

The Albany Academies magazine : FALL 2019

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Leading change in education

DR. WILLIAM DURDEN '67 MOLDS THE FUTURE *p.10*

Evelyn Fanion '26 visits
the construction site
of the James E. Poole
Athletic Facility.

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The Albany Academies magazine

FALL 2019

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Design: *Oberlander Group*

Printing: *Fort Orange Press*

A2, The Albany Academies Magazine, is published twice a year by the Institutional Advancement Office and sent to alumni/ac, parents, grandparents, donors, friends, and other educational institutions. Comments are welcome and should be addressed to Director of Institutional Advancement, The Albany Academies, 135 Academy Road, Albany NY, 12208 or email wendtha@albanyacademies.org.

In every effort to reduce our footprint we eliminated duplicate addresses in our mailing list. For additional copies of the magazine contact the Office of Institutional Advancement.

MISSION STATEMENT

Who We Are: The Albany Academies—The Albany Academy and Albany Academy for Girls—develop capable and confident students through single-gender education in the Lower and Middle School, and through coordinate education in the Upper School.

What We Do: Employing individualized and positive education, The Albany Academies provide students with the knowledge, skills, and character needed for leadership and success in the creative, entrepreneurial century that lies ahead.



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TALKING HEAD



I WRITE THIS LETTER WHILE DEEPLY ENGAGED IN OUR STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS, which has inspired an inquiry regarding the connection between our long-term direction and the 21st century economy. This issue of A2 explores this connection through the lens of some of the innovative programming that already exists at the Academies.

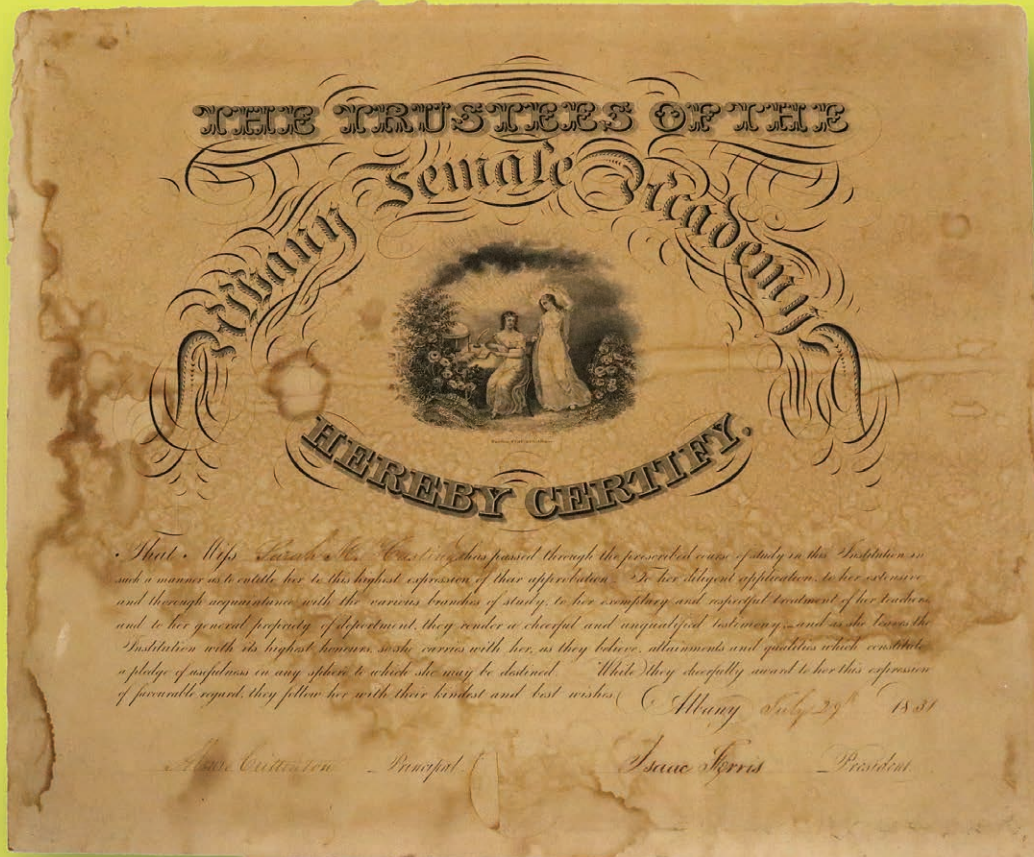
As we think about the future, our next chapter will most likely include strengthening those elements of our educational program that blend modern technical competencies with the immutable human skills that have always been a feature of an Academies' education, such as:*

1. Complex problem-solving
2. Critical thinking
3. Creativity
4. People management
5. Coordinating with others
6. Emotional intelligence
7. Judgement and decision-making
8. Service orientation
9. Negotiation skills
10. Cognitive flexibility

As you read through this issue, I urge you to keep an eye out for evidence of these skills both in our students and in our graduates. I hope you will conclude, as I have, that our rich tradition of both academic excellence and continuous adaptation uniquely positions students for future success.

CHRISTOPHER LAURICELLA, ED.M. P'20, '22
HEAD OF SCHOOL

*List derived from the World Economic Forum's 2019 Future of Work report.



- Albany Academy for Girls (formally Albany Female Academy) Certificate of Sarah M. Hastings signed by Isaac Ferris, President of the Board of Trustees of Albany Female Academy in 1831

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Alumni and alumnae discuss how to prepare for opportunities and challenges that may not exist yet.



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Nancy Cohen Wekselbaum '69



Michael Lasch P'20, '22

meet our new board

The Board of Trustees is the governing body of The Albany Academies. It is comprised of parents, alumnae, alumni, and community and business leaders. It is the board's responsibility to ensure that the school's mission is relevant and vital to the community it serves and to monitor the success of the schools in fulfilling its mission. We chatted with new trustees Nancy Cohen Wekselbaum '69 and Michael Lasch P'20, '22 to learn about their involvement and why they feel their role is vital to the future success of The Albany Academies.

What is your connection to The Albany Academies?

Nancy My twin sister Wendy Summer and I graduated with the Class of '69 from Albany Academy for Girls. My father, Avron Cohen, graduated from The Albany Academy in 1939. My brother Peter Cohen graduated from AA in 1973 and my brother James Cohen graduated from AA in the class of 1978.

Mike My wife, Alicia, and I have two sons at the Academies—Will Lasch '20 and Christian Lasch '22. In addition, my brother and several nieces and nephews attended the Academies.

Why were you interested in serving on the Board of Trustees?

Nancy My experiences at AAG impacted my life tremendously in my formative years. As a result, I thought it would be rewarding for me to contribute to the future direction of the school and the best way to do this is by participating as a trustee.

Mike With two children at the Academies, we have a vested interest in the continued success of the school. Serving as a trustee provides me with the opportunity to assist the board and administration in building the current and future direction of the Academies. I am honored to be a board member given the Academies' long history and the important role it has played in our region.

What is your professional background?

Nancy I worked on Wall Street after college and then in various financial and strategic planning positions in corporate America. When I married, I worked with my husband to build his Manhattan-based retail business. In 2006, I started a special food business—The Gracious Gourmet. In addition to my professional background, I have a very strong interest in entrepreneurship. I mentor students at my college alma mater, Skidmore College, and help them launch their own businesses. Entrepreneurship helps students to think outside of the box and try new ideas. Entrepreneurship should be introduced to high school students at The Albany Academies because it will make the school stronger and more appealing to prospective students.

Mike I have been in the finance field for over 20 years. After receiving my MBA from Emory University, I worked in the corporate and investment banking group at Bank of Boston (now part of Bank of America). In 2004, I co-founded Pine Street Capital Partners, a private debt and equity investment firm. Prior to business school, I served as a congressional aide in Washington, D.C.

What do you see as your primary role as a trustee?

Nancy To help ensure the long-term viability of the school. I'd like to see the Academies continue to evolve in the same way that the surrounding area is evolving. I want this school to continue to be a vital force in the community. I'd like to see the Academies be reflective of what is going on in the Capital Region. It needs to stay cutting-edge.

members

Mike My role is to set policy and provide guidance and oversight by working closely with other board members and the school's administration, while also serving as an ambassador of the school to the external community. I hope to leverage my professional background to augment the skills and experience of other trustees.

How can alumni, alumnae, and parents work more closely with trustees?

Nancy It would be a good idea to reach out to these groups, let them know the issues that the trustees are dealing with, and ask them for their input and feedback. I'd like to see the students give their input as well.

Mike These constituencies play an integral role in the school community and ideally should provide frequent, constructive feedback to the trustees. Additionally, it is incumbent upon the board to regularly engage them as they are the school's greatest advocates. The stronger their involvement, the stronger the institution.

What advice do you have for future trustees?

Nancy I am a brand new trustee, but I think anyone who serves on the Board of Trustees needs to have the best long-term interest of the school at heart. Trustees should work in a practical way to ensure the continual relevance, viability, and strength of education at The Albany Academies.

Mike Being brand new to the board, I don't have any specific advice for future trustees at this point. However, I believe boards play an invaluable role for organizations, especially schools and nonprofits. I would encourage others who share a desire for the long-term success of the Academies to consider getting involved at the board level or in another capacity.



CALLING ALL ALUMNI AND ALUMNAE PROFESSIONALS

Share your passion + expertise!

The Albany Academies are looking for alumni and alumnae interested in providing advice and guidance to our current students about various careers. We're calling it "Speed Mentoring," which is set up similarly to the popular speed dating, whereby alumni/ae professionals are paired with students in small groups. After a brief period of time, the students move to the next group of professionals to learn about a different career. This is a unique opportunity for Academy students to hear directly from accomplished professionals about career trends, the current job market, new research in a particular field, and classes that best prepared alumni/ae for the real world.

We realize that most alumni/ae are full-time working professionals so this volunteer time commitment has been structured to accommodate even the busiest of schedules. We need your help for less than two hours on one day only; this is not a long-term student mentoring commitment.

If you are interested in participating in this event on November 4, 2019 or March 4, 2020 from 2:00-3:30 p.m., please contact Senior Development Officer Laurel Colasurdo at colasurdol@albanyacademies.org or 518-429-2391. We look forward to hearing from you!

Speed Mentoring Days

November 4, 2019 + March 10, 2020
from 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Commencement

June 11, 2019





TOP ROW:
Left to right: Class President Nick Graziano '19 addresses his class for a final time; Caroline Crowell '19 and Ranking Scholar Linda Park '19 exit the ceremony with all smiles.

MIDDLE ROW:
Left to right: Mary Ellen Tomson embraces daughter Cate Tomson '19 upon receiving her diploma; Zachary Huang '19 presents as The Albany Academy's Class of 2019 Salutatorian.

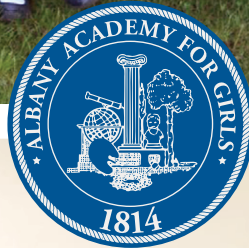
RIGHT:
Left to right: AAG Associate Head of School Donna Ruggerio; AAG Commencement Speaker Dr. Kristina Johnson addresses the attendees with a motivational speech.



congratulations!

Albany Academy for Girls
and The Albany Academy
Fourth and Eighth Grades

AAG Class of 2027



AAG Class of 2023



Lower & Middle School Closing Ceremonies



Our society is changing at a rapid pace. This means reinventing how we teach and lead our schools. We reached out to some of our alumni and alumnae and discussed their role in education and business, how it's changing, and how to prepare for opportunities and challenges that may not yet exist.

Leading Change to Create the Future



Molding the Future of Higher Education

Dr. William Durden '67 admits he had no real plan in entering a career in education; he simply enjoys people, ideas, creativity, innovation and engaging in the energy of people learning new things. His first formal association with teaching began at The Albany Academy when Ernie Steck appointed him to be the Form II basketball coach in his senior year. Bill recalls: "I don't think anything like that was done before at AA, but I really enjoyed the engagement, the students, and instructing them." Bill has had the good fortune to speak to students at commencements and other gatherings and "impart" advice, mostly

"Despite the daunting costs, there arguably have not been to date sufficient disruptive proposals to re-invent the institution."

DR. WILLIAM DURDEN '67

topics highlighted from the book he authored entitled *Living on the Diagonal*, which focuses on his career in education, business and government.

Bill completed his Bachelor's Degree in German and Philosophy at Dickinson College and directly thereafter received a Fulbright to study in Switzerland and committed to doctoral study at Johns Hopkins University. His first job was at St. Paul's School in Baltimore, Maryland where he taught English, German, and Senior Interdisciplinary Honors and was the first coach of its baseball team.

During his third year at St. Paul's School, Bill was approached by the president and provost of Johns Hopkins to join the university to build and lead a new entity, the Center for Talented Youth (CTY). In addition, he also was appointed as a member of the University's German Department. He served 16 years as the founding executive director of CTY, an organization that became world-recognized for its study and advancement of talented youth, as well as its advocacy of general changes in education at the school and college level. Simultaneously, he was a senior consultant to the U.S. Department of State for 11 of his 16 years at CTY and chaired an advisory committee dedicated to international schools worldwide and traveled repeatedly to Asia, Africa, Europe, Latin America and South America. Shortly after, he was approached by the

CEO of Sylvan Learning Systems to become president of a new division of the educational company and to serve as Vice President of another entity in distance learning partnering with Johns Hopkins and the University of Pennsylvania—the Caliber Learning Network, a joint venture of Sylvan and MCI. In Bill's second year at Sylvan, he was approached by his alma mater, Dickinson College, to become its president. He accepted and served for 14 years as president as well as a Professor of German and a Professor of Education.

Currently, he is the Chief Global Engagement Officer of Shorelight, a start-up company supporting international education at top-tier universities; president of its non-profit association, the International University Alliance; and Operating Partner and consultant to Sterling Partners, an investment platform company.

"One experience and job opportunity just naturally led to another. I was very fortunate. Just about all the jobs in education I have had were created for me or I created them. I learned along the way that while I love research and writing, I enjoy building organizations that help people learn," he said.

As for the future of education, Bill has no doubt that undergraduate education at college and universities in the U.S. has an affordability challenge. "Despite the daunting costs, there arguably have not been to date sufficient disruptive proposals to re-invent the institution and, most critically, link re-invention, cost reduction and tuition/fee easement so that the price of higher education to students and their families and accompanying debt burden are either contained or reduced."

Bill is currently drafting a "thought-paper" that would offer an alternative form of undergraduate education. The proposal would challenge many inherited and seemingly immutable practices in residential undergraduate education, but would arguably reduce at once the cost of education to the institution and the price (tuition) to students and their families. Challenging expectation is a key, Bill believes, to solving the cost and debt crisis.

Bill enjoyed and profited from the strong liberal arts education he received at The Albany Academy. "The whimsy and dedication of teachers like Mr. Schellenberger and Mr. Colton, who were honest characters with distinctive personalities, showed me that scholarship and academic pursuits could be engaging and provide a lifestyle that was active and committed, slightly rebellious and full of adventure," he said.



Head in the (Microsoft) Clouds

The sphere of technology is constantly progressing with **Kendall Drew Jakes '05** at the forefront of this evolution. Her love of technology sprouted in Upper School at Albany Academy for Girls when her teacher, Dr. Stephen Brown, (along with her mother) “tricked” her into enrolling in an engineering class, a decision she has since been grateful for. She is now a technology specialist at Microsoft, researching the newest developments in cloud capabilities and cutting-edge technology. “I have always liked technology, but I am really passionate about using technology to help people or companies solve problems. It’s great to have cool gadgets, but I think technology drives the most impact and sparks the most interest and it’s actually making processes more efficient or outcomes more successful,” said Kendall.

After graduating from Albany Academy for Girls in 2005, Kendall attended Northwestern University where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Engineering and Economics. Following her undergraduate education, Kendall stayed in Chicago and worked in finance for Levy Restaurants before transitioning to a hybrid role combining business and technology as the Director of Business Systems. “In my first role out of school, I combined my love for food, technology, and business into one role,” she explains. Eight years later she moved to New York City to pursue her MBA at Cornell Tech. After completing graduate school in 2017, she started her career at Microsoft.

Kendall sees the future of education heading toward hands-on studio-style learning. “It’s important to learn from the past and teach our students to immediately apply that to the problems we are faced with today. I also like the notion of encouraging a ‘fail fast’ and growth mindset environment so we are striving for progress versus perfection.”

Kendall is encouraging when it comes to combining all your passions into one role; she wants Academies’ students to pursue their passions all at once. “I believe we are all ‘human Venn diagrams’ and we can excel in many different areas, but are the most successful when we combine our interests and define new roles. One of the most amazing things about the tech community in NYC is that there are a lot of these hybrid industries popping up everywhere. Whether it is FinTech, or Fashion Tech, or Ad Tech, gone are the days when the engineers worked in silos away from the business people or the creatives.”

Kendall credits Albany Academy for Girls for providing her the opportunities to explore and dive deep into areas where she wanted to learn more. She extends a big thanks to Dr. Brown and her mother for pushing her to take that engineering class without her even knowing what an engineer did. Without that experience, her career path might have been much different. “Microsoft is an amazing company and I’ve been fortunate to work on some fantastic projects in my time there so far,” she concluded.

“I believe we are all human Venn diagrams and we can excel in many different areas, but are the most successful when we combine our interests and define new roles.”

KENDALL DREW JAKES '05

Guiding the Way

After spending a decade living in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado, **Hollis Brooks '91** and his wife moved to Boston to be closer to family and pursue new interests. He earned his Public School Teaching Certificates in Middle and High School History and taught LAB (Learning Adaptive Behavior) students at a public middle school in the Roxbury section of Boston. He describes this experience as being as equally challenging as it was rewarding, but it reaffirmed his decision to become a teacher. "I have always enjoyed working with people, particularly younger folks. I spent several of my adolescent summers employed as a camp counselor and I worked with a wide array of people as a river guide and ski patroller, after college," said Hollis. He explained those experiences reinforced the importance of building relationships and working with others towards a common goal. "Most of my inspiration to become an educator sprung from my reflections on those who had an instrumental role in helping me find my way, when I was a young man. Their guidance and care had a profound impact and allowed me to see the importance of helping others," Hollis said.

Hollis later joined the faculty at a junior boarding school in the Metro-West area of Boston for students who identified as traditional learners, as well as those who needed a more supportive academic and social-emotional setting. As a faculty member, he taught English, Social Studies and Leadership, while coaching on the side. For Hollis, teaching has always been a noble profession: "There is no fame or fortune in secondary education, so you must work in this vocation for the right reasons. At the end of the day, one hopes to impact young people in a manner that leads them to becoming happy, productive members of society." Subsequently, he was promoted to the Associate Dean of Students. After a few years in administration, he took a year off to focus on earning his Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Boston College. Upon receiving his degree, he was hired as the Dean of Students at Boston College High School and then promoted to Vice Principal two years later, the position he currently holds.

Hollis credits the faculty at The Albany Academy as being the biggest asset when he was a student. "The interactions with my Academy

teachers taught me the power of patience, humor and empathy," he said. He connected that those values were instilled in him as a student and they have served him well in his growth, both personally and professionally. He urges Academies' students to push themselves to appreciate perspectives that



differ from their own, while engaging with people who have diverse backgrounds and experiences. Most importantly, he advises students to be kind to one another.

Hollis notes that technology has dramatically changed the educational landscape for better and for worse. "Social media can be difficult to manage when you are an impressionable adolescent with limited self-control. With that said, there are some incredible opportunities for students due to the advances of technology." Hollis believes there is now a better understanding of the developing adolescent brain and the spectrum of ways that students learn, allowing instructional leadership to become more robust and exciting.

"Academics are just part of the charge of independent schools. Teaching students to be better human beings is equally as important."

HOLLIS BROOKS '91

Designing Degrees

As a development and humanitarian professional, **Adam Bouloukos '85** has traveled around the world to assist with support to refugees and displaced persons, currency reform, natural disaster and emergency response, outreach and fundraising, and organized crime and firearms trafficking control in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. During his recent humanitarian assignments in the Somali Regional State of Ethiopia, a region hard hit by climate change with successive droughts and floods, Adam conceived of an idea to create a college degree program focusing on disaster preparedness and response. As a native of Upstate New York, he chose to propose his program design to the president of Paul Smith's College in the Adirondack Park. "I liked the idea of developing an academic program in my own community. Having traveled extensively, I am quite convinced we are blessed in this part of the country," he said. Though Paul Smith's College currently has a rich foundation in experiential learning and a strong environmental science and forestry major, Adam thought a new degree would contribute to strengthening the advocacy and political engagement aspects of environmental protection.

Adam attended Bucknell University and double majored in English Literature and Sociology before coming back to Albany to complete his Master's Degree and Ph.D. in Criminal Justice at the Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy. In addition, he earned a Post Graduate Certification in Business Administration in Scotland, as well as a leadership certification from Cornell University. While Adam was in the process of earning his Ph.D. at the University at Albany, he taught criminology and introductory courses on punishment and corrections with his mentor and doctoral advisor, Distinguished Professor Graeme Newman. Newman and Adam worked on a research grant funded by the U.S. Bureau of Justice Statistics and the United Nations Crime Prevention Branch in Vienna, Austria where Adam started his U.N. career in 1995.

Adam spent seven years in Vienna leading a research unit, participating in academic policy work and working with governments. Following Vienna, Adam went to Afghanistan for three years to assist the government in drafting its counter-narcotics policy, running the elections, and supporting the establishment of various ministries before leaving for Pakistan to run an earthquake response team from 2005 to 2006. He then moved to Jordan and worked in the operations unit of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees, and later moved to Sudan for a three-year assignment as a U.N. country director. Adam was then brought to Copenhagen, Denmark, to create the outreach and partnerships division of the U.N. Office for Project Services. He carried that same role to Switzerland before being appointed Director of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, which ultimately sparked his interest in creating the Bachelor of Science program at Paul Smith's College.

"Just because Paul Smith's College is in a small residential area in Upstate New York doesn't mean it can't be a global player. There is an enormous market out there for graduates who need to respond to floods, sanitation, epidemics, shelter and other areas that are expanding, unfortunately. Climatic events are increasing in severity and frequency," said Adam. Adam assisted the provost and professors at Paul Smith's College with the submission to the NYS Board of Education, which was quickly approved. The program began in September 2019. Students can now begin their Bachelor of Science Degree in Disaster Management and Response.

Adam credits The Albany Academy for being instrumental in a number of ways. "First and foremost, we had very good teachers who taught us to be diligent



Adam Bouloukos (sitting to right) with his Paul Smith's College colleague Rebecca Sutter, Environment and Society Faculty (sitting to left), and Nicholas Hunt-Bull, Provost (standing left to right), and Brett McLeod, Department Chair, Environment and Society and Forestry.

“Teaching students the critical skills to analyze and understand what it means to be a different ethnicity, religion, race and culture is the way education needs to focus because that’s how the world is.”

ADAM BOULOUKOS '85

and organized. I had a great group of friends with whom I am still in touch. I loved the school. I knew it was special. I knew I was in a lucky minority. There was a strong sense of pride,” he said. Adam recommends that students find something they like, pursue it, and find that teacher who cares about the topic and about them, as an individual. Adam said, “I have many teachers to thank but truthfully, I have to thank Miss Shaw, my second grade teacher, who inspired my love of reading. If you read, all else falls into place.”

“Education for me needs to be about experience, different cultures and globalization. We are much more global now and students are now

so exposed. Teaching students the critical skills to analyze and understand what it means to be different ethnicity, religion, race and culture is the way education needs to focus because that’s how the world is,” he said.

At the time of this writing, Adam had just taken on a new assignment in Saudi Arabia as Resident Representative of the U.N. Development Program, working on a set of complex issues including women’s rights, employment generation, and diversifying the economy away from petroleum.

Spreading the Peace

Sharlina Hussain-Morgan '03 knew she wanted to focus her studies on international relations the moment she watched two planes crash into the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. She was sitting in her Upper School Biology class at Albany Academy for Girls as she and the rest of her classmates watched the terrorist attacks occur on the television screen. She recalls: “It really hit home. I realized I needed to understand more about how the United States interacts with the world, which really drove my interest to study International Relations in college.”

Though the September 11 attacks played a substantial role in her decision to pursue international relations, her curiosity has always been there due to personal circumstances. “My parents immigrated to the United States in the late 1970s. My father came from a background in politics in his home country of South Asia. I always really wanted to know more,” she said.

Sharlina graduated from Albany Academy for Girls in 2003 and she went on to study Political Science with a focus on International Relations at MIT in Boston and later received her Master’s Degree in Conflict Resolution from Georgetown University in 2009. For over eight years, Sharlina has been working as a Diplomat for the U.S. Government, having worked in London, Egypt, Pakistan, and Ghana. She is an accomplished multilingual American diplomat in communications and human rights-based democracy promotion and continuously seeks out paths to create networks for women and people of color in public and foreign policy. When reflecting on what she enjoys most about her career, Sharlina says she takes pride in representing her country overseas, while defending and strengthening relationships with other countries. It’s an opportunity for her to be constantly learning and to never be bored in her career.

The Albany Academies’ community pushed Sharlina to be her best academically—she was two grades ahead mathematically, allowing her to take classes with the boys at The Albany Academy originally, and then she graduated to taking math classes at Siena College while she was still a high school student. Her teachers at Albany Academy for Girls truly believed in her and they inspired her to apply to colleges that she thought she would never have been able to be admitted to. Sharlina believes the U.S. has one of the best education systems in the world. She adds, “The United States needs to continue to hold a strong educational system. We have to work hard in making sure all of America has an opportunity to get a quality education. As we go into the rest of the 21st Century I think something we will need to figure out is how to make sure all Americans have access to not just great quality primary school, but great Pre-K too, and all the other things that children need to be successful.”

“After September 11 I realized I needed to understand more about how the United States interacts with the world...”

SHARLINA HUSSAIN-MORGAN '03



“There’s a much higher need in this day and age for STEAM education, especially analytics.”

NEERAV PATEL '96, P'31



All Things Analytics

Neerav Patel '96, P'31 is shaping the future of IBM one day at a time. He is currently managing IBM's Watson Health Ecosystem, focusing on developing industry platforms and allowing the collaboration of major players across the health market. “Having the opportunity to unfold the world's problems and solving obstacles that affect millions of people is exciting, but also challenging,” he said. Previously at IBM, he worked as the Cognitive & Analytics Global Weather Solutions Leader, building and delivering analytic solutions on a global scale to Fortune 500 corporations. “I started in IBM on the consulting arm around The Weather Channel and using weather data for business insight. With my transition over to IBM's Watson Health, we're revamping healthcare on a global scale using analytics and artificial intelligence (AI). Everything I do is around analytics and AI.”

Neerav has worked across multiple industries from media to healthcare to technology. He received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Finance from Siena College before completing an M.B.A. Degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and an M.S. Degree from Northwestern University in Predictive Analytics.

Neerav credits the Academies' for his successful progression of his education and careers. “The education at The Albany Academy has allowed me to pivot and transition very easily no matter where I go, no matter what career or industry I move into.” Neerav expressed the importance of Academies' students receiving a strong science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM) education. “There's a much higher need in this day and age for STEAM education, especially analytics. It allows students to have that competitive edge and adaptability especially in college and for their careers. Having an arts education to enable that creative component allows students to develop soft skills to interact and communicate with business professionals on a global scale,” he added.

Neerav was awarded “40 under 40” by the *Albany Business Review* and has contributed as the President of The Albany Academy Alumni Association, Board of Trustees at Siena College, Board of Directors of Radiologists Without Borders, and Board of Directors of Albany Chefs' Food and Wine Festival. He also serves as a member of The Albany Academies' Board of Trustees.

2019-2020 Admissions Events

Lunch On Us

12:00—1:00 pm

Board of Trustees
Room, AA

October 8, 2019

December 12, 2019

January 16, 2020

February 6, 2020

March 12, 2020

April 2, 2020

July 9, 2020

Open House

1:00—3:00 pm

AA & AAG Campus

Sunday, November 3, 2019

Scholarship/Entrance Exam

9:00—11:45 am

Board of Trustees
Room, AA

December 7, 2019

January 11, 2020

Visiting Week

8:00 am—2:15 pm

AA & AAG Campus

February 18-21, 2020

April 14-17, 2020

PS/PK Information Sessions

9:30—11:30 am

Board of Trustees
Room, AA

May 7, 2020

June 18, 2020

Top 9 Instagram Posts

SUMMER 2019



1 AA Commencement 2019: Congratulations AA Class of 2019!
2 AAG Commencement 2019: Congratulations AAG Class of 2019!
3 Congratulations @aa_boys_basketball on winning the 2019 NYS Championship title!

4 Happy Teacher Appreciation Week to our amazing educators at The Albany Academies! Thank you for all that you do!
5 Thank you to all of our wonderful coaches at The Albany Academies! We appreciate your dedication and hard work!
6 That's a wrap! Next step, Commencement!

7 AAG Senior Signing Day! Congratulations to Bella A., Genny A., Chloe D., Fabiola G., Mia M., Cydney O. and Cate T. for committing to their respective collegiate athletic teams.
8 Welcome back! A handful of Academies students spent their spring break abroad!
9 Meet Head of School (for the day!), Evelyn F. '26

Follow us on Social Media!

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Spring Gathering

April 13, 2019 90 STATE STREET

Spring Gathering, our annual fundraiser for scholarships and financial assistance, brought together over 250 attendees for an evening of fun, friendships, and festivities and raised \$202,000. A very special thank you to the many parents, faculty, staff, alumni, alumnae, and friends who attended and to those who volunteered their time and talents to help make the event so successful. Special thanks to all of our sponsors, as well as our many other corporate sponsors and honorary committee members!



FIRST ROW:
Left to right Faculty members Laura Frei, Meaghan See, Dr. Susannah Brower, Jennifer Stella, and Eileen Kim supporting the Academies at Spring Gathering; Mini AA Reunion with Dr. Anthony Tracey '00, Associate Head of School, Dr. Scott Milliken, and William Conway '99

SECOND ROW:
Left to right Joe Sykes, Brittany Burnham, Michael and Jahnel Kaczor, Lucas and Rachel Dott P'23, Brian A. Fruscio P'16, '22, '22, Stacey LaCross, Joe and Christina Molnar

THIRD ROW:
 Family photo!
Left to right Jennifer Riitano Levy '93, P'28, Joshua E. Riitano '08, Joseph Riitano '06 and Kate Riitano McLaughlin '95



April 25, 2020 | Franklin Plaza



Birthday Bags and Community Service

Many people were able to celebrate, thanks to the AAG First and Second Graders, along with Mrs. Bischoff's and Mr. Service's advising groups. With the support of the Academies Community, the students decorated and assembled 50 birthday bags last school year that were delivered to a local food pantry. Their community service project was a huge success thanks to all the donations from the Academies families!



Introduced to Artificial Intelligence

Yixuan "Michelle" Lou '20 joined our school community last year from Hangzhou, China. Michelle has a passion for computers and science. Last summer and over the past winter break, Michelle had the opportunity to participate in research at SenseTime, the world's leading artificial intelligence (AI) company, focused on computer vision and

deep learning. Entrusted by the Ministry of Science and Technology of China to establish the National Open Innovation Platform for Next-Generation Artificial Intelligence on Intelligent Vision, SenseTime is the 5th national AI platform in China. While there, Michelle was able to test data and work on coding.

As a result of her contributions working on the research "Fully Automatic Segmentation of Short-axis Cardiac MRI Using Modified Deep Layer Aggregation," Michelle was invited to attend the ISBI '19 - IEEE International Symposium on Biomedical Imaging in April 2019, which was held in Venice, Italy. It is a scientific conference dedicated to mathematical, algorithmic, and computational aspects of biological and biomedical imaging. Michelle was excited to have the experience of attending the conference and listening to experts in the field of artificial intelligence.

Head of School for the Day!

Evelyn Fanion '26 had a special opportunity to be Head of School for the day on May 20, 2019. This experience was a silent auction item purchased at Spring Gathering and it certainly was a day to remember!

Evelyn began her morning attending a Marketing and Enrollment Committee meeting with Mr. Lauricella, trustees, parents, and administrators, followed by an important construction meeting and tour of the new athletic practice facility. She then joined Board of Trustees President Nancy Carey Cassidy P'13, '15 for lunch at the Fort Orange Club and visited NewsChannel 13 for a tour of the station and chance to sit at the anchor desk. One of Evelyn's highlights was meeting meteorologists Neal Estano and Bob Kavochick and learning about the weather center. The day concluded with setting up a reception at the Leonard House for our international students hosted by the Lauricella family.

Evelyn impressed everyone she met with her poise, politeness, and confidence. She certainly is a true Academy girl!



Extending a Helping Hand Across Seas

Academies' siblings, Ali Naqvi '20 and Zaahra Naqvi '25 dedicated their spring break volunteering in the Middle East, visiting both Iraq and Pakistan.

While in Iraq, Ali worked closely with a dental clinic in an orphanage, assisting in administering first world dental care. He was responsible for staying with the orphans after they underwent anesthesia from their dental procedures. Ali says this was often a difficult task due to the lucidness and aggression that a few of the orphans displayed coming out of surgery. Zaahra brought a nearby orphanage clothing donations and goodie bags filled with American candy. She was very excited to see how something so little made the orphans so happy.

Ali and Zaahra both visited Iraq when they were much younger and remembered the amazing hospitality of the Iraqi people. "They made a mark on us and because of how much they helped us, we want to help them back," said Ali.

Ali plans to revisit Iraq for his upcoming spring break in March 2020. He is hoping to spend 100% of his break volunteering in the dental clinic again. "This time I'll be helping even more because it'll be more hands on

now that I'm familiar with the work." Ali will be applying to Siena College's eight-year medical program with a focus on humanitarian work and community service.



A Bright Future Ahead

It is always encouraging to see students take advantage of all the opportunities that an Academies' education provides. Cate Tomson '19 is the perfect example of one who did just that! A diligent academic, Cate maintained a 4.2 GPA. This alone would be laudable; however, she accomplished this while also representing the school in cross country, indoor and outdoor track, and serving as a dance captain.

Cate also completed her Senior Honors Project entitled, "Female Empowerment with, within, and through modern dance." Through this work, she aimed to show the historical connection between dance and female empowerment. An artful public speaker, Cate made the school finals in both the declamation and Shakespeare competition.

Over spring break, Cate competed and was triumphant in the region finals of the ESU Shakespeare competition. She represented the school, and the region, at the national finals on April 29 at Lincoln Center in New York. We wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.



Hockey Player Helps the Homeless

Connor Meigher '22, a devoted hockey player, was inspired when he met New York Rangers Goalie Henrik Lundqvist, whose foundation benefits children and families. Determined to emulate Lundqvist's call to service, Connor has been raising money for The Homeless and Travelers Aid Society of the Capital District (HATAS) since he was 11, and was celebrated for raising \$4,000 from coin drops and other small fundraisers. These funds will be used to provide diapers and other essentials for low-income and homeless families who would otherwise not be able to afford them.



A Stunning Performance!

Congratulations to Eli Thoma '21 for being nominated for Best Supporting Actor in Proctor's High School Musical Theater Awards this past May! Eli has been involved in the Academies' theater program, having been enrolled in theater class for two years, musical director of the theatre classes'

production of the musical "How I Became a Pirate," and performing in four mainstage productions. He has also been active with other theatrical productions in the community. Eli earned this nomination with his outstanding performance as Cinderella's prince in The Albany Academies' Spring Production: "Into The Woods." Eli was one of only five young men to receive this nomination out of a pool of countless actors from 30 schools throughout the area.



An Impressive Honors Project

Alex Boggess '19 was inspired by the relationships he developed when photographing refugee families to raise the funds necessary to support the education of a refugee student for four years of Upper School at the Academies. He came to realize that such support would be transformational for a student from a refugee family and could change a life through the power of a rigorous education. Along the way, Alex was joined by a local writer Jon Katz in this effort. Mr. Katz runs the popular blog Bedlam Farms, which has featured Alex's work. Alex is attending the Fashion Institute of Technology.

the A-Teams

2018-19

AA HIGHLIGHTS

Varsity Wrestling

Varsity Wrestling finished the season with an overall 4-4 dual meet record. Drew Bogdan '19 took third place in the section and state qualifier tournament. In the state match, he lost during the blood round, which is the match prior to placing. Drew has had a great career recording over 100 wins.

Varsity Hockey

The Varsity Hockey team started out strong during the early part of the season, but they ended the season with a 12-8 overall record. They lost in the quarterfinals of section play. Ryan Warnick '19 was placed on the first team as a defender. Blake VanEpps '19, Connor Momrow '19, and Danny Moshier '19 were all placed onto the Honorable Mention Team.

Varsity Swimming & Diving

The Varsity Swimming & Diving team finished its season undefeated in dual meets (10-0), going on to capture the Section II Division II Sectional Championship! It was Coach Young's 10th sectional title in his tenure. Bryce Henkel '21 broke his own school record in the 200 freestyle with a time of 1:41.83.

Varsity Indoor Track

The Indoor Track team captured the Colonial Council League Championship and went on to capture the Section II Division III Indoor Track Championship. Donald Jones '19 (pole vaulter) and Ahmed Praileau '20 (long jumper) qualified for state and national meets. In the state meet, Donald became a state champion with a vault of 15 feet and 3 inches.

Varsity Basketball

The Varsity Basketball team finished with an overall score of 15-3. They are currently ranked #1 in NYS Sportswriters poll. Two players made the prestigious News Channel 13 All-Star Team: Andre Jackson '20 and August Mahoney '19.

Varsity Baseball

The Varsity Baseball Team finished the season with an overall 11-7 record. They received the seventh seed for the sectional tournament in the Class A bracket and won an exciting first round game in the extra innings against Troy High School.

Varsity Rugby

The Varsity Rugby team enjoyed a successful season. They finished 4-1 overall and they only lost to the NEPSAC powerhouse—The Harvey School.

Varsity Track & Field

The Varsity Track and Field Team went undefeated in dual meet competitions: 9-0. The team claimed the championship trophy for the Albright Track Meet, took first place in the Colonial Council Championship meet, and was runner up at the Section II Division II meet.

Varsity Tennis

The Tennis team went undefeated in its Colonial Council matches and received a third seed in the class AA team sectional tournament. The O'Brien brothers, Aidan O'Brien '19 and William O'Brien '21, captured the NYS Section II Doubles Championship.

AAG HIGHLIGHTS

Varsity Basketball

The Varsity Basketball team posted 818 points this season, which is an enormous improvement from three years ago when the team scored under 200 points for the season. Aaliyah Juste '20 rated fourth in Colonial Council in scoring and Cydney Owens '19 was recognized at the Section II Girls Basketball Scholar-Athlete Brunch.

Varsity Indoor Track & Field

Many personal bests were reached at the Colonial Council Championship Meet, including Julia Zacher '21 who won the high jump event achieving her personal best of five feet.

Varsity Skiing

There were four races before sectionals and two students competed in the championship race.

Varsity Lacrosse

The Varsity Lacrosse team finished with a 9-1 league record. They were Colonial Council League Co-Champions with The Academy of the Holy Names.

Varsity Track & Field

The Varsity Track & Field team placed second in the Colonial Council Championships. They won their home senior night meet against Ichabod Crane and Cobleskill. Cate Tomson '19, Morgan Sears '19, and Julia Zacher '21 made it to the state qualifier meet.

Varsity Softball

With an overall record of 3-13-0, Varsity Softball accomplished three wins this season against Ravena High School, The Academy of the Holy Names, and Cohoes High School.

For teams and schedules go to: albanyacademies.org



Boys Varsity Swimming & Diving



Boys Varsity Baseball



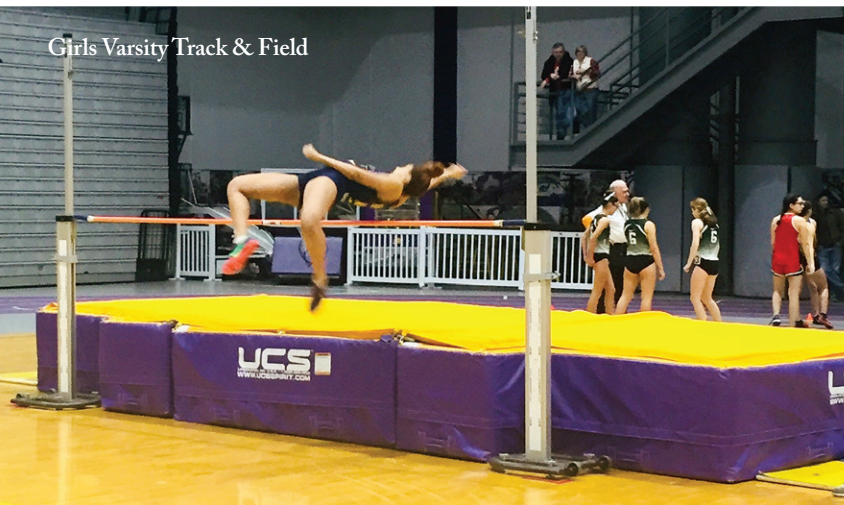
Girls Varsity Softball



Boys Varsity Lacrosse



Girls Varsity Skiing



Girls Varsity Track & Field



Heading to the

It was a very busy summer at the Academies with the construction of the James E. Poole Athletic Facility. Many have been curious about the large structure going up behind the Michael B. Picotte Field House and what will be inside this new building.

It began well over a year ago with conversations about the programmatic need for additional practice space for winter sports. Over the last few years, increased enrollment has led to more athletic offerings for students coming from a larger geographic footprint,

such that the Academies now field more than 50 boys and girls athletic teams and attract students from as far away as Glens Falls and the Cobleskill area. For some teams, this increased demand on court time has pushed practice into the early evening, which becomes untenable for those student-athletes and families trying to coordinate logistics and keep up with their academic workload.

As discussions about a practice facility evolved beyond solving this need, it became clear that we were also presented with an

incredible opportunity to create a venue for indoor track. Such a facility will be unique among high schools in the Capital Region, further differentiating the Academies and potentially driving increased enrollment activity for student-athletes who are interested in competing in track and field at an elite level. This opportunity dovetails nicely with the Academies' long-standing commitment to track and field as embodied by legendary coach and student-athlete James Poole '68, who continues to be involved in



finish line

The James E. Poole Athletic Facility is nearing completion thanks to the help of many generous donors like Rich Flaherty P'15, '21, Trustee and his wife Mary.

helping determine the specifications of this facility and secure the funding necessary to see it completed.

An indoor multi-use facility of this size will also provide space for boys and girls fall and spring sports to practice during times when fields and outdoor courts are inaccessible due to inclement weather conditions. With seemingly wetter summers and colder winters, schools across the Northeast are increasingly investigating all-weather solutions that allow student-

athletes to practice despite fields that are unplayable.

Thank you to the many donors who participated in this initiative. A ribbon cutting and celebration will be held in October, so please stay tuned. If you have any questions about the project, please contact Director of Institutional Advancement Ann Wendth at 518.429.2385 or via email at wendtha@albanyacademies.org or visit our website at albanyacademies.org.





Reunion

May 17-18, 2019

Thank you to all alumni and alumnae who attended Reunion 2019. It was great having everyone visit campus and reconnect with classmates!

ABOVE:
Cypriana McCray '94, Bettina Zeccolo-Mamone '89, Jeannine Nettles-Blanco '89, Marcus Pryor '87, Sarah McLaughlin '89, Kim Sykes '89, and guest, Stacey MacQueen gather at the Welcome Reception



RIGHT:
Left to right AA Hall of Fame honorees: Eric Moore '59, Neil Spitalny '69, Todd Oliver '89, Chris Kelly '94, David Nardolillo '94, and Marc Cavosie '99



TOP ROW:
Left to right The Class of 1984 gather at the Alumni/ae picnic; Austin A. Woodward '43, P'73, Board of Visitor, Trustee Emeritus holding The 1813 Cup

MIDDLE ROW:
Left to right Former Faculty member, Arvilla Cline makes a special visit to the AAG 50th Class Luncheon in the Drawing Room; Judith Carpenter Rice '69 meets fifth grade pen pal.

RIGHT:
Left to right Classmates Todd Oliver '89, Jeff Berman '89, Nick Brignola '89 and Dan Wagner '89 are pictured in front of their Alma Mater.



More photos at: albanyacademies.org

REUNION 2019 AWARDS



OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNA:
Dr. Meenakashi Gupta '99



OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNUS:
Jordan DiNola '04



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS:
Tom Tuttle '84



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNAE:
Edith Wagoner Klimoski '89



Courtney Wilson Albert '90

FREDERICKA VOORHAAR
SLINGERLAND '32 VOLUNTEER
SERVICE AWARD:
Kimmy Decker '55

AAG HIGHEST DOLLAR AMOUNT
RAISED:
Class of 1969

HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF ALUMNAE
PARTICIPATION:
Class of 1969

THE PACE SETTER CUP:
Class of 2004

THE MILLENNIAL CUP:
Class of 2006

THE OLD GUARD CUP:
Class of 1958

THE 1813 CUP:
Class of 1943

THE HEAD OF SCHOOL CUP:
Class of 1984

THE TRUSTEES CUP:
Class of 1949

THE BICENTENNIAL CUP:
Class of 1943

THE JOHN C. O'KEEFE MD '35
MEMORIAL CUP:
Class of 1958



Top row Charles Liddle III '48, P'74, '78, '85, Board of Visitor; Trustee Emeritus; Charles August '48; and David O'Keeffe '48, P'79, '82, '87, Trustee Emeritus. Bottom row Richard J. Gray '44; William Swire '44; and John P. Hawn '44, P'69, '71, '73, Board of Visitor, Trustee Emeritus enjoying their time at The Old Guard Luncheon



Jim Miller '69 pictured with his fifth grade pen pal



AAG Hall of Fame honorees Ruth Brandow '79, Renee Bytner Gregory '84, and Cypriana McCray '94

Reunion Class Photos



what an honor



Lauren DeGeorgia | MIDDLE AND UPPER SCHOOL WORLD LANGUAGE TEACHER

LAUREN DEGEORGIA TAKES THE LEAD AS THE PROJECT ADVISOR FOR ALBANY ACADEMY FOR GIRLS EIGHTH GRADE HONORS PROJECT, guiding her students through the vigorous, yet stimulating process. This student-designed project is an optional, independent, year-long endeavor during which the girls can delve into any topic of their choosing.

Lauren is a graduate of the University at Albany, majoring in Math and Classical Literature. She continued her graduate study at UAlbany with a focus in linguistics, as she branched out into learning all different languages. She currently teaches Spanish and Latin in the Middle and Upper School at the Academies.

Lauren credits Dr. Douglas North '58, former Head of School, for initiating the honors project in 2014. "His idea was to complete a capstone project for each year. There was already the honors project in the Upper School, so he wanted to bring it to eighth and fourth grade, though it hasn't been implemented in the Lower School, I wouldn't be surprised if that begins soon," Lauren said.

When the eighth grade honors project was first introduced, 11 students participated. Five years later, about 18 students out of the 28 eighth graders have completed their projects, with the program continuing to grow.

Lauren creates timelines for her students to keep them on track since it's an independent project, with a lot of freedom and self-discipline. The girls begin their project with a proposal to get them started thinking about project ideas. "I've never shot down a topic; I normally only redirect it or narrow down topics because the students have so many ideas and interests. Sometimes they don't know where to start," she added. Lauren shares that any topic can be done. She has seen students focus their projects on personal matters, and students who are interested in projects that will impact their future. The idea is coming up with their own topic that they care about.

Just this past year, one of her honors' project students, Marleigh Stannard '23, focused her project on completing "365 days of kindness." Marleigh started in January 2018 in her seventh grade year so she could finish it in eighth grade before

her presentation in the spring. She was so excited to do this project for an entire year, doing simple things from holding doors and saying please and thank you to bringing baked goods to police officers.

The honors projects presentations have evolved in recent years. They are presented in front of the entire middle school, allowing students the creative freedom to decide how they would like to present their project.

In past years, students have presented performances, dramatic poems, movies and narratives to put a different spin on their project so it's not just a slide show. "The confidence in public speaking is a really big one. Thirteen is a tough age. Students tend to struggle with anxiety over appearance and academic pressures, so getting up in front of an audience to speak is a great opportunity for this age group," said Lauren.

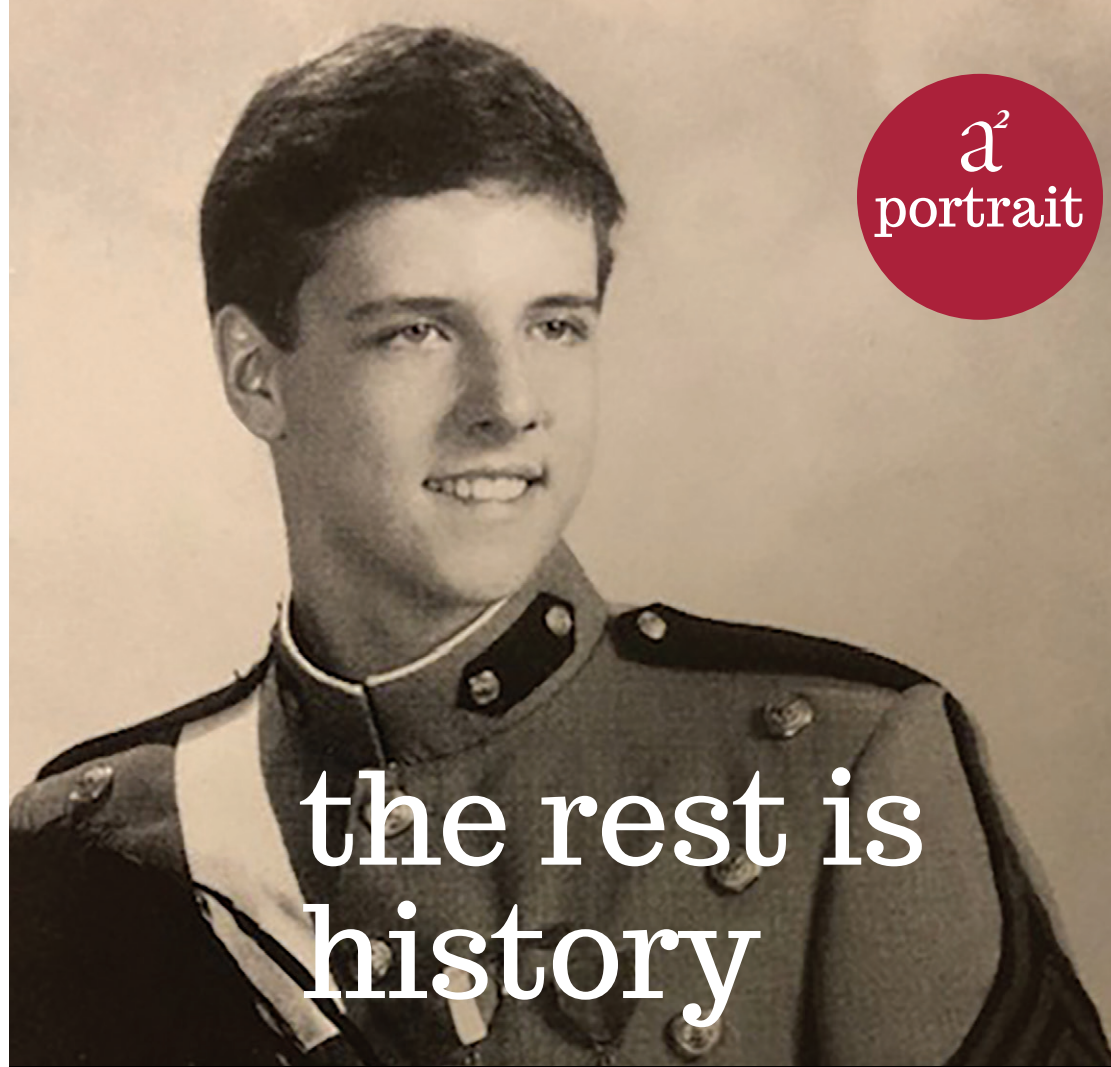
Lauren encourages every student, despite her academic strength, to participate in the honors project. "It allows them to gain confidence in project management and public speaking, which is necessary for their future education."

PETER HANSEN '91 CAME TO THE ALBANY ACADEMY IN THE FOURTH GRADE AND GRADUATED CUM LAUDE IN 1991 AS AN ALL-STAR ATHLETE IN FOOTBALL, BASKETBALL, AND TRACK. He attended Cornell University where he continued to excel in academics and athletics as a member of the football and track team. He majored in Agriculture Economics and began his business career in Washington, D.C. for four years with Procter & Gamble, before attending graduate school at UNC Chapel Hill.

In the early 2000s, he was hired at Accenture into its strategy consulting division, working with corporate leaders to solve complex marketing and sales problems. Peter focused on analytics and artificial intelligence within a very intense work and client environment, and after 15 years he retired as a Managing Director leading a global consulting practice.

Peter admitted it was always his dream to teach history and coach at The Albany Academy. His father was a historian and his mother majored in history, so the love of history has been in his family his whole life. In February 2018, Peter saw faculty applications being accepted for Upper School U.S. History. "I was in a hotel room in Kansas City and I just about fell off my chair. He first reached out to his mentor Jim Poole '68, who witnessed Peter's passion for the position and forwarded his information to others at The Albany Academy. Six weeks later, he was contacted by Hilary King for a phone interview. He admits, "I have sat down with many members of Fortune 500 companies, and I was as nervous for that phone call as I was for any of those meetings because I wanted it so badly." After a series of interviews, Dr. Scott Milliken called and offered Peter the position.

"When I think about my time at The Albany Academy, I'm not back because it was a perfect experience; I'm back because it was so formative. Some of the living legends here were my teachers and coaches including Mr. Jim Poole '68, P'02, '14; Mr. David Rider '73, P'04; Mr. David Pascone '02; Mr. Tucker Gilman; and Mr. Vincent Zabinski P'99, '03, '04,



Peter Hansen '91 | UPPER SCHOOL HISTORY TEACHER

'04," said Peter. He mentions that more things have changed than stayed the same since his time at the Academy. "The Albany Academy is still a very tight knit community, where you develop a very close relationship between students and teachers



and you really get to know each other and you get to understand how each student ticks," Peter said. With that at its core,

Peter remarked everything else is better. "The systems that support the school are so much more robust. It's really impressive." In terms of the future of The Albany Academies, Peter believes it's an incredibly exciting time for the school.

Peter added that he wants his students, as well as his own children, to

have "choice" as we head towards a world of greater automation and artificial intelligence (AI). "Learning through memorization of a particular subject area is not going to guarantee you success. The people who are going to have choices in the future are those who can really think creatively, are remarkably adaptable, flexible and articulate, and problem solve," he said. These are the characteristics Peter instills in his students so they remain competitive in their future job search. "This AI mechanism is going to keep climbing the ladder to the point where the jobs that are done by AI are no longer lower skills, but skilled jobs that AI is going to do it better, faster and cheaper. It's the job that AI struggles with such as creativity, adaptability and problem solving that are going to be the essential job, though there won't be many remaining."



class notes

1950S

Linda (Silance) Dixon '57 passed in Boston on February 26, 2019. She was one of the leaders of her class and will be greatly missed.



Kenneth Mott '57 recently brought members of his family to visit The Albany Academy. John McClintock '57 very graciously greeted them and gave a tour to his family this past May. As many know, John has been an enormous help to his alma mater, keeping scrupulous records of the classes and writing up some fascinating history. Kenneth was delighted to visit with him and his old surroundings once again. Pictured: Kenneth with AA Golf Coach and College Counselor Jak Bestle. Since graduation, **Pat Morrison Friedman '59, P'82, '84** married and moved to Augusta, Georgia with her husband who practiced dentistry while in the service. They returned to Albany where her husband went into practice with her father. She was president of the Mother's Association while her daughters were at Albany Academy for Girls. She worked in her husband's office for many years and retired when he retired 18 years ago. After retirement, they bought a home in Florida while maintaining their home in Albany. They sold their Florida home last January, and are now in Albany full time. She works one day a week in the St. Peter's Hospital thrift shop and has two grand-nieces now attending AAG and another grand-niece who graduated from AAG but has since passed away, with a bench outside in the front of the building in her memory. Pat and her husband have traveled in Europe and hope to do more in the future. They recently traveled to Israel with **Carole Rosenblum '59, Pamela Morgan Marvin '59** is living at Livingston Hills Nursing and Rehabilitation in near Hudson, NY. She doesn't use email anymore, but loves to get phone calls. Her phone number is 518.721.4081/ Facility 518.851.3041. Pam shares a few humorous stories about her time with her classmates at Albany Academy for Girls: "Remember the time when we were in Mrs. Chrysler's first grade and she had to leave the room? We discovered that if you pressed crayons against a hot radiator they melted and ran down the radiator in pretty

stripes! We did that for a while until she returned and was horrified to find the sticky, oily mess. Miss Harris came up to set us straight and tell us how disappointed she was in us. Then they turned the radiators off, gave us cloths and Bon Ami and told us to clean it up. Of course, we didn't make much progress with water and Bon Ami, but that was our punishment! When we were in high school, we had a somewhat less strict gym teacher, (probably before Mrs. Tietz). Our class went into the gym and grabbed the chairs by the bottom, and turned them all upside down. The teacher didn't quite know what to do with us. Miss Harris came again to tell us how disappointed she was with us. Mrs. Tietz was in better shape than we were and made us run up and down the field to get in shape. Do you remember Karen Clemmer hanging from the balcony of the gym and falling to the floor? Mrs. Colyer left in the winter of our 6th grade year, and Mme. Creegan was our 6th grade teacher until the end of the year. One day at lunchtime, we decided to leave lunch and ran all through the building, hiding. Mme. Creegan was mortified that she had no idea where her class was... And, you guessed it - Miss Harris was disappointed again." **Deborah Acton Tollefson '59** writes to her fellow classmates of the Class of 1959: "It is with sadness that I report that I will not be able to join you at our 60th Class Reunion. Years of back pain have plagued me and I am currently in ongoing physical therapy which, unfortunately, has not budged the pain. I underwent surgery (discectomy and laminectomy) in 2011 which helped somewhat and I may be facing another surgery, though I am hoping to avoid it. At this time I am also nursing my very sick cat. Upon graduation in 1959, I was treated to a summer trip to France, Germany and Switzerland with a group of students from the Academies and from the Minneapolis area. This was followed by two years as a physical education major at Skidmore College. In June, 1961 I married an Arizona rancher whom I had met during a spring break trip to his family's guest ranch. My grandparents had been coming to the Rail X Ranch, Patagonia, AZ from Massachusetts for many years and this was my second ranch visit. During our junior year spring break, I spent a week at the same ranch and in our class photo for that year I notice a very tan face from days spent in the sun horseback riding. Our three children, Laura Kolbe (Nelson), Susan Kolbe, and Daniel Kolbe were born in a small rural clinic while we lived at the ranch. In 1966 the ranch was sold and we moved to Phoenix where I continued to enjoy and be,

mostly, a stay-at-home mom, coaching little league softball and teaching swim classes. Divorce followed in 1971, the children went to live with their dad and stepmom in Illinois and I went back to college, finishing in 1974 with a B.S. in business from Arizona State University. I worked as an accountant at a CPA firm, then with The Greyhound Corporation, and later several smaller firms. Married again in 1979 for five years, single for a few more, then a final marriage in 1992 to Bill Tollefson, DVM, Sierra Vista, AZ. Leaving my accounting career and Phoenix behind, I joined Bill in his veterinary practice as receptionist and occasional surgical/backroom assistant until he retired in 1998. Bill passed in 2007 and I have been living on ranch land purchased by Bill from his cattle-rancher aunt and uncle in a home that Bill built before we were married and that I have added onto. I love the rural lifestyle, gorgeous views, and no immediate neighbors, though I am less than two highway miles from the town intersection. This home is a very few miles from the one I came to as a young bride in 1961. The drive north to Tucson over a winding mountain road is about 60 miles. Sierra Vista to the east is 35 miles and Nogales to the southwest is about the same. I previously mentioned that I had left my accounting career behind, but I have remained more or less involved doing accounting work. For eight years I was treasurer for my Episcopal Church in Nogales. For 29 years I have managed the financial affairs of a woman who lived in this area, built a beautiful home with guest houses and raised race horses. She now resides in Tucson with full-time care as she battles dementia. She was a dancer and I used to tease her that with her body and my mind we would make a healthy person! My two girls made their way back to Arizona after college in Illinois. Laura with her education degree found a career in telecommunications training and later as the interface between sales and engineering for Siemens Corp. She and her husband live in Austin, TX where Britt has retired and Laura is semi-retired working as an agent for the State Farm Insurance Co. Susan has remained in Phoenix and works with her CPA boyfriend in his office. Her son, Austin is an aspiring musician and songwriter in Los Angeles and her daughter, Audrey, works in Phoenix as a massage therapist. Son Daniel has lived for many years in Key West, FL where he has a wedding photography business, "Southern Most Weddings." His children, Lilli-Rose, 14 and Edward, 11 live with their mom and stepdad in Warner Robins, GA.

For the past 10 years I have enjoyed the companionship of a fellow who lives about five miles from me. Neither of us wants a live-in relationship but we do spend a lot of time together and enjoy short road trips. Small world: he graduated from SUNY Albany and grew up in Manhasset, L.I., New York, and we both love cats! I have three female cats while his three cats are male. **Karen Oswald '59** (RIP) has a daughter, Megan Janaitis, who I found on Facebook and connected with briefly a few years ago. She looks so much like Karen and has a beautiful family. Linda Leader Carter, who was a classmate briefly, lives in Tucson. We have been friends for years and see each other occasionally. Molly McClure and Linda grew up as pals in Schenectady. Molly attended a Massachusetts boarding school, but we were together for ninth grade at Van Antwerp Junior High. Molly lives a couple of miles from me in Sonoita where she winters from the Steamboat Springs area in Colorado. She is one of my hiking buddies and a very best friend. **Lucy Winters Sandler '59** recently returned home after more than three months in Florida and is preparing to move to an apartment from our condo as soon as possible with multiple steps ahead for us. Needless to say every day, she has another packing and sorting and throwing away project. The May 17-18th Reunion weekend was divided between her 60th reunion and her 50th wedding anniversary with husband, Phil. She needed to drive back to Boston for a family gathering/celebration and missed the reunion festivities on Saturday. She enjoyed the May 17th get-together and had fun seeing how her classmates are all weathering in their 70s. She's been in touch with Carole Solomon '59, Teri Bronner '59, Lini Friedland '59 and Doris Shulman '59 while traveling to and from her summer cottage in Becket, MA in the Berkshires. Lucy is still making and selling jewelry at crafts fairs near her in Brookline. She has four grandchildren ages 14, 10, 10, and 8. Her eldest wants to be a professional drummer and her granddaughter (Mia), age 10, wants to be an actress. They all live locally in Brookline and Arlington. Lucy retired in 2013, and doesn't miss the work, but misses all the people she encountered both professionally and as patients. She has no plans to travel far, just to NYC while she waits to have wanderlust once more.

Marcia Rubenstein Dunn '59 was unable to attend Reunion 2019 this year. Her husband has been having serious health issues over the past several months which make it difficult for her to leave Miami. She also had a grandson graduating high school that conflicted with the reunion date. She is hopeful to make the next reunion with her class. **Yvonne Sroka McCredie '59** was not able to attend Reunion 2019 and the associated festivities. For the last 27 years, she has been living on the West Coast just across the bay from San Francisco. She did keep one East Coast residence at Chautauqua, N.Y. and goes every

June to stay for three months, enjoying family visits and the fantastic Chautauqua summer program of lectures and performances. Traveling across the country in May and back does not make sense when she travels weeks later to her summer home. In retirement, she is busier than ever. She is currently supporting the Oakland Museum of California and serving on the Board of Trustees and raising funds. She recently completed the annual fundraiser and brought in \$2.2 million. Her husband, Jack, gives considerable time to the museum, the Red Cross, and their dog club. Living on the west coast is wonderful, energetic, and expensive, but they do NOT have to shovel snow! Their children are grownups and have thriving children of their own. Liz lives in Los Angeles as a pediatric cardiac intensive care nurse and Emily is a veterinarian in Ithaca, N.Y.

Judith Wheatley Fillion '59 enjoyed spending Reunion 2019 with cousins **Eric Moore '59** and **Kenneth Moore '59**. She didn't retire until three years ago and continues to adjust to retirement. After her husband passed away in 2007, she stayed in their big house and finally downsized a few years ago. In retirement, she has been researching her family history. She, along with cousins Jim, Eric, and Ken Moore, have enjoyed digging into family roots on their grandmother's side on a trip to Edinburgh, Scotland. She traveled to Norway with her oldest grandson to do the same for her Canadian grandmother who was born in Oslo. **Joanna Wagoner '59** has an English Springer Spaniel that engages in Agility, Obedience, Rally, Barn Hunt in AKC and CPE events. She has also gone back to her love of painting and is active in local organizations. She recently moved from Jupiter, Florida to Ocala, Florida and is reestablishing herself in her new hometown. She is very busy taking care of two houses and a 34-foot RV she uses for dog shows and travel. She also spends a great deal of time managing her investment accounts doing research, reading, and balancing portfolios. She shares that she was never interested in business but now finds it fascinating. She knits Teddy Bears for her local hospital and gives them to children who come as patients or with parents. She also knits hats for wayfarers given out at Christmas time for men who are away from home and poor. Between her avocations and her friends and family, she keeps very busy and wonders how she had time to ever work!

Deneen Maki Parker '59 drives for the Office of the Aging and Retired Senior Volunteer Program, taking people to medical appointments and shopping. She also subs at her local Pre-K through grade 12 school in the library and does respite for Alzheimer's people at home. At church, she runs the computer, is in charge of the library, sings in the Community Choir for Christmas and Easter, does announcements, is the chairperson of the missions committee, and

is the publicity person to the newspapers (not all at the same time). When she's sitting down, she crochets hats and scarves for missionaries and the needy. She has four children with three spouses and nine grandchildren scattered all over the country but spends as much time with them as she can. She also has a Siberian Husky and a Shamrock Macaw. She attends a weekly Bible study, goes to exercise class once or twice a week, and is a distributor for Young Living essential oils. She also proofreads books prior to publication and has done six so far.

Theresa "Terri" Bronner '59 provided an account of their first 50 years post-graduation for their 50th reunion yearbook. She is now picking up where that account left off by describing, in brief, her life focus since then. Her insatiable curiosity has led her to pursue a wide variety of new learnings the past 10 years. She has explored what it means to be a wise elder, or sage, in her later years, which mainly involves spirituality. Along with that, she has engaged a Jewish spiritual director to learn about Jewish mysticism. She has also done advocacy for justice. She is currently learning about the Mediterranean diet for cardiovascular health and taking part in ecumenical activities involving persons of various religions and making collage art out of recycled material as a nod to the health of the planet (which is called up-cycling). She is learning through an informal study of advances in brain science, which provides some very good news for older brains. Terri looks back on her days at AAG as a real joy. She loved the Academics, especially the interdisciplinary approach, combining history, literature, art and culture of a given time period or place. This curriculum has stayed with her for a lifetime, providing training in how to connect the dots into a bigger picture and see relationships among diverse events and realities. She also loved the kindness and support of faculty and staff. **Nancy Barhydt-Rutledge '59** is a graduate of Russell Sage College (BSN and RN), Albany Medical College (MSc.) and holds a Doctorate of Public Health from Columbia University (Dr.P.H.). She earned her Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Certificate from Albany Medical College. She has presented numerous articles and monographs on nursing, home health care, telemedicine, and stroke. She contributed to the chapters on health care in the book "Health Care Delivery in the United States" by Steven Jonas M.D. She established the Home Care Department at Northern Westchester Hospital and developed New York State's first primary care nurse practitioner program at Albany Medical College for the Whitney M. Young Health Center. She is currently an Adjunct Professor at Albany Medical College and an Associate Clinical Professor at the School of Public Health SUNY at Albany. She has been a member of various

national technical expert panels in her areas of expertise. She has received numerous awards in honor of her leadership and contributions, most notably as the first recipient of the Allan Rosenfield M.D. Alumni Award for Excellence from the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University. Prior to her retirement she was the Director of Clinical Affairs, New York State Department of Health, Office of Health Systems Management. She was responsible for statewide development of policies associated with regulations and surveillance of New York health care agencies, providing innovative approaches to the delivery of a coordinated system of continuing care. She developed the statewide stroke response methodology incorporating the "Hub and Spoke" response system for hospitals that is the current standard throughout New York and other states. Nancy has three children, two of whom attended AAG. She serves the Albany community on various non-profit volunteer boards. She enjoys traveling with her husband Harry a "mostly" retired architect. They live in downtown Albany. Nancy remarks: "I have a memory of AAG girls and their fathers moving the school with books and supplies from Washington Avenue AAG to the new school on Academy Road. We worked from morning until night and accomplished most of the work that we had to do. It was a wonderful experience and then on Monday we reported to AAG at Academy Road." **Ann Suderley Cross Rooney '59** has raised three daughters, now 55, 55 and 47, who are now married with their own children with six wonderful grandchildren ages 26-13. She married Jack Rooney in 1992 and is still living in Cazenovia and retired. For over 35 years, she had a private psychiatric practice working with couples and families after graduating from Syracuse University in 1976. Since retirement, she has been a volunteer at her local library, organizing a small art gallery at the facility. She has also had a lot of fun painting, using watercolor, acrylic and pastels. Meeting people and hearing their stories is still her greatest pleasure. Duplicate bridge is always on her calendar. Good health and many close friends and family keep her busy and happy. **Ann-Louise Schlesinger Silver '59** and her husband own a farm in Sherborn, N.Y. She feels lucky to still be working from home doing psychotherapy and analysis. Ann Louise recalls one day at AAG when she was sitting in the back of Mrs. Creegan's 6th grade and saw a thumbtack on the chalk ledge. She put it in Mrs. Creegan's hair bun while she was facing the other way! Someone else got blamed for it, but she confessed. She also remembers double dating at a square dance at school in the gym. She was doing a swing and lost the arm of her partner, fell down, and went sliding across the floor with her crinolines and petticoats up around her head. **Susan Colton Gibbons**

'59 has spent most of her working life in education as a teacher, department head, Vice Principal and Director of Admission. She worked in schools in Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, at both public and private institutions. She enjoys singing in choirs and has been provided many opportunities for travel abroad. She was married for 20 years with two children who are out on their own and doing well. She's divorced and happily single now, although the "single parent" years were a challenge. Her most interesting job was her last one, in which she helped create a program in Philadelphia that linked suburban volunteers with the Philadelphia Public Schools. The volunteers she trained went to work with the same teacher once a week for a whole year and the program was enormously successful. When she left, there were 200 volunteers going in once a week to the same class to help teachers with individual children or small groups. Today, The West Philadelphia Alliance for Children still exists, and has reopened 19 elementary school libraries which were closed due to lack of money for librarians. Susan now lives with her daughter and her three children, and helps out with whatever is needed. She enjoys keeping house, transporting, tutoring, laundering, cooking, needlework, reading and going to church in her free time. Because she was musically inclined, many of her memories of AAG revolve around playing hymns for chapel on Friday when Mr. Hollister didn't come in. She fondly remembers recorders in Middle School, singing in Assembly, Wassail time, school Sunday, graduation with white dresses, the 8th grade play and taking piano lessons from Mrs. Dillon at school. Her favorite teachers included: Miss Decker, Mrs. Childers, Mrs. Dodge, Mme. Sroka, Mrs. Rich and Mrs. Grumbach, all legends in their own time. She is grateful for their guidance and teaching her how to learn so she would be fearless about trying anything! **Carole Solomon Rosenblum '59** has been keeping very busy as a realtor, meeting and helping a diverse population. She enjoys spending time with friends and family, attending exercise classes weekly and trying to keep up to date to fill her days and nights to the max! As an AAG lifer, her best memories are of her teachers, classmates, the school personnel, the two locations and the traditions. Between Pre-Primary, Primary, Middle School and High School, she has too many memories to share. She wishes everyone good health and happiness and remembers all the classmates who have passed throughout the years.

1960s

Willow Partington '60 is sad to announce her partner William Isaac passed on May 5, 2019. One theme of the 1962 classmates is that they enjoy being with grandchildren as much as

possible and creating great memories. **Lewis Morrison '62** of Clifton Park took his two young grandkids to Yellowstone Park where they enjoyed "roughing" it in a heated teepee and seeing geysers, bears and bison. **Bill Parks '62** of Glens Falls went with his three grandkids to Cape Cod to the beaches where he also found the time to roller ski. **Peter Trowbridge '62** of Gilbert, Arizona and Willsboro Point, N.Y. has had two grandchildren come from Arizona every summer to visit and go to Camp Dudley. Pete built a log home on Willsboro Point and continues to improve it. **Neil Murray '62** of Albany enjoys visiting his grandchildren (5 and 7) on Long Island as often as he can. Neil is still working full-time which is unusual for our class. **Bob McCarthy '62** of Troy continues to take his two grandsons (10 and 6) to Boothbay, Maine for seaside adventures. They are moving faster but he can still keep them in sight. His wife Christine and he will travel to visit their two granddaughters (2 and 3), who live in Livingston, Montana and Louisiana. Bob hopes everyone in the Class of 1962 had a great summer. He would like others to keep him informed so he can stay updated and let everyone know. **George Chelius '63, P'07** is proud to share that his daughter, **Anna Chelius '07**, will be married this September in Santa Fe, New Mexico. **Steven Ranney '63** jokes: "Even at an average age of 74 years old, our class is on the move!" **Gerry Fassett '63** and his wife, Ann, recently visited Ireland and had a fabulous time. **George Chelius '63** and his wife, Lynn, have moved to Santa Fe, New Mexico, now permanently, and they invite everyone to visit if you are in the area. Steve went to Africa with his entire family for safaris and to see Victoria Falls - one of his best trips ever. **Hank Evans '63** is on the move again, this time not by boat, but by RV. He is going to hit the entire country until he busts and don't be surprised if he knocks on your front door! But some of us are happily set in our ways, like **Sandy Macomber '63**, who lives in Colorado with the entire family of 12 nearby. Sandy reminds all of us of our 60th coming in just a few years! **Rand Peabody '64** and wife, Sally, are enjoying extensive travels in retirement-- four or five months spent each year in places they love such as the Greek Islands, Andalucia, New Zealand, the American West, the Canary Islands, Portugal, and assuming continued good health, on tap for the next year or two are Chile, the Great Ocean Road in Ireland, and Alaska. Hobby-wise, he sponsors an annual Poetry Salon on Cape Ann in the Boston area, and can still shoot a birdie or two on the golf course. The two of them stay steadily involved with their very active and socially conscious church. They are anxiously watching political developments and pray for significant change in the wake of the 2020 elections. It has been an interesting life for **James "Jay"**

Madden '65, with several crash and burns along the way. Now, without his dear Gracia, he pushes on. He is currently departing the Bahamas and heading somewhere more hurricane friendly for the fall with his "boat life" coming to an end. "Peter Pan is getting old and tired. God bless all my '65 friends, you're all the greatest. Later!" **John Assini '65**, **Steve Marks '65**, **John Waldman '65**, **GP'23**, **Paul Engster '65**, **Bob Jones '65**, and **John Walsh '65** attended the memorial service for their friend and classmate, **Doug Ward '65**, in Saratoga. Many of them celebrated their 50th college reunions this year. **Steve Marks '65** and **John Mertz '65** were able to reconnect at Middlebury. **John Assini '65** and **David Hengerer '65** got together in Hillsborough, New Jersey where David lives and still works. **Pete Aufmesser '65** is happy to announce his son, Bert, opened a clothing store called "Scholars and Champs" in Syracuse and encourages all to stop by his store. **Louise Dubb Gutowski '65** is a naturopathic physician in Scottsdale, AZ. Louise and her husband Walter traveled to England and Scotland this year. They are planning a trip to Israel in the spring. Hopefully, she will be back before her 55th reunion in May! **Laura Elkind Rosenstock '65** traveled to California with her husband **Larry Rosenstock '61** to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. They also celebrated her 50th reunion from Wellesley College with classmate, and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, classmate Ellen Kemp '65 and, former Secretary of State Madeline Albright. **Ellen Kemp '65** is enjoying retirement and doing a lot of church work at First Presbyterian Church. **Margaret Haight Quackenbush '65** is a minister and loving her work and life in Virginia. **Marilyn Propp '65** is doing her beautiful art work and teaching. We are sad to report the passing of **Candy McMurry Channing '65**'s son. We sent flowers from our class to his family. **Cathy Rosenblatt '65** has changed her name back to the name we knew all of our years at school. She is living in Glens Falls and thoroughly enjoying her life with her significant other Bill Martin. She is still teaching dance at Albany Academy for Girls. **Laney MacIntyre Johnson '65** is enjoying world travel with her significant other, Bob. Laney has developed the most magnificent painting skills. She did a water color for Mrs. Cline and two fabulous pictures of **Cynthia Urbach '65**'s wonderful dog, Corpy. Laney is extremely talented. Maybe she will bring some of her work to their 55th reunion. **Judith Gamble Downey '65** is enjoying her nine grandchildren, her craftwork and her traveling. **Deirdre Moran Hudnut '65**'s children are achieving in all areas. Her granddaughters go to the wonderful school where she has worked for years. **Cynthia Urbach '65** is entering her

30th year at Families in Need of Assistance, Inc. She is still trying to help the unfortunate and tilting at windmills, as well. Her time at school is almost nonexistent, but her home will be open for the upcoming reunion. Everyone is welcome. The classmates will have great food for everyone all weekend. **Barbara Levi '65** retired and is enjoying travel and her cat. Martha McCabe, **Cathy Rosenblatt '65** and **Cynthia Urbach '65** met for dinner at 99 Restaurant. Martha was in Albany for business. They had great fun. Even though Martha left in sixth grade for Kenwood and a Catholic Education, her dad rented space in Cynthia's dad's building. Martha and Cynthia most recently reconnected. **Margaret Lamar King '65** wants to let her classmates know that Cindy and she will be looking to organize "something" for our 55th Reunion coming up in the spring! She hopes all can think about joining in the festivities. Margaret was also on the search committee for the new Head of School and the 200th anniversary. Her wonderful dad, Reverend LaMar, passed away this past year. She planned a beautiful funeral. It was lovely. Ellen Kemp served after the funeral at church. **Deane Semerad '66** and husband Jeff moved to Bainbridge Island, WA in 2017 to be closer to both their sons and their families and to have some new adventures while they still can. They are loving their beautiful, gentle island and having lots of fun with their boat on the Puget Sound. "So many places to explore and enjoy. So many nice, interesting people from all over the world." **Danni Douglas MacClure '69** wants to thank everyone for their hard work to make their 50th class reunion a wonderful time. She enjoyed meeting her pen pals and seeing the changes in the building. She had a blast catching up with classmates and some of her AAG teachers. The 50th Reunion of the AAG Class of 1969 began Thursday evening for eight members of the class. **Liz Colton '69**, **Marcia Anderson Dudden '69**, **Mary Farley '69**, **Maggie Hawn '69**, **Danni Douglas MacClure '69**, and **Lizzy Snyder Tierney '69** gathered for dinner at the Hilton Garden Inn Albany Medical Center's Recovery Room. **Sandra O'Connor '69** celebrated her 68th birthday (May 16) with **Ceci Robb Pierce** (all the way from France) and their childhood friend, Naomi Lewis, who graduated from Shaker, with a dinner at Milano. The next morning Jen Morris Lyons '69 and **Jackie Carpenter Rice '69** joined them at AAG to sit in on one of three classes and, in Jen's case, to meet with the librarian. **Lainie Saunders Angel '69**, **Tracey Rouault '69**, **Ellen Stein Tomlinson '69**, and **Nancy Cohen Wekselbaum '69** joined them in the Drawing Room, now 14 strong, for the 50th Reunion lunch at which Mrs. Cline and Mrs. Putney were their guests. Tracey flew from Maryland for just the mid-day events.

Afterwards, they met their 5th grade pen pals (the most highly anticipated reunion event), they were inducted into the Jane Lathrop Stanford Society with introductions by their pen pals, and they attended an Upper School dance performance. Friday evening, after a brief time at the welcome reception, they re-acquainted themselves with members of AA Class of 1969 over a surf-and-turf dinner under a tent on the AA campus hosted by Head of School Chris and his wife, Kristin Lauricella. They also celebrated winning the giving cup and the participation award. Saturday's events included a docent tour at the Albany Institute of History & Art, preceded by lunch in the museum's cafe, an impromptu auto tour of downtown Albany by **Liz Colton '69**, and a class dinner at Restaurant Navona. Fourteen of the 37 surviving members of the class attended some or all of the reunion events; 29 participated in the pen pal program, 29 contributed to the reunion book, and 28 participated in the class gift by making a donation to the Annual Fund in memory of classmate **Debbie Hinman Cullinan '69**. On a sad note, the class learned of the sudden passing of classmate **Robyn Miller Padolsky '69** 10 days after reunion. The newest members of the Old Guard had a small but loyal turnout of alumni with half of the attendees traveling from outside New York State. Distance travelers included **Rich Ladd '69** (WA), **Jim Miller '69** (OK), **Mike Staff '69** (FL), **Bart Sachs '69** (SC), **Neil Spitalny '69** (TN), **Alan Fisher '69** (ME), **Bruce Posner '69** (MA) and **Jim Anderson '69** (VT). In-staters included: **Peter Spitalny '69**, **Rolly Peacock '69**, **Jeff McGrath '69**, **Bob Coffin '69**, **Alec Courtney '69**, **Bill Desormeau '69**, **Andy Swartz '69** and **Peter Fallon '69**. Unfortunately, **Ty Headley '69** and **Steve Hannock '69** had to cancel at the last minute. Everyone had a great time reminiscing and catching up after some of us not seeing each other in 50 years. The Old Guard luncheon was enjoyed by all as was meeting their fifth grade pen pals. Dinner with the AAG Class of 1969 was much fun with a lot of clowning around. Saturday morning, several of us enjoyed seeing Neil Spitalny being inducted into the Hall of Fame in recognition of his golf prowess, which he continues to enjoy in retirement. Peter Spitalny and his wife hosted a Saturday BBQ at their home, which continued the festivities, fond memories, and stories. The consensus Saturday night was that we should not wait another five years to gather. In two years, most of our classmates will be celebrating our 70th birthdays suggesting that we gather again at that time. The attendees send their regards to those classmates that could not attend and to consider gathering again in 2021.



Sitting left to top right: Bill Desormeau, Peter Spitalny, Neil Spitalny, Bart Sachs. Standing left to right: Jim Anderson, Andy Swartz, Mike Staff, Jim Miller, Rolly Peacock, Peter Fallon, Rich Ladd, Alec Courtney.

1970S

The Class of 1970 began practicing for their 50th Reunion with a get together on Cape Cod this past June. A total of fourteen classmates convened from June 7-15. Many thanks to hosts **Dick Mack '70** and his wife, Maggie. They discussed possible activities for the 50 Reunion and will be reaching out to the remainder of the class in the hope of a HUGE turnout! An interim get together is being contemplated for the end of October, possibly returning to Mesquite, Nevada for a golf marathon. Anyone who is interested contact **Bruce DiStefano '70, P'06, '08, '10** at Bwdistefano@ketcoinc.com or **Dr. Rufus W. Burlingame, Jr. '70** at Rburlin1@san.rr.com. Please mark your calendar for May 15 & 16, 2020 and return to campus, tour the school, meet students and rekindle old friendships. See you there!



Members of the Class of 1970 from left to right: Front Row: Dick Mack, Bill Oppenheim, Joe Pickett, Rufus Buntingame. Second Row: Larry Talbot, Bruce DiStefano, Mark McCarthy and Pete Van Aernam. Back Row: Ned Duffy, Bob Alexander, Dick Massimilian and Frank Slingerlands. Not pictured are: Lewis Muhlfelden and Marc Freed. Dean M. DeLuke '70, P05, DDS, MBA recently received the Daniel M. Laskin Award for Outstanding Predoctoral Educator, a national award conferred by the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons at its annual meeting. Dr. DeLuke is Professor of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Virginia Commonwealth University.



This past spring semester, **David Kalinski '75** taught a class on Real Estate Law to students studying for a Master's Degree in the School of Architecture and Urban Planning at the University of Maryland. David assures all that he does not do a good imitation of Professor Kingsfield. His best class by far, however, was when he invited his classmate, **Howard Berger '75** to give a guest lecture on Historic Preservation Law, which drew rave reviews from the students.

1980S

On May 2019, the 35th Reunion of The Albany Academy occurred and it was fantastic for all. With attendees from New York City; San Diego, California; Boston, Massachusetts; Marion, Massachusetts; San Francisco, California; Los Angeles, California; Nashville, Tennessee; Washington D.C.; New Jersey; Madison, Wisconsin; Albany, New York; Troy, New York; and Barrington, Rhode Island, the Cadets came from far and wide. **Seth Polen '84, Erik Diekmann '84, Lee Mincy '84, and Michael Obel-Omia '84** drove to the Lark Tavern to meet **Tom Forrest '84, Nick Lewis '84, Dr. John Johnson '84** and **Tim Owens '79**. At the reception, the alumni met **Frank Ciotoli '84, Paige Crable '84, Elyse Gould, '84, Jean Macaffer '84, Stacy Crandall '84, Tina Loupessis '84, Bobby Witko '84, Tom Tuttle '84, Chris Fitzpatrick '84, Jonathan Drew '84, Michael Klein '84, Matt Murnane '84, and Chris Cotrona '84**. After the reception, the Class of 1984 drove over to McGear's where **Paul Zuber '84** and **Tim Carroll '81** joined them there. Everyone laughed and enjoyed one another, talking about school memories, and sharing their lives since graduating. It was like no time had passed in their friendships. On Saturday, **Chris McEnroe '84** drove to Latham and had a lovely breakfast with **Jennifer Older '86, Seth, Erik, Tina and Lee**.



The 15 of them donned hard hats and went to see construction of the James E. Poole Athletic Facility. Tom and Chris played tennis. For the evening, the class had a dinner reception at

Jack's Oyster House. They imagined next year a visit to Nashville, Tennessee with **Amy Mahoney '84**. Michael thanks everyone for coming and adds: "35 years, wow! Thank you, Seth and Tom, and we look forward to next year in Nashville."

1990S

Kara DePaula Lynch '97 is currently living in Clifton Park, N.Y. with her husband, Paul; 4 sons, Evan (7), Carter (5), Mason (2), Trevor (6 months); and step-daughter Cameron (19) who is a sophomore basketball player at Lemoyne College. Her husband Paul is helping her run DePaula Auto Group and she is the current head Varsity Girls Lacrosse Coach at Guilderland High School.



Earlier this year, **G. Nagesh Rao '98**, an Eisenhower Fellow, Mirzayan Fellow, and Director of Business Technology Solutions at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), was selected by his peers across the U.S. Federal Government and the White House to receive a Gears of Government Award for his leadership, work ethic, and impressive results over his years of public service. His accomplishments around co-creating the Growth Accelerator Fund Competition, reinvigorating the SBIR/STTR Program (America's Seed Fund) across the Federal Government, and reimagining the digital footprint and services at SBA were among the many reasons cited for Nagesh's receipt of this prestigious honor.

2000S

Chelsea Holmes '03 moved to Philadelphia in the summer of 2017 to take a position at Drexel University as the Assistant Director of Academic Support Services for student-athletes, after leaving her role as Learning Specialist for Penn State Football. Chelsea recently became engaged to Alexander "Alexi" Paraschos. Alexi is a Boston native, and graduated from Tufts University. He is a musician and teaches music in Philadelphia.

2010S

Alicia Barber '13 earned her Master of Philosophy degree in Translational Biomedical Research from the University of Cambridge in 2018. She is excited to continue her scientific education at Dartmouth College to pursue a Ph.D. in Experimental and Molecular Medicine with a focus in Neuroscience.

IN MEMORIAM

H. Sims Ullman '49 10/2/2018

Stewart L. Peckman '45 11/10/2018

Keith A. Willis '58 12/18/2018

John Gould Cleveland '41 1/25/2019

Mrs. Elaine Buckley '35 2/1/2019

Ms. Lucia Kowaluk '52 2/1/2019

Mr. George H. Willis '60 2/3/2019

Mrs. Herta Deichmann Holly '54

2/4/2019

Mr. Paul M. Monaco, Ph.D. '60

2/4/2019

Ms. Julianne H. Mader '56 2/12/2019

Mr. Ernest D. Steck H'63, '77, P'77, '79

2/24/2019

Mrs. Linda Silance Dixon '57 2/26/2019

Mrs. Barbara Horgen '47 2/27/2019

Mr. Findley Meislahn '60 3/13/2019

Mr. Irwin J. Smith, III '52 3/22/2019

Mr. Donald M. Feeney '53 3/30/2019

Mr. Robert Williams '55 4/2/2019

Mr. Gerald D. D'Amelia, Jr. '82

4/12/2019

Mr. Marc A. Friedenthal '85 4/14/2019

Mrs. Robyn Miller Padolsky '69

5/28/2019

Mr. Phillip A. Dee '48 6/21/2019

Mr. Robert D. Sternfeld '67 7/1/2019

Mrs. Jean Colloton '46 7/7/2019

Mr. David Frodin '58 8/12/2019

As of August 2019

To submit a class note, please visit the alumni/ae page at albanyacademies.org

Creating a Legacy Giving Gift

“Planned giving” is a term commonly used to describe a wide variety of options that allow you to give to The Albany Academies during your lifetime and/or after your passing, while meeting your needs and providing for others through your estate. It is typically done in conjunction with estate planning to ensure that you are reaching your goals for all parties involved. A planned gift to The Albany Academies is attractive for many reasons. It may allow you to make larger gifts than you might otherwise consider. Depending on how a planned gift is structured, it may also provide a stream of income, increase the benefit to your heirs, lower your current income taxes and/or reduce estate taxes.

Bequests

The easiest and lowest-cost way to make a gift to The Albany Academies is to include the school in your will or revocable trust. You may designate that the school receives a specific dollar amount, specific asset, or a percentage of your estate. If possible, kindly notify the School of your plans so we may acknowledge your gift and inspire others to make planned gifts.

Charitable Gift Annuities

To establish a gift annuity, you contribute funds or assets to the Albany Academies, and the Academies in turn make annuity payments to you from its general assets for the rest of your life. You receive an immediate income tax deduction for a portion of the gift, and a portion of each annuity payment is treated as a tax-free return of capital. The portion of the gift not used for payments benefits The Academies.

Charitable Trusts

This involves the donation of assets to a specific legal entity, commonly referred to as a split-interest trust, since both the donor and The Albany Academies benefit from the trust. The two most common types of trust are Charitable Remainder Trusts (CRT) and Charitable Lead Trusts (CLT), which are described simplistically below.

- A CRT involves a donor placing appreciated assets in the trust, and receiving an annual income stream with the corpus of the trust paid out to The Albany Academies upon its dissolution.
- A CLT also involves the donor placing assets that may appreciate in value into the trust with The Albany Academies receiving the annual income throughout its

term, with the corpus distributed to the designee named by the trust. There may be some substantial income and estate tax benefits from both vehicles, but either route requires consultation with professionals.

Life Insurance

There are several ways to utilize permanent life insurance to benefit The Albany Academies. The most straightforward manner is to name The Albany Academies as the beneficiary of the policy. You may also gift an existing policy to the School, take an immediate tax deduction, and the School will be responsible for any further premiums due. You can make cash gifts that are equivalent to the premium amount on a new or existing policy as well.

By remembering The Albany Academies through a legacy gift, you will help ensure the financial strength and academic excellence of the schools for years to come. These gifts—no matter the size—can be game changers for the Academies and ensure that the strategies and vision set forth in our strategic plan are met.

These can be complex issues to address, but we would be happy to help you in this process by reviewing your current situation and assisting in formulating possible solutions that will benefit you both financially and holistically as a donor and leave a legacy to The Albany Academies. Individual circumstances may differ, so we encourage donors to seek advice from their own legal and financial advisors. As this process is often part of estate planning, we encourage you to also ensure that you have a durable power of attorney and a health care proxy in place that appropriately address your needs.



The Albany Academies

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Save the date!

2019-20

Legacy of Dreams

October 5

Homecoming Weekend

October 11 & 12

Leadership Donor Reception

November 2

Alumni/ae Speed Mentoring - Fall Session

November 4

Splash!

November 17

Beverwyck Holiday Luncheon

December 11

Frank O'Brien III '84 Memorial Hockey Game

December 14

Alumni Mid-Winter Dinner

February 6

Journey to Success

February 20

Alumni/ae Speed Mentoring - Spring Session

March 10

Spring Gathering

April 25

Scholar Luncheon

May 3

Reunion

May 15-16

Grandparents & Special Friends Day/Spring Concert

May 22

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