



*2019 Outstanding Alumni  
Hall of Fame  
Induction Ceremony*

3:00 pm

Saturday, October 19, 2019

Kirkwood High School Keating Theatre



## **OUTSTANDING ALUMNI HALL OF FAME**

The Kirkwood High School Outstanding Alumni Hall of Fame was established to honor alumni who have achieved success and who serve as appropriate role models for Kirkwood School District students.

Honorees who were selected met one or more of the following criteria: graduated from KHS at least 10 years prior to the nomination; achieved excellence in the fields of art, music, theater and dance, literature or other related cultural fields; accomplished extraordinary success in trade, business or industry; contributed significantly to society through charitable work or good deeds; or served as an exceptional contributor to their chosen profession whether law, education, medicine, science, journalism or other.

## **PIONEER AWARD**

The Pioneer Award was established to honor individuals who may not have graduated from Kirkwood High School but who have made significant contributions to the Kirkwood School District.



The induction class of 2019 is the second class inducted into the Hall of Fame. All inductees are recognized in the back of this program.

Nominations are accepted year round. All nominations will be held until the selection committee convenes in the fall of 2024.

To nominate an individual, please fill out a nomination application online at [khsalumni.org](http://khsalumni.org). Nominations may also be submitted by mail to Kirkwood School District Community Relations and Development Office, 11289 Manchester Road, Kirkwood, Missouri 63122. Please include the following information: Nominator contact information, nominee's contact information or closest living relative or friend, nominee's graduation year (if applicable), and contributions made.

We are proud to acknowledge those who have contributed to Pioneer Pride, their community and to society at large.

## **PROGRAM**

<i>Welcome</i>	Ms. Ginger Cayce Community Relations & Development Office
<i>Introductions</i>	Dr. Michele Condon Superintendent of Schools
<i>Remarks</i>	Dr. Michael Havener, Principal
<i>Induction Ceremony</i>	Ms. Kathy Harris, Mistress of Ceremonies Former KSD Board of Education (KHS '74)
<i>Concluding Remarks</i>	Dr. Michael Havener
<i>Alma Mater</i>	



## *2019 Outstanding Alumni Hall of Fame*

### **OUTSTANDING ALUMNI**

Sterling Coleman, 1988  
Dr. Reates Curry, 1980  
Dr. Tricia Ashton Derges, MD, 1975  
Colin Donnell, 2001  
Jane E. Drichta, 1987  
Bill Freivogel, 1967  
Margaret Freivogel, 1967  
Blaine Hammond, 1969  
\*Dr. Nancy Edmunds Kline Cogan, 1977  
Jennifer Ouellette, 1989  
Mark Sparks, 1978  
Dr. Timothy Taft, 1960  
Lyle W. Waggoner, 1953  
Adam J. York, 1993

### **RECIPIENTS OF THE PIONEER AWARD**

\*Ernie Baker, 1949  
Barb Byerly  
\*Robert O. Piening  
Judy Roberts, 1953  
Rick Stream, 1967  
\*Michael E. Swoboda  
Wallace Ward, 1971

Honorees with an asterisk (\*) by their names honored posthumously.

## OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

### Sterling Coleman, 1988

Sterling L. Coleman is the Chief Executive Officer and President of SJAC Food Groups Holdings the largest Zaxby's licensee group with the franchise's number one grossing location.

Sterling founded SJAC Food Groups Holdings in 2001 to operate first-class brands, deliver an outstanding guest experience, and achieve great results while positioning the company for continued growth. Headquartered in Atlanta, GA, SJAC, is an experienced concession operator with more than seventeen stores in twelve cities, with exclusive rights to build twenty-eight locations in Oklahoma. As the largest African American Zaxby's franchisee, Sterling, grew SJAC from the first location in Atlanta with annual sales of \$1.5 million to seventeen locations with annual sales of over \$30 million.

His beloved mother, the late Diane Coleman, registered Sterling and his three brothers to the Kirkwood School District so they could attend a High School where she knew they would meet classmates from different economic, social and racial backgrounds that would shape their future trajectories. "Kirkwood High School and its faculty opened my eyes to more possibilities and encouraged me to go to college and even beyond," said Sterling Coleman, who graduated KHS in 1988. While at KHS, Sterling made the honor roll and was a member of the Varsity Basketball and JV Football teams.

Sterling graduated from Tennessee State University (TSU) with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration. He is a lifetime

member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and was academically recognized on the Dean's List. In 2018, his collegiate alma mater awarded him the "Entrepreneurial Achievement Award" which recognizes alumni who are prominent and emerging leaders with universally recognized success in their fields, and who have made a

positive impact on the TSU brand and community.

Sterling has been lauded for his contributions to the hospitality industry, his profession, and charitable organizations. He received the Game Changers Award from Who's Who in Black Atlanta in 2016 and was honored at the Atlanta Business League's 10th Annual Men of Influence Reception and Induction Ceremony in 2016. The Southern national lifestyle publication Sheen Magazine awarded Mr. Coleman the 2016 Business Acumen Award for his contributions for impacting the economy in Georgia and

Oklahoma. Also, the SJAC South Fulton Zaxby's location was the recipient of the Guest Service Award in 2008 and 2009, and the SJAC Mount Zion location was the recipient of the Comparable Sales and COMP Sales Award in 2013.

Sterling is a member of the Atlanta Business League, the Clayton, Cobb, South Fulton, Metro Atlanta, Georgia, and Oklahoma Chambers of Commerce. Sterling and his wife Shameka and their four children reside in Atlanta, Georgia.



## OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

### Dr. Reates Curry, 1980

Reates Curry is a Technical Supervisor and Human Factors Expert at Ford Motor Company's Research and Innovation Center.

She joined Ford in 1995 and leads projects that focus on making driving safer. As the project leader for the Virtual Test Track Experiment (VIRTTEX) Lab, Reates researches driver-vehicle interaction issues to develop technologies that either prevent accidents, or at least lessen their severity. The team she manages collects driver response data, that might include driver intervention response time, eye gaze information, and physiological measures like heart rate. Her team also studies how humans interact with autonomous systems and other advanced technology systems to enhance the driver and rider experience.

Before joining Ford, Reates worked for the MITRE Corporation and was responsible for the system integration of NASA's International Space Station Freedom modules. She is also the author of dozens of research articles and publications associated with her field.

While at KHS, Reates was a member of the Track & Field Team and cheerleading squad. After graduating from KHS in 1980, Reates received her Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Missouri - Columbia (MU). She also holds a Master's degree from Purdue University in Electrical Engineering and a Doctorate from Rutgers University in Biomedical Engineering. While at MU, she was a member of the Women's Track & Field team. While at Rutgers, Reates extended her running career by training with her graduate school peers to complete her first marathon: The New York City Marathon.



Reates' significant list of awards, honors, and achievements include winning the Henry Ford Technology Award (Ford highest technology honor) twice. Her team first won the award for their work in developing VIRTTEX. For her second win, her team was recognized for their work on the driver Workload Estimator (WLE), which

passively monitors the vehicle's location & state and may briefly delay a low-level driver notification that could distract the driver at a critical time. In 2016, Reates won a national Spark Award for mentoring from the Society of Women Engineers. In 2017, she was listed 5th on Business Insider's 43 Most Powerful Women Engineers, and also received Rutgers College

of Engineering Distinguished Alumna Medal of Excellence in Research.

Reates is a member of Tau Beta Pi, the oldest engineering honor society in the United States, the Society of Women Engineers; the National Society of Black Engineers; Girl Scouts, and Sigma Xi, a scientific research honor society. She enjoys volunteering and mentoring at all levels, but most especially primary-age students. She was recently featured in an "ESSENCE Boss Lady Project" webisode that featured mentoring an aspiring high schooler who is now pursuing a Computer Science degree and running her own online company.

Reates and her husband Alec Gallimore reside in Ann Arbor, Michigan and are the proud parents of both a college and a high school sophomore, Morgan and Kilas.



## OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

### Dr. Tricia Ashton Derges, MD, 1975

Dr. Tricia Derges has had two successful, and very different, professional journeys. Both are worthy of induction into the Kirkwood High School Alumni Hall of Fame.

In the early 1990s, Tricia founded a manufacturing company in the attic of her home called Mostly Memories. The business sold bath, body, and candles. In the first three years, the annual sales reached over \$6 million. The company grew to an international level. As President and CEO, she was named Missouri Entrepreneur of the Year, Manufacturer of the Year and Woman of the Year in Ozark, Missouri.

After 20 successful years and at the age of 52, Tricia decided to sell Mostly Memories and begin medical school. During her clinical training in Springfield, she observed patients who were unable to afford medical services despite access to clinics with sliding-scale fees. After participating in a medical mission trip to Nicaragua, she began a plan to create a similar service for residents of the Ozarks.

Derges established Lift Up Someone Today intending to provide medical, dental and mental health care to anyone, regardless of their ability to pay. The Lift Up Springfield clinic opened its doors in January 2016. The mission also operates low-fee clinics in Ozark and Branson and has provided services to more than 18,000 individuals.

She currently runs four clinics near Springfield, and specializes in Regenerative Medicine and Addiction Medicine and works with patients to put autoimmune and chronic diseases in remission. She also teaches medical students who are preparing for their United States Medical Licensing

Examination (USMLE) and in 2018 published a 1,200 page medical book, *Boards Ready Step 1, 2, 3*, that serves medical students as a comprehensive study guide for the board exams, and with a valuable resource to the physician during practice. She presents at nation-wide medical conferences and dabbles in politics related to advocating for the underserved of Missouri writing amendment bills and laws.

For her efforts in serving the underserved, Tricia won both the National Jefferson Award for Southwest Missouri and the Jacqueline Kennedy

Onassis Award. Both of these awards recognize individuals for their public service. The Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis Award is only awarded to five individuals per year across the United States. She was also named the 2018 Humanitarian Award recipient for her work with Lift Up Someone Today.

Tricia attended college at the University of Missouri - Columbia (MU) and Nichols State University in Thibodaux, Louisiana, earning a degree

in Pre-medicine. She earned her doctorate from Caribbean Medical University in Curacao, Netherland Antilles.

Tricia graduated from KHS in 1975. While at KHS, Tricia played in the orchestra and was a member of the field hockey and volleyball teams. She was recognized in the honor roll, Missouri Junior Achievement Personnel Director of the Year, and a Sergeant in Civil Air Patrol.

Tricia and her husband Dan (KHS '77) live in Nixa, Missouri. Her brother, Tom, is also a KHS alumnus (KHS '77). Tricia and Dan have eight children and 23 grandchildren.



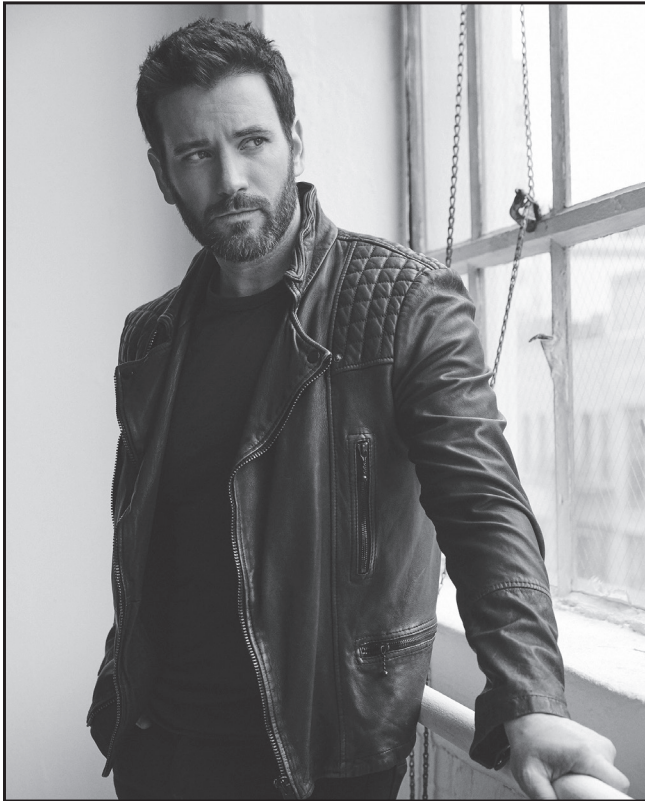
## OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

### Colin Donnell, 2001

Colin Donnell is a well-known actor on stage and screen. He most recently portrayed Dr. Connor Rhodes on the hit show *Chicago Med* on NBC. Fans also remember him as Tommy Merlyn in the television series *Arrow*, and *The Affair* on Showtime.

He performed on Broadway in *Violet*, *Jersey Boys*, and *Anything Goes*. His portrayal of Billy Crocker in *Anything Goes* earned him a Drama Desk Nomination for Outstanding Actor in a Musical.

He was a member of the *Wicked* and *Mamma Mia!* National Tour ensembles. His Kirkwood roots brought him back to several musical performances



at the St. Louis MUNY in *Holiday Inn*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *High School Musical*, *Mame* and *Meet Me in St. Louis*.

His feature film debut, *Every Secret Thing*, was released in 2014.

Colin earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Indiana University (IU) in musical theater. At IU, Colin was selected as a finalist for the National Society of Arts and Letters.

While at KHS, Colin was a member of the football team and sang in the Acapella Choir and Swing Choir ensembles. He attributes an audition in high school with KHS teacher Karen Flaschar for discovering his love for music, theater, performance, and art. He was cast in the KHS musical *Barnum*.

Colin and his wife Patti reside in New York. He is the son of Ben and Francoise Donnell and the youngest brother to Jason and Ryan Connell.



## OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

### Jane E. Drichta, 1987

Jane Drichta is a Certified Professional Midwife (CPM), author, and birth and postpartum doula.

Jane graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in both English and Political Science from St. Louis University. She holds a master's degree in Global Public Health and Policy from Queen Mary University of London and earned a post-graduate diploma in Tropical Nursing with Distinction from Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

Her research interests include preserving maternal health gains in under-resourced countries during times of natural disasters, using the 2015 West African Ebola crisis as a case study.

Jane is the founder Global Motherhood Initiative (GMI) a grassroots organization pioneering a new and innovative model of maternity care for women in conflict zones, under-resourced areas, or victims of a natural disaster.

GMI provides integrated services for its patients, combining gentle, compassionate care with mental health therapy. Jane travels to Iraq frequently, working with Yezidi escapees from ISIS. She partners with midwives and psychologists to provide gentle, mother-centered maternity care with mental health therapy, providing supported recovery from trauma and reproductive violence. She also served as Country Director of the Free Yezidi Foundation in Iraq as well as consulting for several other non-governmental organizations in Iraqi Kurdistan.



Jane is also a consultant for the Imperial War Museum in London, specializing in humanitarian affairs and the weaponization of sexual assault in conflict zones.

Currently, Jane serves as Executive Director of Midwives for Haiti, an NGO dedicated to increasing midwifery capacity in Haiti's Central Plateau. She oversees a formal school for Haitian nurses transitioning to midwifery, eight community clinics, and the maternity ward at Ste. Therese Hospital in Hinche, Haiti.

She is a coveted presenter at international conferences that focus on trauma-informed midwifery care.

Her professional experiences and passion women's health inspired her to co-author the book *The Essential Homebirth Guide: For Families Planning or Considering Birthing at Home* with fellow Certified Professional Midwife (CPM) Jodilyn Owen.

The book offers thoughtful, compassionate advice on birthing topics and earned a Silver Medal from the National Parenting Publications Awards. Other professional writings have appeared in many publications, including the trade journals *Midwifery Today* and *Squat*, as well as numerous non-birth related publications.

Jane graduated from KHS in 1987. She and her husband Walter Patterson reside in Seattle half the year, while she spends the other six months a year in Haiti. Her grown daughter Anna lives and works in Austin, Texas. She is the daughter of Audrey Claxton, of Glendale.

## OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

### Bill Freivogel, 1967

Bill Freivogel serves as a professor for the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts at Southern Illinois University. He is also a legal commentator on St. Louis Public Radio.

His career began in 1971 with the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* serving as a journalist, assistant bureau chief, and deputy editorial page editor. He has received numerous awards and recognitions for his writing and editing including a finalist in the 2002 Pulitzer Prize competition, Sidney Hillman Award recipient, Benjamin Franklin Award, National Press Club's Washington Correspondence Award, and three Connie Rosenbaum Awards.



Bill shared a job in Washington with his wife, Margaret, and they shared two awards: American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Civil Libertarian of the Year in 1991 and the President's award for the National Women's Political Caucus in 1989.

He is a member of the Standing Committee on the Silver Gavel - American Bar Association and serves on academic and public affair panels.

Bill graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree from Stanford University in 1971. Thereafter, he attended Washington University Law School earning his Juris Doctor and Order of the Coif; a recognition for the top 10 percent of students in the law school chapter.

Bill Freivogel graduated from KHS in 1967 earning class valedictorian. He was also a member of the Varsity tennis and Debate team.

Bill and his wife Margaret reside in Kirkwood and are the parents of four adult children who all graduated from KHS: Benjamin, Elizabeth, Megan and John. They also have eight grandchildren: Pablo, Eliot, Lillian, Clara, Leon, Felix, Evy and Ollie.

## OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

### Margaret Freivogel, 1967

Margaret Wolf Freivogel was founding editor of the St. Louis Beacon, an online, non-profit regional news organization that began publishing in 2008. In 2013, she oversaw the merger of the Beacon with St. Louis Public Radio, and she subsequently served as editor of the combined newsroom. Before that, she spent 34 years at the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, working as a reporter, assistant Washington bureau chief and assistant managing editor.

She received numerous awards, including the St. Louis Press Club Lifetime Achievement Award, the University of Missouri School of Journalism Medal of Honor and induction into the St. Louis Media Hall of Fame. She also shared awards with her husband, William Freivogel, including the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) Civil Libertarian of the Year in 1991 and the President's Award from the National Women's Political Caucus in 1989.

Margaret graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in both political science and communications from Stanford University in 1971. While at Stanford, she was editor-in-chief of the *Stanford Daily* and received the Lloyd W. Dinkelspiel Award for distinctive and exceptional contributions to student life at Stanford.

Margaret graduated from KHS in 1967. While at KHS, she was editor-in-chief of the *Kirkwood Call*, served on student council and played varsity hockey, basketball and volleyball. She was selected as a U.S. Presidential Scholar.



Margaret and her husband Bill reside in Kirkwood and are the parents of four adult children who all graduated from KHS: Benjamin, Elizabeth, Megan, and John. They also have eight grandchildren: Pablo, Eliot, Lillian, Clara, Leon, Felix, Evelyn and Oliver.

## OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

### Blaine Hammond, 1969

Col. L. Blaine Hammond is a former NASA Astronaut and retired Colonel in the United States Air Force.

Blaine received a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Science and Mechanics from the U.S. Air Force Academy and a Master of Science degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology.

He received his pilot wings at Reese Air Force Base, Texas, in 1975, and was awarded the Commander's Trophy as the Outstanding Graduate in his class. He was assigned to the Hahn Air Base in Germany. He also served on air bases in Arizona (Williams Air Force Base), the Empire Test Pilot School (ETPS) at A&AEE Boscombe Down, United Kingdom, and Edwards Air Force Base, in California. In 1984, Col. Hammond was selected to NASA's Astronaut Group #10, consisting of seven Pilots and 10 Mission Specialists.

During his NASA career, Col. Hammond served in a variety of duties, including Senior Ascent & Entry CAPCOM (Mission Control communicator to the Space Shuttle during training and missions), Astronaut Support (crew support during launch and landing), direct liaison with the Commander, USAF Space Command in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Chief of Safety for the Astronaut Office. Col. Hammond has logged over 462 hours



(19 days), and traveled 310 Orbits and over 8.0 million miles in space during two space flights. He flew as Pilot of "Discovery" on STS-39, the first unclassified Department of Defense mission. The seven-man crew performed numerous scientific experiments to collect data on atmospheric Infrared (IR) and Ultraviolet (UV) phenomena including a satellite deploy and rendezvous in support of the Strategic Defense Initiative Office (SDIO). Mission duration was 8 days, 7 hours, 23 minutes, traveling 134 orbits and 3.5 million miles. He also

was the PLT on STS-64, again aboard the Space Shuttle "Discovery". Mission highlights included: the first use of lasers for environmental research; deployment and retrieval of a solar science satellite; robotic processing of semiconductors; use of the RMS boom for jet thruster research; and the first untethered space walk in 10 years to test a portable, self-rescue jetpack.

After retiring from NASA and the USAF Blaine was hired by Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation as a Sr. Experimental and Production Test Pilot, working at the Gulfstream Completion Center in Long Beach, California.

While at KHS, Blaine was a member of the golf team and a National Merit Finalist.

He and his wife Kathy reside in California. He has one son, Michael.



## OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

### \*Dr. Nancy Edmunds Kline Cogan, 1977

Nancy Edmunds Kline (Cogan) was an author, educator, nurse scientist, mentor and tireless advocate for children with life-threatening illnesses.

Nancy began her career as a pediatric emergency room nurse at Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital in St. Louis. She later accepted a position at Texas Children's Hospital focusing on children with brain tumors. After earning her doctorate, she shifted her clinical focus to children suffering from HIV/AIDS. This work took her to 17 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and Eastern Europe. She became Director of Nursing Research at Boston's Children's Hospital and later was offered a position to develop and lead a new program focusing on her nurse research as well as training a team of nurses to develop and carry out their research studies at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City.

Nancy was an active member of the Association of Pediatric Hematology-Oncology Nurses (APHON) for whom she designed its core curriculum for training nurses delivering chemotherapy and served as editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Pediatric Oncology Nursing*. She was a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing and authored over 100 peer-reviewed journal publications. She was also the guiding force behind two of the most important resources used in pediatric oncology nursing: *Core Curriculum* and the *Chemotherapy and Biotherapy Provider Program*. These two publications were designed to provide nurses with the knowledge base needed to safely care for children and adolescents receiving chemotherapy or biotherapy.

Nancy volunteered every year as a counselor for the Periwinkle Foundation, which sponsors a



week-long camp for kids battling cancer and their siblings. The Periwinkle Foundation recognized her posthumously as the 2016 Gerson Award Recipient.

Nancy earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from St. Louis University, completed graduate training and earned a doctorate from Texas Women's University. Her dissertation focused on the supportive care of children with cancer.

Nancy graduated from KHS in 1977. While at KHS, she was a member of the Pom Pon squad, and chairperson for the Girls Pep Club.

Nancy passed away in 2015, and her memory lives on through her husband, Michael and many colleagues and friends.



## OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

### Jennifer Ouellette, 1989

Jennifer Ouellette is the CEO and designer of Jennifer Ouellette Inc. studio in the Manhattan garment district and a second studio in Santiago, Dominican Republic. At her milliner studios, she responsibly produces eco-friendly hats and hair accessories for men and women.

Jennifer's sense of design began during childhood days spent in her mother's vintage clothing store in St. Louis. She continues to combine her passion for vintage fashion with her modern New York City style. Using her needle and thread as an artist uses pencil and paint, she applies her manual sewing techniques to her millinery sculptures with loving detail.

She uses traditional hat materials in non-traditional methods and prefers to build trims instead of using pre-fabricated embellishments. All of Jennifer's hats made of felt and straw are transformed by steam, individually, on antique wooden blocks, a process called blocking. Her exclusive hat block collection conveys incomparable vintage appeal. She teaches her team couture hand sewing techniques that have been passed down to her from generations of milliners, as well as her own meticulous details that set her designs apart.

Jennifer was mentored by London milliner Stephen Jones. Jones' clientele includes British Royalty, and celebrity clientele including Lady Gaga, and Mick Jagger. Jones selected Jennifer's "City Scape Headpiece" to be included in his exhibit "Hats: An Anthology by Stephen Jones" which opened at the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, the Bard in New York City and at the Peabody Essex Museum.



Jennifer is dedicated to creating a fair-trade brand. To accomplish this, her products are created in-house to guarantee quality manufacturing techniques and sustainable practices. She also ensures quality working conditions for her employees.

Jennifer graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Textiles and Apparel Management and a Minor in Costume Design from the University of Missouri-Columbia (MU). As a college student, Jennifer was a costume designer for performances at the Rhynsburger Theatre on the MU campus.

Jennifer graduated from KHS in 1989. She played the flute as a member of the Pioneer Pride Marching Band.

Jennifer's immediate family members include Richard, Catherine, and Joseph Ouellette.

## OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

### Mark Sparks, 1978

Mark Sparks is Principal Flute of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra (SLSO). He is a frequent soloist with the SLSO and other orchestras and has performed in the United States, Europe, Scandinavia, South America, and Asia. He has appeared as Guest Principal Flutist with many ensembles, including the New York Philharmonic, Chicago Symphony, Pittsburgh Symphony, Detroit Symphony, and the Bergen (Norway) Philharmonic.

Prior to his appointment in St. Louis, Sparks was Associate Principal Flute with the Baltimore Symphony under David Zinman, and Principal Flute of the San Antonio Symphony and the Memphis Symphony.

He began his career as Principal in the Canton Ohio Symphony and in Venezuela with the Caracas Philharmonic.

In the summer of 2013 Sparks returned to the Aspen Music Festival and School where he is an artist-faculty member and Principal Flute of the Aspen Chamber Symphony. He also taught his fourth annual master class at Missouri's Innsbrook Institute and joined the faculty of the Pacific Music Festival in Sapporo, Japan.

Sparks is an enthusiastic teacher and maintains a private studio in St. Louis. He is a former full-time faculty member of the Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins, and frequently presents clinics and recitals in the U.S. and abroad. Sparks has recorded two solo albums, appearing on the Summit and AAM labels, and a new recording



of French repertoire for flute and piano is planned for release in 2013. Sparks is also an avid writer about flute playing, and is a regular contributor to *Flute Talk* magazine's feature "From the Principal's Chair."

Mark graduated from KHS in 1978. He was a member of the KHS orchestra and the St. Louis Symphony Youth Orchestra. Mark graduated Pi Kappa Lambda from the Oberlin Conservatory as a student of Robert Willoughby, winning the 1982 Oberlin Concerto Prize.

## OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

### Dr. Timothy Taft, 1960

Tim Taft is the Max M. Novich Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Orthopaedics and Director of Sports Medicine at the University of North Carolina (UNC) Medical School.

Tim was a team physician for the 1979 USA Pan American Games Team, the 1980 USA Olympic Team and head physician for the 1981 USA World University Games Team. He served as a staff physician for the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta and was the medical director for the Special Olympic World Games in 1999.

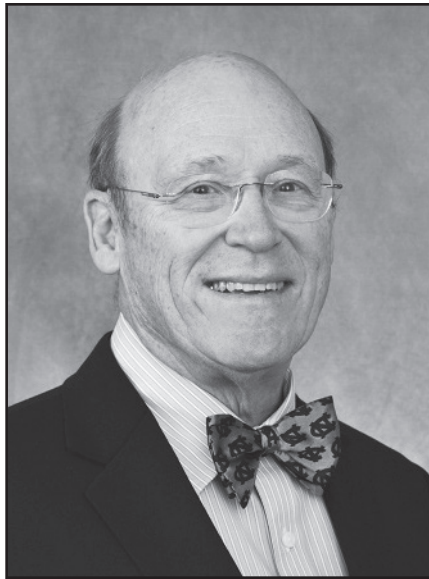
He has been the team physician for numerous USA national teams including the USA basketball teams which won the 1986 Men's and the 1990 Women's World Championships.

He is recognized for many accomplishments and advancements in medicine. One, in particular, is his contribution to advancing arthroscopic knee surgery. He was the pioneer of the surgery and helped to design the surgical technique currently used to reconstruct the Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL).

Tim has also held many national leadership positions in sports medicine and orthopaedics. He has served on the Board of Directors for the

American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine (AOSSM), the Medical Advisory Committee for the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) and has often been an examiner for the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery (ABOS).

His service work extends globally. He currently serves as the North American representative to the Global Medical Advisory Committee for Special Olympics International. He chairs the medical advisory committee for the Boy Scouts of America.



Tim earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Princeton University in 1964. While at Princeton, Tim was a member of the Princeton soccer team. He earned a doctorate from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1969. He completed his residency in orthopedic surgery at UNC and has served as the orthopaedic surgeon for the Tar Heels since that time.

Tim graduated from KHS in 1960. While at KHS, he was the senior class president, a Hatchet Man candidate, National Merit Finalist, and was the Commencement Speaker for the KHS graduation ceremony. He was also a member of the Varsity Football and Varsity Track teams, and a member of the *Pioneer* yearbook staff.

Tim and his wife Judy (KHS '60) reside in Chapel Hill, NC. Tim and Judy have two children: Todd Taft and Becky Fecher, and one grandchild: Coby.

## OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

### Lyle W. Waggoner, 1953

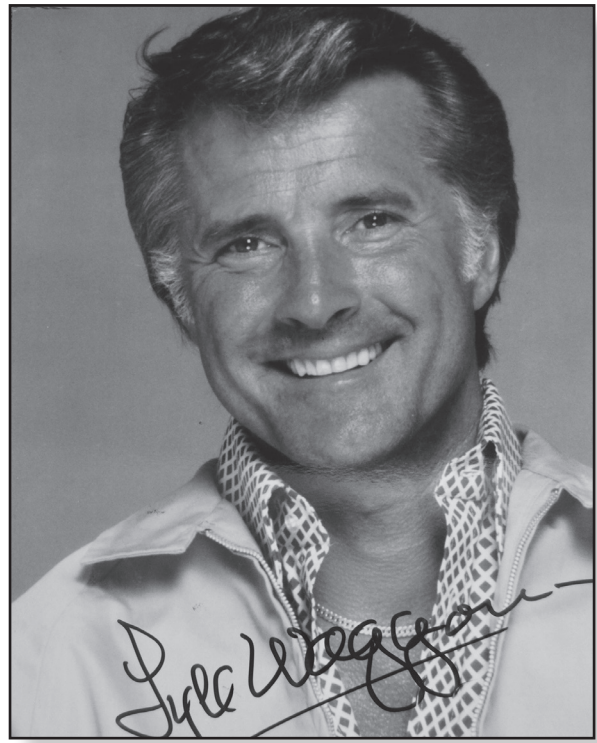
Lyle Waggoner is a beloved actor from successful shows in the 1960 - 70s including *The Carol Burnett Show* and *Wonder Woman*. On *The Carol Burnett Show*, Lyle was the announcer and a performer for eight seasons. He played Steve Trevor in the *Wonder Woman* series.

He was a finalist for the title role in the TV series version of *Batman* but lost the role to Adam West.

In 1976, Waggoner was appointed “mayor” of Encino, California by the Chamber of Commerce. The “mayor” is not an actual government official; the post is an honorary “goodwill ambassador” position.

In 1979, Waggoner founded Star Waggons, the largest supplier of studio location rental trailers in the entertainment industry. Waggoner retired from full-time acting to run Star Waggons but makes occasional appearances, often parodying his earlier image.

Lyle graduated from KHS in 1953. While at KHS, he was a member of the track and wrestling teams. After graduation, he attended Washington University in St. Louis for two years. After serving two years in the Army overseas in Germany, Waggoner studied mechanical engineering in the junior executive program at the General Motors Institute of Technology. He briefly was a door-to-door encyclopedia salesman before pursuing his acting dreams and heading west to Hollywood.



Lyle has been married to his wife, Sharon Kennedy, for over 50 years. They have two sons: Jason and Beau Waggoner. Lyle and Sharon enjoy splitting time between their homes in California and Wyoming.



## OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

### Adam J. York, 1993

Adam York is the Senior Animator at Riot Games, an American video game developer, and esports tournament organizer.

His extensive career in animation involves projects with production companies such as Dreamworks, Walt Disney Feature Animation, Sony Entertainment, and Walt Disney Pictures. He was an artist and/or animator for movies such as *The Prince of Egypt*, *Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron*, and *Minority Report* (Dreamworks); *The Tigger Movie* and *Atlantis: The Lost Empire* (Walt Disney Feature Animation), and *Enchanted* (Walt Disney Pictures).

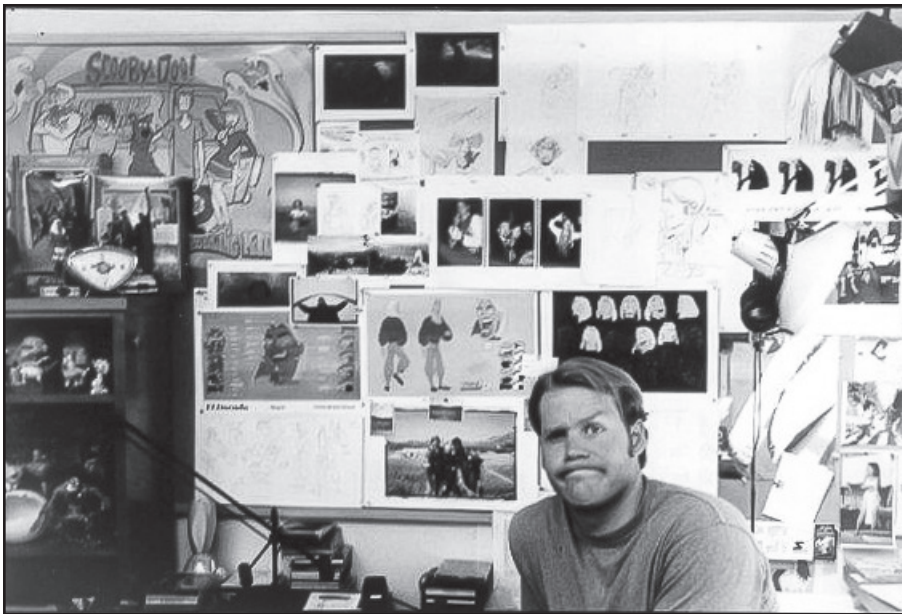
After ten years in the movie production, Adam transitioned his animation skills to video game creation. In 2007, he joined Blizzard Entertainment as Senior Animator and developed animation for *Diablo 3*, *World of Warcraft – Warlords of Draenor*, and *Overwatch*. *Diablo*

*3* is one of the best-selling video games of all time with over 30 million copies sold on various gaming platforms including PlayStation 4, Xbox One, Nintendo, Nintendo Switch and Xbox 360. *Overwatch* took top honors as the 2016 Game of the Year at The Game Awards. The Game Awards recognizes and upholds creative and technical excellence in the global video game industry. He joined Riot Games in 2018.

Adam graduated from the Ringling School of Art Design with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Illustration. He was recognized on the President's List for his GPA.

Adam graduated from KHS in 1993. While at KHS, he was a member of the Drama Club, and A-Capella and Chamber Choir ensembles.

Adam and his wife Vanessa live in California with their two daughters: Vera and Alice.





## RECIPIENTS OF THE PIONEER AWARD

### \*Ernie Baker, 1949



Ernie was a Community Volunteer, serving on the KHS Beautification Committee, KHS Wilderness Club, Pioneer Boosters, Inc., and the Glendale Bicentennial Chairman. He served as a KSD volunteer for more than 44 years. He was actively involved in Boy Scouts including serving as Scout Master for many years. Additionally, he won the Silver Beaver award which is a council-level distinguished service award.

One of the biggest projects he organized was to lead a group of students in building 65 concrete benches that were placed throughout the KHS campus. This became known as the KHS Beautification Committee. In April 1995, the courtyard area at Kirkwood High School was dedicated the “Baker-Travis Courtyard” in honor of Ernie and fellow parent volunteer Irene Travis for their contributions to the beautification of KHS.

Ernie also established the KHS Wilderness Club. The club was founded as Ernie felt camping and outdoor activities were positive options for students to participate in and use their time. He planned many hiking and camping trips for KHS students.

Ernie was a huge fan of Pioneer athletics and is remembered for his support of Pioneer Boosters, Inc., along with being an avid sideline fan at many KHS events.

Ernie passed away in 1988. He and his wife, Carol, were the parents to four KHS graduates: Mickey (KHS '69), Dan (KHS '76), Tom (KHS '77) and Bob (KHS '81).

## RECIPIENTS OF THE PIONEER AWARD

### Barbara J. Byerly

Barbara Byerly reports it was her husband, Jim, who introduced her to “wonderful Kirkwood” and the outstanding school district. Jim had a happy childhood growing up in this beautiful community and was a proud graduate of Kirkwood High School (KHS.) Their children, Jill, Gene and Bill, are also KHS graduates.

She is a Francis Howell High School graduate and attended Webster University where she earned a BA in English and Communications. She owns and operates her business, BJB Creative Services, specializing in public relations, marketing, special events.



Barb is author and designer of the “Pictorial History of Kirkwood,” the 125th anniversary publication celebrating the anniversaries of the Kirkwood School District (KSD) and City of Kirkwood. In addition, she created the “Shop Kirkwood First” campaign.

She helped raise funds for the Walker Science Center on the campus of KHS and has been a key PR contributor to several bond issues. She also served on the Kirkwood School District Foundation Board.

Barb was elected to serve two terms as a Kirkwood Council Member. She has been honored by the Kirkwood-Des Peres Area Chamber of Commerce with Kirkwood Citizen of the Year and the Kirkwood Lifetime Achievement awards. She has served the community in dozens of capacities, including serving on the boards of STAGES St. Louis, Manor Grove, KSD Parents as Teachers, SSM St. Clare Medical Center, and the Historic Kirkwood Train Station Foundation.

She has served as President of the Rotary Club of Kirkwood, the first woman to serve in that post. She has also served as President of the Kirkwood-Des Peres Area Chamber of Commerce and is a member of First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood. Recently, Barb was honored to serve as 2019 Grand Marshal in the Greentree Festival Parade.

## RECIPIENTS OF THE PIONEER AWARD

### \*Robert O. Piening



Bob served on the KSD Board of Education for 10 years, four as president. He was also one of the founding members of the Kirkwood School District Foundation. He and his wife sponsored a monetary award for the annual KSD Teacher of the Year. The Piening Family continues to provide this award.

For the KSD community at large, Bob served on the board for KirkCare and Habitat for Humanity. He served his church and the wider United Church of Christ denomination. He had a love of the Arts that led him to support among others the Muny Opera, Stages, Jazz at the Bistro, and the St. Louis Repertory Theater.

Mr. Piening passed away in 2017. He is survived by his wife, Lynne; his two children David Piening (Becky Piening) and Susan Piening Atkinson (Hermon Atkinson) and four grandchildren.

Robert “Bob” Piening attended high school at Beaumont and college at Washington University earning a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology and a Master of Business Administration (MBA).

He served in the United States Army from 1962 to 1964, then went to work for Union Electric (Ameren) for thirty-six years. He retired in 1997 to a life of family, fishing, philanthropy, and service, as well as travel with his wife of 56 years, Lynne.

## RECIPIENTS OF THE PIONEER AWARD

### Judy Roberts, 1953

Judy generously supports a variety of organizations in and around Kirkwood. She and her late husband, Tom Roberts (KHS '53), co-founded the Association for Instrumental Music (A.I.M.). Then the following year Judy created the AIM Community Band. The group supports and encourages KSD's instrumental music program, its students and outreach into the community. Judy continues to play the flute in the 60-plus member band. Among the other organizations benefiting from her active volunteerism are the Kirkwood Arts Commission, the Kirkwood Arts Foundation, First Presbyterian Church Kirkwood and Manor Grove Care and Rehab Residency.

St. Andrews Charitable Trust recognized Judy as an "Ageless Remarkable St. Louisan". This award celebrates the outstanding achievements of dynamic older adults, age 75+, who provide a uniquely fresh perspective on what it means to grow older. Individuals recognized dedicate their time to bettering communities by advocating for issues that are important to them.

Judy and Tom have two children: Dan and Jeff; and two daughters-in-law: Lynne A. and Lynn M. all KHS alums. They also have five grandchildren: Joe, Nikki, Corinne, Greg and Evan and two great-grandchildren: Noah and Madison.



## RECIPIENTS OF THE PIONEER AWARD

### Rick Stream, 1967

Rick Stream is a lifetime resident of Kirkwood. He graduated from KHS in 1967.

Rick received a Business degree from Meramec Community College and a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from the University of Missouri - St. Louis. He was a commissioned officer in the U.S. Navy from 1971-1975. After being honorably discharged, he went to work for the Department of Defense, beginning a 29-year career with the Army Aviation and Logistics Commands as a budget/program analyst and manager.

Rick has been a volunteer in the Kirkwood Community for over 50 years, including 39 years for the Kirkwood School District, serving on and leading many committees. He served on the Kirkwood School Board for 12 years, 1992-2004, 2 years as President. He chaired the 2005 Prop i campaign which resulted in the new science building and gymnasium at KHS. He also served on the District's Budget and Finance Committee for 16 years. As a parent of Keysor students, Rick served as PTO President, the same position his father held 23 years earlier. Rick received the district's Gold K Award in 2004.

In 1992, Rick started the Veterans Day program at KHS and has run it for most of the 27 ensuing years. This important program brings Veterans into the KHS classrooms where vets share their military experiences with students during social studies classes throughout the day. His work for veterans also included producing and directing two "Musical Tributes to Veterans", in 1995 and 2003. He has been a member of Kirkwood American Legion Post 156 for 20 years.

Outside of KSD, Rick served on the YMCA rebuilding committee and Kirkwood's Sesquicentennial committee. Rick is on the Board of Hope Unlimited and has volunteered at his church for many years. He coached many youth sports teams, beginning in 1964.

Rick served in the MO House of Representatives, 2006-2014; Budget Chair 2 years. In 2014, he was made an honorary board member of the St. Louis Ambassadors and chaired the Regional Affairs Council whose mission is to "heal the racial divide in the St. Louis area. In 2018, Rick received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Kirkwood-Des Peres Chamber of Commerce.

He and his wife, Ellen, have been married since 1976. They have four children and four grandchildren.





## RECIPIENTS OF THE PIONEER AWARD

### \*Michael E. Swoboda

Michael Swoboda was a beloved member of the Kirkwood School community.

He attended college at the University of Missouri-Rolla earning a bachelor's degree in engineering. He worked at Southwestern Bell, then at Monsanto. After retirement from Monsanto, he transitioned into a career dedicated to public service.



Mike is affectionally known as “the man who ate, drank and breathed Kirkwood,” and one of the best public servants to the city of Kirkwood. Swoboda served many roles for the Kirkwood community at large including City Council, two-term mayor for the City of Kirkwood, president of the Kirkwood Historical Society, Kirkwood Lions Club, president of the St. Louis County Municipal League, a board member with the East-West Gateway Coordinating Council and a member of the Kirkwood Garden Club.

As a parent of two children in the Kirkwood School District, Mike became very involved in serving KSD schools. He was a founding member of the Kirkwood School District Foundation, Pioneer Boosters, Inc., and a tutor at Robinson Elementary School, where he talked to students about history and citizenship. He was honored in 2008 with an honorary degree from Kirkwood High School, complete with a diploma, cap and gown. Swoboda was a graduate of Normandy High School.

Mr. Swoboda passed away in 2008. He is survived by his wife, Sue; son, Michael Jr.; and daughter, Katy.

## RECIPIENTS OF THE PIONEER AWARD

### Wallace Ward, 1971

Wallace Ward is a life-long resident in the Kirkwood School District. As a student, he attended Pitman Elementary, Nipher Junior High and Kirkwood High graduating in 1971.

Wallace attended college at Southeast Missouri State University and the University of Missouri-Columbia (MU).

After college, Wallace and his wife, Priscilla, settled back in Kirkwood as residents and parents of three children: Michelle, Gordon, and Lauren, all of whom graduated KHS. As KSD parents, Wallace and Priscilla became actively involved in Robinson Elementary School's Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). As a parent of KSD students, Wallace went on to also serve on the KSD Board of Education for nine years.

While on the KSD school board, Wallace provided leadership to ensure excellence in education for all children in KSD. In 1991, he was the first African American elected President of the Kirkwood Board of Education.

After serving KSD as a board member, Wallace went on to help establish the Kirkwood School District Foundation in 1989 and serve as a founding board member of the not-for-profit organization established to build a stronger community by raising private funds to enrich the educational experiences for all students in the Kirkwood School District.



For the Kirkwood community at large, Wallace has served on the Kirkwood Park Board, Kirkwood Arts Foundation, Kirkwood Budget, and Finance Commission, and Stages Theater Company.

Wallace is retired and resides with his wife in Kirkwood. He currently serves on Kirkwood City Council and serves as president of Kirkwood Area Every Child Promise (KAECP). He enjoys spending time with his growing family, which includes five grandchildren.

## 2010 ALUMNI HALL OF FAME

The honorees inducted into the  
KHS Alumni Hall of Fame Class of 2010 include:

*Courtney Shands, Sr., Class of 1923\**  
*Marion Brooks, Class of 1932\*^*  
*Myrtle Agnew Walker, Class of 1938*  
*Earl E. Walker, Class of 1939*  
*John F. Briggs, Class of 1939\*^*  
*John F. Yardley, Class of 1943\**  
*Herbert (Herb) S. Jones, Class of 1951*  
*Theodore Almstedt, Class of 1953*  
*John Korty, Class of 1954*  
*Harold Whitfield, Class of 1956*  
*Robert E. (Bob) Frederick, Class of 1958\**  
*David C. Pratt, Class of 1962*  
*Rodger O. Riney, Class of 1963*  
*David Sanborn, Class of 1963*  
*Gary Schmidt, Class of 1965*  
*Scott Bakula, Class of 1973*  
*Thomas (Tom) Kenyon, Class of 1973*  
*James (Jim) M. Talent, Class of 1973*  
*Michael (Mike) R. Gibbons, Class of 1977*  
*Doug Landis, Class of 1977*  
*John McDaniel, Class of 1979*  
*Maria Kanyova (Mary Jane Posegate), Class of 1984*  
*Jennifer Quinn Williams, Class of 1984*

The Pioneer Award for Service to the  
Students of the Kirkwood School District:

*H.L. Hall*  
*Dory Engelhardt Poholsky, Class of 1951*

\* Honorees who were recognized posthumously.

\*^ Since Missouri schools were segregated until 1954, some of our honorees attended Kirkwood schools for African American students until high school. African American students in St. Louis, including those who lived in Kirkwood, were required to attend a local segregated high school. It is with the families' permission that we honor the accomplishments of these outstanding men and women.

## **SPECIAL THANKS**

The Outstanding Alumni Hall of Fame is coordinated by the Kirkwood School District Office of Community Relations and Development. Special thanks to:

Amy (Foy) Bullmer ('80)

Ginger Cayce

Jennifer Glasgow

Beth Knapp

Lisa Wade

Program Design: Maureen O'Brien

Program Copy: Lisa Wade

Mistress of Ceremonies: Kathy Harris ('74)

KHS Alumni Hall of Fame

Selection Committee

Photography: Randy Kriewall

Kirkwood School District Foundation

Chartwell's Food Service

Mike Duffy's Pub and Grill

Pastry Chefs: Desserts were made by students in the following classes taught by Julie (Ferber) Johnson ('89):

KHS Culinary classes:

Art and Science of Foods 1

Art and Science of Foods 2

Art and Science of Baking and Pastries.

KHS students and staff who served as guides and coordinators for Friday's career fair



# ALMA MATER

## *Hail! Kirkwood High School*

Hail! Kirkwood High School,  
Unto Thee We Sing.  
Ever Victorious Homage We Bring.  
Through All the Ages  
All Our Sons So Bold,  
Fight For Old Kirkwood High School,  
Fight For the Red and White!



**KIRKWOOD**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

KHS Alumni Office • 11289 Manchester Road • Kirkwood, MO 63122

Phone: 314-213-6123 • Fax: 314-984-0002 • Email: [alumni@kirkwoodschooldistrict.org](mailto:alumni@kirkwoodschooldistrict.org)

