish towns when the Nazis invaded. Her grandmother would survive the Auschwitz extermination camp, where more than 1.5 million people were killed from 1940-1945. Zelig and his brother went to Buchenwald, a labor camp in Germany where more than 56,000 prisoners would die. The reason her grandfather and great uncle survived, Zarielle says, “was because they told the Nazis that they were electricians...and they were assigned to do electrical work in the camp. I do not think they had any prior experience, but they picked it up as they went along.”

When Zarielle Lis stepped into the replica cattle car, she knew this: “All of my father’s side of the family lived in ghettos my grandmother and her two sisters went to camps. My grandmother’s father and her two brothers were tragically burned in a synagogue. Too many painful memories for them to talk about.”

Zarielle had never previously discussed her family’s history with her classmates. Here’s what she had to say about her Hate Ends Now experience:

What were your thoughts when you heard about the program? When I first learned about this program, my thoughts immediately turned to my grandparents, who were Holocaust survivors. Even though their experiences haunt our family to this day, we must never forget what happened. Our generation and future generations must remember past atrocities and remain vigilant against the resurgence



to avoid the experience altogether. However, I knew it was vital to be brave and walk in the footsteps of those who endured unimaginable horrors.

How did you feel standing in the car with fellow students? I thought of my grandparents and everyone who boarded those trains. I teared up and thought about what it must have been like for them, cramped in a train car like this one with no idea what would come. I tried to put myself in their shoes. My grandmother was around the same age I am now. When I left the train car with a heavy heart, I knew that I had to continue to do my part in honoring the memory of those who suffered through the unimaginable horrors of the Holocaust.

of anti-Semitism and other forms of discrimination. I am very grateful to this program for providing this opportunity to honor the memory of those who suffered greatly.

What did you think when you first saw the train car? I could not help but think of my own family’s history. My dear grandmother, whom I called Oma (German for grandmother), and her two sisters were transported on a train like this to Auschwitz, while my grandfather (Opa) went to another concentration camp. I was initially scared to board this train car, knowing the emotional weight that it would carry for me. Part of me wanted



ACADEMICS



Model UN Team Earns Award of Excellence

The 2022-2023 Oxbridge Academy Model UN team earned the Award of Excellence and several Awards of Merit at the National High School Model UN (NHSMUN) Conference held in March 2023 at UN headquarters in New York City. With more than 4,000 students from over 100 countries competing, NHSMUN is the world's largest and most diverse Model UN Conference. It is lauded for its talented attendees, highly engaging debates, and academically rigorous subject matter. Winning the Award of Excellence is a glowing testament to the Oxbridge philosophy of providing experiential learning opportunities to prepare students better to handle real-world issues.

Competing at Model UN conferences throughout the year requires team members to excel in public speaking, writing, research, and maintaining up-to-date knowledge of global issues. Dr. Marjorie Chiarolanzio (Dr. C), who has been coaching the Oxbridge Model UN team for nine years, attributes the team's success to "outstanding teamwork and dedication to causes that our students hold dear."

Opposite page: Model UN team members who qualified for the New York conference: Top row holding the banner left to right: Team Captain Alejandro Vera, Elizabeth Spurlock; second row left to right: Victor Dehm, Maxim Mogilevsky, Amani Atoki, Kaden Renna, Charlotte Sample; bottom row (seated) left to right: Jasmine Lotfi, Oliver Kerkorian, Victoria Hirsch, Micah Kapp, Caroline DiMaio, Julia Spurlock

Cited for Committee Work at NHSMUN:

- Alejandro Vera '23 and Maxim Mogilevsky '23 in Security Council
- Victoria Hirsch '23 and Caroline DiMaio '24 in UNICEF
- Oliver Kerkorian '26 and Sophie Limbourg '23 in G-20

Earning Awards of Merit at NHSMUN:

- Julia Spurlock '23 and Victor Dehm '23: Award of Merit for their dual delegation work in UNTOC (United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime).
- Elizabeth Spurlock '25 and Micah Kapp '25: Award of Merit for their dual delegation work in FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations),
- Kaden Renna '24 and Jasmine Lotfi '23: Award of Merit for their dual delegation work in SPECPOL (Special Political and Decolonization Committee).

Alejandro Vera, 2022-2023 Model UN Captain, now at Boston University majoring in International Relations and Biological Sciences, explained, "The conference was attended by more than 4,000 other delegates just as ready and eager as us; however, my team and I had been prepared for weeks, and our excellent performance came as no surprise. Everyone excelled in their positions, showing drive and determination to research, debate, and collaborate with



delegates from across the globe.”

The Oxbridge Academy Model UN team strives to compete in at least five yearly competitions. Hurricane Ian caused the cancellation of what was to be the team’s first conference of the 2022-2023 season. Instead of getting its balance at an introductory, nearby competition, the team’s first conference was a major one at The College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. “The delegates did very well,” says Dr. Chiarolanzio, “but most of them were first-timers, so it was a challenge. While we did not bring home an award, it was a great way for our delegates to get their feet wet and go on to excel in future conferences.”

In January, the team attended the Gator Model UN conference at the University of Florida in Gainesville, dramatically improving and earning a pair of the Esteemed Awards. Victoria Hirsch Hoet ‘23, who no attends ESCP Business School Europe, also made an Honorable Delegate citation for her role as Mexico in the Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural (SOCHUM) committee, deliberating solutions to “Increasing Global STEAM Education and Decreasing Domestic Brain Drain.” Matthew Brodner ‘24 received an Honorable Mention for his role as China in the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), addressing issues of “Specific Human Rights and Global Enforcement” during the Cold War era. Victor Dehm ‘23, a freshman at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland, competed on the Disarmament and National Security Commission and represented the United States, received accolades for an outstanding performance.

While the Award of Excellence at the NHSMUN Conference in New York was the team’s crowning achievement, Dr. Chiarolanzio is ecstatic about another notable accomplishment of this year’s team: the training of new delegates (first-year students, sophomores, and

juniors) to carry on the Oxbridge Model UN name as the seniors move on to join Model UN college teams perhaps. “We have one of the strongest teams coming up for the 2023-2024 school year that I have ever had the pleasure of coaching since my start at Oxbridge,” says Dr. Chiarolanzio. “They are already trained, have experienced conferences, and have perfected every aspect of preparedness for a stellar year ahead.”

The alumni of Oxbridge’s Model UN program speak highly of their experience in the program. In Vera’s words, “Model UN was the most influential and formative influence of my life; the NHSMUN was the epitome of all the dedication, hard work, and perseverance that the activity wrought. I am incredibly proud of my teammates and honored to call them my friends.”

Model UN Builds Confidence, Understanding of Other Cultures

Oxbridge Model UN Coach Dr. Marjorie Chiarolanzio explains the requirements and responsibilities of a Model UN team member and the benefits of participating:

“The Model United Nations experience is highly interactive and involves simulation of the committees, debates, and activities of the real United Nations. Students are trained in every aspect of participation as if they were United Nations delegates, building levels of expertise from novice to ambassador. Model UN students actively research, debate, problem-solve, and write resolutions on world issues while simulating the committees of the real United Nations. They also attend virtual and in-person conferences to compete against other students and schools in conferences locally, nationally, and at international events. Public speaking, research, writing, critical thinking, problem-solving, diplomacy, and leadership skills, not to mention the knowledge students gain in world affairs, can positively impact a student’s readiness for college and careers. Additionally, Model UN helps students stand out from colleges and future employers. The experience also promotes cultural diversity and fosters a deeper understanding of the interconnected, global society in which we live.”



Inaugural participants above, from left: Dylan Rahael ‘25, Colin Wade ‘24, Cameron Roxburgh ‘25, Sebastian Cowan ‘25, host Aldo Palles, Portfolio Manager at the Palm Beach office of Evercore Wealth Management, Nikhil Ramprasad ‘25, Vaughn Grove ‘25, and Roan Zapater ‘26.

Oxbridge Summer Finance Experience” is Worth the Investment

In June, seven Oxbridge Academy students embarked on the 2023 Summer Finance Experience, a two-week program designed to expose students to the inner workings of financial institutions in the area. The program combined classroom activities with site visits covering “Fundamental Analysis: P/E ratio, earnings, EBITDA” and “Technical Analysis: Moving averages, MACD, RSI.”

“The goal was to immerse students in the financial world with opportunities to experience the different types of financial firms and interact with leaders in the local business community,” explains Oxbridge economics teacher and Free Enterprise Institute (FEI) lead Rob Frackelton. “Through classroom instruction and field experiences, students developed an understanding of finance not typically learned at the high school level. We plan on the Oxbridge Summer Finance Experience being an annual program offered through the FEI,” says Frackelton.

Off-campus trips included visits to Evercore Wealth Management, Alpha Bond, LLC, JP Morgan, Lighthouse Partners, and Palm Beach Capital for insight into the breadth and depth of the world of finance. Students also conferenced with a parent of an Oxbridge Academy alum

at Apollo Global Management where they discussed the bond and stock market, distressed debt and investing, investment banks and structured investing, direct lending, high-frequency trading, algorithmic trading and coding, ETF arbitrage, the Federal Reserve, asset allocation, hedge fund strategies, and ethics.

Cameron Roxburgh, a junior in his first year at Oxbridge, found the program extremely beneficial. “The program,” he said, “really allowed me to improve my financial knowledge and vocabulary significantly, and already being familiar with finance, it was nice to get a refresher on the things I haven’t thought of or used in a while.” The opportunity to visit area financial firms was another motivating reason for his participation in the program. “Visiting some of the brick-and-mortar firms in the area allows students who seek a career in finance to build connections at a young age, which is helpful later in life,” Roxburgh added.

“Overall, the experience was unlike any other you can get in the area, and it certainly did not feel like just another two weeks of school,” he said. I hope to see the program back next year, and I’m sure when the word spreads, there will be a waitlist to join the program.”



Zilvanas Silenas delivering a lecture to FEI students on the economic impacts of the Russo-Ukrainian war.

Guest Speakers Boost Oxbridge’s Free Enterprise Institute

In September 2022, Oxbridge Academy launched the Free Enterprise Institute (FEI) to give students extraordinary opportunities to advance their economic and entrepreneurial endeavors. Viewed as a unique incubator, FEI seamlessly integrated with various Oxbridge programs in economics, entrepreneurship, finance, and product design. This central hub is a robust support system for students exploring multiple facets of capitalism.

At FEI’s launch, Robert Frackelton, Oxbridge economics teacher and FEI Coordinator, remarked, “This new institute enables us to engage students more broadly with capitalism and the free market and supplement their studies in the classroom with activities in the broader financial community of Palm Beach County and beyond.”

In the past year, the Free Enterprise Institute has hosted several guest lectures from several esteemed speakers:

- In January 2023, Zilvanas Silenas from the Foundation for Economic Education (FEE) delved into the global economic impact of the war in Ukraine, highlighting its significant reshaping of the Energy Map of Europe and Asia.
- In February 2023, in conjunction with Black History Month, Oxbridge Academy’s Free Enterprise Institute and

Black Student Union hosted Frank Baker, the co-founder and managing partner of Siris Capital, a private equity fund with a nearly \$6 billion portfolio. Baker offered students wisdom and encouragement. One recurring theme: Take risks! “If you’re comfortable,” Baker said, “you’re not growing.”

• In April 2023, Dr. Rajshree Agarwal, the Rudolph Lamone Chair of Strategy and Entrepreneurship and Director of the Ed Snider Center for Enterprise and Markets at the University of Maryland, discussed “Fostering Enterprise,” covering the importance of free markets, entrepreneurship, trade, strategic thinking, and the power of leveraging yourself as an asset.

• In October 2023, Professor Antonio Saravia from Mercer University presented “The Case for Free Trade and Open Borders,” advocating for the benefits of free trade and open borders as tools for global development and poverty reduction.

The Free Enterprise Institute at Oxbridge Academy continues to blaze a trail in economic and entrepreneurial education. In the coming year, FEI will continue showcasing a robust line-up of speakers and forward-thinking programs



that aim to inspire a new generation of innovative and conscientious global entrepreneurs and business leaders with ongoing support and insightful perspectives from diverse industry leaders. The journey of growth and learning at FEI is just beginning, and the future holds boundless potential for all involved.

Top row from left: Dr. Rajshree Agrawal lecturing at the University of Maryland, Professor Antonio Saravia speaking to FEI students.
Bottom photo: Oxbridge Black Student Union founder Ellis Daggs ‘24 (left) and FEI director Rob Frackelton (right) interviewing Frank Baker of SIRIS.



A Reign in Spain

Summer Program in Cadiz Provides ‘Perfect’ Immersive Cultural Experience

“It was a perfect trip,” says Middle School Director and chaperone Rainey Wyatt on the June 2023 immersive, two-week trip to Cadiz, Spain. The summer program, created in partnership with the Spanish language school Centro MundoLengua, offers students the opportunity to live, take classes, and explore this magnificent and ancient region. “The program launched to expose students to an authentic experience in Spanish language and culture,” explains Marisa Palazzotto, Chair of the Oxbridge World Languages Department. “The most important part of the program is that students stay with Spanish host families for two weeks in Cadiz and get to see what it is like to live in another country rather than just visit.”

Why would Wyatt describe the experience as “perfect?” For a few reasons, the 3,000-year-old city on the southwestern coast of Spain is beautiful; the narrow, cobblestone streets are pedestrian-friendly; the stone buildings flanking the café- and shop-filled streets protect shoppers from the summer sun. The vibe is serene and modern for such an ancient place, with activities ranging from water sports to cooking classes. “Everyone was friendly; it’s a safe city for students to acclimate to a different culture and explore while having a familiar and comfortable home base with their Spanish host family,” says Wyatt.

During their time in Cadiz, students took language classes, explored the city on walking and bicycle tours, took



a sailboat ride in the bay of Cadiz, learned to make paella, tried paddleboarding and surfing, and climbed a 150-foot-high Torre Tavira, one of the city’s original watchtowers; and took a catamaran to the well-preserved 12th-century fortress, Castillo de San Marcos.

The group also took an excursion to Sevilla to visit the royal palace, cathedral, and the British territory of Gibraltar, an area dripping with history and dominated by the nearly 1,400-foot-high Rock of Gibraltar. Another trip to Granada took the students to the imposing 13th-century Muslim palace and fortress Alhambra and the tombs of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella.

“The two weeks I spent in Cadiz was one of the best experiences of my life,” says Noah Rabel ‘25. “From the home-cooked meals after a day of classes, surfing in the Cadiz Bay, cooking our paella, and communicating only in Spanish, the program highlighted so many activities we would not have experienced had we not participated in this amazing program.”

He adds that the most meaningful part of the program was “learning the language in a more in-depth way. Being able to kick a soccer ball with local kids and converse with them was a true highlight, and I must admit to being proud of myself for doing so. If I had the chance to do it again, I would! I highly recommend this experience and encourage all students to participate! This was a trip I will never forget!” said Rabel.



Top right: A tour guide shares the history of Cadiz; from left: Rainey Wyatt, Unknown (she was an independent traveler with MundoLengua and not affiliated with Oxbridge), Marisa Palazzotto, Francia Lamus, Winthrop Ward ‘25, Molly Kapp ‘26, Harlow Klann ‘25, Jonathan Brancatelli ‘26, Joseph Hershfield ‘25, Maggie Ream ‘25, Elizabeth Spurlock ‘25, Ariella Hershfield ‘25, Avery Esterson ‘25, Francesca Carcelen ‘26, Noah Rabeli ‘25, Natalia Dorsey ‘25, Mia Lago ‘25, Brooke Buchbinder ‘25.

Above: Oxbridge students Maggie Ream ‘25 and Harlow Klann ‘25 take a tasty paella cooking class.

Oxbridge News

Three Oxbridge Seniors Selected as Semifinalists for National Merit Scholarships

Congratulations to Oxbridge seniors Wilson Stewart, Gabriela Matzen and Ryan Farinas (pictured below) who were selected by the College Board's National Recognition Programs as National Merit Scholar Semifinalists. This program rewards students' hard work by showcasing their remarkable academic achievements to colleges and scholarship programs. The students were selected based on their PSAT/NMSQT scores from the 2022 test and are competing for more than 7,150 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$28 million that will be awarded in spring 2024.

In addition to the three students selected as National Merit Scholar Semifinalists, congratulations go to the six Oxbridge seniors who earned the following academic honors from the College Board National Recognition Programs:

Ellis Daggs: National African American Recognition Award (NAARA)

Ryan Farinas: National Hispanic Recognition Award (NHRA) and a National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist

Jaidalyn Gromadzki: National Hispanic Recognition Award (NHRA)

Raine Hopkins: National African American Recognition Award (NAARA)

Gabriela Matzen: National Hispanic Recognition Award (NHRA) and a National Merit Scholarship Semifinalist

Sebastien St Jean: National African American Recognition Award (NAARA)



Two Oxbridge Students Reach Rare Rank of Eagle Scout

Matthew Rancic and Thomas Coates, both members of the graduating class of 2023, earned their Eagle Scout merit badges, a rare achievement that only two percent of Boy Scouts accomplish. To secure this rank, both



Rancic and Coates spearheaded community service projects at McCarthy's Wildlife Sanctuary, a local organization that treats hundreds of sick or injured exotic and native animals, many of which are released back into the wild. Coates designed an informational kiosk to provide guests with important safety and educational information, while Rancic

constructed a pool for tigers to cool off in the heat. At graduation, Coates, who now attends the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University, received the Oxbridge Social Sciences Award for excellence in that field. Rancic signed a letter of intent to play lacrosse for Rollins College.

Middle School Students Place in Junior Division of 2023 Palm Beach Regional Science and Engineering Fair

Cormac Toner '28 and Gerald Valvano '27 finished fourth. Gerald Valvano '27 and Cormac Toner '28 finished second and fourth, respectively, in the Junior Physics & Astronomy Division of the Palm Beach Regional Science & Engineering Fair held in January 2023. Valvano's Arepa Hydraulics project investigated the effects of different liquids on the efficiency of a hydraulic press. He designed his "Arepa Press" and built it using an acrylic 3D

printer. His project aimed to create a prototype hydraulic press that he could use to flatten arepa dough. Toner's project, titled The Drone That Flew explored different types of drone propellers and their effects on the energy efficiency of drones. He tested different propeller designs with varying numbers of blades to see which one could keep the drone working with minor battery consumption. He chose to do this project because of his love for coding and fascination with drones.



Sons of the Revolution Announce Essay Contest Winners

In an effort to enhance high school students' understanding of the U.S. Constitution, the Palm Beach Chapter of the Sons of the Revolution in Florida initiated an annual essay contest four years ago. This contest, exclusive to 10th-grade students at Oxbridge, invites participants every January to write 600-word essays on topics related to the Constitution. This year's prompt, "What does the Constitution mean to me?" saw Dylan Donigan, Arthur Paura, and Hannah Famulak, all from the class of 2025, emerge as winners. Donigan clinched the first prize of \$300, followed by Paura with \$200 for second place, and Famulak securing \$100 for third. The contest's growing popularity has inspired Sons of the Revolution chapters nationwide to consider implementing similar competitions in their regions.



The following awards also were announced:

Farinas wins John Klemme Arts and Literature Award

Ryan Farinas '24 received the John Klemme Arts and Literature Award, annually recognizing and celebrating a junior who demonstrates a devotion to, a profound passion for, and excellence in studying the arts and literature. The board of Trustees established the award to commemorate Klemme's tenure as Head of School and Academic Dean (2016-2018).

Nihoff receives Harvard Book Prize Emma Nihoff '24 received The Harvard Book Prize, which goes to outstanding students in "the next-to-graduating high school class who display excellence in scholarship and high character, combined with achievement in other fields." Donated by Harvard Clubs and Shared Interest Groups, Prize Books are presented annually to a select students in nearly 2,000 high schools worldwide.

Oxbridge Debate Team Reaches "Sweet 16" Round of Global Debate Competition

The ThunderWolves debate team reached the "Sweet 16" round of the Twenty-Second Annual International Public Policy Forum (IPPF) competition. The competition began in October 2022, with 220 schools from 31 states and 22 countries vying for the \$10,000 grand prize. Oxbridge was the only Florida school to reach the final 16. Congratulations to participating debate team members Thomas Coates '23, Ellis Daggs '24, Sophia Derrin '24, Ryan Farinas '24, Gabi Matzen '24, Caroline Prentice '23, and Wilson Stewart '24. The IPPF, sponsored by the Brewer Foundation, New York University, and the Council on Foreign Relations, is the only competition that allows high school students worldwide to engage in written and oral debates on public policy issues. The Brewer Foundation is a private, non-profit organization that works to create, fund, and manage various educational outreach programs.

Finn Johnson's Stock is Way Up

Finn Johnson '23 placed first in the region and fifth in the state in the Fall 2022 Florida Stock Market Challenge. During a turbulent market, he grew a mock portfolio of \$100,000 to \$146,000. He also was a member of the Oxbridge team that finished second statewide in the 2022 Spring Florida Stock Market Challenge. Competing against thousands of teams, the ThunderWolves grew their portfolio by 24 percent.

Oxbridge Juniors Selected as Boys State Delegates

Matthew Brodner, Ryan Knapp, and Wilson Stewart, all members of the class of '24, were selected as local delegates to Florida Boys State. Founded by the American Legion, the weeklong program in Tallahassee teaches students how government works and empowers participants to return to their communities as more knowledgeable citizens with a keen interest in civics. The student delegates sponsored by Rood Williams American Legion Post 271 in Jupiter/Tequesta lived in dorms on the Florida State University campus.



Hannah Friedlander Places for 2023 Pathfinder Scholarship Award Winner

In May 2023, Hannah Friedlander '23 was third runner up for a Pathfinder Scholarship Award in the Computer Engineering and Technology category. Friedlander received a \$1,500 college scholarship. The Pathfinder Awards, now in its 40th year and sponsored by *The Palm Beach Post*, awards college scholarships of \$3,000, \$2,000, and \$1,500 in 18 categories to seniors in public and private high schools in Palm Beach and Martin counties. More than 500 nominees were in the running for the 54 scholarships. Friedlander is now studying computer science at Tufts University.



Emma Nihoff Awarded Leadership Grow Scholarship

Emma Nihoff '24 was one of 42 Palm Beach County high school juniors selected to participate in the 2022-2023 Leadership Grow program and received the organization's \$1,000 Commissioner's Scholarship for college.

Each school year, the Leadership Grow program empowers a select group of high school juniors to learn about the critical issues facing Palm Beach County while encouraging them to expand their leadership roles and build a community involvement foundation. Led by a team of Leadership Palm Beach County alumni, this nine-month long program provides participants with meaningful professional experience by interacting with leaders from businesses, government agencies, and civic organizations and visiting various institutions to observe how they operate. Program coordinators encourage students to interact, learn, and reflect on their future as community leaders and build necessary skills, including public speaking and resume writing, to prepare them for future education and employment.



Lake Clarke Shores Town Councilman John Maples presents Oxbridge student Emma Nihoff with the Leadership Grow Commissioner's Scholarship.

English Teacher Kevin Colling is Now a Published Poet

Veteran English teacher Kevin Colling, in his 11th year at Oxbridge, can add published poet to his accomplishments. Encouraged by fellow poet David Whyte to compile and publish a collection of his poems, Colling has finally done just that. The collection, which includes poems written over 40 years, is titled *This Moment is a Museum*. The title was born from visiting art museums and observing that the famous paintings he was viewing were of "things, people, etc. I see every day in life, and I realized if I gave the world around me the same close and focused attention, the same beauty and wonder these museum paintings give us is available all around us in our everyday lives." He adds, "I get joy from sharing my poems." If you're wondering which poets inspire him, the list comprises W. B. Yeats, Robert Frost, William Blake, and David Whyte.



Reading Assignment Leads Spanish Honors Students To Track Down Reclusive Figure In Argentine History

Students in Maria T. Dona-Morice's Spanish 4 Honors classes wondered if they could find and interview the granddaughter of the famous Argentine poet and journalist Juan Gelman. Dona-Morice's classes were assigned to read "La Carta Abierta" ("The Open Letter"), a poignant and harrowing public letter Gelman had written to the grandchild he knew existed but had never met due to the actions of the Argentine military, which had overthrown the government in 1976. The military was searching for the outspoken poet who had fled the country. Since they couldn't apprehend him, they kidnapped his son and pregnant daughter-in-law.

The letter, published in 1998, reads like a political thriller and begins like this: "In six months, you will be 19 years old. You will have been born in October 1976 in a concentration camp. Shortly before or shortly after your birth, in the same month and year, your father was assassinated by a military commando, perhaps the same one that kidnapped him and your mother..."

The letter bore fruit, and in 1999, Gelman discovered he had a granddaughter living in Uruguay and finally met her in 2000. Realizing Gelman's granddaughter Macarena was alive, the students set out to see if they could find and speak with her. Class of 2023 graduate Sophie Mooallem found her on Facebook; Dona-Morice made initial contact to see if she was the person they were searching for. She was, and she agreed to a Zoom interview!

Mooallem says, "It was surreal meeting her since we had spent so long studying her and her family's story. Hearing a first-person narrative about finding her grandfather after being adopted was very moving. It not only helped me understand Spanish by hearing a native speaker but also moved me to learn more about the wars in non-American countries. I am very thankful for the opportunity to learn and get advice from Macarena."

Working Quietly to Design a More Understanding World

Ellis Daggs '24 aspires to be an architect. For an Oxbridge independent study project, he meticulously crafted a model of a student center, envisioning a space where he could unwind in his future college years. His fascination with design likely sprouted at the age of four when he fell in love with LEGOs™. He once transformed an entire room in his home into a bustling LEGO city. His passion led him to visit the famed LEGO House known as the “Home of the Brick, in Billund, Denmark, where he embarked on the LEGO Inside Tour, hailed as the ultimate 3-day LEGO fan experience. Daggs’s excitement for building and creating extends beyond his projects, igniting a strong desire to be a role model. Although reserved about admitting it, because of his quiet, unassuming manner, his actions reflect leadership and mentorship qualities.

This fall, Daggs directed a LEGO toy drive for students in the S.T.E.M. Club at Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary School in Riviera Beach and served as a counselor at Bricks4Kidz camp in Jupiter, utilizing LEGOs to impart S.T.E.M. concepts to its campers. In recognition of his significant school and community involvement, Oxbridge nominated Daggs for the Palm Beach County Leadership Grow Program. This initiative empowers high school juniors to engage with Palm Beach County’s pressing issues while expanding their leadership roles and interacting with various business, government, and civic leaders. He was one of 300 students selected from the United States for Bank of America’s Student Leaders, an eight-week Washington, D.C. program where he attended a Leadership Summit. He helped nonprofits that work with the underserved. As part of the program, Daggs worked with a local nonprofit, Communities in Schools Palm Beach, where he helped create a new website. He most recently earned the National African American Recognition Award (N.A.A.R.A.) from the College Board National Recognition Programs. To better understand tyranny, genocide, and antisemitism, Daggs attended the Holocaust Education Advocacy Leaders (H.E.A.L.) program for high school students, where he learned leadership and advocacy skills for fighting hate and promoting community. Last November, he also participated in the National Association of Independent Schools’ Student Diversity Leadership Conference in San Antonio, Texas.



Through his philanthropic efforts, Daggs continues to build a solid foundation, participating and contributing to the debate team’s success, which ranked 16th in the competition, featuring over 200 teams from around the globe. Daggs also earned a Silver Key in the Regional Scholastic Arts Awards competition, a testament to his love of art.

In every facet of his life, Ellis Daggs exemplifies the qualities of a leader. “I want to be a role model,” says Daggs. The future architect is working to design a more peaceful, caring community, one brick at a time. “I try to do a lot,” says Daggs. “Some things are above me, but I have learned that it takes more than writing an email and sending it to get things done. One must be persistent. There is always something more you can do.”



All-School Field Trip Journeys Back to Medieval Times

Chivalry triumphed during our all-school field trip to Medieval Times Dinner & Tournament in Kissimmee, Florida. This excursion, designed to bring the 2023-2024 Summer Reading assignments to life, immersed all in the legend of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. According to Academic Dean Amy Jurskis, “This year’s summer reading selection and field trip generated great excitement, giving students a new sense of appreciation for the courtly pageantry of the Medieval period. Many teachers followed the field trip with units about chivalry, Arthurian legends, and history.”

The show commenced with immersive vignettes, promoting the values of medieval chivalry—a code of conduct expected of knights during the Middle Ages (1170-1220). This ancient set of values extolled qualities such as courage, honor, courtesy, justice, and generosity, central tenets of Oxbridge Academy’s “culture of kindness.” Following these short tales, our students enthusiastically watched a live jousting tournament, with each student assigned a different-colored knight to root for during the competition. By the end of the day, the Yellow Knight emerged victorious against five adversaries in a thrilling, action-packed jousting tournament that featured lances, swords, shields, and valiant steeds.

Thanks to Oxbridge Academy’s approach to immersive education and the vast array of incredible attractions available in Florida, we can bring the summer reading to life and promote our “culture of kindness” through engaging interactive experiences.





Kylie Coggswell '27 (left) and Alexis Goodson '27 (right) playing Splatoon 3.

A Virtual Hit: E-Sports Program Levels Up

Oxbridge Academy's E-Sports program began its second year boasting increased team members and upgraded facilities. Over the summer, significant renovations were made to the E-Sports room, including adding top-of-the-line gaming chairs, interactive LED lighting, and dynamic decor, to create a spirited and competitive atmosphere. Thanks to these upgrades and positive word of mouth, student interest in E-Sports has increased.

The E-Sports program includes students seeking something different from traditional school sports or clubs. "E-Sports benefits students, enabling them to be involved with an extracurricular activity," says E-Sports Team Co-Captain Dylan Donigan. "Some students may not feel like they fit into the arts or sports programs, and this could be their way of socializing." The sense of community and structure E-Sports provides is not only helpful for academic success but also complements Oxbridge's existing programs. It enhances skills like strategic and critical thinking, fosters good sportsmanship, and builds self-confidence. Reflecting on this synergy, Coach Arden Jurskis observed, "It's gratifying to see how E-Sports helps students come out of their shells and supplements their academic studies."

Matthew Stoessel, '25, team Co-Captain and a member from the club's inception, says, "The E-Sports program gave me a platform to express my passion for competitive gaming and to represent my school. Additionally, I have always wanted to enter the game design industry, so I am learning about fundamental game mechanics through this program." He adds, "The E-Sports team encourages more inclusion and allows more people with similar interests to work as a team." This year, Oxbridge Academy competes in the High School E-Sports League in Super Smash Bros. Ultimate and

Splatoon 3. Students vie for prizes, trophies, and college scholarships. The team plans to adapt to student interests as the program expands by adding games. It might also need to add more space. Donigan notes that the program's increased popularity has caused a pleasant crowding problem: "I think a larger room and more gaming stations would be nice."

E Sports Founder Continues to Thrive in College

In his senior year, Alex Bories '23 established an E-Sports program at Oxbridge. Thanks to his efforts and the generosity of his parents, Jacques and Diana Bories, the E-Sports program was launched in September 2022. Today, Alex is a first-year student at Chapman University, Dodge College of Film and Media Arts, majoring in Writing for Film and Television (BFA), with plans to add a minor in Biology. He remains active in competitive E-Sports, competing in Overwatch tournaments as a Chapman University gaming club Well Played member. He also continues to train and compete with an independent Overwatch team, Nightshade, under the gamertag "Boomslang." "I am incredibly proud of founding the E-Sports team at Oxbridge. This was a goal I had set for myself because I knew that the gaming community has a lot of positive things to offer, like improving communication and organization skills and providing leadership opportunities. I am grateful for the opportunities, support, and encouragement from the Oxbridge faculty and staff."



the arts



For Elena French-Nino, a Full Life Means Taking the Leap

“The air was crisp and cool; the door to the plane was open. I tried to hear myself scream, but my ears had blown out during free fall, and there was only the sound of the wind...” That might read like the opening to a Lara Croft: Tomb Raider action film or a James Bond novel. But no. It was just another fearless moment in the adventurous life of class of 2023 Oxbridge Academy graduate Elena French-Nino, who celebrated her 18th birthday by jumping out of an airplane.

The award-winning multi-media artist, Pathfinder nominee in the History & Political Science category, Cambridge Scholar, president of the Oxbridge Green Club, and charter member and school captain of the philanthropic Impact the Palm Beaches/Next Generation nonprofit, had already experienced the adrenaline rush of escaping a charging grizzly bear while visiting Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming (but that’s another story).

So why celebrate a birthday in such a daredevil way? “I wanted to accomplish something that not many people have, and I especially wanted it to feel liberating,” says French-Nino. “In many ways, this was my way of feeling alive.” She learned from that one skydive that “there is so much more to life—and I have to take the jump!”

During her tenure at Oxbridge, she sought challenges, often stepping out of her comfort zone. While she was interested in art and spent summers at art camps taking classes, French-Nino hadn’t taken art seriously. That changed at Oxbridge.

“My years at Oxbridge,” she says, “were rigorous academically, and in my senior year, I decided to try something new. I walked into Julia Manson’s art class and realized I wanted to explore the arts.” That desire to branch out led to French-Nino winning a total of 10 awards (including the prestigious Gold Key award) in the 2023 Regional Scholastic Art & Writing Awards for artwork in a variety of styles. That haul was followed by a Scholastic Arts National Silver Medal.

The congratulatory letter from the New York-based nonprofit Alliance for Young Artists & Writers that presents the annual Scholastic Awards stated: “More than 100,000 students submitted more than 260,000 works of art and writing to the 2023 Scholastic Awards. Your work was selected by some of the foremost leaders in the visual and literary arts for excellence in originality, technical skill, and the emergence of a personal voice or vision. Less than



2,000 works received a National Medal, which places you within the top 1% of all submissions!”

Given her achievements, it’s not surprising that French-Nino also took home the annual Oxbridge Creativity Award, which recognizes the member of the graduating class who demonstrated the most creativity during their time at Oxbridge Academy. With enough awards to fill a trophy case, French-Nino was inspired to delve deeper into fine art, experimenting with more mediums and styles. “I have continued my journey with photography using film, Polaroids, and monochrome; drawing with charcoal, oil pastels; metalworking with brass and copper; woodworking, Chinese brush painting, carving stamps, and jewelry making.” She adds that she enjoys working in so many mediums because “each evokes a different emotion in me.”

Her desire to explore more art forms in depth was not lost on her teachers. Oxbridge Visual Arts Department Chair Kendra Brodsky observed, “One of Elena’s most commendable qualities is her boundless curiosity for the arts. Be it the history of a technique or the story of an artist; no detail is too small or insignificant to escape her notice or enthusiasm. Her ability to steep herself so deeply within the artistic process charges each of her works with layers of meaning.” French-Nino, however, appears to have a natural talent for photography for which she won the majority

of her Scholastic awards.

As fascinated by art and talented an artist as she is, that’s just a slice of her world. Academics and taking the school’s “culture of kindness” to heart were not only important to French-Nino—who earned straight A’s her senior year at Oxbridge—they are related. For her, knowledge and kindness are intertwined. “Through classes and my personal life, I can address, resolve, and communicate on historical topics about inequity and how other marginalized groups confront this,” says French-Nino, whose father is Colombian.) “This enlightenment has inspired me to understand my role in the world. It is



important to me to inspire stewardship and to establish a legacy for future student-led philanthropy.”

As Green Club President, French-Nino oversaw event planning and organized teams that traveled monthly to clean up debris from local beaches. In addition to working in the community, the club also worked to create a clean and green school campus. “I hope to get Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County (SWA) to pick up the recycling at school, and to get students more involved in community service,”



French-Nino says. She also volunteered at Gumbo Limbo Nature Center in Boca Raton, where she took care of the Sea Turtle Garden, a gopher tortoise exhibit, a butterfly nursery, a sea turtle safe lighting exhibit, the gift shop, and the front desk. The goal, she says, was to “help inspire stewardship of coastal and marine ecosystems.” Her interest and devotion to conservation are in her DNA, as her parents have been taking her on nature trips and beach outings for as long as she can remember.

She’s also an advocate for philanthropy and helped form a high school chapter of Impact the Palm Beaches, a local nonprofit formed and run by women to raise and provide grants to local advocacy groups such as Habitat for Humanity, The Lord’s Place, FAU Brain Institute, Loggerhead Marine Center, and Feed the Hungry Pantry. French-Nino spearheaded activities to increase student participation.

All her adventures, causes, and involvements bring her right back to the day she took a chance. She walked into an inspiring teacher’s classroom her senior year and discovered the seemingly endless opportunities it offered and, in the process, unearthed a hidden talent she possessed. Yes, she wants what we all want: happiness, good health, and the chance to be whatever she wants, and do something she loves. “Currently,” she says, “I envision myself as the director of an art museum.”



At Oxbridge, All the Arts Are on Display



The Fine Arts Department was a cauldron of activity, presenting plays and concerts, entering competitions, and producing art exhibitions throughout the 2022-2023 school year.

At the start of the fall season, upper school theater students presented *Hard Candy*, a comedy by Jonathan Rand directed by theater teacher Andrew Gilbert. Middle school actors followed in mid-December with a production of the musical adaptation of the classic holiday movie *Elf*. *Elf Jr.*, directed by dance teacher Alyssa Thompson and vocal teacher Kallina Chin.

In January, the annual Regional Scholastic Art & Writing Awards were announced, with Elena French-Nino ‘23 amassing a combination of 10 Gold Key, Silver Key, and Honorable Mentions in various media and winning a National Silver Medal for her photograph titled “After Hours”. Naomi Cohn ‘23 and Spencer Marchant ‘23 also earned Gold Key awards, while Ellis Daggs ‘24, Lila Gerard ‘27, Indya

Lee ‘28, and Ian Meiselman ‘23 received Silver Key awards.

Also, In January, Keilah Antico ‘23 earned a coveted spot as an All-State Chorus member and performed at the Tampa Convention Center as part of the 2023 Florida Music Education Association Professional Development Conference & All-State Concerts. Antico had an extraordinary year, earning multiple “Superior” singing awards. All-State Choruses are highly select groups of choral students brought together to rehearse and perform selected music with guest conductors. Antico had the privilege of working with Rosephanye Powell, Ph.D., a professor of voice at Auburn University, considered one of the premier contemporary composers in the country.



Top: Oxbridge’s Repertory Dance members performing “One” from A Chorus Line at the Spring Dance Concert. Bottom: Ernie Mills conducting the Strings Chamber Ensemble at the Spring Music Concert.



Miller earned the opportunity to compete in the statewide Solo and Ensemble competitions held in March. That month, the Oxbridge Repertory Dance Ensemble competed in the annual Future Stars competition by the Rotary Club of Boca Raton. The Ensemble, comprised of Charlotte Baeumler '25, Sea Benzing '25, Jourdane Celis '24, Elle Cunningham '25, Mia Gambino '26, Gigi Giliberti '23, Adora Girard '23, Lily Golish '25, Brianna Gonyea '24, Lilly Jackson '24, Emma Jassenoff '24, Jarrhana Labastille '26, Elizabeth Marchant '24, Rebecca Schwarzbarg '25, Katherine Shumway '24, and Ella Carver '23, performed, "Bad Girls" during the March competition and took third place.

Left: Scene from Oxbridge Academy's middle school spring musical *Seussical*. Below: Scene from Oxbridge Academy's spring musical *Into the Woods*.

While Antico was impressing judges vocally, Ethan Miller '25, a percussionist in the Oxbridge Concert Band, earned a place in the Florida Bandmasters Association All-County Band. This prestigious ensemble is comprised of the top student musicians in Palm Beach County.

In February, vocalists Keilah Antico '23, James Caprio '24, Nat Cona '24, and Julia Spurlock '23 received "Superior" and "Excellent" ratings at the Regional Florida Vocal Association Solo and Ensemble Competition while trombone player Ella Sobocinski '26 received a "Superior" score at the Florida Bandmasters Association Solo and Ensemble Competition. Caprio, Antico, Sobocinski, and Percussionist



In March, Oxbridge theater students presented the classic Broadway musical *Into the Woods*, and soon after, 14 ThunderWolf thespians earned 20 "Superior" scores at the Florida State Thespian Festival in Tampa. Participating was Keilah Antico '23, Alex Bories '23, Giovanna Chaney '26, Nat Cona '24, Blake Frost '23, Gigi Giliberti '23, Bianca Ingenito '24, Kaya Kutner '23, Mina Lipman '26, Conrad Luce '23, Alejandro Lugo-Cortes '23, Rhumani Mitchell '24, Mikey Olaciregui '23, and Addison Ryan '25. Every Oxbridge student took home at least one "Superior" score for their hard work, an incredible achievement! At the end of the month, Antico shined once again. Accompanied by artist-in-residence Joshua Lubben, her vocal performance earned yet another Superior ranking, this time at the Florida Vocal Association State Solo and Ensemble Performance Assessment. Upper and middle school actors joined forces in late April to present the Arts Department's annual Oxbridge on Broadway spectacular. Directed by Gigi Giliberti '23 (winner of Oxbridge's 2023 Performing Arts Award) the show included numbers from Broadway classics such as *Grease*, *Legally Blonde*, and *Moulin Rouge*.

May brought a flurry of activity, including the annual Spring Dance Concert, featuring the Repertory Dance Ensemble, students from the Dance Foundations Class, Middle School Dance Ensemble, and Ballroom Club students performed works by guest artists Jon Lehrer, Kenny Fowler, Alexandra Dow, and Jazmine Colón. Dance styles ranged from hip-hop and contemporary to classical jazz and modern, with seniors in the Repertory Dance Ensemble performing original original choreography devised by

Senior's Voice Was Music to Judges' Ears

When it comes to vocal ability, not many are more talented than Keilah Antico '23. A freshman at Southeastern University in Lakeland, Florida, Antico is working toward a BS in Worship Studies and Business in the college's School of Music. During her senior year at Oxbridge, she enjoyed remarkable success. Here's a look at her achievements:

- As a member of an All-State Chorus, Antico performed at the Tampa Convention Center as part of the 2023 Florida Music Education Association Professional Development Conference & All-State Concerts. Comprised of a highly select group of choral students from Florida's middle/junior high and senior high schools, the All-State Choruses perform with guest conductors and experts in the industry. While there, Antico had the privilege of working with Rosephanye Powell, Ph.D., a professor of voice at Auburn University, considered one of the premier contemporary composers in the country.
- As one of four ThunderWolf vocalists, Antico received "Superior" and "Excellent" ratings at the Regional Florida Vocal Association Solo and Ensemble Competition
- Antico was among 14 Oxbridge thespians who were given 20 Superior ratings at the Florida State Thespian Festival in Tampa.



- She scored a Superior rating at the Florida Vocal Association State Solo and Ensemble Performance Assessment
- She also served as Student Music Director for the 2023 production of *Oxbridge on Broadway*, assisting Theater teacher Andrew Gilbert. "All of these were great experiences that I had the honor of participating in," says Antico, who plans to continue her music career, composing and learning various instruments. "I will forever be grateful for everyone who helped me experience these wonderful feats, to all my previous teachers; they are the ones who pushed me and helped me see my full potential. All the years of dedication and hard work paid off and helped me have the most fulfilling senior year." Bravo to Keilah Antico. May your Superior ratings continue through college and beyond!

members of the class.

The annual Spring Music Concert followed, featuring performances by the Chorale, String Orchestra, and Concert Band, playing selections ranging from Baroque to Contemporary. A week later, the Oxbridge Rock Band held court in the theater, delivering hits by many artists, from the Eagles to Blink 182.

Also in May, seventh graders in the Oxbridge Intro to Performing Arts class presented the Middle School Spring Musical *Seussical Jr.* Accompanying the performance, a “Seusstastical” art show featuring the creative work of middle school students greeted theatergoers in the lobby.

Maclaren Chevalier ‘27 earned the Emerging Artist Award, which “recognizes an exceptional student who demonstrated both dedication and authenticity in their creative endeavors.” The award included a check for \$150 for the purchase of



two of her artworks for the school's collection of student art.

May was also the month that, based on their outstanding performances and stage crew work in the school's presentation of *Into the Woods*, the Kravis Center invited seniors Durham Shirley and Alex Bories, sophomores



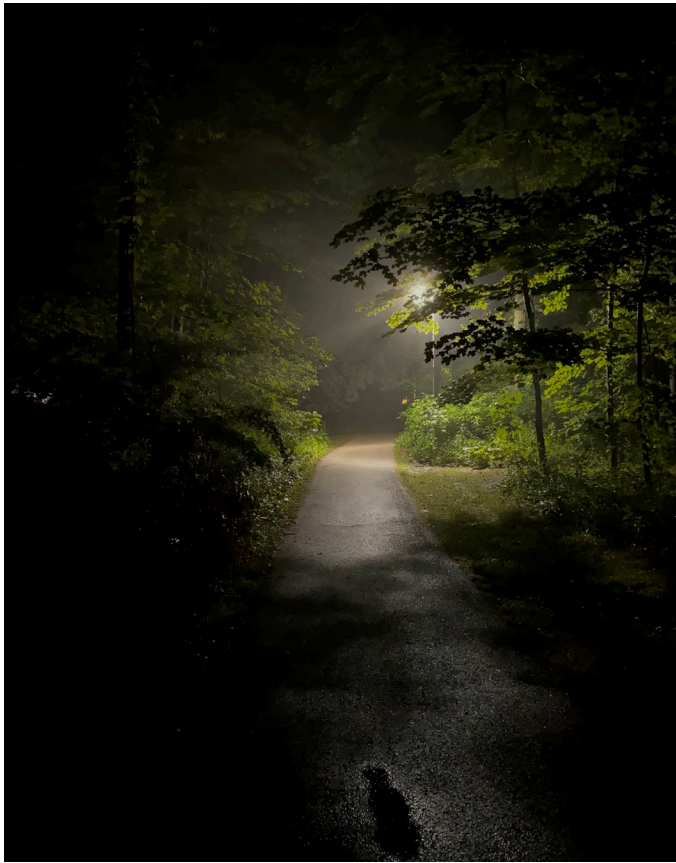
Samantha Pastorious and Taj Amato-Heape, and freshman Mia Lago to its selective and prestigious “Kravis Center Dream Awards: Pastorious was nominated for Outstanding Lighting Design and Amato-Heape for Outstanding Sound Design. Shirley, Bories, and Lago were selected in the Outstanding Ensemble Acting category and performed at the Dream Awards show in June. Thrilled by the invitations, Theater instructor Andrew Gilbert said, “Just having nominations puts Oxbridge in with some of the top schools in the county, which is huge for our second year!”



Performing Arts Calendar

All performances take place in the Oxbridge Theatre.

- October 18** – The Hauntedtorium
- November 9 & 10** – Fugitive Songs
- December 7** – Thespian Showcase
- December 13** – Winter Concert
- February 7** – Solo and Ensemble Recital
- February 22** – Rock Night
- March 7, 8 & 9** – Carousel
- April 26** – Spring Dance Concert
- May 7** – Performing Arts Concert
- May 21** – Aladdin and Middle School Art Exhibition



Gold Key Winners

Clockwise from top left: *Midnight Haze*, photograph by Naomi Cohn, '23; *Two Moons*, video by Spencer Marchant, '23; *After Hours*, photograph by Elena French-Nino, '23.

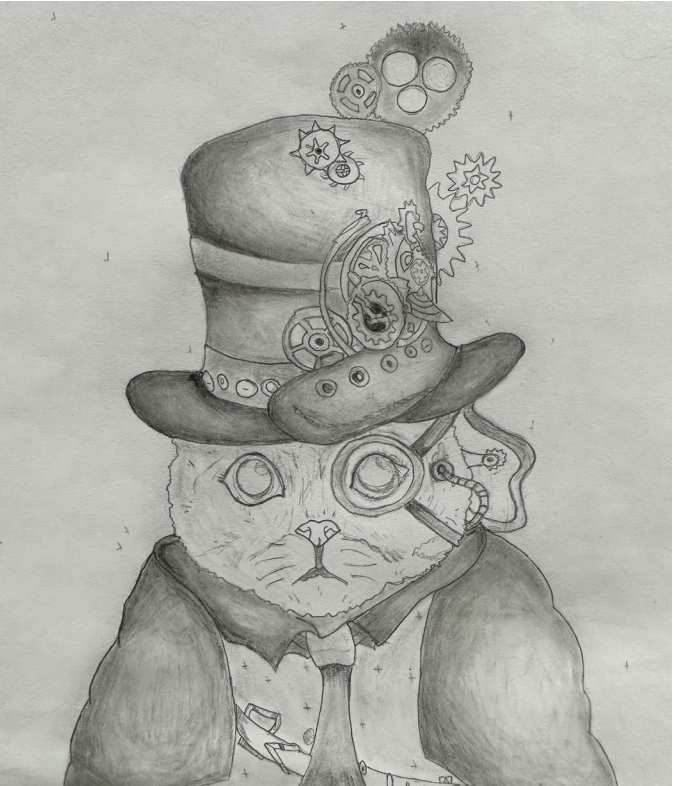


2023 Regional Scholastic Arts Awards Gold & Silver Key Winners

Silver Key Winners

Clockwise from top: *Nethanya*, photography by Avery Finch, '22; *Disconnecting*, acrylic on Canvas by Arabella Sanchez-Garcia, '24; *John Lewis Print*, printmaking by Hadley Finch, '22.

Avery Finch '22 was also awarded a Silver Key for a photographic work titled *Nepali Guard*. Twin sister Hadley '22 also won a Silver Key for a ceramic work titled *Homme* (not pictured).





Ernie Mills (right) rehearsing with Rock and Contemporary Music Ensemble members Ariana Prophete '24 and Ryan Knapp '24.

Oxbridge Music Director Has a ‘Heart of Rock ‘n’ Roll’

In January 2024, Oxbridge Music Director Ernie Mills will present at Tampa’s annual Florida Music Educators Association (FMEA) Conference. The title of his presentation is as long as a song – and important to Mills as a teacher and mentor: “Rocking Together: Empowering Students Through Modern Band. Encouraging Musicians to Create, Appreciate, and Participate in Music Through Rock Band Class.”

Mills chose to speak on this topic because he believes in the transformative power of giving students the chance to join a rock band and engage in what school systems officially term “Modern Band.” At the conference, he hopes “to give people who feel insecure about teaching guitar, bass, and drums some tricks of the trade.” Yes, Mills, who also teaches high school music stalwarts like Concert Band and String Orchestra, has a heart of rock ‘n’ roll.

However, this wasn’t always the case. Growing up in the North Conway area in New Hampshire, as a child, Mills wanted to become a nurse. “I have always enjoyed working with people, and I thought it would be a good career choice,” he explains. But in the summer of 1984, his life took a dramatic turn when he attended his first

rock concert, headlined by Chicago, one of the pioneering bands to incorporate a horn section into the typical guitar, drums, bass, and sometimes keyboard lineup. This concert shattered his preconceptions about what a rock band could be. Mills recalls, “I was blown away by how they added a horn section to the standard rock band. I instantly became a fan of trombonist James Pankow, one of their founding members.”

In college, Mills began performing with the University of New Hampshire Jazz Band, which toured Europe and performed at jazz festivals. He also sang baritone in an all-male a cappella group, the New Hampshire Gentlemen, an ensemble specializing in performing popular music. After graduating from UNH in 1987 with a BS in music education, Mills got his first teaching job in 1988, taking on the band and choir director role at Kearsarge Regional High School in North Sutton, New Hampshire. For 25 years, he juggled his teaching responsibilities with a busy schedule of freelance performances, playing the trombone and singing for groups like The Seacoast Big Band, The State Street Rhythm & Blues Band, Les Bons Temps Rouler, and the Dartmouth



Members of Oxbridge Academy's Rock and Contemporary Music Ensemble— from left: Daniel Torrentes '25, Henry Hagerman '24, Chelsea Yens '27, Ariana Prophete '24, Dylan Copple, Diana Marchesi '27, Denver Matthews '24, Jacob Wallace '24, Jeronimo Cajade Massone '24.

College Gospel Choir. Mills proudly mentions, “I was also named bass trombonist for the UNH All-Star Alumni Band, which performed for jazz great Clark Terry’s 85th birthday in 2005.”

For Mills, the core of his journey has always been about teaching and mentoring his students, many of whom he has kept in touch with for decades.

Since joining Oxbridge in 2015, that connection has enabled him to bring an array of accomplished musicians to serve as guest artists and artists-in-residence for his music classes, especially the “Modern Music” (aka Rock Band) class.

Mark Damon, bass player for the New York-based rockers The Pretty Reckless and trombone player for the rocking ska band Bim Skala Bim, is one of Mills’ former students. Because of his connection with Mills, he took time out of his busy schedule to rehearse and perform with the Oxbridge Rock Band during its annual spring concert. Damon reminisces, “Ernie was my first ‘real deal’ trombone teacher when I was in high school, and he was fresh out of college. He introduced me to a new world of music... my musical



passion shifted into overdrive... I credit Ernie with giving me the inspirational, educational, and motivational ‘push’ that I needed at such a pivotal time in my musical development. His guidance directed me down the right path that eventually led to the career in music that I have today.”

Damon’s sentiments aren’t unique among Mills’ former students. Jonathan Arons, a Grammy Award-winning trombonist, and singer Gloria Gaynor’s band member, met Mills at a music camp in Maine in 1990 when Arons was just 14. He reflects, “Ernie Mills gave me the keys to a secret door that opened to a world of sounding cool.” Arons adds, “Ernie was the truth; the first music teacher to show me that you could do more than one thing well.”

Another former student, Dan Freeman, now a recording



artist, bass player, producer, and electronic music and production professor at Berklee College of Music, was 15 in 1989 when Mills was his camp counselor and music instructor. Freeman expresses his gratitude: “I’m so grateful that I had Ernie as a teacher at that time in my life and remain just as appreciative 33-34 years later. Learning to play music is like learning the process of accomplishing anything in life—a mix of love, dedication, discipline, and fun—and to have a role model who understood that and personified it was amazingly transformative... When I work with my students now, Ernie is still a reference point and model for how I teach.”

As for his current students, Mills explains that he seeks “to let the students have a say in picking our literature. I ask that they select songs from every decade starting with the ‘50s and include current songs.”

Aside from prepping for the FMEA Conference in Tampa, Mills is also preparing the Oxbridge Rock Band for its annual “Rock Night” concert in February. Mills teases that this year’s Rock Night setlist could feature hits such as “You Might Think” by The Cars, “Cherry Bomb” by The Runaways, “Sultans of Swing” by Dire Straits, and “Every Little Thing She Does is Magic” by the Police, among others. He’s even considering adding The Animals classic, “House of the Rising Sun,” which he cites as his all-time favorite song the Rock Band has performed over the years. Mills confidently tells us, “I have no doubt it will be an evening to remember.”

Mills’ Former Students Are Rocking All Over the World

Mills has been a mentor to several prominent musicians throughout his 35-year teaching career, including:

Jonathan Arons: Trombonist with singer Gloria Gaynor of “I Will Survive” fame, and quarterfinalist on the reality TV competition *America’s Got Talent*.



Mark Damon: Bassist for the rock band The Pretty Reckless and the New York Ska Jazz Ensemble. Trombonist for the rocking ska band Bim Skala Bim.

Daniel Freedman: Drummer who recently collaborated with artist David Byrne of Talking Heads fame.

Daniel Freeman: Brooklyn, New York-based producer / bassist, music technologist, and expert on future instrument technology.

Jack Kaiser: Guitar player and Oxbridge alum touring with the Nashville-based rock band Ace Monroe.

Joe Noto: Oxbridge alum and Nashville-based singer-songwriter who recently signed a management deal and released his first single.

Jamie Perkins: Drummer for The Pretty Reckless.

Dr. Philip Salathé: Composer and Professor at the State University of New York’s (SUNY) Crane School of Music. Co-author of “*Pink Floyd – BBC Radio 1967-1971*.”



Nate Wilson: Keyboardist for improvisational and jam rock band, MOE.



Guest Artists Offer Experience, Guidance, and Inspiration

Oxbridge Academy’s Fine Arts Department invites guest artists—musicians, singers, actors, dancers – to mentor our performing arts students throughout the school year. Ernie Mills, Director of Instrumental Music, explains, “Our guest artists and artists-in-residence bring real-world expertise, diverse perspectives, and fresh ideas to the classroom, inspiring and challenging young artists to grow and excel.” Mills adds, “Through their guidance, students gain exposure to different artistic techniques, styles, and industry practices, expanding their horizons and nurturing their creativity. In addition, the presence of guest artists fosters mentorship and networking opportunities, allowing students to forge connections that may prove beneficial in their future artistic endeavors.”

Remarkably, one guest artist, country singer-songwriter Joe Noto, is a 2017 Oxbridge graduate! Last April, Noto engaged with students in Mills’ Rock and Contemporary Music Ensemble class. He provided insights about the professional recording industry and shared tips on successfully promoting yourself as an artist on social media.

Noto also delivered an inspiring lesson on the importance of seizing every opportunity that comes your way, drawing from both his early experiences at Oxbridge and as a professional musician in the world-renowned Nashville music scene. February proved to be a busy month for guest musicians on campus. Copeland Davis, a fixture on the South Florida music scene, helped the rock band prepare for an exceptional performance during Oxbridge’s Black History Month Celebration. Davis boasts a distinguished and impressive career, with highlights including multiple national television appearances, playing with soul legends Eddie Floyd and Bill Pinckney of The Drifters, and holding a residency at the Stardust Hotel in Las Vegas, where he “rubbed elbows” with the likes of Sammy Davis Jr. and Gladys Knight.

Above: Daniel Torrentes ’25 practicing keyboard with guest artist Copeland Davis.

Gareth Johnson, a classical/hip-hop violinist from Palm Beach County, showcased a piece from his act, “*Violinist Gareth Johnson: A Personal Journey from Bach to Tupac*,” during the same celebration. Trained in classical music and having performed with international orchestras, Johnson’s classical and contemporary hip-hop blend has drawn significant attention. *The New York Times* lauded him, noting, “Johnson possesses prodigious musical gifts and dominates the stage.”

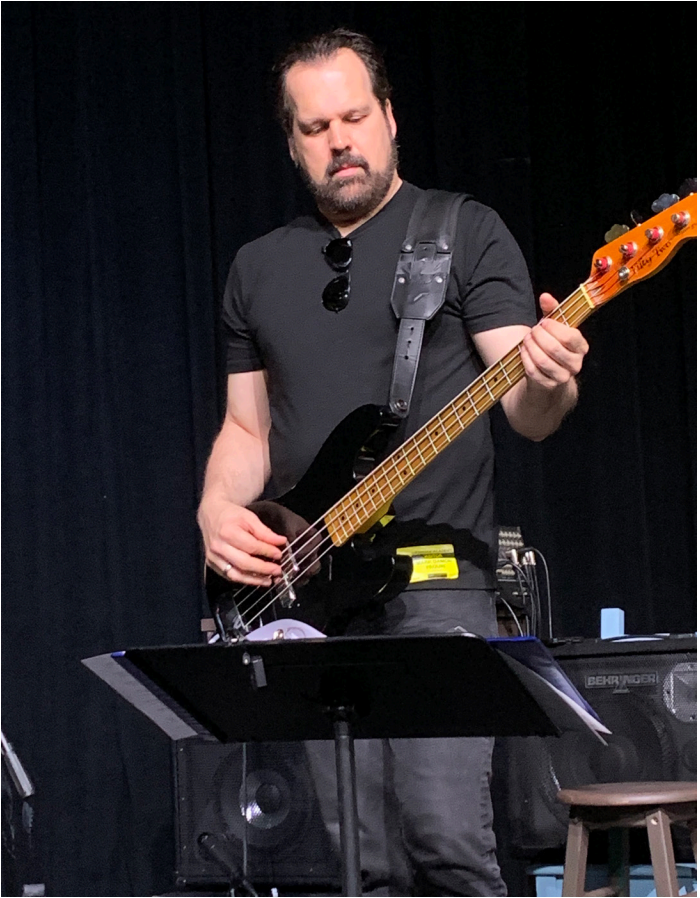
Mark Damon, bass player for the renowned New York-based rock band, The Pretty Reckless, joined the Oxbridge Rock Band for a day and participated in a public evening concert. Their performance covered classics like “All Along the Watchtower,” “Jet Airliner,” and more.

In March, theater teacher Andrew Gilbert invited singer and actor Jodie Langel to help Oxbridge’s musical theater students prepare for their production of the Broadway hit *Into the Woods*. Langel is a Broadway actress, teacher, coach, and author whose Broadway and national tour credits



include *Les Miserables* (Cosette), *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Narrator), and *CATS* (Grizabella). Langel also operates a voice studio in Boca Raton has taught thousands of students at schools, colleges, and conferences nationwide.

During the 2022-2023 school year, dance teacher Alyssa Thomson introduced professional dancers and choreographers, including Jon Lehrer, Alexandra Dow (now an artist-in-residence), Kenny Fowler, Jazmine Colón,



Left: Country musician and alum Joe Noto ’17 discussing his music industry experiences. Above: Bassist Mark Damon of The Pretty Reckless performing with Oxbridge Academy’s Rock and Contemporary Music Ensemble.

and Kamila Abreu. These artists collaborate annually with Oxbridge students, fostering trust and confidence through consistent interactions.

As the 2023-2024 school year commenced, Mills invited violinist Susan Snow to mentor string students. A Palm Beach Atlantic University faculty member, Snow is best recognized for her three-year collaboration with the rock group Dashboard Confessional.

Oxbridge Academy’s commitment to integrating professional artists into its curriculum underscores a profound dedication to fostering excellence, creativity, and real-world insights for its students. By bridging the gap between academic learning and professional experiences, Oxbridge ensures that its students are not just educated but also inspired, empowered, and well-prepared to carve their unique path in the artistic realm.



ATHLETICS



First and Goal

Re-introducing Varsity Football, Young Team Perseveres

By Head Football Coach Jonathan Stellman

In the fall, the Oxbridge Academy ThunderWolves football team returned to the varsity ranks for the first time since it played for a state championship in 2017. The ThunderWolves had a much higher mountain to climb this season compared to 2022, when it restarted the program at the required JV level and compiled a promising record of 4-2. Though the first half of the first varsity season was rough, head coach Jonathan Stellman says, “The scoreboard was not always a true indicator of the team’s progress.”

How true! The undaunted 2023 ThunderWolves ended the season on a four-game winning streak and won the Sunshine State Athletic Association (SSAC) Class 3A championship!

Sporting a healthy mix of older and younger players, the ThunderWolves at times started six freshmen on offense and another seven on defense. That collective youth and inexperience often showed on the field, especially early in the season. Still, one of those freshmen, Jayden St Fort ’27, started on both sides of the ball (wide receiver/safety). Remington DeOrsey ’26, a returning sophomore running back, was another offensive stalwart, rushing for nearly 100 yards in each of the team’s contests.

On the defensive side of the ball, the ThunderWolves were led by linebackers Wilson Stewart ’24 and Koury Dowd ’25. The pair combined to average close to 20 tackles a game. In the secondary, returning safety Campbell Zegras ’25 teamed with St Fort in the back end to create an impressive ball-hawking unit responsible for numerous pass deflections throughout the season.

For senior Stewart, who also occasionally played tight end and fullback the past two seasons and served as a team captain, being a member of the football team was a key component of his Oxbridge experience.

“Playing varsity football for Oxbridge,” he says, “was very important for me. This school has been a big part of my life, and the ability to return to this sport and do it for Oxbridge was amazing.” He adds, “Football is such a great game. It teaches discipline, hard work and is the ultimate team sport. I’ve also gained and strengthened bonds with some great guys on the team.”

The future is bright for the ThunderWolves—the team returns 18 of 22 starters next year!

ESPN 106.3 FM Names Liani Gil One of Top 10 Flag Football Players in PBC

After a stellar season as a sophomore, the awards began coming for Liani Gil '25, who plays running back, wide receiver, and defensive back for the ThunderWolves girl's flag football team. In August, ESPN 106.3 FM invited Gil to participate in its annual football player showcase featuring the top 63 tackle football players, and the top 10 girls flag football players in Palm Beach County. At the event, held in August at Keiser University, Gil was announced as one of the best flag football players in the county. Gil was also nominated for the 2022-2023 Palm Beach Post All-County Flag Football Player of the Year.

Nationally, *USA Today* named Gil to its 2022-23 All-USA TODAY High School Sports Awards Girl's Flag Football Team, one of 25 players from across the country on the list. She's also one of several area players the Jacksonville Jaguars invited to its inaugural Girl's Flag College Showcase last spring.

That's what happens when you're as versatile and productive as Gil, who, as a sophomore, led the nation defensively with 153 flag pulls and 34 sacks; had 21 catches for 418 yards and six touchdowns receiving, and scored another three TDs on the ground, rushing for 629 yards, placing her as the 18th-ranked running back in Florida. That doesn't count the "intangibles." Remington Young, coach of the ThunderWolves girls' team, describes Gil as "an incredibly hard worker and a team leader," not to mention "the biggest threat to an opponent's offensive line."



Lamm Brothers are 2023 U.S. Youth Sailing Champions

For the second year in a row, Oxbridge students Tyler '24 and Andrew Lamm '26 won the US Youth Championship, and were awarded the Trevor Moore Trophy that goes with it. The victory qualified them to represent the U.S. in the Youth Sailing World Championship (U19 Olympics) in Búzios, Brazil, in December.

Tied for first place going into the final day of racing, the duo won the last two races of the regatta to seal the win. The Lamm brothers also placed 15th in the Open World 29er Championship in Weymouth, England, in August. The six-day regatta was held at the 2012 London Olympic venue. The siblings were the top North American finishing boat and had to navigate windspeeds of over 35 miles per hour, seas of four feet plus, tidal currents surging three feet in three hours, and six straight days of competing in four races each day. The regatta consisted of more than 200 boats from all over the world.

Behind every team, there's often an unsung coach. In the Lamm's case, it was three-time Olympic coach Cristian Noe,



from Argentina. He accompanied the brothers—towing the sailboat and a “coach boat—to Newport and back, as well as accompanied them to England. The Lamm's credit Noe with, “pushing them to achieve greatness.”

Upon their return home, the brothers focused their attention on the ThunderWolves' sailing team.



Spring 2022–2023 Athletics Awards & Accomplishments

Palm Beach County All-County Awards

**Palm Beach Post PBC All-County
Thunderwolf Athletes, Coaches
All-County Player of the Year Nominees**

- Shayna Barker ‘23 (softball)
- Paticake Parke ‘23 (softball)
- Chandler Barry ‘23 (softball)
- Isabella Ruggiero ‘24 (softball)
- Octavia Massena ‘24 (track & field)
- Aryssa Sinclair ‘23 (track & field)
- Akari Marshall ‘26 (track & field)
- Amaya Jeanite ‘26 (track & field)
- Liani Gil ‘25 (flag football)

Coch of the Year

- Bayardo Sinclair (girls track & field)

PBC All-County Athletes

First Team

- Dawson Brown ‘23 (boys lacrosse)
- Chris Lawrence ‘24 (boys lacrosse)
- Colin Wade ‘24 (boys lacrosse)
- Ava Eavenson ‘24 (girls lacrosse)
- Bryce Weisser ‘23 (girls lacrosse)

- Serena Faraj ‘23 (flag football)
- Mallory Forgatch ‘23 (flag football)
- Liani Gil ‘25 (flag football)
- Chloe Reimer ‘25 (flag football)

Second Team

- Campbell Zegras ‘24 (boys lacrosse)
- Kate Griffin ‘23 (girls lacrosse)
- Caroline Johnson ‘24 (flag football)
- Victoria Wilson ‘23 (flag football)

**Sun Sentinel PBC All-County
Thunderwolf Athletes, Coaches
PBC Softball Player of the Year**

- Chandler Barry ‘23 (Class 5A-1A)

PBC Coach of the Year

- Kevin Drake (softball)
- Bayardo Sinclair (girls track & field)

PBC All-County Athletes and Teams

First Team

- Dawson Brown ‘23 (boys lacrosse)
- Shayna Barker ‘23 (softball)

- Paticake Parke ‘23 (softball)
- Isabella Ruggiero ‘24 (softball)
- Akari Marshall (girls track & field)
- Octavia Massena ‘24 (girls track & field)
- Amiyah Williams ‘23 (girls track & field)
- 4x100-meter relay team: Amaya Jeanite ‘26, Akari Marshall ‘26, Aryssa Sinclair ‘23, Raniya Tyson ‘24 (girls track & field)
- 4x400-meter relay team: Murielle Jeanite, Akari Marshall ‘26, Octavia Massena ‘24, Aryssa Sinclair ‘23 (girls track & field)

Second Team

- Stephen Benhardus ‘23 (boys track & field)
- Kaiya Glucksman ‘26 (softball)
- Madison Jennings ‘24 (softball)
- Alexa Muller ‘24 (softball)
- Liani Gil ‘25 (flag football)
- Amaya Jeanite ‘26 (girls track & field, triple jump & long jump)
- Murielle Jeanite ‘23 (girls track & field, triple jump & 400 meters)
- Aryssa Sinclair ‘23 (girls track & field, 100 meters)

Honorable Mentions

- Chris Lawrence ‘24 (boys lacrosse)
- Colin Wade ‘24 (boys lacrosse)
- Campbell Zegras ‘25 (boys lacrosse)
- HJ Stewart (boys tennis)
- Ava Eavenson (girls lacrosse)
- Kate Griffin ‘23 (girls lacrosse)
- Reagan Peck ‘26 (girls lacrosse)
- Bryce Weisser ‘23 (girls lacrosse)
- Serena Faraj ‘23 (flag football)
- Mallory Forgatch ‘23 (flag football)
- Chloe Reimer ‘24 (flag football)
- Taylor Piske ‘27 (softball)
- Kelley Dever ‘23 (softball)
- Hannah Altman ‘23 (girls tennis)
- Ava Gronberg ‘23 (girls tennis)
- Lolly Taylor ‘25 (girls tennis)
- Mason Van Dieken ‘24 (baseball)
- Drew Schaefer ‘23 (baseball)



A Record-Setting Season for ThunderWolf Swimmers, Diver

Oxbridge swim teams have been “flying” under the radar for a while. The boys’ team has a dual-meet record of 27-0 during the past three years; the girls’ team is 22-2. The boys finished 9-0 this season, and the girls 8-1. But these impressive numbers only tell part of the story. Varsity Head Swim Coach Patrick Cantrell describes the 2023 season as “historic,” calling it “our best in school history.” He called the team “The most complete ever to compete.”

Here are some of the achievements that made for a stellar season:

Ten School Records Set

- Gabi Campuzano ‘28: 200 Freestyle (2x) and 500 Freestyle (3x)
- Brooke Hopkins ‘24: 100 Breaststroke
- Sean Dowling ‘26: 1-meter diving (2x), Boys 200 Freestyle Relay (2x)

Palm League Meet / Third Place

- Most combined points boys’ and girls’ teams scored in Oxbridge Academy history

District 10 Meet / Third Place

- Most combined points scored in Oxbridge Academy history

Region 4 Meet / Seventh Place

- Most combined points scored in Oxbridge Academy history

**Class 1 A State Championship
Meet 71 competing schools**

- Most individual events qualified in a state meet: seven
- Most total events qualified: 12

Boys 1-Meter Diving

- Sean Dowling ‘26 Bronze Medalist
- *Second top five finish in a row; second Oxbridge diver to medal; first 10th grader to medal; set two school records this year with seven first place and one third-place finish.*

Girls 200-Freestyle Relay

- 15th place:
- Raine Hopkins ‘24
 - Brooke Hopkins ‘24
 - Camila Garcia ‘24
 - Cali Jerabek ‘28
- *Second-fastest time in school history. Cali Jerabek split the second-fastest split in school history.*

Boys 200-Freestyle Relay

- 17th place:
- Santi Campuzano ‘26
 - Eamon Lappas-Ford ‘27

- Ryan Farinas ‘24
 - Arturo Campuzano ‘24
- *Eamon Lappas-Ford set new school record.*

Girls 400-Freestyle Relay

- 17th place:
- Raine Hopkins ‘24
 - Gabi Campuzano ‘28
 - Isa Gisonni ‘25
 - Cali Jerabek ‘28
- *Second-fastest time in school history.*

Girls 50 Freestyle

- 24th place: Cali Jerabek ‘28
- 25th place: Raine Hopkins ‘24

Girls 100 Freestyle

- 24th place Raine Hopkins ‘24
- *Hopkins was second Oxbridge girl to qualify in two individual events; and second Oxbridge girl to swim in two individual events and two relays.*

Girls 100 Breaststroke

- 25th place:
- Brooke Hopkins ‘24
- * First Oxbridge girl to qualify in this event.*



CULTURE *of* KINDNESS

Community Service is Second Nature to Oxbridge Students

When it comes to serving the community, Oxbridge Academy lives up to its “culture of kindness” ideal. Throughout each school year, students undertake various projects to make Palm Beach County and the surrounding areas a better and more compassionate place to live.

Here are examples of how Oxbridge students made a difference during the 2022-2023 school year:

St. Baldricks Event Raises Awareness, Funds—and Hair—for Pediatric Cancer Patients

Oxbridge Academy’s Eighth Annual St. Baldrick’s Event, held in March, was a resounding success, accomplishing its goals of increasing awareness of the scourge of pediatric cancer and raising thousands of dollars to help fund treatment and research to find a cure. The event was “topped off,” with students, faculty, and staff volunteering to have their hair cut or heads shaved with the clippings used to make wigs for cancer patients. This year, the event included a toy and snack food drive, with donations going to the Pediatric Oncology Support Team (POST) at St. Mary’s Children’s Hospital in West Palm Beach.

As always, the program began on a serious note, raising awareness about the prevalence and devastating effects of pediatric cancer, the research done to prevent/cure the disease, and the real-life story of the event’s guest-of-honor, four-year-old Gracie Renfrow’s successful battle with neuroblastoma. The program ended, however, with a “bald is beautiful” celebration highlighted by volunteers shaving their heads or cutting their locks to show solidarity with those fighting the fight. All locks were donated to Children with Hair Loss, a nonprofit that provides wigs to pediatric cancer patients.



Student Raises Funds for Pediatric Cancer Patients

Daniel Scher '26 has been raising money for the Pediatric Oncology Support Team at St. Mary’s Children’s Hospital in West Palm Beach for several years—even before he became a ThunderWolf. While volunteering with other Oxbridge students at a POST holiday party in 2021, Daniel met a patient named Deneilia, and a friendship was born. When Daniel learned that Deneilia only had her phone to occupy herself while in the hospital, he used his birthday money to purchase a gaming laptop for his new friend.

Scher’s advocacy didn’t stop there. In honor of Deneilia, Daniel formed a team in the POST 5K and raised \$5,000 for the organization. Their advocacy didn’t stop there. Together, Daniel and Denelia established an ambassador program through the Oxbridge Cancer Awareness Club so students can visit with patients during their treatments, making their hospital stays a bit easier. In May 2023, Deneilia notified Daniel that she was in remission and invited him to the traditional ceremony of ringing a brass bell to signal she was cancer-free.

Opposite page: Bryce Weisser '23 reacts in disbelief upon seeing her shorn “St. Baldrick’s” locks.



Maya Club Holds First Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive

Oxbridge Academy Maya Club held a Thanksgiving Food Drive in November. The generous donations included more than 170 pounds of rice, 125 cans of vegetables, 45 pounds of corn flour and beans, seven pounds of canola oil, eight boxes of pasta, and 15 boxes of desserts. In the days leading up to the holiday, Maya Club President James Caprio '24, Club Vice President Alyssa Franz '24, and Hafsa Haider, Guatemalan Maya Center Executive Administrative Assistant, helped assemble dozens of food packages distributed to families in need.

Little Smiles Peer-to-Peer Gift Drive a Huge Success

Oxbridge Academy's Little Smiles Club partnered with its local nonprofit namesake to spearhead a peer-to-peer holiday gift drive. The group collected much-needed items and donated them to teens aged 14-18. This is the third consecutive year the club has partnered with the local Little Smiles nonprofit, which has been "helping kids be kids during difficult times" since 1999. The gift drives have collected robes, slippers, socks, and toys for hospitalized and disadvantaged children and teens.



Making A Clean Sweep of Phipps Ocean Park Beach

Led by the Oxbridge Academy's Green Club, student volunteers and faculty picked up more than 37 pounds of trash at Phipps Ocean Park Beach in December, just one of several beach clean-ups scheduled during the year. Working with the Adopt-A-Spot program, the club chose Phipps Beach as its primary clean-up location. Holding regular beach and park clean-ups, participants learn how to collect and dispose of beach trash while understanding

how garbage and microplastics impact our ecosystems.



Cancer Awareness Club Helps Spread Holiday Joy

Also, in December, members of the Oxbridge Academy's Cancer Awareness Club volunteered at a holiday gathering hosted by the Pediatric Oncology Support Team at St. Mary's Children's Hospital in West Palm Beach. The event gave families of kids battling cancer a chance to celebrate the season. Over a dozen club members set up the event, played with patients, participated in arts & crafts, and decorated cookies. This was the second year the club volunteered with POST to create a special

day for those battling this illness

In February, the Cancer Awareness Club also participated in a national Valentine's Day Card Project sponsored by The Scarlett Fund at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in

New York. The Scarlett Fund launched a nationwide call for Valentine's Day cards for "our friends battling cancer and the health care heroes who support them." All the cards created were shipped to the Scarlett Fund and distributed to patients and caregivers at Sloan Kettering. The initiative was led by Hannah Famulak, '25, whose best friend is a cancer survivor.

Oxbridge Club Teams with Forgotten Soldiers Outreach Group to Collect Items for "We Care" Packages for Soldiers

In April, the Oxbridge Military Initiative held a drive-in partnership with Forgotten Soldiers Outreach, a local nonprofit military support group founded by families of soldiers serving overseas. The school club, which provides physical and moral support for veterans and active-duty soldiers, collected non-

perishable food, toiletries, socks, and other items to include in "We Care" packages to send to active-duty soldiers.



Black Student Union-led Schoolwide Initiative Collects LEGOs to Promote STEM Studies at Dr. Mary McLeod Elementary School

The Oxbridge Academy Black Student Union members led the drive in February as part of Black History Month activities. They delivered an array of LEGO™ sets to Dr. Mary McLeod Elementary School in Riviera Beach and gave them to students in the school's first LEGO League. This after-school club helps high-performing students learn STEM and encourages their creativity.

Students at Dr. Mary McLeod Elementary School in Riviera Beach proudly display the new LEGO sets donated by Oxbridge students.



Oxbridge Students Complete Eco Restoration and Planting Project in Delray

In September 2023, a group of ThunderWolves joined Dean of Students Jason Glick at Atlantic Dunes Park in Delray Beach, partnering with the Institute for Regional Conservation to remove invasive species from the park and replace them with native plants.

Oxbridge Students Distribute Food to Families in Need

Dean of Students Jason Glick led a group of students to participate in a food distribution event in partnership with Restoration Bridge International (RBI). Every Saturday, rain or shine, RBI offers temporary assistance by distributing food boxes to families and individuals in need. The program provides canned and dry goods, fresh produce, meat, bread, and more. The group has distributed about three million food packages since it began in 2005.



Oxbridge Students Create Stunning, Morale-Boosting Murals in VA Medical Center “StairWELL”

Taking the stairs—or exercising in one of the most trafficked stairwells—in the West Palm Beach VA Medical Center is now a more uplifting experience with the addition of 10 new murals that Oxbridge Academy art students designed and painted. The murals are eight feet tall nine feet wide, and have patriotic, military, and subtropical themes.

“From start to finish, the Oxbridge Academy art students surpassed every expectation of what we thought possible with the StairWELL mural project,” said Richard “Buzz”



of the Oxbridge Parent Organization (OPO). The idea of painting murals in the stairwells was “to provide motivational imagery and brighten the path of the staff and guests that utilize it,” said Lemus. “Choosing to use the stairs keeps people active and can positively contribute to physical and mental health.”

That appears to be what’s happening. Bryan recalls the following moment: “I encountered a veteran who was moved to tears upon seeing the freshly painted murals. Diagnosed with PTSD, some days are harder for him than others, and he said the mural was a nice distraction from his issues and helped him feel better.”

Oxbridge Parent Organization President John Nihoff describes the results as “Phenomenal! It shows our students in an amazing light. As a parent organization, we are proud of our students for doing something so worthy.”



Bryan, the hospital’s Director of Community Relations & Outreach. “With great care, the students prepared, pitched, and executed their painted designs and completely changed what was once a typical stairwell into a masterpiece.”

A group of about 20 Oxbridge students lined up to outline and paint their creations over a week in mid-September. Planning began last spring with meetings between art teacher Melissa Lemus’ Painting 1 class students and a team from the VA. The sessions were facilitated by members



Left: Jaeleen Castillo '24 and Lulu Lang '24's mural 'Home of the Brave.' Center: Su O'Brien '26 and Virginia Schaefer '26 working on a mural inspired by patriotic postage stamps. Right: Madison Hyndman '26 and Isabella Curcio '25 painting their own inspirational mural.



Students and staff assembling sandwiches for Palm Beach Harvest, photographed by Kylie Cobb '24.

Oxbridge Academy Helps Feed Those in Need

Twice a week, a van from Palm Beach Harvest has pulled up outside the Oxbridge Academy dining hall kitchen to collect leftover food for distribution to thousands of underfed residents of Palm Beach County and beyond. Since its formation in 1998, the non-profit has been “rescuing” and “redirecting food from those who can’t use it” and providing people in need with hot meals and groceries.

According to Palm Beach Harvest CEO/President Debbie Morgan, the prepared leftover food that Oxbridge donates translates to about 280 meals each week, or 1,120 meals each month. Buying that amount of food would cost the non-profit at least \$1,100 weekly. Oxbridge Head Chef Ed Bianco says it is deeply gratifying to him and his team “to know the food we prepare is not going to waste.”

Palm Beach Harvest delivers it to over 100 social service agencies, food pantries, and homeless shelters throughout Florida and ensures the food reaches the people who genuinely need it. Last year, Morgan says, Palm Beach Harvest “rescued” millions of pounds of food that would typically end up in the garbage. That’s the amount of food needed to serve the state’s estimated 75,000 homeless residents.

Aside from Oxbridge, the organization collects food from more than 270 South Florida restaurants, hotels, grocery stores, and other donors, including Whole Foods, Publix, Costco, KFC, and Starbucks. Once collected, the food is “plated” at the Palm Beach Harvest kitchen in Boynton Beach and at El Sol (a resource center in Jupiter) by volunteer teams overseen by professional chefs. Volunteers deliver the meals to regional social service agencies and distribute food to the homebound. Anyone hungry is welcome to have a meal.

“We also have a refrigerator honor program that is stocked for anyone to help themselves to meals, fresh vegetables, fruits, and other stocked food,” Morgan says, adding, “With the high costs of food and housing, we are receiving more calls asking for assistance than ever before.”

This November, members of the Oxbridge community, Directed by Morgan and Dean of Students Jason Glick, formed an assembly line in the Oxbridge dining hall and made 2,000 peanut butter & jelly sandwiches to serve to those in need.



When Disaster Strikes, Zarielle Lis Works to Help Alleviate the Shock

Despite being the granddaughter of Holocaust survivors as well as personally experiencing anti-Semitic prejudice herself, junior Zarielle Lis is lucky. (See story on page 23) She wasn't imprisoned in Auschwitz or Buchenwald like her grandparents; her synagogue wasn't violently attacked as others have been. But there was an emotional toll from hearing her grandparents' survival stories. While Lis could have let these family experiences intimidate her. They have had the opposite effect.

They have instilled in her empathy, compassion, and a mindset and energy that motivated her to take action to help make the world a better place. She has taken to heart one of the famous sayings of the first-century sage, Rabbi Tarfon: "It is not up to you to finish the task, but you are not free to avoid it." In other words, don't shrink from a problem because it can't be solved by you alone or in your lifetime—do your part to fix it.

In early 2020, Lis heard about the Disastershock Global Response Team (DGRT). An international humanitarian relief organization "dedicated to providing coping resources to help children and their families cope with disaster-related trauma." In short: "psychological first aid." That trauma could be caused by any kind of catastrophe—war, a school shooting, or even a natural disaster.

The nonprofit was initially formed to address ways to alleviate the stress experienced by those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Today, it is working to help displaced families in and outside of Ukraine, aid victims of the recent earthquakes in Turkey, and assist families traumatized by school shootings in the United States.

When Disastershock started an internship Ambassadors Program for high school students, Lis was immediately drawn to what she calls the group's "unwavering dedication, commitment, and compassion toward people worldwide who are dealing with traumatic stress and loss." She realized, "This was something I wanted to be part of. I was honored to be invited to join as one of the first Ambassadors." (Lis also volunteers for the New York-based Appeal of Conscience Foundation, which advocates for religious freedom and human rights worldwide and also has established a program in the Philippines to aid victims of floods.)

Lis understood how disasters can turn lives upside down in an instant and felt compelled to help. "My lifelong mission has been to ensure that individuals who have experienced war-time trauma can access the support they need, regardless of their location in the world." After the war, her grandparents were fortunate to receive medical care and other support, but, she says, "lacked the coping skills



to process the psychological trauma they had experienced. Programs like Disastershock, could have greatly benefited my grandparents and other survivors."

Lis participates in bimonthly Zoom meetings where she receives trauma training from expert psychologists and spends time developing her leadership skills with others in the program. The past two summers she also has attended the annual Oxford Symposium in School-Based Counseling generally held at Oxford University in England and presented at the conference. She also was taught how to contact health and social service agencies in disaster-ravaged areas to offer free tip sheets for distribution to families on how to cope with trauma after a disaster, natural or manmade.

Ambassadors also:

- Develop internet resources for disastershock.com
- Participate in work teams such as: Educator Collaboration Team, Tip Sheets Team, Arts & Recovery Team, Facebook Team, Research Team
- Collaborate with high school student interns from other countries
- Write articles that have been published in international journals
- Contribute to the writing of a college textbook on global disaster response

Eileen Klima, a California-based school psychologist who coordinates the Ambassador Program, says Lis has been a leader "vital in expanding the program," and adds that, "Zarielle established relationships in Europe and is

responsible for sending psychological first-aid information to help with the Ukrainian crisis and the earthquake in Turkey and Syria" as well as helped locally in the U.S. Overall, Klima says, the Ambassador Program has helped the student interns to "feel empowered and realize that they can make a difference in the world to help ease suffering and trauma."

There are frustrations such as being unable to reach everyone who needs help. "Disaster and crisis are unfortunately a

reality in our world," Lis says, "it breaks my heart to think about children and families who have nowhere to turn for emotional care, as everyone deserves to have hope and support during difficult times. For example, at the start of the war in Ukraine, it was extremely challenging to reach specific organizations and agencies to help disseminate our materials to refugees. It took time, but I eventually was able to connect."

Working with Disastershock has given her as much hope and encouragement as she has strived to provide to disaster victims. "In the past," Lis says, "when I heard about children and families enduring unimaginable hardships such as war, natural disasters, or school shootings, I felt helpless. However, since joining the Global Response Team I have found that actively participating and fulfilling my duties has been incredibly satisfying."

For more information about the Disastershock Global Response Team Ambassador Program, visit disastershock.com

Class Notes



2014

CODY O'CALLAGHAN Since graduating from Oxbridge, O'Callaghan “embarked on a journey of continuous learning, entrepreneurship, and professional growth.” His first stop was Palm Beach Atlantic University, where he earned a degree in marketing, providing him with a solid foundation in business principles and strategies, and preparing him for the exciting ventures that lay ahead.



While still in college, he took on the challenge of owning and operating a martial arts school in Jupiter, Florida. For five years, he honed skills in management and leadership, overseeing the school's operations. In 2022, he together with a close friend, launched SoFlo Turf in the South Florida market. The company, which specializes in providing high-quality turf solutions, has quickly made its mark in the industry. In just a year and a half, the company has completed more than 100 jobs and grossed nearly a million dollars in sales.



2014 / 2015

IVANA MESARIC '14 AND CAROLINE CLONINGER '15, lifelong friends, Palm Beach natives, and self-proclaimed “SheEOs,” co-wrote *P is for Palm Beach*, a children's book, with educational elements and whimsical illustrations. “We wanted to work on a project together that would celebrate the magic of our upbringings here,” explains Cloninger. The book takes readers on an A-to-Z tour of the town of Palm Beach, “celebrating the island's magic, history, and treasures.”

2015

SAM DASH “When I think of the time spent going to Oxbridge Academy, I am filled with so much nostalgia and joy. Oxbridge gave me all of the resources to hit the ground running upon graduation, and I have not stopped since. Oxbridge put me in the position to receive a Presidential Scholarship from High Point University, which led to my first job out of college working in sales for a multinational

conglomerate. I am now a commercial insurance broker for one of the top brokerages in the USA. It's amazing to see how Oxbridge has changed since I graduated; after all, I was a part of the founding class. Oxbridge Academy will always have a special place in my heart. GO THUNDERWOLVES!”

GRIFFIN HARROW After graduating from Oxbridge, Harrow earned a BA degree in Psychology from American University in Washington, D.C. and followed that with a Master's degree in Family Therapy from Nova Southeastern University, eventually becoming a Licensed Psychotherapist in Florida. Griffin founded The Harrow Center, an outpatient private psychotherapy practice in Palm Beach Gardens, where he specializes in treating OCD, anxiety, and related disorders.



2016

CHRISTINE PANGBORN After attending Wake Forest University and earning a degree in Business and Enterprise Management, Pangborn initially worked

in the financial services industry. She returned to school to pursue a Juris Doctor degree, and has completed her first year at Wake Forest University's School of Law. In her first year, Pangborn and her co-counsel won the schoolwide Cynthia J. Zelif Trial Competition, and Pangborn also won Best Oralist in the George K. Walker Moot Court Competition.



Pangborn (right) with her partner/co-counsel on the left. In the middle is Judge Jefferson Griffin of the North Carolina Court of Appeals who was the final round judge in the Zelif Competition.

CARLOS PERNAS Pernas is working on a Ph.D. in Experimental Particle Physics at the College of William & Mary. After graduating from Oxbridge, he attended The University of Florida, initially as an engineering major, but eventually switched to physics. and is now in his fourth year of work on his Ph.D. He is also a member of the international DUNE & MINERvA collaborations at Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory. His work focuses on the study of tiny, mysterious, and fundamental particles known as neutrinos. “Neutrinos are the least understood fundamental particles we've discovered,” he says, adding that, “experiments like the ones I work on can help fill the gaps in our knowledge and eventually answer big questions such as why our universe seems to contain so much more matter over anti-matter.”

Above: The most recent MINERvA collaboration meeting in June 2023, with Pernas all the way on the right.



a diverse client base. Every day is different, and I love every second of it. Oxbridge Academy's project-based learning, guidance, and connections have set me on a path and I am forever thankful.

2017

CHRISTINE MARLOW graduated from Wake Forest University in 2021 with a BS degree in Biochemistry & Molecular Biology and Neuroscience. She is now a third-year medical student at Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine, conducting research in a cancer biology lab on the “molecular mechanisms of glioblastoma stem cell dormancy.” She was recently published in the Journal of Neurosurgery and in Rare Tumors Journal. Marlow is hoping for a career in surgical oncology. “My years at Oxbridge,” she says, “certainly set me up for success in my future in medicine. I often think back to the

experiences I had and what I learned from Oxbridge and feel honored to have had such a wonderful education! Thank you, Oxbridge!”



JOE NOTO Noto moved to Nashville to pursue his dream of becoming a country music singer-songwriter. He landed a management contract with the same agency that represents country star Brad Paisley and released his first single, “Every Time the Wind Blows,” earlier this year. Noto was featured on the cover of the March / April issue of *Royal Palm Magazine*. In April, he returned to Oxbridge as a guest artist in Ernie Mills' Rock and Contemporary Music Ensemble class, delivering an inspiring lesson on the importance of seizing every opportunity that comes your way.

ISABELLA “BELLA” TOMEI Tomei is a third-year Clinical Psychology Ph.D. student at Miami University in Ohio. She obtained her BS from Fordham University in New York. As a Lebanese American, she says her cultural identity and values have served as the foundation for her professional aspirations. Her research interests pertain to ethnic-racial socialization, internalized perceptions, psychological well-being, and intersectionality of Arab/Middle Eastern and North African

individuals. Tomei also serves as the Professional Development Chair of the Arab, Middle Eastern, and North African American Psychological Association. Tomei aspires to provide culturally sensitive and accessible treatment that meets the needs of historically underserved populations. Her current traineeship placement entails working as a Behavioral Health Consultant at a family medicine practice serving the Cincinnati region.



KEIDRON SMITH A star defensive back with the ThunderWolves, Smith went on to have a notable college football career playing for University of Mississippi and, most recently, the University of Kentucky. The Miami Dolphins signed him as an undrafted free agent last spring, making him a longshot to make his hometown team. But Smith shined in practices and in a scrimmage and exhibition game against the Atlanta Falcons. His stellar play resulted in media headlines such as “Local DB Keidron Smith, once a roster long shot, making noise in Dolphins camp,” and “Dolphins safety/cornerback Keidron Smith emerges as roster sleeper.”

2018

ALEX RAO Rao has achieved notable success as a professional pitcher in the Philadelphia Phillies organization. He was drafted in the eighth round after completing his senior year at the University of Notre Dame, where he earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance. In 2022, Rao played a key role on the “Fighting Irish” baseball team, which made its first appearance in the College World Series in 20 years.



2018 / 2019

RYAN MONROE / KAITLYN CAMPBELL After six years together, Monroe married another Oxbridge alum Kaitlyn Campbell '18. Campbell is a registered nurse at the University of Pennsylvania and is currently pursuing a dual Master's degree in nursing and business administration. Monroe is a licensed barber/manager and has been running the family business while pursuing a a Master's of Business Administration degree at Drexel University.

2019

JACK AZULAY After graduating from Florida State University in May with a degree in Business, Azulay traveled to Israel on the Birthright Program. He recently joined Comcast as a Business Analyst.



WALKER STEWART Walker is in his senior year at Stanford University where he is studying Computer Science and History. Since his freshman year, he has been involved in *The Stanford Review*. Now its Editor-in-Chief, he has written on the widespread crisis of meaning for college students, conservative speakers being shouted down, and vandalism at Stanford's church. He has been a guest on numerous news and radio programs to discuss his writing.

2020

KEYANAH ALEXIS Alexis spent the spring semester of her junior year at Vanderbilt University studying in Florence, Italy. “During my time there, I was able to grasp a unique cultural experience as I integrated myself into Italian culture. My studies included learning about the Italian culture and cultural differences as I practiced the

language and learned about everything from Italian food to international management and cross-cultural psychology. Through these courses, I visited museums and historical sites in Florence. My time abroad was also spent visiting many European countries and cities, including Paris, Budapest, Vienna, and Barcelona, as well as Milan, Venice, and Rome! My amazing experiences opened my eyes to a new way of life filled with beautiful architecture, delicious food, and wonderful people.



SHIRAH BENARDE '20 AND MICHAEL BENARDE '15, Oxbridge alum and siblings, were named to *Forbes' Magazine's* 30 Under 30 list this year in the Retail & E-Commerce category. After securing a deal with QVC mogul Lori Greiner on the hit TV show 'Shark Tank', their company, NightCap, has sold its drink-spiking prevention scrunchies in bulk to over 150 colleges, the U.S. Military, and major liquor brands. Their sales are projected to reach \$2 million in 2023.

AUDREY LEE A senior at Bucknell University, Lee spent the summer in New York City working as a Development intern for the Archdiocese of New York and the New York City Police and Fire Widows' and

Jason McCleod

McCleod '18, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and Sacred Heart University, joins Joan Fyfe '15 as the second Oxbridge alum to become a fulltime member of the Oxbridge faculty. McCleod is teaching middle school humanities and serving as defensive backs coach for the football team. As a senior on the UPenn football team in 2021, his three interceptions, 15 pass breakups (which led the Ivy League) and 18 passes defended (which also led the Ivy League and ranked him second in the country in passes defended per game) earned him All-Ivy League Second Team honors. During his junior year at Oxbridge, McCleod was a first All-County football team selection, second team All-State selection and also was named a scholar-athlete. During his senior year, he served as class vice president.



Children's Benefit Fund. She attended many of their fundraising events and “enjoyed the exposure to the nonprofit world and NYC!”

during the three-game series Steurer had 15 RBIs, one short of the Division III World Series record and was named to the D-III World Series All-Tournament Team and D3Baseball.



com Second Team All-Region. Last season, Steurer, now a junior, hit .393 with nine home runs, nine doubles, 27 RBIs, and totaled 57 hits, 37 runs, 11 walks, and four stolen bases.

2021

KAYLA COHEN Cohen combines her passion for horses with her academic pursuits seamlessly. She actively trains and rides horses in Ranch Horse and Cow Horse competitions across the southeastern United States. Amidst her busy equestrian schedule, she is also committed to furthering her education by taking online digital marketing



classes at Bryan University. Cohen attributes much of her success and enthusiasm to the excellent foundation she received from Oxbridge Digital Media instructor Ray Ryan, whom she praises as ‘an amazing teacher.

JAMIE MIRANDA As a junior at the University of Florida, Miranda is pursuing a major in chemistry and a minor in Innovation. During the summer of 2022, she took her classroom knowledge to the next level by joining four classmates in the school’s annual summer Catalyst Challenge. This challenge, a capstone project for her ‘Innovation in Action’ class, encourages students to apply innovative ideas in real-world scenarios. Tasked with the challenge of engaging residents in a 21st-century live/work/play community, Miranda and her team developed ‘Powerjolt.’ This inventive concept envisions a self-sustained gym powered by the energy generated from gym members’ workouts. Competing against approximately 35 other entries, their idea triumphed in the Challenge, winning the competition’s People’s Choice Award.

Sophia Lloyd George

Sophia Lloyd George is currently a junior at Brown University, studying diverse subjects, including physics, philosophy, and computer science. Her research primarily focuses on the exciting intersection of machine learning and dark matter. At Brown, Lloyd George is academically active and engaged in various extracurriculars. She plays the classical harp in the university orchestra, tutors refugee youth one-on-one through the Brown Refugee Project, and practices Japanese self-defense with the Brown Aikido Club.

During the 2022-2023 academic year, Lloyd George took a gap year to explore experiences beyond the classroom. She lived with the Aymara Indigenous community in the Bolivian Amazon, delving into anthropology, learning the Aymara language, and studying environmental challenges facing the rainforest. Additionally, she collaborated with ornithologists in Highlands County, Florida, to study the endangered Florida Scrub Jay, researched existential threats posed by A.I. in Berkeley, California, and spent three months backpacking in the Indian Himalayas.

DANTE MOSER Moser played in three golf state championships while at Oxbridge and has continued his golfing career at the University of Florida. Last December, University of Florida’s golf team won the Fall 2022 National Collegiate Club Golf Association (NCCGA) National Championship held in Las Vegas.



Last summer, Sophia worked as a researcher at Cavendish Labs, an A.I. safety research lab in rural Vermont. There, her activities extended beyond research to tending a vegetable garden, running through lush forests, and maintaining a gratitude journal. A talented harpist, she recently ventured into composing and published a piece titled “Cynefin,” a Welsh term meaning a place of belonging and comfort.

Post-graduation, Lloyd George aims to become a computer science professor dedicated to mentoring students in using A.I. to benefit humanity. Reflecting on her time at Oxbridge Academy, she expresses deep gratitude: “The value of my years at Oxbridge is immeasurable. I am profoundly grateful to my teachers and everyone I’ve lived and learned with.”



MAX PAKSIMA Paksima spent the summer in Kansas City interning for a commodities trading firm. He recently transferred to the University of Miami after two successful years at Florida International University.

NICOLAS RAFFINENGO A Yeager Scholar at Marshall University, Raffinengo has maintained a 4.0 President List ranking for two years on the path to completing two degrees—a BBA in International Business and a BA in Political Science. He recently studied abroad in Argentina as well as at Oxford University where he finished with First Class Distinction. At Marshall, Raffinengo is president of multiple student organizations, the Chief of Staff for Marshall’s SGA, and serves as the debate coach for Huntington High School. He hopes to intern with the U.S. State Department next summer and attend law school after graduating from Marshall.



2022

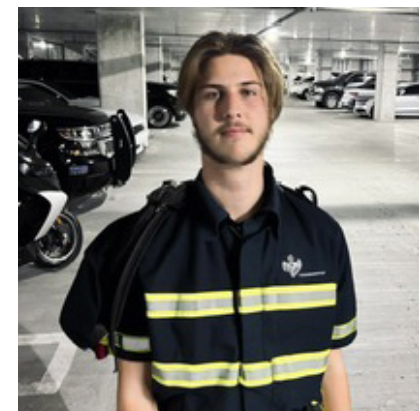
ANGELINA COELHO During her freshman year at Florida Southern, where she attended on a soccer scholarship, Coelho was named SSC (Sunshine State Conference) Freshman of the Year in soccer as well as the school’s girls’ sports Newcomer of the Year. As a freshman, Coelho played in

18 games, starting 11, scored six goals(including four “game winners”) and helped lead the school to its first SSC Regular Season Soccer Championship. Coelho has transferred to Keiser University to play soccer for the Seahawks. During her playing career at Oxbridge, *The Palm Beach Post* and *Sun Sentinel* named Coelho to its Girls All-County Soccer Team on multiple occasions.

JESSICA COHEN says her first year at Ohio State University “was amazing!” Before beginning her sophomore year, Cohen went on a trip to the Bahamas where she spent time fishing. “I miss being home and going to Oxbridge,” she says, “but it feels good taking the next big steps in my life.”

LUNA CURRAN The Palm Beach County Sports Hall of Fame recognized Curran as its 2022 Female High School Athlete of the Year. In recognizing Curran, the Hall Of Fame citation mentioned that in her senior year, Curran had 22 wins, 18 complete games, 14 shutouts, one save, six no-hitters and two perfect games to send Oxbridge on a 23-2-1 run to the Final Four of the Class 2A state championship finishing with a career ERA of 0.60. She also earned Player of the Year honors from *The Palm Beach Post* two years in a row during her varsity run.

ROBERT MAYOTTE, a sophomore at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach studying Aeronautical Science, spent the summer as a junior volunteer firefighter with the Daytona Beach Fire Department. He says,



“I learned the ropes around the (fire) house and made connections that I will value for life. I was inspired to sign up by a peer at Embry Riddle and I’m glad I made that decision.”

BO SOLOMON is a sophomore at Temple University in Philadelphia studying sports management. He also plays goalie for the Temple Owls hockey team.





Message From the Director of Advancement

What a time to be at Oxbridge Academy. This year, we welcomed our new students in sixth-grade and now have an entire middle school to complement the upper school program. Over 600 students now move throughout campus, the largest student body in the school's history. Our fundraising activities continue to grow and were very successful during the 2022-2023 fiscal year (July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023). Oxbridge Academy has a bright future ahead.

The Honor Roll of Donors for the 2022-2023 fiscal year celebrates those who have given generously to Oxbridge Academy in support of all students, academics, arts, athletics, financial aid, faculty, and more. As with most independent schools, tuition alone does not cover the total cost of operating a school; Oxbridge Academy is no different. The following pages honor those who have supported Oxbridge Academy in their giving. Our success is because of you.

When I arrived at Oxbridge Academy three years ago, my team started the *Oxbridge Today* magazine to celebrate what happens from one year to the next. The pages in this edition are only a sampling of the great work of our teachers, students, and all that contribute to the growth of this great school. A special thank you to all of the Advancement team members—Admissions, Communications, and Development—for their contributions to the success of Oxbridge Academy.

Thank you for all your continued support. Go ThunderWolves!

Scott Siegfried
Director of Advancement



Message from the Director of Development

Oxbridge Academy is gaining momentum for a bright and expanded future. Since 2011, Oxbridge has provided an exceptional learning environment and other unique offerings to students in Palm Beach County.

As we look to the future and think about the opportunity for growth, your support is essential. With the addition of the middle school, expansion in academic offerings, demand for arts performances and exhibitions, and the return of our football team, Oxbridge Academy is quickly outgrowing the beautiful buildings on our 54-acre campus. We hope you will join us as we work to plan and expand for our incredibly bright future.

By supporting Oxbridge Academy, you directly make an impact! Through contributions to Oxbridge, we can maintain our unique environment, allowing us to create transformational experiences for the students we serve. Help us continue to provide an exceptional learning environment, cultivate students' academic potential, foster talents and skills, and provide a safe and inclusive experience. With your generous support, we will continue to offer stellar academics, financial aid for those in need, athletics, performing and fine arts, and innovative programming.

We remain incredibly grateful to all the individuals, families, and organizations listed on the following pages for your gifts to The Oxbridge Fund and other specific initiatives. Your generosity is truly making a difference and ensures that we can continue our great work.

A special thank you to the Oxbridge Parents Organization (OPO), led by President John Nihoff and President-Elect Amy Lagae, and all OPO executive officers for their hard work and dedication. This wonderful group of parent ambassadors is instrumental to the success of numerous events and activities throughout the year that support our teachers, students, admissions, and fundraising.

Natalie Beck
Director of Development



Two Great Events Supporting Oxbridge

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

Each year, the Oxbridge Academy Development Office hosts events that bring our community together to celebrate our school and raise money to support all students, academics, arts, athletics, financial aid, teachers, and more. The Oxbridge Academy Golf & Tennis Classic and the Spring Soirée were successful events that raised over \$1.2M towards The Oxbridge Fund, Oxbridge Academy’s annual fund efforts.

Annual Golf & Tennis Classic
The Oxbridge Academy Golf & Tennis Classic (tennis added for the November 1, 2023, event) is one of our signature fundraisers. At The Breakers, participants challenged the Ocean Course and Tennis Courts, competing as teams and in various contests throughout the day. After the event, players continued to have fun at the 19th Hole Cocktail Party at the Flagler Steakhouse.

A special thank you to our sponsors, players, donors, silent auction participants, and others who contributed to the day.

Visit oapb.org/support/golfandtennisclassic2023 for highlights.

THANK YOU PARTNERS

Spring Soirée
On Saturday, March 4, 2023, Founder Bill Koch, and Bridget Koch opened their home to host the first annual Spring Soirée. Over 250 Oxbridge parents, alumni parents, faculty, staff, and friends had the opportunity to tour Bill and Bridget’s beautiful estate, viewing various art collections, Bill’s famous wine cellar, America’s Cup room, and more. Guests gathered for cocktails on the veranda, followed by dinner and conversation. Founder Bill Koch thanked everyone for their support, and alum Terrell Seabrooks ‘17 shared his experience and foundation for the success he received at Oxbridge Academy. The event raised over \$800,000. A special thank you to our table hosts, call to heart donors, and live auction participants, sponsors, and all who made the evening special.



Above: Head of School Dr. Ralph Maurer (left) poses with school founder Bill Koch and his wife Bridget.



OXBRIDGE ACADEMY
Spring Soirée
2023 Table Hosts

Bill and Bridget Koch
Carrie and Chris Shumway
Mary and Bob Simses
Afsy and Carter Pottash
Perri and Bob Bishop
Kiki and Greg Norman
Alicia and Tim Mullen
Simone and Peter Bonutti
Valerie and Gregory Frost
Cindy and Ronald McMackin
Shayla and Jim McGuire
Kim and Todd Glaser
Kristine Kozul

The Honor Roll

of Donors 2022-23

Thank you to all who participated in this year's Oxbridge Fund, the annual fund for Oxbridge Academy. Whether through a direct gift, event sponsorship, gift in-kind, or volunteer support, your efforts are greatly appreciated.

The Oxbridge Fund provides support for our most pressing needs and highest priorities and ensures that our students' educational journey at Oxbridge continues. The collective participation of alumni, parents, grandparents, faculty, staff, and the many friends of Oxbridge sustains our school and strengthens our community. Every gift makes a difference for our students.

Gifts made between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023.



GIFTS MADE BETWEEN JULY 1, 2022 AND JUNE 30, 2023.

FOUNDER'S SOCIETY
\$100,000+

Bill Koch
Robert and Perri Bishop Foundation
Bob and Perri Bishop
Rachel C.W. Gwinn Private Foundation
Bob and Mary Simses
Ronald and Cindy McMackin
Sean and Erin McGould
Robert W. Johnson IV Charitable Trust
Woody and Suzanne Johnson

OXBRIDGE SOCIETY
\$50,000-99,999

Mullen Family Foundation
Tim and Alicia Mullen
Gregory and Valerie Frost
The Chris and Carrie Shumway Foundation
Chris and Carrie Shumway
Todd and Kim Glaser
The Carter A. Pottash Family Charitable Fund
Carter and Afsy Pottash
President Donald J. Trump and Mrs. Melania Trump

PRESIDENT'S SOCIETY
\$20,000-49,999

George and Lisa Hagerman
Michael and Janine de Nigris
The Rosow Family Foundation
David and Jeanne Rosow
Norman Family Charitable Foundation
Greg and Kirsten Norman
John and Amy Lagae
Vista Jet
Rodin and Mehrnoush Younessi
Harry and Melissa Lis
Dr. Peter and Simone Bonutti
Kristine Kozul
Brian and Sarah Miller
The Robinson Famly Fund
Joe and Tandy Robinson
Emiliano Aloï and Carolina Di Nardo

LEADERSHIP SOCIETY
\$10,000-19,999

Michael and Janet Steinger
John and Jenifer Smyth
Saxena White PA and Joe White
The Lang Family Foundation
Sean and Beth Lang
Julie Simons
Kimberly Guilfoyle and Eric Villency
Brian and Colleen Hyndman
ConnectOne Bank
James and Shayla McGuire
Robert and Deborah Miller
Hampton and Abby Beebe
Charles and Jessica Cunningham
John and Andrea Frank
Multi Parts
Brian and Liz Cohn
Avery and Joan Klann
Nathan and Katherine Ward

DISCOVERY CIRCLE
\$5,000-9,999

Marco and Jess Merida
Craig and Heather Bretzlaff
Scott and Beth Stewart
Todd and Brandie Herbst
Jeffrey and Jane Tauber
G. Thomas and Patricia Lang
Richard K. Lubin
Family Foundation
Glendon and Kate Lubin
Katya Hutton
JP Morgan Securities
Justin Girard
McNicholas and Associates
Tom McNicholas
The Scher Family
Scott and Amy Dehm
Joshua and Melissa Zucker
Blair and Margit Brandt
Lee and Priscilla Hallowell
Drs. Meg Butler and Ralph Maurer
Patrick Dillon and Lily Holt-Dillon
Vanessa Rooks-Stefanski
Abe and Talya Schwarzberg
Mark and Jeanette Denker
James and Hannah Childs
Mary Dawkins
Suzanne Dills

Kimberlie Glaser
Carl and Tamiko Huttenlocher
David and Patricia Knobel
Dror and Jennifer Paley
Marcy and Glenn Wiggle
William A. Meyer
Jewish Community Foundation
Ron and Leslie Schram

INNOVATION CIRCLE
\$2,500-4,999

Cyrus and Christine Rezvanian
Gerald and Heloisa Chaney
Mark and Julia Wade
Tracy and Matt Smith
Tom Holt
James and Lauren Banford
Lake County Community Foundation
Jesse and Katherine Belcher
Gregory and Monica Oberting
Siboney Contracting Co.
Enrique and Teresa Tomeu
Larry and Katie Alexander
Anthony and Theodore Pace
Joseph and Kelly Rooney
Sharon Zhang
Joseph and Alida Basile
Culpepper Plumbing / Seacoast Septic
Sean and Yvette Fucarile
Gregory and Anastasia Georgas
John and Margaret Luce
Jon and Jennifer Schmidt
Avron and Joanne Snodgrass
Seaside Bank and Trust
Robert Konrad
Abbas and Cathryn Rabiei
Algar Foundation
Bayhurst Foundation
Eric and Whitney Bylin
The Beacon Group
Richard and Catherine Wurst
John and Allison Beadles
Brian and Dana Bilnoski
Jason and Jaime Brown
Family Foundation
Jason and Jaime Brown
Jay and Diahann Cochran
Ivan Dominguez
Robin Esterson
and Pamela Hickory
Harry & Phyllis Manko Family Foundation

Elizabeth Manko
Trey and Kate Huey
Tyler Hults
Scott Humphrey
Daniel and Nicole Kapp
Tamara Pilosi-Keith
Jeffrey and Christiane Pittaluga
John and Heather Rogers
Burl Wells and Susan Spurlock
Andrew and Wendy Stein
Urgent Care of the Palm Beaches
Edwin and Sophia Wang

EDUCATOR'S CIRCLE
\$1,000-2,499

Eric and Millie Dayton
Brian and Natalie Wolff
Mark and Dawn Donohue
Peizhi He
Jeffrey and Christiane Meiselman
Robert Morris
David and Jennifer O'Brien
Ben and Debra Pincus
Daniel and Tiffany Bowers
Michael Calkin
David and Bella Galloway
Katie Macpherson
Jill Baum
Robert and Lana Sukhman
John Nihoff
Andrew and Mary Lago
James Morris
Scott and Barbara Altman
Nicole and Daniel Basile
Richard and Veronica Bauer
Christian and Michaela Benzing
David and Kelly Brodner
Billy and Stephanie Burns
Mark and Nika Clarfella
David and Sally Clark
John David and Maggie Dickenson
Dawn Donigan
Seferino and Estella Fierroz
Solomon and Marybeth Gardner
Alice Jebelean
Richard and Angela Jenkins
Lisa Kerkorian
Jung and Rachel Lee

WHY GIVE TO The OXBRIDGE Fund?

As with most independent schools, tuition alone does not cover the full cost of an education. At Oxbridge Academy tuition alone accounts for only 80% for all that Oxbridge offers.

Your gift to **The Oxbridge Fund**, our annual fund effort, bridges the gap and supports our most pressing needs and helps shape every student's experience at Oxbridge Academy. Your support will make a significant impact in academic and co-curricular programs, the arts, athletics, financial aid, professional development, school operations, and much more.

LEAVE A LEGACY

Supporting Oxbridge Academy through a leadership gift is an excellent way to help ensure our mission lives on. **Make an impact. Leave a legacy.**

Naming Opportunities Include:

- Health & Wellness
- Free Enterprise Institute
- Athletic Excellence
- Endowed Faculty & Staff Positions
- Buildings & Campus Grounds
- Classrooms & Programming

For more information contact development@oapb.org or call 561.972.9657

GIFTS MADE BETWEEN JULY 1, 2022 AND JUNE 30, 2023.

Eric and Millie Levine
Mark E. Bryant
Charitable Trust
Robert Slater

Lori Morris
Pamela Newman
Christopher and Helen Peck
Mark and Courtney Portlock
Tracy Romp
Kristen Schonwald Vila
Amanda and
Charles Schumacher
Philip and Wendy Scuderi
Milan and Susan Shetti
Natasha Silver
Christopher and
Samantha Storkerson
George and Elisabeth Taylor
Jamie and Jill Thornton
Asanka and
Marion Weerasuriya
Gregg and Karen Zegras

THUNDERWOLVES PACK \$500-999

Ilia Mogilevsky
Lisa Calberg
Dr. Bradley and Alison Lamm
Bassel and Amber Mutchler
Beth Ann Abbonizio
Tamara Bell
The Boodheshwar Family
Roberto and Kate Carcelen
Lee and Melissa Cohen
Biana Dodds
William and Geny Fabbri
David and Melissa Falk
Anne Gambino
Jason and Christina Jerabek
Colby and Jennifer Johnson
David and
Jennifer Lee Sow Fong
Dana Lombardo
Bishlam Malinowski
Anthony and Izabella Marino
Edward and Sharon McEnroe
Adam and Bobbi Norwich
John and Lynn Pestrichelli
Scott and Melissa Porten
John and Kelly Sachs
Robert and Meredith Schemel
Farris Shatara
Daniel Spurlock
Stephen Lavine

Wally and Kimberly Warrick
Lee Westwood
Robert and Maureen Whiddon

FRIEND'S CIRCLE UP TO \$499

Mario and Rebecca De Jesús
Stan and Kappy Ross
Molly and Cullen Miller
Andrew and Stephanie Molbert
Julie VanCoppennolle
Marie Reese
Chris Drowne
Valentina Kova
Jeffrey and Jill Fenster
Robert and Denise O'Sullivan
Brendan and Lisa Lynch
Ethan and Erica Freishtat
Jurgen and Anne Timperman
Juan and Maria Campuzano
Mustafa Faraj
Sebastian and Gilda Hidalgo
Michael Perry
Donald and Elizabeth Shirley
Robert and Sophia Bornscheim
Patrick and Aimee Burroughs
Robert and Tammy Konrad
Jon and Liza Flom
Luca and Paola Gissoni
Brandon and Lissa Dorsey
Derek Grijns
Chip and Amy Jurskis
Ronald and Grazyna Kurtz
Benjamin and Lissa Schwab
Matthew and Janine Tompkins
Craig and Kelly Wandoff
Chesnel and Marie Carjuste
Errol and Esther Putigna
Richard and Maria Hopkins
Cari Hormilla
Gregory and Laura Hudson
Cassandra Josephson-Sonier
Daniel King
James and Anne MacArthur
Jose and Karim Maldonado
Spencer and Lauren Marchant
Frank and Stacey McMahon
Etzion and Danielle Michaels
Keith Mitchell
Franck and Lucia Prissert
Mark and Rebecca Reimer
Scott Siegfried and
Kimberly Collins-Siegfried

Panita Wuttiweangtham
Brandon and Lisa Dorsey
David and Nadine Fite
Jason and Kirsty Gelberd
Nellie King
Jason Sullivan
Amazon Smile
Dennis Brooks
Kevin Colling
Elizabeth Fox
Andrea Giambrone
Justin Girard
Andy and Christina Johnson
Cassandra Sexton
Vetel Vaughan
Robert and Anna Sample
Joanna Litewski Malin
Shawn and Jenn Allen
Stephen and
Gabriella Amato-Heape
Bryan and Sarah Baeumler
Frank and Kathryn Barbieri
David and Elise Barker
Scott and Mindi Benarde
Joane Bijou
Elliot Bonner
Giulio and Jennifer Brancatelli
Jeff and Quincy Bruckerhoff
Raymond and Susan Caban
Allen and Leah Carver
Carlos and Emily Castañeda
Pascal Chevalier
Dominick and
Christine Comnesso
Paul and Ximena Cowan
Christopher and Ragni Davis
Jason and Elina Day
Batscheba and Emelyn Deve
Daniel Di Leo
Jeffrey Dries
Edward and Mary Jo Dunn
Yohaira Fajardo
Mary and Jill Falcigno
Manju and Sabu George
Ben and Tamara Glinsky
Sigrid Goberville
Michal and
Vanessa Gromadzki
Rutger-Jan and Jaime Heijman
David and Arlene Hernandez
Lee and Yael Hershfield
Joseph and Jennifer Ingenito
Pius and Mercy Kamau

James Keith
Julie Khanna
Kevin and Curry Krasulak
Elizabeth Lazauskas
Luc and Patricia Limbourg
Zoë Losada
Roberto and Liliana Lugo
Gallagher and
Nicole Martindale
Frank and
Stephanie Mavigliano
Winsome McLeod
Darryl and Ilana Miller
Jimmy and Yerlanis Miranda
Ross and Kellyn Muller
Julio Nino
Elssy Oms
Janet Outlaw
Ilkay and Mehmet Ozgenc
Javier and Claudia Padilla
Bjoern and Tracy Priske
Anne Reilly
David and Suzanne Renna
Susan Rielly
Sheilagh and Keith Riordan
Vivian Rohl
Jason and Stephanie Schoen
James and Kristen Smethurst
Esmeta Stewart
Adchariya Trimble
Brian Virgo
Lisa and John Weger
Eric and Vanessa Wilson
Andres Zuniga
Brando Zape
Lydia and Kervin Ruiz
Amazon Smile Program
Michael Olaciregui
Elle Simmonds
Brian and Lani Albano
Ruben Benavidez
Stephen and
Jennifer Burlington
Rochain Burrell
Craig and Yaka Canubida
James and Pilar Caprio
Francis and Mildred Celis
Jebediah and Rachel Davis
Scott and Michelle Derrin
James and Natalia Dorsey
Curtis Emmer
Pam and Ronald Figoras
Carl and Laura Gambino

GIFTS MADE BETWEEN JULY 1, 2022 AND JUNE 30, 2023.

David and Jennifer Goldberger
Tracie Krieger
Frank and Maria LaForte
Frank and Patricia Lanosa
Aisha Mack
Juan and Christina Martinez
Wende Porter
Cara Pregadio
Marcelo and
Anabel Raffinengo
James Goetschius
Nathan Smith
Ruel and Althea Stoessel
Scott and Rosa Stowell
Larielys Torrentes
Jenny Vargas
Honey Whitney
Ellen and
Antonio Sanchez-Garcia
Christian Johnson
Lori Julian-Bennett
Derek and Wendy Arron
Yesenia and Louis Collura
Amanda Del Ponte
John and Karen Dever
Robert Frackelton
John and Monique Giliberti
Kelly Hayek
Kiwana Howell
Francia Lamus
Raquel Lockhart
Lena Megherian
Jennette Peck
Theodore and Julie Van Dieken
Kerry Avakian
Tyler and Tracey Benson
Craig and Angela Knapp
Richard and Desiree Miranda
Laura Belcher
Joseph Klanecky
Robert and Heather Murray
Tony Bradley
Juan and Zoila Bustabad
Manuel and Lourdes Matute
Jaen Mora
Sedric Simon
Juan Blanco
Todd and Shannon Burrows
Jackson Conner
Phillip Nicholas
Corey Pine
Tracie and John Anderer
Anna Merida

Khloe Pyle
Marc and Edinauza Lasky
Anonymous (3)

FACULTY & STAFF
Kerry Avakian
Laura Belcher
Scott and Mindi Benarde
Ruben Benavidez
Tony Bradley
Dennis Brooks
Rochain Burrell
Juan and Zoila Bustabad
Kevin Colling
Jackson Conner
Mario and Rebecca DeJesus
Amanda Del Ponte
Chris Drowne
Errol and Esther Putigna
Seferino and Estella Fierroz
Pam and Ronald Figoras
Elizabeth and Dan Fox
Robert Frackelton
Andrea Giambrone
Kelly Hayek
Andy and Christina Johnson
Lori Julian-Bennett
Amy and Chip Jurskis
Joseph Klanecky
Francia Lamus
Dana Lombardo
Zoe Losada
Drs. Meg Butler & Ralph
Maurer
Lena Megherian
Molly and Cullen Miller
Phillip Nicholas
Janet Outlaw
Jennette Peck
Corey Pine
Wende Porter
Courtney and Marc Portlock
Marie Reese
Dr. Anne Reilly
Dr. Sheilagh Riordan
Stan and Kappy Ross
Kervin and Lydia Ruiz
Cassandra Sexton
Scott Siegfried and Kimberly
Collins-Siegfried
Sedric Simon
Nathan Smith
Vetel Vaughan

Lisa and John Weger
Honey Whitney
Brando Zape
Anonymous (15)

IN-KIND
Admirals Cove Golf Club
Alyssa Thompson
Aqua Spa
Assouline Palm Beach
Austin Smith Art
Avery and Joan Klann
Banyan Golf Club
Hampton and Abby Beebe
Born2Dress
Brothers Gutters
Bryan & Sarah Baeumler
Caerula Mar Club
Cafe Saporì
David and Margaret Luce
President Donald J. Trump and
Mrs. Melania Trump
Dr. Ralph Maurer
Encourage Me Educators
ESF Camps and Experiences
Fresh Rx
Harris and Haydee Levitt
Heritage
Hunter and Pansy Hallowell
Hydrafacial
Janine and Michael de Nigris
Jason Robinovitz
Jax Weisser
Joanne Snodgrass
John and Tracie Nieporte
John Nihoff
JRA Educational Consulting
Just Darviny
K2 Motors Experience
Kasha McKee Art
Katya Hutton
Kiki and Greg Norman
Le Bilboquet
LeRosey Summer Camp
Experience
Little Moirs Leftovers Cafe
LIV Golf
Love Shack Fancy
LoveDog
Manzo's Italian Deli
Mark and Masha Pinsky
Matthew and Jennifer Dowd
Medalist Golf Club

Michael Calkin
Michael Rouse
Mirasol Golf Club
Myers Automotive Group
Katherine and Nate Ward
Next Level Watersports
Oakland Hills Golf Club
Old Palm Golf Club
Oxbridge Academy
Culinary Team
Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
Palm Beach Yacht Club
Palm Beach Zoo
Perri and Bob Bishop
Peter Millar Palm Beach
Pig Beach BBQ
Pine Tree Golf Club
Pinsky Plastic Surgery
The Scher Family
Rob Shawger
Roller Rabbit Palm Beach
Ruby Patterson
Score At the Top
Sebonack Golf Club
Sherwood Country Club
Shinnecock Hills Golf Club
Sloan's Ice Cream
Sophia and Robert Bornschein
SoulCycle Palm Beach
Stan Ross and Kappy Ross
The Breakers
The Pet Taxi
TOFF & Tallulah Jewelry
Trump Doonbeg Golf Club
Trump Doral Blue Monster
Golf Club
Trump International Golf Club
Trump National Golf Club
Trump National
Bedminster, NJ Golf Club
Whitney and Eric Bylin

Save The Date

OXBRIDGE ACADEMY
Spring Soirée

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2024
THE KOCH RESIDENCE, PALM BEACH

For more information contact
Scott Siegfried, Director of Advancement, at ssiegfried@oapb.org or 561.972.9657.

