

# GOW AT A GLANCE

*A Monthly News Snapshot from The Gow School*



## Another Successful Gow School Summer Program Season!

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Meet Gow's New Trustees
- Campus News
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### Alumni and Faculty Spotlights



#### Gow Alumni

#### **IZER MARTINEZ '13**

Learn more about Izer, his Gow experience, and passion for investing in and supporting dyslexic and minority entrepreneurs.



#### Faculty Focus

#### **JAY AND STEPHANIE GARVEY**

As key members of the Gow community, learn about the Garveys and their passion for welcoming our youngest students.



*Your Gow Annual Fund gift makes a difference!*



*I support the Annual Fund because I believe in Gow and all it does to help students achieve their dreams and goals.*

Weston Lorenz '90  
President, Gow Alumni Association  
Racine, WI



*To make a gift, simply:*

- Click the QR code
- Visit [gow.org/support-gow](http://gow.org/support-gow)
- Send a check to Gow
- Call 716.687.2075

*Thank you!*



### SAVE THE DATE

August 29	New Family Welcome Dinner
September 2	Gow School Year Begins
September 20	Grandparents' Day
October 11-12	Fall Parents' Weekend
October 12-20	Fall Break
April 11-25	Gow Online Auction
April 25-26	Gow Crimson and Navy Weekend
May 15-16	Senior Dinner and Commencement

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: JAY AND STEPHANIE GARVEY

*Working as a team to shape the lives of Gow students*

Six years ago, Jay and Stephanie Garvey moved to South Wales from Franklin Academy, a boarding school for students with autism in Connecticut. As integral members of the Gow community, Jay teaches English, and together Jay and Steph serve as athletic coaches and live in Green with their twins, Will and Sam. "I hope that, as dorm parents, we help create a family atmosphere where students feel welcome. It is amazing to get to know our students, and to see them make such significant progress here," said Jay.

In addition to teaching English, Jay has worked as a lacrosse and wrestling coach. Stephanie, an occupational therapist at a school in Buffalo, teaches handwriting at the Gow School Summer Program and coaches the Gow girls' volleyball team. "It is wonderful to see our students, many with the same story of academic difficulties, find and make lasting friendships with students who have shared experiences. They flourish here, and by graduation, I am amazed at how poised and confident they are," said Stephanie.

While Green Dorm has been home to high school girls for the past year, the Garveys will welcome Gow's youngest male students to Green this fall. As the Garveys have twin boys entering sixth grade, they are especially enthusiastic as they are already friends with many of the students. "We want to bring a family atmosphere to our dorm and to recreate more of what the students have at home, including pizza and movie nights, cookie making, and game nights. We are making some improvements to Green, and I think the boys will be excited about the upgrades," said Jay.

As avid sports fans and participants, the Garveys enjoy cheering for their sons' lacrosse, football, and basketball teams and attending Sabres, Bills, and Bandits games. Come fall, they look forward to sharing this hometown Buffalo team spirit with their new Green Dorm residents, too.

## Facing Challenges In School?

Now  
accepting  
5th  
graders!

*Gow offers the support you need!*

Founded in 1926, Gow is the nation's first school for students with dyslexia and similar language-based learning differences



### INDIVIDUALIZED ATTENTION

Small classes, innovative teaching, and self-advocacy guide students to success.

### TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION

Fosters academic achievement, self-confidence, and personal growth.

### SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT

Coeducational boarding and day school for students in grades 5-Post Graduate

### EDUCATION BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Athletics, clubs, and leadership opportunities develop well-rounded and confident students.



To learn more about Gow's life-changing programs, please call  
Admissions at 716.687.2001 or visit [www.gow.org](http://www.gow.org)



# GOW ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT IZER MARTINEZ '13

*Gow Lifer, Gates Millennium Scholar, and Entrepreneur*



As a venture capitalist and investor in startups based in Chicago, alumnus Izer Martinez '13 attributes his success to the foundation built at The Gow School. "I was a lifer who started in sixth grade. Before my mom found Gow, I had attended eight different schools and was told I would never attend college," Martinez recalls.

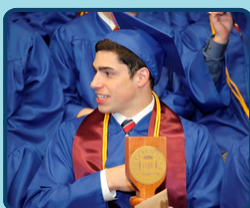
At Gow, Martinez excelled academically and thrived in a supportive environment that encouraged leadership and participation in extracurricular activities. He served as class president, captained the soccer, basketball, and lacrosse teams, participated in a poetry slam in Toronto, and regularly took on extra homework. He credits the Reconstructive Language program and his teachers for helping him overcome dyslexia. "I had the most supportive teachers, who made all the difference. At Gow, we became a family. My friends all had the same story of going to different schools, and we immediately connected and created a bond. They are still my closest friends today—friends for life," he shares.

"Gow prepared me not just for a career but for life. I learned from house jobs, from teachers who pushed me to excel, how to advocate for myself and the things I need to learn, and that I can create positive outcomes - skills I use daily."

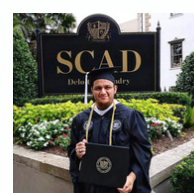
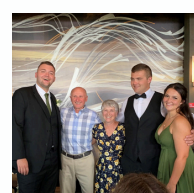
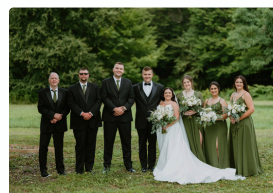
After graduating from Gow, Martinez was named a Gates Millennium Scholar, an honor funded by the Gates Foundation that provides college and graduate school scholarships. He earned both his undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Pennsylvania. Following graduation, Izer explored diverse career paths, including acting on Chicago P.D. and working in music management, before finding his passion in venture capital. Today, he supports minority-owned startups and companies founded by people with dyslexia.

"I was given the gift of a Gow education, and hope that in the next 100 years, generations of students like me will benefit from everything Gow offers, including RL, amazing teachers, and the ability to advocate for themselves. I am profoundly grateful to Gow for changing my life," Martinez concludes.

*Pictured: Alex Laethem '13, Gow's Director of Development Gayle Hutton, and Izer in Chicago; with his middle school friends Ian Hynes '12, Nick Zawiski '12, Lincoln Olmstead '15, George Lewis '14, Ibby Kalla '13, and Jose Gautreau '13; and Izer at Commencement in 2013.*



## Alumni and Campus News



*Jamie Spitzley '63 and Susan; Brunch in Irvine, CA: Grant Sepiol '13, Rob Middleton '87, Cam Partridge '07 and his dad; Sean Perrotti '95, John Remar '86, Kuvaal Patel '15, Tim LaRocca '13 and his dad; Gayle Hutton, Rob Middleton '87, Sean Perrotti '95 and John Remar '86; Stone Giardini '19 at his wedding, Stone with the Roses; and Mario Martinez '20 at SCAD*

**Jamie Spitzley '63** and his wife, Susan Higbie (sister of **Steve '60** and **George Higbie '61**), live in Cambria, CA where they raise avocados and other fruits on their organic farm.

**Carl Miller '82** has been a Psychiatric RN for 18 years in Las Vegas, NV and recommends this career. He proudly wears his Gow class ring from 1982 and receives comments on the unusual design.

**John Remar '86** works as the VP of BattleBots and lives in Irvine, CA with his wife, Jennifer, and two children. He recently hosted a Gow brunch in CA. (Pictured above).

**Sean Perrotti '95** works as a videographer and editor in Los Angeles. He is currently editing 13 courtroom drama shows.

**Cam Partridge '06** lives in LA and works for a company that provides classic furniture for weddings and events in the LA area.

**Grant Sepiol '13** and his wife live in Santa Monica, CA where he is a nurse at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. He graduated from Indiana University and then earned his nursing degree.

**Kuvall Patel '15** works in real estate and is working as a trainer for a soccer team. He lives in Santa Monica, and hopes to move to AZ.

**Bjorn Thorsson '14** is living in Brooklyn and working in finance for his family's business. He and his girlfriend are planning to get married next year.

**Stone Giardini '17** married Ashley on August 3. Alumni **Peter Kern '18** and Stone's sister, **Gia '20**, were in the wedding party. **Paul (Former Director of Buildings and Grounds)** and **Kathy Rose (Former Chair of Reconstructive Language Department)** attended the wedding. Stone works at the West Valley Nuclear plant as an electrician. Gia graduated from Finger Lakes Community College.

**Mario Martinez '20** graduated in May from the Savannah College of Art and Design with a BFA in Dramatic Writing.

### FONDLY REMEMBERED

**Ted C. Randall (Development Director 1993-96)** passed away October 7, 2023 in Orland, Maine.

# Welcome To Gow's New Trustees

Gow's Board of Trustees oversees the school, providing vision and leadership to guide its direction. Board members serve three 3-year terms, totaling nine years. As of July 1, Gow welcomed seven new members to the board. These new members, introduced on the right, include current and past parents, alumni, and former faculty, all bringing their expertise and passion for Gow. We are grateful for their dedication, generosity, and vision to prepare Gow for it's next 100 years!



## THE GOW SUMMER PROGRAM

*Another amazing season!*

This past weekend marked the culmination of the 34th season of The Gow School Summer Program, which offers a tried-and-true mix of classes, daily fun, and weekend trips for students ages 8-16. Many students return year after year to receive an academic boost and to reconnect with friends.



Nobody says it better than our students!

"This was my first year. The teachers and counselors were so nice and understanding. I made good friends that I am looking forward to seeing next year."

*Elizabeth, 9  
East Aurora, NY*



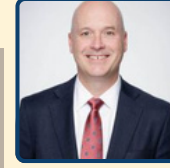
Applications for next summer are already being accepted. Please click the QR code or call 716.687.2001 to find out more.



**MICHAEL ELSNER (CP Silas '26)** is an attorney and equity member with Motley Rice in Charleston, SC and has a B.A. from John Carroll University, and a J.D. from the University of Memphis.



**STEVE HIGGINS (Former Gow Faculty and Assistant Director of Admissions 1990-94)** is President & CEO of Carter, a fundraising firm in Vero Beach, FL. He graduated from Elon University.



**TIM MADIGAN (Former Gow Faculty 1997-2003)** is Head of School at The Churchill School in NYC. He has a B.A. from Allegheny College and a M.A. and Ph.D. from the University at Buffalo.



**CYNTHIA MORRIS (PA Loren '23)** owns P-A Distribution in Eugene, Oregon. She has a B.A. from the University of Kansas and a master's in Art History from the University of Virginia.



**ANDREW RODGERS '97** is Regional Vice President of Sales for MongoDB, a leading developer data platform. He has a B.S. from North Carolina State University in Accounting and Finance.

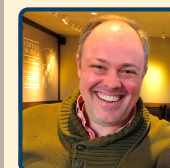


**JODI RUMBLE (CP Amelia '25)** is the general manager of Diageo Canada in Toronto. She has a BBA from the University of Wisconsin and an MBA from NYU's Stern School of Business.



**TIMOTHY WELLS '08** is a Junior Financial Advisor and Associate Vice President at Bank of America in NYC. He is a Certified Financial Analyst (CFA) with a B.S. in Finance from the Rochester Institute of Technology.

### ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT



**WESTON LORENZ '93** lives in Racine, WI and is Senior Vice President of Mergers and Acquisitions for ChemCore Inc. He earned a B.A. from West Virginia Wesleyan College.

### PARENTS' ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT



**SARAH HOILAND (CP David '25)** is an Associate Professor of Sociology at City University of New York. She has a B.S. from Gonzaga University and a Ph.D. from The New School.

Key: CP = Current Parent, PA = Alumni Parent

## CELEBRATING GOW'S NEW BABIES

Congratulations to John and Beth Munro on becoming grandparents, and to the Rothfuss and Thompson families on their new bundles of joy!



**MAE MUNRO SHEUERER**

August 7

Grandparents John & Beth Munro  
Head of School



**COOPER ROTHFUSS**

July 18

Parents Jason & Alex Rothfuss  
Gow Faculty



**GEORGE THOMPSON**

July 15

Parents Brian & Lauren Thompson  
Gow Faculty