

Milton High School Hall of Fame 2019 Inductees

Roberto Castro '03

Student/Athletics



Roberto was a 4 year letter winner in golf for the Milton Eagles during his 4 years at MHS. Twice, he led MHS teams that advanced to the State Championship. In 2002, he won the individual 4A State Championship. In the junior golf ranks, he earned All-American honors three times. After MHS, Roberto was an integral part of four Georgia Tech teams that played in the NCAA Championships, including a runner-up finish in 2005. Roberto earned All-American honors each of his four years on the Flats. He led Tech to a pair of ACC championships in 2006 and 2007. In his senior year at Tech, he won the Byron Nelson Award as the nation's top senior golfer and the NCAA's

Top VIII Award, given to the nation's eight top student-athletes across all sports. Roberto was twice named an All-American Scholar and Academic All-ACC. He graduated with highest honors from Georgia Tech in industrial engineering. Roberto turned pro following his graduation from Tech and is entering his 8th season on the PGA Tour. He has twice finished the season in the Top 30, earning him a spot in the season ending Tour Championship. Roberto has played in 13 Major Championships, including two Masters tournaments in Augusta. Roberto lives in Atlanta with his wife Katie and their two daughters, Stella and Lucy.

Gayley Middleton Crockett

Faculty/Education



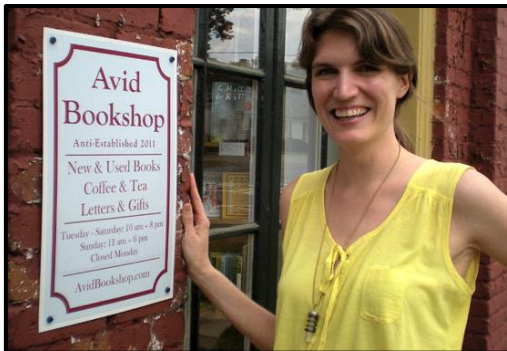
Gayley started as a first-year teacher at MHS in 1980 and remained for her entire teaching career of 31 years, retiring in 2011. She was a member of the Social Studies Department, teaching World History, AP World History, and AP European History. During her career, Gayley served on a number of committees that reviewed and/or rewrote curriculum. She mentored student teachers and beginning teachers, many of whom became distinguished career educators. Gayley was honored as the 2002 Milton High School Teacher of the Year. In addition to teaching, Gayley served as the scorekeeper for the MHS basketball team for eight seasons. She served as the faculty advisor of the school newspaper, working before and after school because there was never a dedicated class period. She remained the advisor until it became a part of the English curriculum during

the school day. She also sponsored the Milton Habitat for Humanity club for many years. In addition to participating in both fundraising projects and Habitat builds, she also led the club in providing movie and activity nights for special needs children in the community so that parents could have a night out. Gayley has been involved in community activities also. She was a part of the Act1 Drama Ministry at Alpharetta Presbyterian Church for 14 years. She was also ordained there as both a deacon and elder. Her work with Act1 received recognition and awards from amateur theatre groups in the metro Atlanta area. Gayley has also volunteered at Wills Park with the Alpharetta Senior Center, at MHS assisting a special needs adult with office work, at One World Market, a non-profit retail store that focuses on providing a living wage to artisans in over 70 developing nations, and at Book Harvest events, distributing books to area schools in Durham, NC. Perhaps most significantly, Gayley is one of the founders of Kids Just Choose Books (kidsjustchoosebooks.com), which collects donated books, principally from the Milton

area, and distributes them to schools and organizations in Atlanta and Durham, NC in areas where access to books is severely limited. They also provide books for Little Free Libraries in both communities. Thousands of books have been distributed at no cost to children from pre-k through middle school. Kids Just Choose Books was the focus of an article in a recent edition of Northside Woman Magazine. Both of Gayley's children, Kate and John, graduated from MHS. She currently lives in Durham, NC with her husband, A.G. Crockett.

Janet Geddis '98

Student/Business

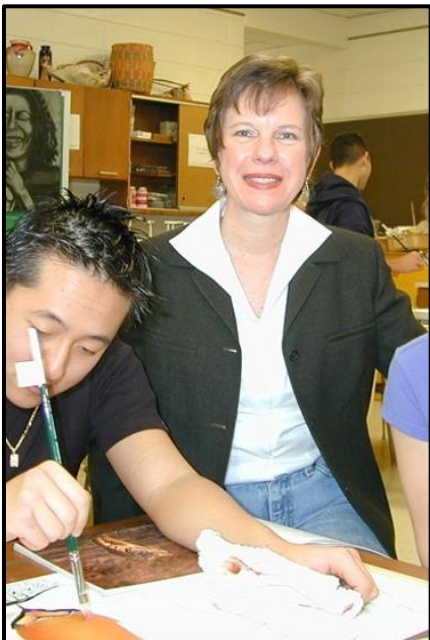


In addition to excelling at her coursework while at Milton, Janet also was involved in many extracurricular activities. She was a member of the National Honor Society, Beta Club, French Club, French Honor Society, Young Democrats, and Milton Studio Theatre. She was selected to attend the Governor's Honors Program and was chosen as one of the Top Ten Outstanding Seniors in 1998. She received recognition as the outstanding student in PE, TAG, English, and French. She also received the Wellesley College Book Award. Janet furthered her education by

earning a BA in English and American Literature from NYU and an M.Ed. in Educational Psychology from UGA's College of Education. She is a professional writer and accomplished speaker. Her most notable public speaking engagements to date were in 2018, presenting to 1500+ audience members at a TEDx conference and a well-received UGA English Department keynote speech about the many benefits of being a lifelong reader. She is also a professional health essayist and patient advocate, writing as "The Migraine Girl" on Migraine.com. Janet is also the founder and owner of Avid Bookshop, an award-winning business with two locations in Athens, GA. Avid Bookshop has received press coverage from the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, *Southern Living*, the *New York Times*, *Entrepreneur* magazine, and *Inc. Magazine*. In 2017, Avid Bookshop was named a top-five finalist in *Publishers Weekly's* Bookstore of the Year Competition. In 2019, Avid was voted by *Flagpole* readers as Athens' Favorite Local Business for the sixth year running. Avid Bookshop was on the Bulldog 100 list for three years in a row—indicating one of the fastest growing businesses owned by a UGA alum. Janet was named an Ambassador for Athensmade, has served on her regional library board for five years and the ABA's Bookseller Advisory Council for three years. She is currently a Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance Board member. As an award-winning bookstore owner, Janet has had significant press coverage, including a feature in *Good Company* magazine, as a guest on NPR's *On Point*, and GPB's *On Second Thought*. In 2016, Janet was one of 40 publishing industry professionals to be chosen for *Publishers Weekly's* Star Watch list and in 2018, Janet was named as one of *Georgia Trend's* 40 under40 and was chosen to appear on the cover of the magazine. Janet currently lives in Athens, Georgia spending time reading and selling books.

Denise Jennings

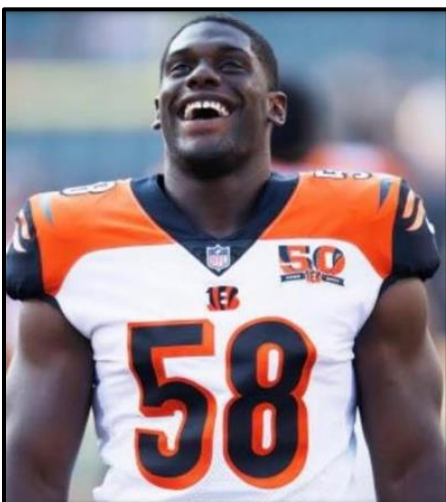
Faculty/Arts/Education



Denise worked for Fulton County Schools for 35 years. She taught at Milton for 27 years, from 1974 – 2001. She served as the Fulton County Schools Department Chair for Middle and High School Art programs for 23 years and as the Fulton County Schools Curriculum Coordinator of Art and Drama Education for 8 years. When Denise began teaching at Milton in 1974, she was the only art teacher. Under her leadership, the program grew to two teachers, then three, and became recognized as one of the top art education programs in the Southeast. Denise accomplished many “firsts” during her time at Milton: she developed the first Advanced Placement Studio Art classes in Fulton County Schools at Milton; she developed the first Art History classes in Fulton County Schools at Milton; she developed the first Computer Art course for Fulton County Schools at Milton High School. Denise helped Milton gain state and national recognition: she was on the writing team for Milton’s Georgia Schools of Excellence and national Blue Ribbon School applications; she was on the Steering Committee and was a writer for our Georgia Pay for Performance Recognition; she chaired Milton’s Technology in the Classroom Committee; she chaired the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) accreditation team; her work in art education and curriculum at the state and national levels brought recognition to the Milton Art Program; she served on both the National Art Education Association Board of Directors and the Georgia Art Education Association Board of Directors; she worked with the development of national Georgia Visual Arts Standards and the National Assessment of Educational Progress. Denise was recognized as the National Secondary Art Educator of the Year in 2001, as the Georgia Art Educator of the Year in 2000, represented Georgia as a National Gallery of Art 50th Anniversary Scholar, Council for Basic Education Scholar, and as a Christa McAuliffe Fellow. After retiring from Fulton County Schools, Denise supervised student teachers for Georgia State University, worked as a consultant for the U.S. Department of Education Model Development and Dissemination Research Grants with the Woodruff Art Center and Georgia State University, and served on the Board of Directors for Young Audiences of the Woodruff Arts Center. Denise is now working full time as an artist, focusing on landscape and plein air painting, and continues her pursuit of life-long learning in the arts.

Carl Lawson '13

Student/Athlete



In 2011, Carl’s first year of varsity football at MHS, he recorded fifteen sacks and ten tackles for loss. At the end of that year, he was named All-Region, All-State, and named to the AT&T Georgia Junior Bowl All-Star game. In 2012, Carl was named a 5-star by ESPN. He was heavily recruited by every major program in the country, topping out with over 110 scholarship offers. That same year Carl won many awards, including the Georgia State Weightlifting Title and Rivals VTO MVP. He was invited to the Army All-America Game and named an ESPN, Rivals, Max Preps, 247 Sports and Parade All-American. He also participated in the Under-Armor All-American Game. That year, he set the MHS and state records for single season

sacks with 27. In 2013, Carl accepted a scholarship to play at Auburn University. As a member of the SEC Champion team, he finished his freshman year with 5.5 sacks and was named Freshman All-SEC and Freshman All-American by ESPN and The Sporting News. Carl was redshirted due to injury in 2014 and 2015, but fully healthy in 2016, he had a monster season and was named 1st Team All-SEC and All-American as well as the Auburn team MVP. While at Auburn, Carl was named team captain for 3 years in a row. In 2017, Carl was drafted by the Cincinnati Bengals and that year he led all NFL rookies with 9.5 sacks and was named to the NFL All Rookie Team by ESPN, the NFL Network, Fox Sports, and USA Today. In 2019, Carl is currently a member of the Cincinnati Bengals.

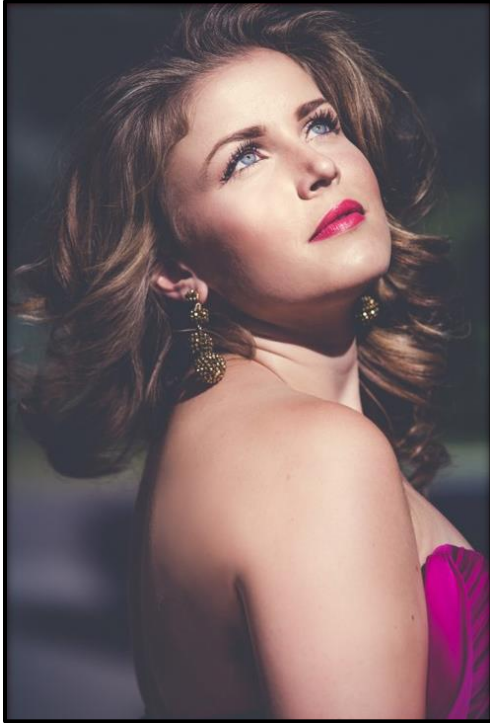
Isham O. Teasley, Jr. '34

Student/Military



Isham O. Teasley was born in Alpharetta in 1917. He graduated from MHS in 1934 and enrolled in North Georgia College, where he participated in the ROTC program. After leaving North Georgia, he began taking flying lessons on the weekends. In two years, he received his pilot's license. He enlisted in the U.S. Army as a private in January 1941, eleven months before Pearl Harbor. Soon after the U.S. entered WWII, Teasley was selected for aviation training. By November 1943, 1st Lt. Teasley was attached to the 15th Air Force, 5th Bombardment Wing, based in Italy. He piloted the B-17 Flying Fortress bomber with bombing targets in Germany. Initially, once flight crews had flown 25 missions, they were removed from combat flight service. However, as the war progressed, the limit was pushed to 35, then 45, missions. On August 15, 1944, at the age of 27, 1st Lt. Teasley was killed in action—he, his plane, and

crew failing to return from their 47th mission. Lt. Teasley's remains were returned to Alpharetta in 1949. Following the funeral, a full military service was held at Alpharetta's Resthaven Cemetery, with an escort of fighter planes from the Marietta Army Air Force Base. Mr. Teasley had been a much loved and highly respected member of the community and the turnout for his funeral was massive. Lt. Teasley was awarded two Distinguished Flying Crosses and the Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters.



Sarah is an alumna of all three Milton cluster schools. She was actively involved in chorus and singing both in and outside of school. Her love of music was fostered by her family, including a strong influence by her maternal grandmother. Sarah attended multiple summer vocal programs throughout high school, including Boston Conservatory and Tanglewood, which crystallized her love of classical music and performance. While at Milton, she was a member of the Select, Chorale, and Unaccompanied Minors singing groups. Sarah received several scholarships to attend the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music (CCM) where she received her undergraduate degree in vocal performance. She later received a full scholarship to attend Rice University for her Masters in Vocal Performance. Sarah auditioned for and was accepted as a Domingo-Colburn-Stein Young Artist with the Los Angeles Opera. She made her professional and company debut in the Fall of 2018 as the Dew Fairy in Humperdinck's *Hänsel and Gretel*. In May 2019, Sarah made her Cincinnati Symphony

Orchestra debut as the soprano soloist in Mahler's *Das Klegende Lied* with the Cincinnati May Festival Chorus and Maestro James Conlon. After finishing her tenure with the Los Angeles Opera, Sarah made her debut as the Queen of the Night in Mozart's *The Magic Flute* at the 2021 summer Aspen Music Festival. She will be moving to Germany soon to make her European debut in December 2021.