

A Message from the Alumni Association Board



Dear Friends,

The Friends School Alumni Association Board was busy behind the scenes during the 2023-2024 year. We had a mighty board membership made up of: Heidi Rooks Arndt '87, Chuck Barton '68, Gen Moody Distance '84, Margo Lauterbach '93, Holden Marshall '15, Jeff Maylor '01, Alison Bomgardner Miller '95, Ali Pappas '07, and us as co-chairs, Ted Kasper '15 and Hilary Baldwin Ruley '95.

Our focus of the year was reevaluating the Alumni Association and how the Board plays a role in the greater Friends School community today. To do this, we felt like we first needed to remind ourselves of the purpose of the Alumni Association. Why do we need an Alumni Association? What are its goals? Who are we?

To refocus the intentions of the Alumni Association and the Board, we updated our vision and mission statements:

Friends School of Baltimore Alumni Association Vision

The Friends School of Baltimore Alumni Association connects alumni to the School and to each other, while fostering a community that is inclusive, respectful, and supportive.

Friends School of Baltimore Alumni Association Mission

The Friends School of Baltimore Alumni Association is dedicated to actively serving the Friends community by:

- *Supporting the Mission and Philosophy of the School through its actions and activities;*
- *Increasing alumni participation and involvement in School activities;*
- *Enhancing alumni connections with students, faculty, parents, and School leadership;*
- *Promoting pride, tradition, and loyalty among current and former students, resulting in alumni who continue to connect with Friends by contributing their time, talent and financial resources to support the School.*

With the creation of these statements, we can easily share the purpose of our work as the Alumni Association and Board with fellow alumni, potential new Board members, current students, teachers and faculty, and other Friends School community members. These statements provide a foundation that we felt was needed to continue to provide value to our fellow alumni and the School.

In addition to this work behind the scenes, we helped welcome over 300 alumni back to campus over Alumni Weekend 2024. We saw new members inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame, proudly introduced the 2024 Alumni Award Winners, and assisted throughout the weekend to ensure a fantastic Reunion weekend for the 4 and 9 classes. We also helped the Class of 2024 celebrate their graduation by hosting the annual 100 Nights Dinner, providing a glimpse into life as a Friends School Alum.

Thinking about the 2024-2025 school year, we have plans to be more visible within the Friends School community, and we invite you to join us for the activities planned to connect and engage more with fellow alumni. We have also welcomed several new faces to the Board, who bring fresh ideas and enthusiasm. If you are interested in joining the Alumni Association Board or participating in alumni activities, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. You can stay connected by reading the monthly Alumni Newsletter, by following the Friends School social media accounts, and by visiting friendsbalt.org/alumni.

Finally, we would like to thank a few dedicated individuals for their service. A special shout out goes to Ali Pappas '07 as her board term comes to an end. Ali has been a dedicated member of the Board for four years, always bringing energy to the group, and rallying fellow Quaker graduates. Her presence will be greatly missed! We would also like to thank Sophia Springer '13, Director of Alumni & Parent Engagement, and the entire Development and Alumni Office team. With their support, we are eager to reinvigorate the Alumni Association and the community that it fosters for us. We look forward to connecting and growing our alumni network with you!

Sincerely,



Ted Kasper '15
AAB Co-Chair, 2023-2024



Hilary Baldwin Ruley '95
AAB Co-Chair, 2023-2024



Members of the Class of 2024 at the 100 Nights Dinner