

BLAIR

BULLETIN

A MAGAZINE CELEBRATING COMMUNITY & CONNECTION



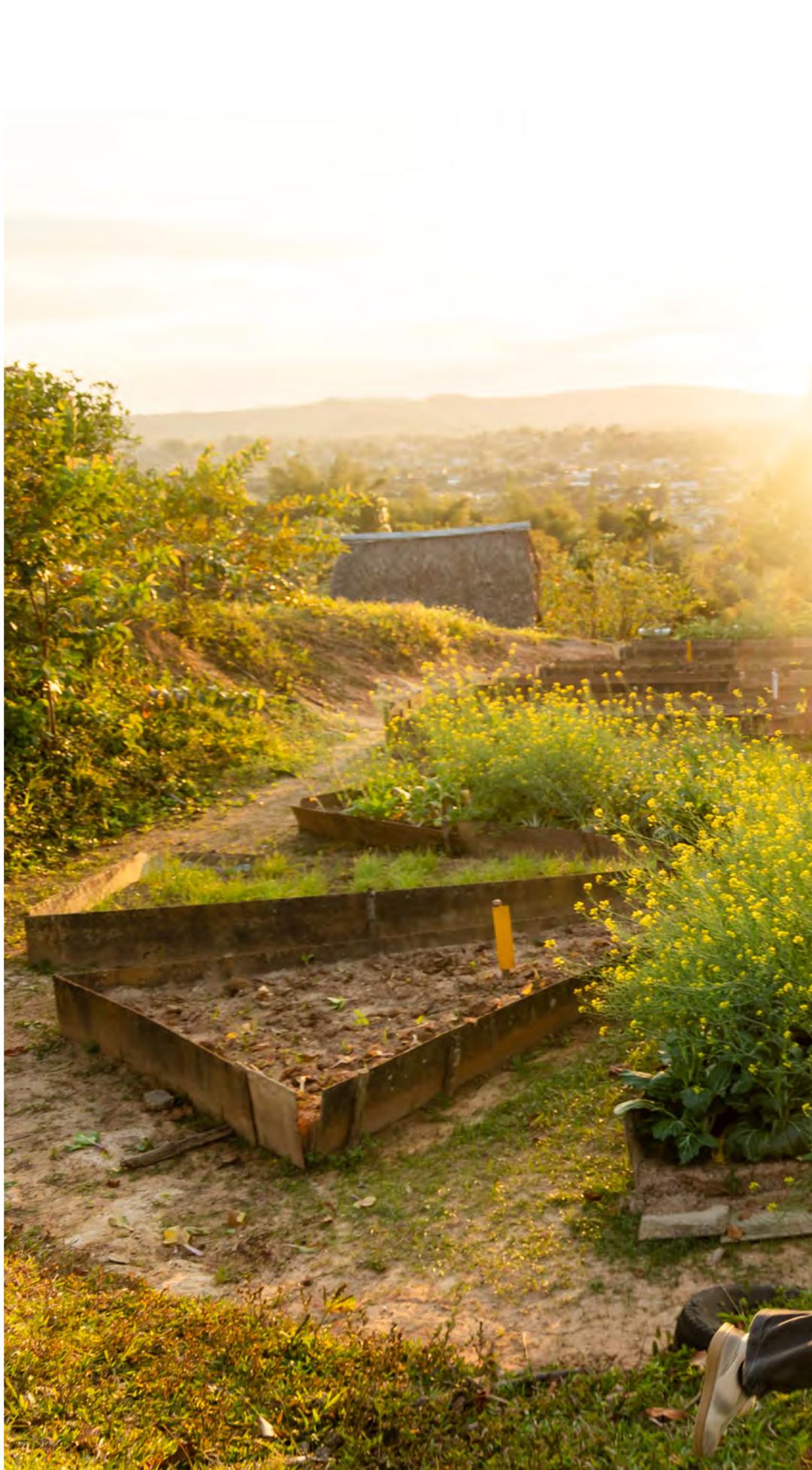


Photo by Director of School
Photography Tyson Trish.

Tony Ni '25 lends a hand weeding
the garden at Finca Agroecológica
El Paraíso in Viñales, Cuba. After an
afternoon of farm work, students
shared a fresh meal and soaked in the
stunning views from
the porch.



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FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL



“What sets the Blair experience apart is our commitment to in-person relationships, being present in the moment and putting down our devices to see—and celebrate—the good around us.”

As we officially kick off our 178th year, welcoming 175 new students, faculty and staff to Blair this fall, the power of community is very much on my mind. Creating and sustaining a diverse student body from across the globe is as foundational to our mission as being student-centered; in fact, when Sarah and I first came to interview almost 15 years ago, it was this relationship-based philosophy and authentic focus on community that differentiated Blair and made us feel like our family had found our new home.

In an age where the sentiment of shared purpose seems to be dwindling everywhere we look, Blair is more intentional than ever about making our school a place where students truly know and connect with one another, as well as our faculty and staff—and not just through screens or technology. What sets the Blair experience apart is our commitment to in-person relationships, learning to be present in the moment and putting down our devices to see—and celebrate—the good around us.

It’s this collective care and sense of belonging that makes a Blair education truly transformational, not transactional. And it doesn’t happen by accident; it is nurtured and amplified in deliberate ways across campus. Whether in class, at School Meeting, during family-style dinner, riding the bus to Peddie Day, rehearsing before a performance, seeking extra help during conference blocks or simply relaxing with friends, Blair is committed to bringing people together, celebrating one another’s triumphs and offering support in times of challenge.

You don’t have to dive too deeply into the research to confirm that communal activities and civic engagement have long been on the decline—authors continue to document this phenomenon in depth and in passing. At Blair, we see every day the tension adolescents feel between the ease and appeal of solitary experiences—made even more tempting by streaming services, social media and AirPods—and the richness of communal ones.

This summer, a book that resonated deeply with me was Will Guidara’s *Unreasonable Hospitality*. In an opening letter underscoring the power of great service and leadership in every industry, Simon Sinek reflects on how much communities have drifted apart thanks to digital communication and remote work. This is at odds with humans’ innate need for a sense of belonging, which makes institutions like Blair and its focus on connection more important than ever.

As we embrace our Five Fundamentals and the theme of seeing the good throughout this year, we will work to bring our mission to life and foster enduring relationships. Certainly, our Center for Health and Well-Being has already become a gathering space that our students have welcomed as a tangible reminder of Blair’s core values and commitment to being more than a school—but a home to which our graduates remain connected throughout their lives.

We will be standing by to greet you with unreasonable hospitality when you return to campus and see for yourself how this new facility and our upgrades to Mason and Freeman Halls have enhanced the student experience at Blair. With the transformation of the Bowl on the horizon next summer, this work will be ongoing as we keep people—the heart of Blair—at the center of all we do.

Cheers,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter G. Curran". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Peter G. Curran P’27 ’27
Head of School

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

BELLA BIONDO '26 BRINGS BOSS DAY TO BLAIRSTOWN

Advocating for children with developmental disabilities runs in Bella Biondo '26's blood. It's a passion she inherited from her grandmother, Ingeborg Biondo, who dedicated her life to supporting individuals with disabilities. After her passing, the Biondo family established the Ingeborg A. Biondo Memorial Foundation to honor her legacy and continue her work in the tristate area. Today, Bella plays an active role in that mission—while also forging her own path.

The foundation provides scholarships to local summer camps, offering children with disabilities a fun, educational and enriching experience. Last year, Bella helped the foundation assess how camps could better serve individuals developmentally, neurologically and physically. She then assisted them in applying for grants to support those improvements.

“Advocating for children with disabilities has always been a big part of my life,” Bella explains. “I wanted to figure out how to bring that side of me to Blair.”

To do so, she founded BOSS—Blair Outreach for Special Services—a student club focused on supporting children with disabilities in the local community. While

many students use Thursday mornings to sleep in, Bella and her fellow BOSS members visit Blairstown Elementary School to read to and spend time with students with learning differences.

“We are hopeful to continue this partnership into next year and create even more opportunities and activities for the students at Blairstown Elementary,” Dr. Alyssa Emili, supervisor of special services at Blairstown Township School District, remarks. “This is the type of partnership where everyone truly wins!”

As her efforts grew, Bella began meeting with parents and members of the local Special Education Parent Advisory Group to better understand the community's needs. With the support of club advisor and Dean of Students Andee Ryerson, BOSS Day was born.

“I've been so impressed working with Bella on her creation of BOSS,” Mrs. Ryerson notes. “With the busy Blair schedule, it's so easy to have big dreams for a club and struggle to find the time to execute on them. But Bella had the dedication and made the time to accomplish her goals.”

In May, students from BOSS teamed up with members of the Equity in Sports club, led by Naomi Sansone '26, Mayan Muchugia '26, Jazzy Maries '26 and





Andy Lee '26, to host a sensory-friendly event on campus for local families. While designed for children with developmental disabilities, the event welcomed all kids, offering sensory stations, an obstacle course, parachute games, crafts, bubbles and more.

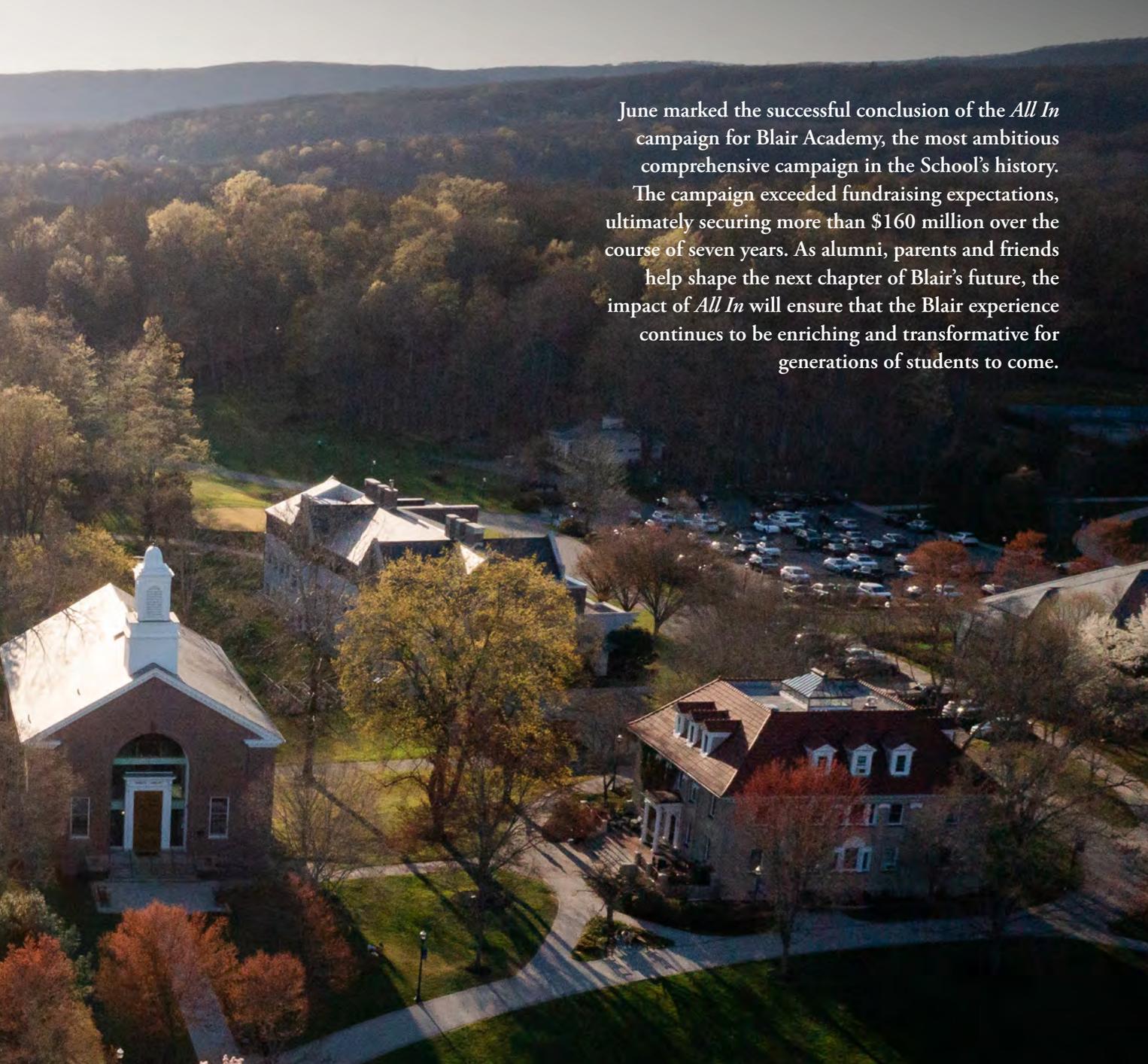
By the end of the day, the impact was clear. "I've received emails from parents who've never seen their children so happy outside of their home," Bella shares. "We couldn't have done it without our student volunteers. So many of them were willing to help, spend one-on-one time with the children and make those connections. I'm astonished how much of an impact the event had on the kids."

Parents encouraged the students to host the event again, and Bella has already begun planning the next one. With the potential for nicer weather, she hopes to one day move the activities outdoors and introduce new games and field events.

"I wasn't expecting how fun it would be for the kids," Bella says, "and I think it really fostered the connection between Blair and Blairstown, showing the local community how caring and diligent Blair students are." 🏰

THE SUN SETS ON THE
All In
CAMPAIGN





June marked the successful conclusion of the *All In* campaign for Blair Academy, the most ambitious comprehensive campaign in the School's history. The campaign exceeded fundraising expectations, ultimately securing more than \$160 million over the course of seven years. As alumni, parents and friends help shape the next chapter of Blair's future, the impact of *All In* will ensure that the Blair experience continues to be enriching and transformative for generations of students to come.



Thanks to the extraordinary generosity of 6,000 donors and 28,700 individual gifts, *All In* has surpassed its initial \$140-million goal, achieving an impressive \$161.9 million. This historic effort would not have been possible without the unwavering leadership and support of Blair's Board of Trustees, Board of Governors and International Board of Governors. To celebrate the campaign's success, the community gathered for a festive celebration during Alumni Weekend to toast its impact and Blair's bright future ahead.

Since 2018, Blair has made strategic investments in its greatest asset—its people. By prioritizing the recruitment and retention of talented faculty and staff, and strengthening its commitment to a dynamic, inclusive community, the School has continued to foster the meaningful student-teacher relationships that are at the heart of the Blair experience.

Simultaneously, Blair expanded its curricular and cocurricular programs, enhanced campus facilities and fortified its long-term financial foundation. These efforts have culminated in some of the most significant achievements in the School's history. The campaign added \$60 million to the School's endowment, created 40 newly endowed scholarships, and funded a comprehensive faculty compensation plan to aid in recruitment and retention. It also established the Sigety Faculty Summer Institute, supporting professional development, and fueled the development of a dynamic curriculum that now includes more than 68 honors, advanced seminar and advanced survey courses. Signature academic initiatives such as the Integrated Science Research program and the addition of Intersession (formerly J-term)

further enriched the student experience while tying classroom learning to real-world applications. The School also documented two estate gifts of \$10 million each, bolstered the Blair Fund to support annual operations, and completed the construction or renovation of 15 buildings and spaces across campus.

“Every single person in this school has a say and a role in shaping the future of Blair. We want this campus to keep growing and improving. The only way that can happen is if we, as a community, continue to contribute and give back.”

—Meena Grizzetti P'20 '22 '23 '26, Blair Trustee

As one of the most tangible manifestations of the campaign's goals, Blair opened the Center for Health and Well-Being this fall—a 23,000-square-foot facility that brings together health services, counseling and a new student union under one roof for the first time in school history. Renovations to Mason and Freeman Halls began this summer and will conclude next year, along with improvements to Marcial Field (aka the Bowl).

While the conclusion of *All In* winds down an extraordinary chapter, it also lays the groundwork for an even more promising future. Blair Academy is deeply grateful for the community's enduring commitment, support for and shared belief in the transformative power of a Blair education.

AT BLAIR, NUMBERS TELL A STORY:

THE LEADERSHIP AND GENEROSITY OF ALL IN SUPPORTERS
ADD UP TO EXPONENTIAL POSSIBILITIES FOR THE FUTURE.

4

PILLARS
OF THE



All In
CAMPAIGN

5,923

DONORS
SUPPORTING ALL IN

28,694

GIFTS MADE
TO THE
CAMPAIGN

115%

OF CAMPAIGN GOAL RAISED

20

SOCIETY OF
SKEPTICS LECTURES
HELD IN THE
CECIC EACH YEAR

40

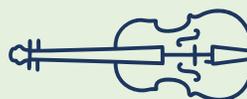


NEWLY
ENDOWED
SCHOLARSHIPS

8,000+ SQ. FT.

OF THE
BOGLE SCIENCE CENTER ADDITION

2



PERFORMANCES
BY THE GROOVELINE'S
12-PIECE ENSEMBLE TO CELEBRATE THE
ALL IN CAMPAIGN

30 FEET



OF LIVING
PLANT
WALL
IN THE NEW
CENTER FOR
HEALTH & WELL-BEING

YEARS
OF THE
All In
CAMPAIGN

23

FACULTY MEMBERS
PARTICIPATING
IN THIS YEAR'S
SIGETY FACULTY
SUMMER INSTITUTE

2,500

GALLONS OF
WATER
TO FILL THE
CREW CENTER'S
INDOOR ROWING TANKS





Faculty Talent & Excellence

RAISED: \$8.8 MILLION

The first strategic priority of the campaign, developed by a team of more than 60 members of the Blair community, focused on people and the strong teacher-student relationships that form the foundation of the Blair experience. Through *All In*, Blair has been better able to recruit, develop and retain outstanding faculty who represent our student body and are dedicated to knowing our students well—in the process, creating a richly diverse, dynamic and inclusive community where everyone feels a deep sense of belonging and students are supported in every endeavor.

At Blair, the role of faculty members extends far beyond the classroom. Educators serve not only as teachers, but also as coaches, advisors, dorm staffers and mentors—guiding and supporting students in deeply personal and impactful ways. In this setting, faculty become daily examples of leadership, integrity and care.

“As a parent, you want your child to be surrounded by educators and mentors who help them think critically, understand the world around them and grow into their best selves,” Blair Trustee Keith Rauschenbach ’76 explains. “At Blair, that means attracting and retaining outstanding teachers, advisors, coaches and dorm faculty who foster the exchange of ideas and embrace the transformative impact of boarding school life.”

To do this, the School has invested in its faculty—not just through competitive compensation that affirms their value and makes Blair a compelling professional home, but also by supporting their ongoing growth. The demands of round-the-clock engagement require real personal commitment, and, in recognition of that, campaign resources ensure our faculty can continue to develop both personally and professionally.

“What our faculty do is vitally important at a pivotal time in the lives of Blair students. As a community, we should be pleased about what this campaign has achieved. We’ve created a pool of resources that ensures we are in the best possible position to help our faculty grow in ways that are meaningful, benefit students and make it easy for them to continue to commit to their work.”

—Keith Rauschenbach ’76, Blair Trustee

The ultimate beneficiary of this focus is the student body. When faculty are supported, fulfilled and energized, they pass that sense of purpose and passion directly on to their students. *All In* has positioned the School for continued success, ensuring that every student who walks this hilltop leaves with a well-rounded education, prepared to confidently and creatively address the demands of college and an ever-changing global society.



Forward-Thinking Programs

RAISED: \$30 MILLION

Investing in forward-thinking programs that prepare students for a rapidly changing world was the second pillar of the *All In* campaign. Over the past seven years, Blair has expanded curricular and cocurricular offerings that promote growth, well-being and belonging for all members of the community. From the arts to athletics and academics to college counseling, campaign-funded initiatives have helped students become resilient, self-aware and confident young adults—equipped with the social, emotional and leadership skills they need to thrive at college and beyond.

Signature programs such as Integrated Science Research (ISR) and Intersession (formerly J-term) are prime examples of how Blair connects classroom learning to real-world experiences. Through ISR, students collaborate with scientists at renowned research institutions and publish their findings in meaningful ways, translating academic inquiry into real impact. Intersession has created a dynamic space for both students and faculty to explore interests beyond traditional coursework, often with expert guidance from alums and other community members—strengthening creativity, critical thinking and personal growth.

Campaign support has also transformed cocurricular life. The Richard Rubin '68 Music Endowment Fund, for instance, has enabled student musicians to perform at iconic venues like Carnegie Hall and King's College Chapel at Cambridge University. "These funds allow students to focus on the

music and the experience," says Director of Vocal Music and Director of Intersession Ryan Manni-Brennan. "It is the purest form of our student-centered mission and a wonderful part of working here."

"The addition of Intersession to our curriculum during the *All In* campaign reflects our mission to foster collaboration and deepen connections beyond the traditional classroom experience. As students engage in real-world learning, faculty are equally energized by the opportunity to innovate and expand their creativity. The campaign's support has been instrumental in bringing this dynamic, community-centered vision to life."

*—Ryan Manni-Brennan,
Director of Vocal Music & Director of Intersession*

As Blair looks to the future, the lasting impact of these enriched programs is clear. They reflect a deep commitment to holistic education—one that challenges, nurtures and inspires. Thanks to the generosity of the Blair community, students now and in the years to come will continue to benefit from opportunities that not only shape their intellect, but also their character, creativity and sense of purpose.



Our Campus

RAISED: \$49.6 MILLION

The most visible success of the *All In* campaign is the remarkable transformation of Blair’s campus in recent years. Alumni returning after decades away often marvel at the dramatic changes to the spaces they once knew. These updates have positioned the School to better serve its educational mission while enriching the academic, artistic, athletic and residential experience for students and faculty alike.

In 2017, Blair unveiled the Chiang-Elghanayan Center for Innovation and Collaboration—an open, tech-rich hub that houses the School’s fine arts and technology departments—as well as a reimagined Weber Hall, now optimized for math instruction. By 2019, major additions like the J. Li Golf Center, Lulu’s Place winter sports complex and renovations to the Bogle Science Center were completed. The 2021 opening of the Crew Training Center on Park Street marked yet another milestone in Blair’s continued growth.

“The center gave us a consistent, high-level training environment, a place that reinforces the standards, structure and connection our teams need to thrive,” Director of Rowing John Redos ’09 explains. “Since then, we have seen sustained progress across both the women’s and men’s teams, including this year’s double Mid-Atlantic Prep League (MAPL) championship victories. I am proud of the culture we have built and grateful to the *All In* campaign for making this kind of progress possible.”

The campaign also supported enhancements to other athletic facilities and improvements to Meerwarth Courtyard, further enriching campus life. But perhaps no project has had a broader impact on community wellness than the addition of the Center for Health and Well-Being. This space not only provides areas for students to study, relax and access health resources, but also fulfills a key campaign goal: expanding and diversifying quality housing for Blair’s faculty. Along with new apartments in the Center, five additional residences were made possible through *All In*, and existing housing in Mason and Freeman Halls was upgraded for Blair’s dedicated educators.

“The expansion of high-quality faculty housing during the *All In* campaign is a powerful expression of appreciation—an intentional investment in the people who make Blair home for our students. Providing thoughtfully designed, top-tier living spaces not only enhances daily life, but also fosters the kind of shared community and meaningful connections that define the Blair experience.”

—Leucretia Shaw, Dean of Faculty Life

As the School looks to the future, the momentum of the *All In* campaign will continue to shape the campus—fueling innovation, deepening community, and building the physical and cultural infrastructure needed for generations to come.



Financial Strength

RAISED: \$50.6 MILLION

While new buildings and bold initiatives offer visible proof of Blair’s progress, the foundation for the School’s enduring strength lies in something less tangible but equally vital: a growing and robust endowment that provides long-term security, stability in the face of economic uncertainty and the flexibility to innovate. As one of the core pillars of the *All In* campaign, strengthening Blair’s financial foundation ensures that the School is prepared not only for the needs of today but also for the opportunities and challenges of tomorrow.

“A strong endowment allows the School to bring in promising individuals who can help build the community and bring energy to Blair,” Blair Trustee Emmanuel Bello ’04 shares. “Jack Bogle ’47, a scholarship student, is a prime example. I’ve heard so many stories about what he did as a student and as a leader in this community, and I went to Blair as a Bogle Brothers Scholar. It’s a virtuous circle, but it can’t start without the investment from the endowment.”

Key goals included expanding endowed scholarship support, which helps Blair attract a diverse, talented student body by offering the financial aid necessary to open doors for deserving students. Endowed support also grew across Blair’s broad academic and cocurricular offerings, from arts and athletics to leadership development and service, ensuring that meaningful opportunities are available to every student, every year.

While the endowment fuels Blair’s future, the Blair Fund powers today—meeting annual essential needs from academics

“Establishing an endowed scholarship in my father’s name was a meaningful way for us to honor his legacy while extending the transformative impact of a Blair education to current and future students. We were especially pleased knowing that the scholarship is enabling him to directly connect with the recipients. We’re also gratified and inspired by others who have supported the scholarship to ensure that the values and principles he embodied—and the School has reinforced—continue for generations to come.”

—Kirsten (Trommald) Bushick ’82

to financial aid. Throughout the campaign, Blair made a concerted effort to strengthen annual giving through the Blair Fund. These gifts play a vital role in day-to-day operations, supporting everything from extracurricular programming and classroom resources to financial aid and faculty support. The campaign set ambitious goals annually through the Blair Fund to support the School’s operating budget and sustain the exceptional experience that defines a Blair education.

“We don’t collect enough in tuition dollars to support the full operations of the School,” Emmanuel explains. “The annual fund does a great deal to offset this.”

Together, endowment growth and annual giving form a powerful financial engine—one that fuels innovation, deepens accessibility and preserves the heart of the Blair experience for students and teachers, today and tomorrow. 



MAKING EVERY BITE COUNT

What do we do with the leftovers from dinner? It's a question that every home cook—and every dining hall—has faced. At home, last night's roast chicken might turn into a savory chicken soup or hamburgers the base for a robust chili. But what happens to the rest?

This year, Blair's dining hall, managed by Flik Dining, has found a clever solution. Blair's dining hall general manager, Corey Dorn, explains: "As a company, Flik Dining has partnered with a program called Share My Meals, which connects surplus food with people in need." In the Blairstown area, Share My Meals works through the local organization Benny's Bodega.

Headquartered in nearby Newton, New Jersey, Benny's Bodega is a volunteer-run 501(c)(3) food pantry that proudly gives every donated dollar back into the community. Three times a week, Benny's Bodega now collects Blair's leftover food, taking anything that is not repurposed for student meals.

"Some days they get three pans of pasta, other days it's chicken, beef or rice," Mr. Dorn says. "It just all depends on what our students eat—and what they don't."

The move is part of the dining hall's larger initiative to become more sustainable. Last year, Blair began composting, and the dining hall joined the Green Restaurant Association, an international organization that grades dining facilities on their





Blair's discarded food is composted through One Compost Can, a locally owned company that collects the material weekly and delivers it to a farm in Hopewell, New Jersey, where pigs, chickens and other farm animals accelerate the composting process. *Photos courtesy of One Compost Can.*

sustainability—their use of energy, water, waste, food sourcing, chemicals, disposables and infrastructure.

“They look at our entire operation, from our light bulbs to how much water comes out of the sink to where we purchase our food, and they grade us on our sustainable footprint. Do we compost? Do we use reusable products?” Mr. Dorn explains. Restaurants earn different levels for sustainability and last year, Blair earned level-one certification. This year, Mr. Dorn is excited to announce that the School will be applying for level two.

That progress is possible, in part, because of the dining hall's recent partnership with Genesis Farm, a community-supported garden just four miles from campus. Using biodynamic and organic farming practices, Genesis Farm provides fresh, seasonal produce directly to Blair's kitchen. “Last week, we got carrots, beets and kale,” Mr. Dorn notes. “The fields are so close, we can almost see them from campus. It doesn't get any closer than that.”

Soon, Blair will introduce “Fresh from the Farm Wednesdays.” A small icon or card will indicate to students which produce is harvested locally, helping them better understand—and appreciate—where their food is coming from.

Mr. Dorn feels strongly that there are so many benefits to buying locally. In addition to supporting the local economy, buying locally requires less transportation, storage and packaging, which reduces the School's carbon footprint, and the fruits and vegetables themselves often have a richer taste,

retaining maximum nutrients and flavor because they were harvested recently. “Using food from local farms is a win-win,” he stresses. “Not only are we getting food of the highest quality, but we are supporting local farmers. It's a win for everybody.”

He hopes that Blair's efforts will inspire other schools to take similar steps, partnering with area farms and local food pantries. “Every school has leftovers. Every town has families in need. This partnership with Benny's Bodega shows that connecting the two can be done—it just takes a little effort.”

As these initiatives take shape, Blair's dining hall is not only reducing food waste, they are also providing lessons to students in the values of sustainability, of giving and sharing resources. So, at Blair, students are learning that food left behind can actually move communities forward. And, perhaps, the next time someone asks, “What do we do with the leftovers?” the answer might just be: “Share with a neighbor—and make every bite count.” 🐷



Blair receives produce from the Community Supported Garden at Genesis Farm, which began as a small community-supported agriculture program in 1988 and has since expanded to offer more than 100 varieties of vegetables, fruits, herbs and grains.

Academics



Portfolio Symposiums Mark a May Milestone

Last May, after a year or more of rigorous study in Blair's advanced survey and seminar courses, Blair students prepared for a new kind of challenge: the Portfolio Symposiums. More than just an academic requirement, the symposiums offered

students a moment to pause, reflect and share how far they've come. In many ways, they marked both a beginning and an end—the final step in a year of deep inquiry and the beginning of a broader journey into lifelong learning. And, as part of Blair's

progression beyond traditional AP classes and into a more dynamic model of learning, the symposiums celebrated outcomes that matter: student agency, higher-order thinking, reflection and metacognition.



The juniors chosen for last May's portfolio symposium gather for a quick photo before sharing their work in the Chiang-Elghanayan Center for Innovation and Collaboration.

A New Kind of May Milestone

As the academic year drew to a close, a select group of 12th-grade students and advanced curriculum teachers gathered in the Chiang-Elghanayan Center for Innovation and Collaboration for the capstone experience. Designed as a stage for students in advanced courses to share the best of their yearlong experience—including wins, stumbles and lessons learned—the symposium was an invitation-only event. Select seniors, who were chosen on the strength of their portfolios, presented their work to faculty and advisors, engaged in scholarly discussion and responded thoughtfully to questions about their learning. Juniors were offered the same opportunity during a second symposium held during the last few days of classes.

After the first full year of Blair's new advanced curriculum, Assistant Head of

School for Academics Nathan Molteni sees tangible results. "We set out to offer students both broad surveys and deep-dive seminars in the program, designed by faculty members experienced with what works best for Blair students," Mr. Molteni explains. In the last year, the School has done just that. Faculty who create and teach these courses followed an exacting process: Each course began with a proposal and was shaped by feedback and fine-tuned during an audit to ensure that it aligned with Blair's vision for advanced coursework.

Psychology teacher Shelly Mantegna, as the School's Director of Advanced Curriculum, has had a front-row seat to the program's development. Tasked with ensuring that Blair meets its ambitious goals, she has closely monitored the progress of each advanced course. "The audit process really

matters," Mrs. Mantegna emphasizes. "It means that we have accountability, a way to maintain rigor and support learning outcomes."

In addition to one-on-one meetings with the teachers of all 45 advanced courses, key administrators like Mrs. Mantegna have also reviewed each student's portfolio. This additional layer of oversight has strengthened accountability and provided an opportunity to celebrate the depth, creativity and intellectual risk-taking evident across student work. It's one more way Blair remains focused on maintaining high standards while championing authentic learning.

Time to Think & Explore

“Not teaching to the test has meant more time in the classroom and lab—and more time to reflect,” Mrs. Mantegna notes. Traditionally, for many courses, much of the focus in AP classes was on memorization. “Now,” she continues, “classes like Advanced Survey: Why Art Matters [formerly AP Art History] have the time and freedom to pursue deeper study. This year, art students did primary research at New York’s Center for Architecture and The Whitney Museum of American Art, something that would not have been possible under the traditional AP schedule.”

This freedom has not only made room for intellectual exploration, it has also created space for metacognition. By encouraging students to think about how they think, Blair’s advanced courses cultivate self-awareness, intentionality and personal growth. “Reflecting on their work helps students understand themselves as learners,” Mrs. Mantegna reflects, making their work more meaningful and their progress more lasting. Through the symposiums, students are not only presenting what they know, but also how they’ve come to know it—truly owning their work.

Veteran math instructor Latta Browse, who has been teaching at Blair for 40 years, has noticed the same shift in his Advanced Integral Calculus course. “Since we no longer have to consider the AP test, we spend much more time on the theoretical underpinnings of calculus,” he notes. Blair’s budding mathematicians now explore the

epsilon-delta definition of a limit and prove complicated limits rigorously. The class spends more time on parametric and polar curves—topics previously condensed due to time constraints. The curriculum has also expanded to include first-order linear differential equations and a more thorough treatment of Euler’s Method. “All in all, the new course better prepares students for the

third semester of college calculus that many will enter in their futures,” Mr. Browse says.

The School’s advanced curriculum, aimed at richer academic experiences, makes an impact not only in Blair classrooms; it also resonates beyond campus, catching the attention of colleges and universities.



Cat Zhang '26's symposium presentation focused on her evolving perspective on learning—specifically, her ability to learn, discovering a passion for it, growing through the process and learning to love her work. Notably, she reflected on recognizing her flaws not as failures, but as seeds for growth.

Colleges Are Listening & Responding

Blair is now one of more than 100 independent schools across the country that have moved to custom-designed advanced coursework, a movement that aligns with shifting expectations in higher education. With more and more colleges—including Brown University, Dartmouth College and California Institute of Technology—

moving away from awarding credit for AP exams, there is a growing need for rigorous, carefully designed alternatives.

“Schools that create their own advanced courses are able to uniquely challenge their students,” says University of Vermont admission counselor Candice Duckworth,

who came to Blair last spring during one of the School’s campus college fairs. For her, Blair’s model does more than check a box—it mirrors the type of learning, complete with deep inquiry, strong communication and creative thinking, that colleges want to see.

“While still new, Blair’s advanced curriculum will help prepare students for the kind of work they’ll experience as first-year students at a college or university,” she notes. “Students selecting these courses will be prepared with critical thinking, research and communication skills that will set them apart from their peers.”

That institutional validation is important—but even more valuable is seeing how that validation plays out in real time, through student voices, ideas and growth. That experience was on full display during the senior symposium.



Allie Blalock '26 speaks with a college admission counselor during Blair’s college fair last April. The event gives Blair students the chance to connect directly with counselors from a variety of institutions.



In his advanced symposium presentation, Shane Hadden '26 shared a major project from his advanced statistics course—an in-depth analysis comparing baseball statistics. He spoke with enthusiasm about how exploring a topic he’s passionate about transformed his academic experience.

Beyond the Test —

As Mr. Molteni moved through the senior symposium, stopping to listen and ask questions at each presentation, he was struck by the students themselves—their confidence, curiosity and command of the subject. One of the night’s challenges for students had been how to translate a year’s worth of deep, often complex work for an audience that might not share their expertise. It was no small task. But, as he watched one student shaking hands with his advisor, beaming with pride, Mr. Molteni felt certain they had succeeded.

Already, his mind was thinking ahead to the next year and how Blair’s advanced curriculum will continue to evolve. Twenty students had applied for a new advanced history course, *Modern Global Thought*, and other new advanced courses—in linear algebra, *The Odyssey*, and a class on Homer and Virgil—showed similar promise. There was much to look forward to. Though the May symposiums marked the end of the academic year, they also felt like the beginning of something bigger: a lifelong pursuit for Blair students of asking questions, digging in and thinking beyond the test. ▀

WELLNESS BEGINS HERE

BLAIR'S CENTER FOR HEALTH
& WELL-BEING OPENS



This fall, the doors opened to the School's new 23,000-square-foot Center for Health and Well-Being, designed to support the physical, social and emotional wellness of Blair students. The opening marks a milestone in student health services on the hilltop, uniting the health services and counseling team for the first time. The state-of-the-art facility replaces the J. Brooks Hoffman '36 Health Center, which has served as the School's infirmary since 1956. Now, students have access to a welcoming and light-filled space where they can utilize health resources, learn, study, practice mindfulness and socialize.

Adjoining Hardwick Hall, the Center boasts three stories of intentional design. Visitors entering on the ground floor are greeted by a three-story atrium and a new student commons. The atrium and the student commons flow directly out to the Bowl via large glass walls and are connected to the Black Canteen, Hardwick Gym and the upper level health and well-being spaces via a monumental sculptural staircase, all capped by a large skylight that floods the space with welcoming natural light.

The second floor serves as the home of the School's health services team. Behind the front desk are several private overnight rooms, each with dedicated bathrooms. Nearby, an observation room, triage area, three exam rooms and a medication center support student care, in addition to a full classroom for education and training.

On the third floor, two apartments offer faculty spacious living quarters, as well as a new counseling suite, which features four private offices, a break room and new yoga studio.

A Nod to the Past & Future

Designed by Sparta, New Jersey's, award-winning HQW Architects, the new Center echoes Blair's historic buildings built in the Richardson Romanesque style while also embracing modern elements. "We've been working on the Blair campus since the winter of 1985, when a fire destroyed the School's Boiler House," offers Christopher Wolverton, AIA, LEED AP, principal at HQW Architects. In addition to work on many projects across the campus, HQW Architects most recently designed the Crew Training Center on Park Street and the Chiang-Elghanayan Center for Innovation and

Previous page: Although construction was still underway when this magazine went to print, here is an early look at the exterior of the new Center for Health and Well-Being.



The redesigned Black Canteen is now connected to the Center for Health and Well-Being and makes a perfect spot for studying, catching up with friends or grabbing a bite between classes.

Collaboration in the heart of campus. "We were able to pair the traditional Blair vernacular with modern touches, like the three-story glass atrium, which echoes the warmth of Annie Hall and the modern feel of the Chiang-Elghanayan Center for Innovation and Collaboration."

Visitors entering from the ground floor experience this firsthand. A two-story waterfall made of dark quartz creates a peaceful focal point, paired with a moss wall and tiered amphitheatre for teaching and group learning. "As you step in, you'll hear the burbling of water. The goal was to bring the outdoors in and create a truly calming space," Mr. Wolverton notes.

The 18-month design process for the building was highly collaborative, shaped by input from Blair's Board of Trustees

“It is essential that we give students the tools to cope in healthy ways with the stresses that life will inevitably bring. The combination of the quality and rigor of Blair’s academics, its student-centered environment, and the teaching and nurturing of health and well-being tools, will ensure that every Blair student reaches their full academic and life potential.”

—Maria G. Vinci Savettiere, Esq., P’17,
Chair, Blair Academy Board of Trustees

and health services team, as well as research about other facilities opened by peer schools and institutions in higher education. “There were several rounds of discussion about flow, aesthetics and how to meet the School’s health-care needs,” Mr. Wolverton recalls. “We explored numerous iterations for the exterior before realizing the final design we see taking shape today.”

Another priority was ensuring full accessibility. The inclusive, ADA-compliant building features overnight rooms, oversized for comfort, and push-button access at all entrances. An elevator links all three floors, supporting a fully navigable space for all.

Incorporating best practices from precedents set by industry-leading wellness centers at other private schools, the team brought the Center to life intentionally avoiding a self-contained feeling. “We looked at other campuses where the wellness center blended seamlessly with student life,” Mr. Wolverton explains. “We very deliberately connected this Center to the Canteen, the Bowl and the Hardwick Hall athletic facility, integrating into the heart of campus life.”

Sustainability also played a key role. Unlike older campus buildings heated by steam and oil, the new Center is powered by electric pumps that can be supported by Blair’s existing solar panels on the roof of Hardwick Hall and in a nearby field across Route 94. Energy-efficient windows and exterior sun shades also help regulate temperature by mitigating heat gain from glass windows.

Beyond its technical features, the building carries personal meaning for the lead architect. “I joined this firm as an intern in 2006, and the first project I worked on was the athletic center. Now I am the principal in the company,” Mr. Wolverton says. “To have worked on so many parts of Blair’s campus has really helped bring continuity in style across campus. And, personally, it’s been so rewarding—this project brings my career full circle. It’s very gratifying.”

Caring for Students, Every Day

For Blair’s Director of Health Services Rosalyn Zamora, MSN, APN, FNP-C, the Center marks a long-awaited improvement. “One of our takeaways from the pandemic was the need to be flexible and prepared,” she notes. “The new Health Center has significantly improved our ability to care for our students,” Ms. Zamora continues. Multiple exam rooms optimize the staff’s workflow and ability to handle large volumes of students. “With more than 470 students at the School, we operate around the clock. We have a big team, with up to 14 nurses and practitioners staffing at any time. Thankfully, the new Center has given us the space and amenities we need for smooth, 24/7 operation.”

Longtime colleagues, Director of Health Services Rosalyn Zamora (*right*) and registered nurse Jennifer Lusardi (*left*) share a lighthearted moment together in one of the Center’s bright new medical spaces on the second floor. The setting reflects not only the state-of-the-art facilities available to students but also the close professional partnership that underpins Blair’s approach to student health and well-being.





An early look at one of the faculty apartments on the building's top floor reveals a contemporary, light-filled kitchen that is fully ADA compliant.

“Counseling is a resource to support students and provide them with tools to enhance their everyday well-being, and to prepare them with the skills they’ll need to thrive beyond Blair. I’ve been fortunate to see the counseling program grow in my time here, and it means a lot to me to see the School investing time and resources into programming and new facilities that will help us continue that growth.”

–Director of Counseling Ally Thomas, MSW, LCSW

“Now we can see and treat more than one student at a time. That is critical during busy periods,” Ms. Zamora explains. In addition, the Center is equipped with new, automated medicine cabinets that are a necessity for students for whom the Health Center manages their daily medication. “The automated cabinets help us administer medications quickly and accurately, and keep them secured safely in the meantime.”

According to Ms. Zamora, one of the most meaningful aspects of the new space is the design of the inpatient rooms. “The rooms were intentionally created to support healing and recovery, and they offer a quiet, comfortable place to rest when they’re not well.” Best of all, it offers users generous access to natural light and a peaceful outdoor patio overlooking the Bowl. She noted that these upgrades reflect the Center’s overall purpose: “The changes are not just physical upgrades. They demonstrate our commitment to comprehensive, student-centered care.”

“Overall, the new Health Center supports our mission to provide high-quality, accessible and compassionate health care to every student, every day,” Ms. Zamora said.

As for the old Hoffman Health Center, it will be fully transformed into residential space. When asked about her feelings toward the new Center opening, Ms. Zamora is enthusiastic. “I can’t wait,” she says. “This space honors the past and works toward the healthy future Blair students deserve.”

The construction of the Center, along with upgrades to Mason and Freeman Halls, cost approximately \$30 million and are being funded entirely through generous philanthropic gifts. ■



The Storytellers behind *Row of Life*

by Director of Communications Adele Starrs

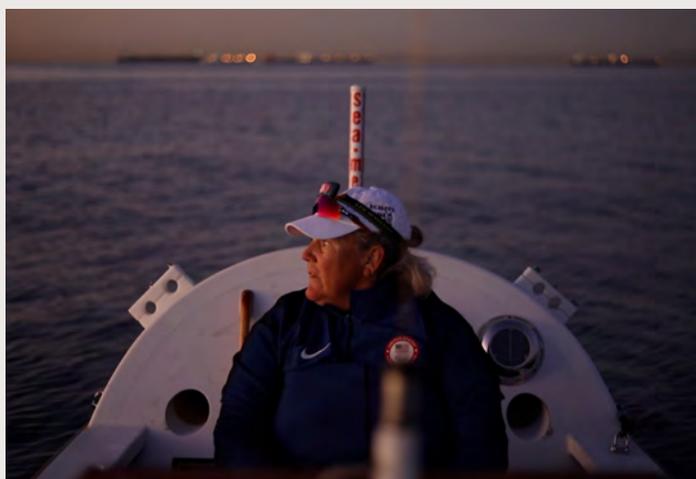
In the middle of the vast Pacific Ocean, amid the swells of dark, churning water, a 60-year-old Marine Corps veteran rows steadily forward. She is also a three-time Paralympian, a 14-time Guinness World Record holder and a woman determined to make history.

In April 2020, Angela Madsen pushed off from the dock in Marina Del Ray, California, in her 20-foot fiberglass rowing

boat, *Row of Life*. It was around midnight, and as her boat slipped into the inky water, it was stocked with everything she needed to sustain herself for the three- to four-month journey: a generous supply of ready-to-eat meals, protein shakes, instant coffee and Ziplocs stuffed with treats from her wife, Deb. From her rowing seat, she could see a motto pasted to the inside of her cabin for inspiration: “*Well-behaved women seldom make history.*” A satellite phone tucked

Row of Life

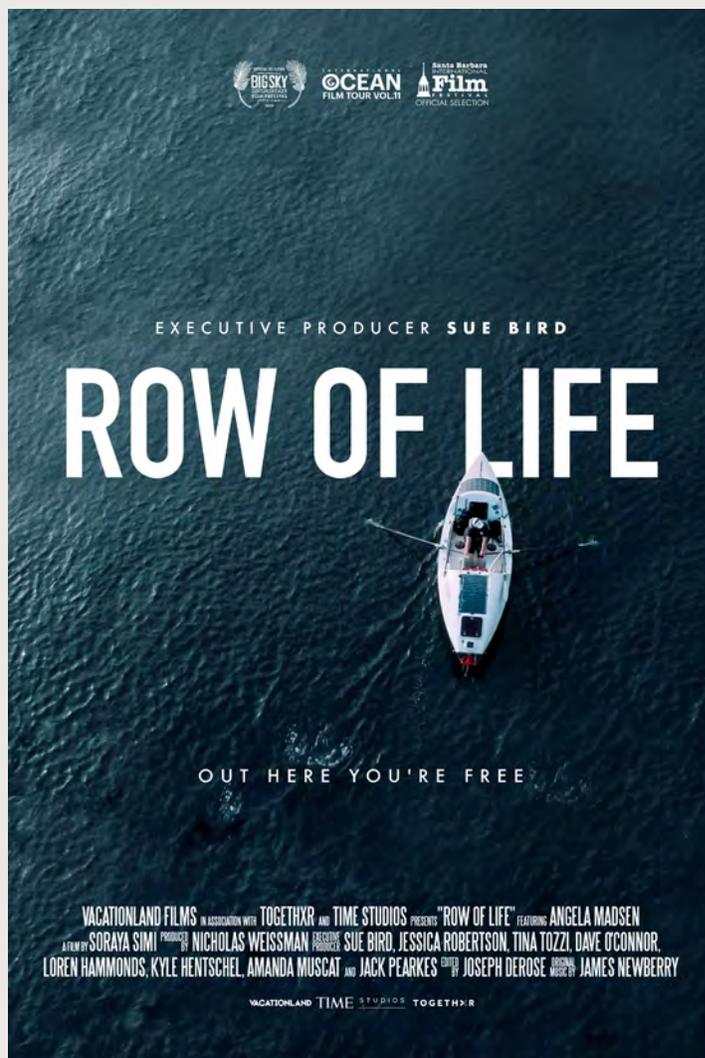
A behind-the-scenes moment captured by consultant and cinematographer Lukas Dong '15 during filming with Angela Madsen's wife, Deb.



Angela Madsen training in her 20-foot fiberglass boat. Credit: *ROW OF LIFE* film.

in a pocket offered a lifeline and kept her tethered to those she left behind as she rowed, 12 hours a day, across 2,500 miles of open ocean.

Angela felt confident she was prepared for the trip. She had long been an accomplished athlete and was an experienced rower. At 33, she had been paralyzed following a spinal surgery that went horribly wrong at a U.S. Veterans Affairs hospital. Refusing to let the injury hold her back, she returned to competitive sports and found her way back to health. As a member of the U.S. rowing team, Angela won four gold medals at world championships and competed in three Paralympic Games—earning a bronze medal in the shot put in London in 2012. She also rowed across the Atlantic



Row of Life



A favorite shot of *Lukas*, this scene captures a beautiful moment in the film as supporters come together to paddle out into the ocean. Credit: *ROW OF LIFE* film.

Ocean twice, circumnavigated Great Britain and conquered the Indian Ocean, though always as part of a rowing team. Her name filled the pages of *Guinness World Records* and the dozen Paralympic medals she had earned in shot put and javelin sat on her shelves.

But she dreamed of successfully crossing the Pacific solo.

Row of Life, a documentary named after her boat, chronicles Angela Madsen's remarkable journey across the Pacific in 2020. Premiering at film festivals across the country, the film has received widespread acclaim for its stunning cinematography and moving portrayal of Angela's relentless determination in the face of adversity that would overwhelm most.

I recently had the pleasure of sitting down with two Blair graduates, *Row of Life* executive producer Tina Tozzi '08 and Lukas Dong '15, who worked as a cinematographer and consultant on the film.

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Watching [Angela] take her 'Row of Life' is one of the most moving experiences I've had in recent memory.

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– Aaron Goldstein,
Spoiler Free Reviews

It's a coincidence that two Blair graduates ended up working on this film. Did you know each other beforehand?

Lukas: We've never met before this interview. It's good to meet you, Tina!

Tina: You as well! I am the Class of 2008, so we did not overlap at Blair. This is the first time we've spoken.

How did this project come to you?

Lukas: Soraya [Simi], the director, and I went to film school together at University of Southern California. We've worked



on projects together for many years. She'd been working on this documentary for a while, and I'd always heard about it from her. At first, I helped casually, just as a friend, when she needed people on set, thoughts on notes or editing. Every now and then I would come shoot a day with her to help out. Over time, I got the pleasure of seeing it grow from nothing into what it is now.

Tina: I work on the development side, so the project came to me later than Lukas; he was involved in the production of it. I work for a women's sports media company and Soraya and the team came to us seeking an attachment through our female athletes. Sue Bird, the gold-medal-winning basketball player and a co-founder of our company, is connected to the film, which led to my involvement as an executive producer. I've mainly been involved with the festival circuit and distribution of the film.

What spoke to you personally about the film? Why did you want to be part of it?

Tina: Angela is just an unbelievable character. I was fortunate in that, when I came in, I got to see the film in its almost completed form, so I was able to come on board knowing what the story was going to look like. I found Angela so magnetic to watch. She is so compelling, and her story checks every box for us: sport, empowerment, resilience and revolution. Angela meets all those key points. It was an easy "yes."

Lukas: For me, when I started meeting the people directly, there was something about Angela's personality and her relationship with Deb that was so powerful and heartbreaking that drew me in. That's my favorite part of documentary filmmaking. You are living life as you do it, as you are going through these experiences. So, just being in the room, filming, as Deb was talking. That was such an interesting life experience for me—to watch that and see how she dealt with circumstances. You don't have to be specifically passionate about the subject or passionate about rowing to be swept away by this powerful story that draws you in in emotional ways.

What do you hope that Blair students will take away when they see this documentary?

Tina: Persistence in their creative endeavors. This movie took six years to make and it was an act of resistance to keep pushing forward and tell the story. I hope that students see the value in telling the often-untold stories of people who inspire. It's a reminder to stay true to your pursuit and creativity. These stories are worth telling.

Lukas: There's a scene near the end—without giving anything away—when everyone comes together to paddle out in the ocean. The Coast Guard is there; the entire community is there. Angela felt so alone through a lot of her life, and, yet, the ending of the film is about how people

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Row of Life isn't just about one woman's attempt to cross the Pacific—it's about the drive to push beyond limits, the courage to face the unknown and the love that makes such journeys possible. Angela Madsen's story will stay with audiences long after the screen fades to black.... //

– *Overly Honest Reviews*

unite. Maybe Angela didn't even realize that—the power of doing what you care about. I hope students take from that the power of showing up authentically in the world.

What is one of the lessons you, personally, took from the movie?

Tina: Angela's love for life is enviable. If Angela chose to be the person who said, "Every bad thing happens to me," most would agree. Whether confronting societal bias as a member of the LGBTQ+ community, adapting to life with paraplegia, breaking barriers as a female athlete or overcoming breast cancer, she meets every challenge with unwavering resilience. She has such a jovial personality type and she takes a lot of things on the chin. It's moving to watch. And her commitment to something with the risk of death challenges you to live more boldly, with a little less whininess. It makes you ask yourself: If Angela is not whining, how can I be? She has no pity for herself. That is very admirable and something I took away from it.

Lukas: For me, one of the things I took away is to persist. Over six years, there were so many periods of ups and downs where I wasn't sure how Soraya would handle the curveballs, and if it would even be finished. It just shows: If it's the right piece and you put the energy into it, it'll turn into something. Any piece of art worth making has those moments. Following the arc of this film is a good example

of examining all the different points where it made sense to stop, but they kept on. It was inspiring to see [Director Soraya Simi] just keep chipping away at this block of marble.

Tina: *Row of Life* is also my first executive producer credit, and it means a lot to me. It's obvious to me that I wouldn't have this job or this career without the Blair video program or [Blair drama teachers] Judith and Steven Kampmann. In a rural town in New Jersey, I had the experience of having teachers who had written films and acted and been part of the television and movie world. As a student, they made it feel tangible to have this dream. Blair made this career path feel like a reality, when it can often feel like a delusional thing to consider. I'll always be grateful for that.

Are you surprised by the response the film is getting?

Lukas: No, once I saw a rough cut, I fell in love with it. I hadn't been that emotional watching a film in a very, very long time. After I saw a bit of it, that's what I expected.

Tina: It's no surprise to me that the film resonates with people. The hardest part was always going to be getting it in front of people. Angela herself is such a compelling story. Watching people do impossible things is compelling.

It's exciting to have Blair graduates finding success in the film industry. What's next for you both?



Executive producer Tina Tozzi '08 smiles as she's presented with a gift—a hat proudly stitched with her role in the film.

Lukas: I'm working on a documentary called *Love, Chinatown*, premiering in Boston soon. It's about Chinatowns across America being overtaken by development and a story about the resilience of people who live in those communities. It's a really beautiful story and the central figure is this strong, charismatic woman who welcomed me like family. We see the story through her eyes, and she tells it like it is.

Tina: I work in development, so most of the things I work on are still in the pipeline. But I executive-produced season two of *Surf Girls*, which is on Prime Video. I'm currently focused on independent creative development in the unscripted television space. I'm really proud of what I'm building there.



Lukas and Director Soraya Simi, who studied film together at the University of Southern California.

While their upcoming projects vary, both Tina and Lukas share the same calling—to give light to stories that matter and endure. Their work reflects the message at the heart of *Row of Life* about the beauty of the human spirit and the power of resilience. Because, at its core, *Row of Life* is about far more than crossing an ocean—it's about finding the strength to keep going when the tides rise in life. Thanks to the work of filmmakers like Tina and Lukas, Angela's story continues to reach new audiences, encouraging all of us to live just a little more boldly.



around the
Arch





Blair Honors Dedicated Faculty & Staff at Opening Dinner

As a new school year began and fresh faces were about to arrive on the hilltop, Blair took a moment to honor the familiar ones—those whose steady hands have long guided and welcomed newcomers into the community. At the Opening of School Dinner, Head of School Peter G. Curran honored six employees who have dedicated their time to moving Blair forward with warmth and care.

Faculty and staff members who marked 10-year milestones were gifted handcrafted wooden chairs engraved with the Blair seal. They include Associate Director of Annual Giving Kristine Scialla, Communications Project Manager Heather Sprague, Director of Alumni Relations Courtney (Brennan) Stanford '95, Dean of Equity, Inclusion and Belonging and fine arts teacher Evan Thomas, and Director of School

Photography and fine arts teacher Tyson Trish. History teacher and head boys' golf coach Andrew Sykes was honored with an original painting in recognition of his 25 years of service to the School.

Alongside their peers in the Romano Dining Hall, these employees celebrated their momentous anniversaries, and Mr. Curran expressed the School's gratitude for their dedication as the new year began. ▀

Retirements



Craig Stocker

In August, Blair bid farewell to grounds crew member Craig Stocker, who retired after 25 years of dedicated service to the Academy. Since 2000, he has been a quintessential member of the team,

keeping Blair's campus beautiful in every season. He took particular pride in caring for the nine-hole golf course, but above all, he is most proud of his children, Craig '08, Matt '11, Ryan and Amy, and grandchildren.



Reanne Mauriello

After managing the school store since 1996, Reanne Mauriello retired from Blair with more than a quarter century of committed service to the School. She arrived on campus joining her daughter, Sara (Mauriello) Breitbart '98, and has guided generations of

students while making meaningful friendships. Reanne and her husband, Phil, are proud parents of Philip J. Mauriello Jr. '04 and Sara, married to Michael Breitbart '97. Her decades of service as Blair's longest-running store manager leave a lasting legacy at the School.

Welcome, New Faculty & Staff

At the opening of school, the community welcomed several new faculty and staff members, and we are pleased to introduce them to the Blair family.



A group of Blair's newest faculty members gather under the Arch at the end of summer during orientation, just days before students arrived on campus.

Faculty



**L'Oreal
Carter**

Performing Arts & English

Education: Franklin & Marshall College, BA in English; Brown University/Trinity Repertory, MFA in theatrical studies

Directs: Blair Academy Players

Director of Theatre L'Oreal Carter joins our performing arts and English departments. A director, vocalist and acting coach, she brings a world of experience, most recently serving as a visiting adjunct professor of acting at both Franklin & Marshall College and Florida State University.

Faculty



**Peter
Cholnoky**
History

Education: Bucknell University, BA in history

Coaches: Thirds boys' soccer assistant; skiing assistant

Peter Cholnoky comes to us from the Forman School in Litchfield, Connecticut. Prior to that, he taught world history at Milton Area High School in Milton, Pennsylvania, and conducted in-depth research on U.S. covert operations in Latin America through the Emerging Scholars Program at Bucknell University.

Faculty



**William
Dollhopf**
Mathematics

Education: Wesleyan University, BA in mathematics and physics

Coaches: Head JV boys' soccer; spring track-and-field assistant

Most recently, William Dollhopf completed a teaching fellowship with Generation Teach in Boston, where he taught two sections of engineering and led sports programming for middle school students. He is Blair's 2025 Hardwick Teaching Fellow.

Faculty



**Anna
Glosenger**
Science

Education: Rutgers University, BA in physics

Coaches: JV volleyball assistant; winter musical

Anna Glosenger is a 2025 graduate of Rutgers University and most recently worked as an intern in data analytics at The Bridge in West Caldwell, New Jersey.

Faculty

**Zafi
Levy**
*Squash Coach
in residence*



Education: Williams College, BA in economics and political science; Springfield College, MA in sport science/education

Zafi Levy joins Blair as squash professional-in-residence, providing individual lessons while serving as head varsity boys' coach during Coach Compton's graduate school sabbatical. A top Israeli junior player who served as national junior coach, Coach Levy earned All-American honors at Williams College and, later, coached the men's and women's programs there for 21 years, regularly leading both teams to top 15 College Squash Association rankings and the finals in the annual New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) championships.

Faculty

**Timothy
Patzelt**
Mathematics



Education: University of Connecticut, BS in mathematics
Coaches: Skiing assistant; head JV boys' tennis

Timothy Patzelt most recently worked at Kimball Union Academy in Meriden, New Hampshire, where he taught Algebra 2 and precalculus, led STEM initiatives and advised capstone projects focused on artificial intelligence (AI).

Faculty

**Emily
Lunger '17**
Language



Education: Pomona College, BA in French and anthropology; Middlebury College, MA in French
Coaches: Girls' cross country assistant; spring track-and-field assistant

Emily Lunger comes to us from Dakar, Senegal, where she conducted research on sociopolitical issues in sub-Saharan Africa, and, prior to that, served as a teaching assistant in Paris and a teaching fellow at The Pennington School. She is the daughter of Eric Lunger and Penn Graves Lunger, former chair of the classics department and English teacher, respectively.

Faculty

**Kendall
Rice**
English



Education: Williams College, BA in English and chemistry
Head Coaches: Girls' varsity tennis; girls' squash assistant coach

New York native and volunteer firefighter Kendall Rice brings to Blair experience tutoring high school students in Williamstown, Massachusetts, where she designed and taught chemistry lessons as a private tutor, and at Williamstown Elementary School, where she taught reading analysis and writing skills to fifth and sixth graders.

Faculty

**Vicki
Patterson**
English



Education: Rutgers University, BA in English; Penn State, MEd in special education
Coaches: Varsity volleyball assistant

Vicki Patterson has been a part of the Blair community since her sons, Owen '17 and Gareth '18, began ninth grade in the early 2010s. In addition to serving as an adjunct professor at William Paterson University, she has spent the past three decades teaching a variety of subjects to middle school students in the Allamuchy, New Jersey, school district.

Faculty

**Keith
Ridgeway**
Language



Education: High Point University, summa cum laude BA in French; Appalachian State University, magna cum laude MA in college student development
Directs: Model U.N.

With two decades of experience teaching French, Keith Ridgeway comes to us from the McDonogh School in Owings Mills, Maryland, following a previous role in Prince William County Public Schools in Manassas, Virginia.

Faculty



Jonathan Seamans,
Chief Financial & Operations Officer
Business Office

Education: Clarkson University, BS in economics; Syracuse University, MPA in public administration

Jonathan Seamans most recently led financial and technology operations as the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs associate dean of finance and technology and, prior to that, as the Princeton Athletics associate director for finance and administration.

Faculty



Matt Smith
English

Education: Union College, BA in French and Francophone studies
Head Coaches: Varsity baseball; JV boys' basketball assistant coach

Matt Smith has spent 15 years coaching and teaching high school history at boarding, charter, inner-city and parochial schools, most recently at Brophy College Preparatory in Phoenix, Arizona. He began his career as a journalist at ESPN, where he created content for *SportsCenter* and *Baseball Tonight*, among other programs.

Faculty



Kailey Smith
History

Education: Carleton College, BA in psychology
Head Coaches: Varsity volleyball; indoor track-and-field assistant

Most recently a teaching fellow at the Harvey School in Katonah, New York, Kailey Smith cotaught modern European history and psychology electives and proudly led the school's varsity girls' volleyball team to the best finish in school history.

Faculty



David Uhlig
Science

Education: Temple University, BA in psychology
Coaches: Crew assistant

David Uhlig comes to us from the Hun School of Princeton, where he recently completed a teaching fellowship, teaching psychology and leadership seminars in addition to serving as an assistant strength and rowing coach.

Faculty



George Watson
Mathematics

Education: Manhattan College, summa cum laude BS in mathematics; Purdue University, MS in mathematics
Coaches: Thirds boys' basketball assistant

With over three decades of experience teaching mathematics and statistics at the college level, including New York University, Manhattan College, American University and Drexel University, George Watson hails most recently from McDonogh School in Owings Mills, Maryland.

Staff



Jewelya Bussi,
Executive Assistant to the Associate Head of School
Student Life Office

Education: Berkeley College, associate degree in business administration and marketing

Jewelya Bussi comes to us from local bakeshop Defying Gravitea and Architekt Music Academy, where she created weekly content for Facebook and Instagram, assisted with scheduling and supported event setups.

Staff



Linda Crump,
Director of Finance
Business Office

Education: Southern New Hampshire University, summa cum laude BS in accounting

Linda Crump comes to us with more than two decades of experience in public and private accounting as a licensed CPA, most recently serving as the chief financial officer for Bishop Guertin High School in Nashua, New Hampshire.

Staff



Jeffrey Dulow,
Assistant
Director of Finance
Business Office

Education: Albright College, BS in business administration/finance; Pace University, MBA in financial management; Seton Hall University, MS in accounting

Jeffrey Dulow, CPA, joins Blair with over 20 years of leadership experience in accounting, auditing and financial operations, most recently serving as controller at Brooklyn Law School. He previously held senior roles at Bergen Community College and CIT Group, while also teaching accounting at several colleges.

Staff



Madeline Kling Thees '13,
Associate
Director of Annual Giving
Advancement

Education: Bucknell University, BA in psychology and education; Boston College, MA in higher education administration

Maddie Kling Thees continues her family's long Blair lineage by returning to the hilltop after nearly a decade of work in higher education, most recently, as an educational consultant for Marymount Manhattan College and the school's associate director for leadership and involvement.

Staff



Scott Kushner,
Director of Annual Giving
Advancement

Education: Swarthmore College, BA in sociology and anthropology; MS in sport management from the University of Massachusetts Amherst

With over a decade of experience in fundraising, Scott Kushner comes to Blair from Lafayette College, where he managed a portfolio of 250 alumni, oversaw giving societies and executed major fundraising campaigns.

Staff



Lisa Roycroft,
Admission
Coordinator
Admission Office

Education: County College of Morris, AA in social work; Kean University, BA in speech and hearing science

Lisa Roycroft joins Blair as a new admission coordinator, serving as the School's first point of contact for prospective families. With more than seven years of experience as an office manager and administrative assistant, Lisa has long supported school leaders, staff and families, most recently at Stillwater Township Elementary School.

Staff



Jodi Van Valkenburg,
Accounts
Payable &
Purchasing Coordinator
Business Office

Education: Rutgers University, BA in communication and Spanish

With more than 20 years of experience in business management, marketing and customer service, Jodi Van Valkenburg has most recently served as a business manager at the Center for Technical Communication, where she oversaw financial operations, client communications and marketing, among other responsibilities.



A portrait of Ernie Brod, courtesy of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Holocaust Survivor Ernie Brod Bears Witness

A few weeks before his third birthday, Ernie Brod sailed into New York Harbor with his mother aboard the Portuguese ship *Serpa Pinto*. It was the spring of 1941, and the pair's journey had been long and harrowing. Before the Nazi occupation of Austria, the Brod family had been prominent film producers, living lavishly and frequently attending movie premieres alongside well-known actors and actresses of the era. But, in 1938, Ernie's father was imprisoned during the *Anschluss*, Nazi Germany's takeover of Austria. He died in prison a few years later, while his brother, Manfred, remained in hiding in England, sheltered by a Jewish couple. After a perilous escape that took them through wartorn Austria, France and Spain, Ernie and his mother finally secured safe passage to the United States.

So began the remarkable story of Ernie Brod, an 87-year-old Jewish Holocaust survivor who met remotely with Blair students this past spring from his home in New York.

History teacher Anna Raley, who teaches Modern European History at Blair, invited Mr. Brod to speak in the hope that students would understand the importance of bearing witness to these events in history. "Mr. Brod's story is different from the one all sophomores just read with Elie Wiesel's *Night*, and it is a unique experience that impacted many people but is also fairly unknown."

Blair history students have examined how the Holocaust didn't happen overnight—it was a slow, calculated process that eventually impacted the entire world. Mr. Brod reinforced this idea, explaining that the Nazi rise to

power was methodical, beginning with their control of communication. The Brod family's company, Lux Films, was targeted, he believes, for this reason.

"The first thing they did was grab control of the methods of communications...the Nazis went after all the companies in those fields," he told the audience. "My grandfather's company [Lux Films] was accused of tax evasion, as an excuse for taking over the company. All the men who worked there were arrested. They were eventually sent to Buchenwald concentration camp."

Although Mr. Brod was too young to remember much of the German occupation firsthand, he later discovered a startling collection of family documents hidden in an old briefcase—letters between his parents, records of his father's imprisonment

and inventories of everything the Nazis forced his family to document before their belongings were confiscated. “Jews were required to make an exhaustive listing of everything in their homes—silverware, dishes, curtains—everything you can think of,” he explained, sharing these chilling records with the audience.

Despite the trauma of his early years, much of Mr. Brod’s story is one of resilience. When he and his mother arrived in the United States, they were sponsored by a relative, whom his mother eventually married. They settled in Brighton Beach, Brooklyn, living modestly, and with a newfound sense of security. Mr. Brod had, he said, one goal: to become American as soon as possible. “I learned the fastest way to do that was to root for the Brooklyn Dodgers. I became the biggest fan the Brooklyn Dodgers had ever known.”

Thirteen years after landing at Ellis Island as a refugee, Mr. Brod enrolled in Columbia University, part of a large cohort of Jewish students from New York City. He became an attorney and eventually spent 40 years as a corporate investigator, earning widespread recognition as an expert in his field. At age 21, when his mother became terminally ill, he also reunited with his brother, Manfred, who had grown up in England with his foster family. Their relationship, Mr. Brod happily noted, remains remarkably close to this day. “This past November was his 90th birthday. My wife and I traveled to London for it,” he told the audience.

During the question-and-answer session that followed Mr. Brod’s tale, students asked why he continues to share his experience today. “The frightening rise in antisemitism...has made me feel that I have a story to

tell,” he replied. “There are people who deny and diminish the Holocaust, who feel that too much attention is being paid to the Holocaust and that we should move on.”

He left students with this final thought: “Combating discrimination and hatred whenever you see it is something you need to do. Be aware of the thoughtlessness and, worse, hatred, that is around us.... There is no easy way out of this. Please remember, there is a horrible possibility at the end of acts of discrimination and hatred. It happened in WWII and the Holocaust and it can happen again if we don’t remember history and learn from it.”

Mr. Brod’s testimony was presented as part of The Alexander “ARob” Roberts Forum on Holocaust Education, established in 2022, in memory of Alexander Roberts ’18. A beloved member of the Blair community, Alex was known for his kindness, leadership and a commitment to service that began with his Boy Scout Eagle Service Project, a memorial and

film to honor Holocaust survivor Ira Lulinski and others who perished, aiming to educate and combat denial. Today the forum continues his legacy, bringing speakers to Blair each year to discuss Holocaust-related topics and ensuring that Alex’s commitment to remembrance lives on. ▀



Ernie as a child. Credit: Ernie Brod.



Among the treasure trove of documents hidden in an old briefcase—letters between his parents, records of his father’s imprisonment—was Ernie’s 1938 visa application to immigrate to the United States.



A photo of Ernie’s parents is shown during the presentation to Blair students, taken before his father’s imprisonment by the Nazis.

Mason, Freeman & the Bowl Reimagined

This fall, Mason and Freeman Halls emerged with crisp new exteriors, renovated interiors and inviting outdoor spaces—all part of Blair’s broader efforts reimagining the heart of campus. Built in 1966 alongside the field known as “the Bowl”* and adjacent to Blair’s new Center for Health and Well-Being, the updated Mason and Freeman dorms reflect a renewed vision for student life on the hilltop.

The buildings now feature facades of limestone, stone and brick as well as new windows. Designed to better complement neighboring architecture, the renovations also include outdoor spaces between the dorms, soon to be complete with patios, firepits and comfortable seating where students can relax and connect.

Inside the dorms, students enjoy a number of upgrades, including modern lighting, new carpeting and warm wood trim, as well as completely renovated bathrooms in both halls. Each dorm also now features a ground-floor bathroom, enhancing accessibility and adding convenience for everyone.

The renovations are part of a larger initiative to revitalize the area around the Bowl—Blair’s historic central athletic field. “Given many team’s preference for playing on turf, we currently use the Bowl only about three times per year for student life events such as Super Sunday, Blairstock or the finale of ‘The Game,’” explains Head of School Peter G. Curran. But students from decades past may remember a different experience.

“The Bowl used to be the heartbeat of campus on game day,” recalls Dean of Enrollment Teddy Wenner ’96, who remembers the space being a hub for athletics from his days as a student. That shift reflects broader changes in athletics as a whole. “Colleges largely use turf now, so coaches at the next level expect to see athletes who are used to playing on turf,” Mr. Wenner explains. “Our coaches are trying to prepare our kids for the game as it’s played at the college level. You have to practice how you play.”

To that end, the Bowl will be resurfaced with new turf next summer. Once complete, it will host field hockey, soccer and lacrosse games, bringing action back to the center of campus. With patios overlooking the field, Mr. Curran anticipates a lively experience.



Photographs capture Freeman Hall circa 1966, offering a window into the dorm’s construction—and vintage Buccaneer pride.

scene. “It’s going to be a lot of fun for residents of Annie, Mason and Freeman to watch games now from their rooms and the new outdoor seating areas,” he says.

Taken together, the dorm renovations, the recently opened Center for Health and Well-Being and the transformation of the Bowl will mark a new era for the heart of Blair’s campus. “With all new landscaping and upgraded facilities, it’s going to be one of the premier athletic sites in the state,” adds Mr. Wenner. “It’s going to become a signature piece of Blair’s beautiful campus.”



A peek into one of the dorm’s renovated bathrooms shows the lime green tile is gone for good—and highlights just how far Mason and Freeman have come!



Opening just in time for the start of classes, students make the most of the refreshed dorms—gathering with friends, settling in and enjoying the first days of the school year.

*The field was renamed “Marcial Field” in 1984.

STATE OF ADMISSION

BY DEAN OF ENROLLMENT TEDDY WENNER '96

By all measures, 2025-2026 has been another exceptional season for Blair admission—and I'm delighted to share our latest highlights. Each year, we are attracting stronger applicants, with 1,450 applications for this school year, reflecting the rising strength and diversity of our applicant pool. This outstanding interest speaks to what families value most about Blair: our commitment to academic excellence, our strong dual-advisor support system and our culture of kind, high-character students.

This fall, our admission team is once again preparing to travel the globe, sharing Blair's story with prospective families. Last year, I spent over three weeks in Asia hosting receptions, conducting interviews and meeting with current parents. Many expressed their belief that the United States continues to offer the best education system to prepare their children for college and beyond. Notably, there is a growing emphasis on achieving a balance between academic excellence and personal well-being. Families are increasingly seeking schools like Blair—places where students are not only challenged but also cared for deeply.

This shift in perspective reflects a new generation of international families, many of whom have experienced the benefits of an American education themselves—often, at the college or graduate level and, in some cases, even during their secondary-school years. These parents now value factors beyond rankings, such as dynamic school culture and mental health support, and are drawn to institutions that both challenge and support. This evolving mindset aligns well with Blair's strengths. As we continue our work, we will further emphasize our commitment to providing top-tier academics within a connected, warm and welcoming community.

In fact, one of the most visible and well-received examples of this holistic approach—academic rigor balanced with care—



is our beautiful new Center for Health and Well-Being. During campus tours over the last year, families consistently expressed their appreciation that Blair is tangibly committed to integrating academic rigor with a strong focus on wellness.

"Blair's campus and facilities remain a key differentiator for us, showcasing the opportunities that exist for our students. Now, the new Center for Health and Well-being adds a new piece to our whole strategy of challenging students in a supportive environment."

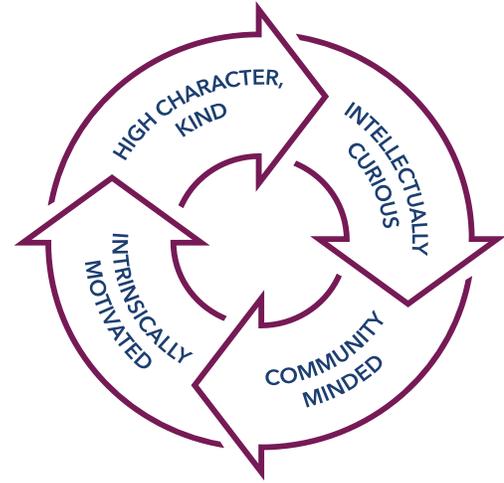
—Teddy Wenner '96, Dean of Enrollment

Thoughtfully designed with students at the center, the space is welcoming and accessible, encouraging connection, self-

care and easy access to a range of services. The layout fosters collaboration among counselors, nurses, health educators, and, importantly, it allows us to support students in more integrated and effective ways. The new space offers the privacy and flexibility students need—whether for a quiet moment before class, a medical appointment on Zoom, an in-person visit with a clinician or a yoga class that promotes mindfulness. And, student-led initiatives like Project Ally are already thriving here, using the space to host events and promote mental health awareness around campus.

It is no surprise, then, that the students most drawn to Blair, who excel and realize their full potential here, are those who value this balance between challenge and support. I am often asked what Blair looks for in an applicant. Although there is no single “golden ticket,” we consistently seek students of kindness, high character and curiosity—young people who will contribute meaningfully to our community and grow from all Blair has to offer. As we continue to introduce

WHAT TYPE OF STUDENT DOES BLAIR ADMIT?



families to Blair—on campus and around the globe—I remain deeply grateful for all that you do to bring these exceptional students to the hilltop. 🇺🇸



- 1 AFGHANISTAN
- 2 AUSTRALIA
- 3 BAHAMAS
- 4 BARBADOS
- 5 BERMUDA
- 6 CANADA
- 7 CHINA
- 8 EGYPT
- 9 GERMANY
- 10 HONG KONG
- 11 HUNGARY
- 12 ITALY
- 13 MEXICO
- 14 NIGERIA
- 15 POLAND
- 16 RUSSIA
- 17 SINGAPORE
- 18 SOUTH KOREA
- 19 SWITZERLAND
- 20 TAIWAN
- 21 THAILAND
- 22 TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
- 23 UKRAINE
- 24 UNITED KINGDOM
- 25 UNITED STATES
- 26 VIETNAM

CLASS OF
2025

**SHINES THROUGH
COMMUNITY**



THROUGH RAINY COMMENCEMENT

As a steady rain fell over the Blair Academy campus, the community gathered, along with friends, family, alumni and members of the Board of Trustees for a momentous occasion. And if the weather tried to dampen the spirit of the day, it failed—spectacularly. The Class of 2025, resilient as ever, brought the sunshine in their energy, enthusiasm and grace. As they processed proudly through the Arch—umbrellas in hand—their smiles said it all: This was their moment, and nothing—not even a few raindrops—could take it away.

From the very beginning of their senior year, this class was challenged to lean in—into curiosity, connection and the core values that make Blair more than just a school. Back in September, the message was clear: Live your Blair bucket list and embrace the Five Fundamentals. More specifically? Be curious. Suspend judgment. And the Class of 2025 did just that.

Throughout the year, they stepped forward with open hearts and inquisitive minds. They asked thoughtful questions, they listened—really listened—to one another and they sought understanding across lines of difference. Whether in

classrooms, dorms, dining halls or on athletic fields, they lived out what it means to build meaningful community.

// Over these past four years, you’ve learned about yourselves, your strengths, your voices and your values. And now, here you are... standing on the edge of something new and exciting. //

—Peter G. Curran, Head of School

“If, on the off chance, that all continues to go according to plan...one day we will forget what it’s like to be what we are in this present moment, as individuals,” said Emily Dou ’25, class speaker and recipient of the George P. Jenkins ’32 Prize as valedictorian of the class. “We collectively hurdle toward some sort of a conclusion. But despite that, through it all, it is empathy that tied us through the millenniums past.”

The entire Blair community extends heartfelt congratulations to the Class of 2025!



Class of 2025 College Matriculation List

American University
 Amherst College
 Babson College
 Barnard College (2)
 Baylor University
 Boston College (3)
 Boston University (3)
 Brown University
 Bucknell University
 Canisius University
 Carnegie Mellon University
 Case Western Reserve University
 Colby College
 College of Charleston
 College of the Holy Cross
 Columbia University (2)
 Cornell University (3)
 Dartmouth College
 Dickinson College
 Drexel University
 Elon University
 Emory University (2)
 George Washington University (3)
 Georgetown University
 Hamilton College
 Haverford College
 Hobart and William Smith Colleges
 Indiana University (Bloomington)
 Johns Hopkins University (2)
 La Salle University (2)
 Lehigh University (4)
 Louisiana State University
 Loyola Marymount University
 McGill University
 Middlebury College
 Monmouth University
 New York University (11)
 North Carolina State University
 Northeastern University (2)
 Northwestern University (2)
 Penn State University (University Park) (3)

Princeton University (2)
 Providence College
 Regent's University London
 Rhode Island School of Design
 Saint Francis University
 San Diego State University
 Stanford University
 Swarthmore College (3)
 Syracuse University
 Texas Christian University
 The University of Tennessee (Knoxville)
 The University of Texas at Dallas
 Trinity College
 Tufts University (2)
 Tulane University of Louisiana
 United States Military Academy at West Point
 United States Naval Academy (4)
 University of California (Berkeley)
 University of Chicago (2)
 University of Colorado Boulder
 University of Florida (2)
 University of Georgia
 University of Iowa
 University of Maryland (College Park) (2)
 University of Miami (3)
 University of Michigan
 University of New England
 University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (2)
 University of Pennsylvania (4)
 University of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh)
 University of Richmond (2)
 University of Southern California
 University of St Andrews (2)
 University of Toronto
 University of Virginia (Main Campus) (2)
 Villanova University
 Wake Forest University
 Washington University in St. Louis (2)
 Wellesley College
 William & Mary
 Yale University





Faculty Awards

John C. & Eve S. Bogle Teaching Prize:
Math Department Chair Danyelle Doldoorian

Riether Residential Life Award:
Assistant Dean of Admission Chase Palanca '15

Lillian & Samuel Tedlow Teaching Prize:
Director of Athletics Paul Clavel '88

Headmaster's Faculty Prize:
Dean of Students Andee Ryerson

Student Awards

Headmaster's Prize: **Genesis Medina & Minh Anh Vo**
Blair Academy Trophy: **Libby Russell & William Antunes**

George P. Jenkins '32 Prize: **Emily Dou**

Appointments to the United States Service Academies:
**Joe Alwick, Jack Armbruster, Kaleb Nelson,
Samantha Pappas & Libby Russell**



ALUMNI *Weekend*

Brings Magic to the Hilltop



Though the years have passed, the faces linger—etched with time, a little wiser, gently lined—yet still unmistakably familiar. A quick smile and you suddenly fall right back to where you left off, English class in Clinton Hall or sledding down the front hill on lunch trays. Suddenly, it feels like no time has passed at all. That is the magic of Alumni Weekend, and this past June, the hilltop was brimming with it.

“Leaving Blair for the final time as a student was a bittersweet moment, but there was a new journey ahead,” Garrett Long ’20 shares. “What I’ve found is that all roads lead home and that’s exactly what Blair is, a home away from home. Returning to campus as an alum brings so many amazing memories flooding back.”

The celebration began on Friday as the Blair Cup Golf Scramble teed off beneath a clear blue sky. Alumni, old and new, gathered on the lush nine-hole course, their laughter and groans at missed shots proving that, club in hand or not, their Blair spirit never faded. Not far away, the Shipyard buzzed with energy as players of all ages took up paddles for the pickleball tournament. Cheers and lighthearted banter filled the air, culminating in a warm reception where stories were shared and awards handed out with smiles all around.

Elsewhere on campus, a different kind of journey was underway. Returning alumni wandered familiar paths transformed—buildings gleaming with fresh renovations, spaces reborn with new purpose. Current students stood ready to share their experiences, their voices bridging past and present during a lively panel discussion on what life at Blair means today. Inside Clinton Hall, the atmosphere softened with a touch of nostalgia. “Classrooms without



From left, former Blair Board Chair Doug Kimmelman P'12 '13 '15 '22, Tommy Kimmelman '15, Scottie Kimmelman '22 and Head of School Peter G. Curran gather for the portrait unveiling during Alumni Weekend.

As a kick start to the Alumni Weekend festivities, Blair Trustees, faculty, alumni, family and friends gathered in Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts to celebrate the portrait unveiling of Doug Kimmelman P'12 '13 '15 '22. Doug's legacy at Blair is one of transformative leadership, deep care for the institution and lasting impact. As Blair's 19th Board Chair, his visionary guidance over nearly a decade and the Kimmelman family's generous philanthropy elevated every aspect of student life, from academics, the arts and athletics, to residential and leadership experiences. Doug's generosity, strategic insight and a selfless dedication to the Blair community leaves behind a stronger, more vibrant Blair. Those at the unveiling embraced the opportunity to remember Carol Kimmelman, who served on Blair's Board of Trustees and was proud mom to Annie '12, Robert '13, Tommy '15 and Scottie '22.

"Thank you all for the painting, but thank you truly for a lifetime friendship and how you have embraced every aspect of my life and my children's lives," Doug said, addressing the crowd gathered at the portrait unveiling, alongside his sons, Tommy and Scottie. "None of you did it because you were supposed to, but because you genuinely cared about all of us, so for me and my family...how do you not try to leave [Blair] a little better than you found it?"

Quizzes" invited guests to once again settle into desks and absorb lessons. Many took the opportunity to attend English teacher Bob Brandwood's final official class, a bittersweet moment marking the end of an era. The evening concluded with milestone reunion gatherings that dodged patchy rain showers, a memorial service led by former chaplain Rev. Peter Amerman, the Class of 1975 Reunion Dinner and a

Welcome Back, Bucs! Party under the stars on Hardwick Quad as DJ Jeremy Duncan '01 kept the spirits high.

"It was a treat to reconnect with everyone, catch up with faculty and just enjoy being back on campus," says Kat (Hood) Nelson '05. "It will always feel like home."



Saturday dawned with the kind of energy only Blair Bucs can bring. From power walks and putting practice at the Urdang Practice Greens to morning hikes across the Siegel Property, alumni embraced the day with enthusiasm. The campus brimmed with anticipation for the 10th-annual Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony, where the Blair community gathered to celebrate wrestler Ben “Buzzy” Bishop ’66, runner Emily Ferguson ’95, rower Christine (Geiser) Nalty ’03, the 2009-2010 boys’ tennis team, and longtime coach and Athletic Director Daniel Hazen (*read more on page 54*).

The spirit of the day carried into the Alumni Parade, a vibrant procession from the Arch to the Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts. Spanning generations—from the Class of 1954 to 2020—the crowd radiated Blair pride. At the Head of School Assembly, that pride deepened as dedicated alumni and former employees were honored with the Peachey Awards, Alumni of the Year and Citation of Merit, recognizing the quiet leadership and lasting impact that makes these events memorable. While classmates caught up and stories flowed at the alumni lunch, Andy Peters ’00

engaged the crowd with a magic show that brought a touch of wonder to the midday festivities for the youngest members of the Blair family.

Later, the arts took center stage. At the Arts Guild induction, Blair recognized the contributions of Don Jay Smith ’65, P’11, Timothy Sullivan ’95 (aka Tim Fite), Cristina Marie Vivencio ’00 and Lukas Dong ’15—artists whose work has shaped Blair’s creative legacy and inspired beyond its campus (*read more on page 62*). In a heartfelt moment, the Class of 1965 surprised Don Jay by dedicating the Arts Guild wall in his and his late wife, Linda’s, honor—a lasting tribute to their impact on the Blair community.

The event drew to a close with the *All In* presentation and Alumni Dinner and Celebration, a fitting finale for a historic occasion. As The Grooveline, led by 2023 Arts Guild inductee Jon Williams ’89, filled the night air with music, the Blair family raised a glass to the historic campaign that shaped today’s campus—and to the bright chapters still to come. In that moment, surrounded by laughter and legacy, it was as if no time had passed at all.



Peachey Award Recipients

Alumni Volunteer of the Year

Cassandra (Barr) Davson '90, P'22 '26

Class Correspondent of the Year

Garrett Long '20

Class Representative of the Year

Kat (Hood) Nelson '05

Outstanding Reunion Committee

Class of 1975 & 2000

2025 Citation of Merit

Blair has long recognized exceptional dedication by awarding the Citation of Merit to the single individual whose devotion best exemplifies the School's values. This year, however, we honor and bid farewell to not one but nine retiring employees, bound together by their extraordinary dedication to Blair: a security guard, a maintenance worker, an administrative assistant, and teachers who have devoted their lives to shaping the minds and hearts of students in English, math, history and drama. They have served the School tirelessly for an average of 34 years and a combined total of 303 years, and each has left a profound mark on Blair in their own way.

One has been the warm, steady voice at the end of the phone line, offering reassurance to parents on calm days and in moments of uncertainty, connecting them to their children. Another is the kind soul who, in hurricanes and storms, spent countless hours in the cold and dark, restarting campus generators to restore warmth and light to Blair. A third is an individual who is synonymous with English at Blair, known to inspire and captivate students with poetry readings so beautiful that they leave his audience spellbound.

It is indeed bittersweet to say goodbye to a teacher who brought the Peace Corps' ethos with her to Blair, leaving an indelible mark on what it means to selflessly serve at Blair. Or the English department mentor who faithfully welcomed new teachers and advisees alike with wise counsel and baked goods, ensuring each felt supported. Then there is the pair who, for 40 winters, rose in the dead of night to plow the campus and ensure that students and teachers got to class safely and on time. Another showed students not only a boundless willingness to offer extra help outside of class, but also the freedom to express one's individuality. And, finally, there is the teacher who, when he was not building a stage with his own hands, directed more than 75

drama productions, coaching students out of their shells and making them feel welcome and challenged in his care.

In a world where long-term dedication to any one place is increasingly rare, these nine individuals stand as powerful reminders of the impact that generosity, care, loyalty and expertise can have on a community. Blair will simply not be the same without them. To honor all that they have given to Blair over the last four decades, we are proud to award this year's Citation of Merit to Bob Brandwood, Joanne Brandwood, Craig Evans, Kaye Evans, Steve Fields, Andy Gramberg, Dale Klaver, Dave Naysmith and Kathy Otinsky.

To view the full text of the 2025 Citation of Merit, visit www.blair.edu/citation-of-merit.



Head of School Peter G. Curran (*center*) presents the Citation of Merit to retiring employees (*from left to right*): Kathy Otinsky, Craig and Kaye Evans, Bob and Joanne Brandwood, and David Naysmith. Not pictured are Steve Fields, Andy Gramberg and Dale Klaver.

2025 Alumni of the Year Laura Cochran Morris '75

“When it hasn’t been your day, your week, your month or even your year,” there’s one thing for sure....Laura Cochran Morris '75 will be there for you. It doesn't matter if they are fellow members of the Class of 1975 or years apart, Laura is a champion and cheerleader for her fellow alums and one of Blair's ultimate connectors. Her deep love for her alma mater and her classmates shines through in everything she does.

Laura comes from a proud Blair legacy, following in the footsteps of her grandfather, Lloyd Cochran 1918; her father, Jim Cochran '48; and her brother, James Cochran '79. She thrived as a day student, diving into sports and activities that filled her schedule to the brim. Laura also served as prefect and member of the Blue & White Key Society and *ACTA*, but the field is where she left her mark. Laura earned 12

varsity letters during her four-year Blair career and captained the varsity field hockey, basketball and softball teams. Her exceptional talent and leadership earned her three top honors from the School: the Blair Academy Trophy, the Best Female Athlete award and the Robert Dalling Prize. In honor of her many remarkable athletic achievements, Laura was inducted into Blair's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2017.

After Blair, Laura continued to excel, earning a BA in psychology and secondary education from Bucknell University in 1979. After teaching history at Blair for two years, she completed her MBA at Fairleigh Dickinson University in 1987 and served as vice president of CIT Group/Capital Financing until 1993. Laura pivoted to a career in real estate, and she was an active member of many community organizations in her hometown of Wyckoff, New Jersey, while raising her children, Rebecca and Colby, with her husband, Larry.

At the turn of the century, Laura was instrumental in organizing the Three Decades of Women of Blair Academy program, celebrating the outstanding achievements of her fellow female alumni. Laura has faithfully served the School as a member of the Board of Governors, the class's reunion committee and alumni Trustee. With heartfelt appreciation for her unwavering dedication to the School and to her classmates—better referred to as friends—Blair Academy proudly recognizes Laura Cochran Morris as the 2025 Alumni of the Year. 🚩

To view the full text of the
2025 Alumni of the Year,
visit www.blair.edu/alumni-of-the-year.



Mayan Muchugia '26 was selected for All-Prep Honors for the 2025 NJ track-and-field season in the 200-meter.

Athletics





For the first time in 17 years, both the boys' and girls' crew programs captured the Mid-Atlantic Prep League (MAPL) championship.



Jack Armbruster '25 helped the boys' varsity lacrosse team to a 11-5 record last spring.



During the Blair Invitational in April, Lola Bambe '27 took first place in the 100-meter dash and long jump.



Sam Kowalick '25 makes a diving catch for the varsity softball team.



Pitcher Shane Hadden '26 had the game of his career for Blair, earning a one-hitter, seven-strikeout performance on the mound, leading to a 8-0 shut-out against Peddie for the NJISAA prep "A" state championship.



Yanin Jurangkool '25 aided the boys' varsity tennis team in securing back-to-back MAPL titles, the first time since 2011.



The girls' and boys' golf teams won the annual Swings Against Cancer tournament this year, with Serrena Khanna '25 leading the girls' team.



Associate Director of Athletics Rhett Moroses '13 (left) and Director of Athletics Paul Clavel '88 (right) celebrate the newest class in the Athletic Hall of Fame with inductees (from left to right): Christine (Geiser) Nalty '03, Chris Wong '02, Cole Agin '10, former tennis coach Lew Stival, Emily Ferguson '95 and Ben "Buzzy" Bishop '66. Inductees not pictured are former coach and Director of Athletics Daniel Hazen and nine members of the 2009-2010 boys' tennis team.

Blair Honors 10th Class in Athletic Hall of Fame

For 10 years, Blair Academy has been honoring athletes for their contributions to the hilltop and beyond through the Athletic Hall of Fame. Standout Bucs from every sport as well as the coaches who inspired their success have been inducted to the applause of teammates, mentors, family and friends who gathered to celebrate their achievements. This year's momentous class includes wrestler Ben "Buzzy" Bishop '66, runner Emily Ferguson '95, rower Christine (Geiser) Nalty '03, the 2009-2010 boys' tennis team as well as former Athletic Director and coach Daniel Hazen.

"Each athlete honored this year has left a lasting legacy on their respective team, serving as inspiration for future generations

of Blair athletes," Director of Athletics Paul Clavel '88 shared. "It's an honor to induct the members of our 10th class into the Athletic Hall of Fame."

To recognize and celebrate the outstanding athletic achievements of its alumni and coaches, Blair established an Athletic Hall of Fame in 2016. In order to be considered for Hall of Fame membership, nominees must have exhibited the highest caliber of athletic accomplishment during their time at Blair and have been outstanding members of the School community in the areas of scholastic achievement, citizenship, integrity and moral character. Selection is based primarily on athletic accomplishments while a Blair student or coach, although

subsequent achievement in athletics or other areas may be considered. Finally, alumni nominees become Hall-of-Fame eligible in the 10th year following their graduation, while coaches become eligible after their retirement from Blair.

During the Alumni Weekend festivities in June, fellow athletes, friends and family gathered in Hardwick Hall to induct this newest class into the Athletic Hall of Fame. To read their biographies or nominate a Buccaneer for the Class of 2026, please visit the Blair Athletics website at www.blair.edu/hall-of-fame. 🏆

OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

Brad Strauss



Outside the Classroom

If you ask Athletic Trainer Brad Strauss what yearbook superlative he thinks he would get, he's confident it would be "Most Sarcastic." But, admittedly, he's working on it. His colleagues, however, paint a different picture.

For Brad, whom everyone calls Strauss, they suggest "Most Dependable," "Most Likely to Lend a Helping Hand" or "Most Kind."

And that's the way Strauss has operated at the Academy for 24 years. He doesn't collect the trophies that line Hardwick Hall. His name isn't on the championship banners or records that hang from the walls, but his presence and his care is felt everywhere you look. For this issue of "Outside the Classroom," we sat down with Strauss, in his athletic training room that has seen countless Bucs on the road to recovery, to learn a little more about the person behind the safety of our student-athletes.

How did you become interested in athletic training?

A: My junior year of high school at Peddie, I got injured and I saw the athletic trainer, and working with her and doing my rehab, I became interested in the whole process. Then my senior year, I worked as a student aide in Peddie's athletic training room.

What sports did you play growing up?

A: I played soccer and baseball. I was never the top athlete....I was okay, but I didn't have aspirations of playing in college. I tried club soccer at the University of Miami, but my previous injury set me on the path toward athletic training. And, somehow, I managed to rope my sister into following in my footsteps. She is an athletic trainer as well, and my brother is a doctor, so helping people runs in the family.



Brad Strauss at the wedding of fellow athletic trainer Tyler Saylor '14.



Moussa Kane '23 came back to visit Blair and Strauss, gifting him a signed jersey from Duke University.

Did attending the University of Miami during the height of their football program's success have any impact on your career path?

A: I was at Miami when we won a national title, and two of the players I worked with are in the NFL Hall of Fame now—Warren Sapp and Ray Lewis. One of my classmates and another football player I worked with was Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson. I got to see some really special things, and back then, Miami was seen as the professional team in the area. The Dolphins were there, but we were a bigger deal.

Not only did I work with the Hurricanes, but I also worked with the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) at the Lipton Championships for two years, which is now called the Miami Open. It all taught me how to work with elite athletes, and we have a number of them here at Blair.

What's your role as Blair's athletic trainer?

A: My number one goal is athlete safety, preparing them to compete in a safe manner. Part of my job is to go out and check the fields, to make sure there are no hazards there. I've never won a prize or championship. Don't get me wrong, it's great when we win. But, to me, the real reward is seeing the athletes out there, healthy and competing at their highest level.

What do you enjoy most about working at Blair?

A: Working with the student-athletes is where I get the most joy. It's all about seeing a kid go from playing, to working with an injury, to getting back to their full ability and restoring what they've lost through the injury.

A good number of athletes come through my door. I see 30 to 40 students a day, and a lot just for rehab—taping or small adjustments—but some of them are just new injuries that need to be evaluated and taken care of.

What is the number one piece of advice you give athletes to prevent injury?

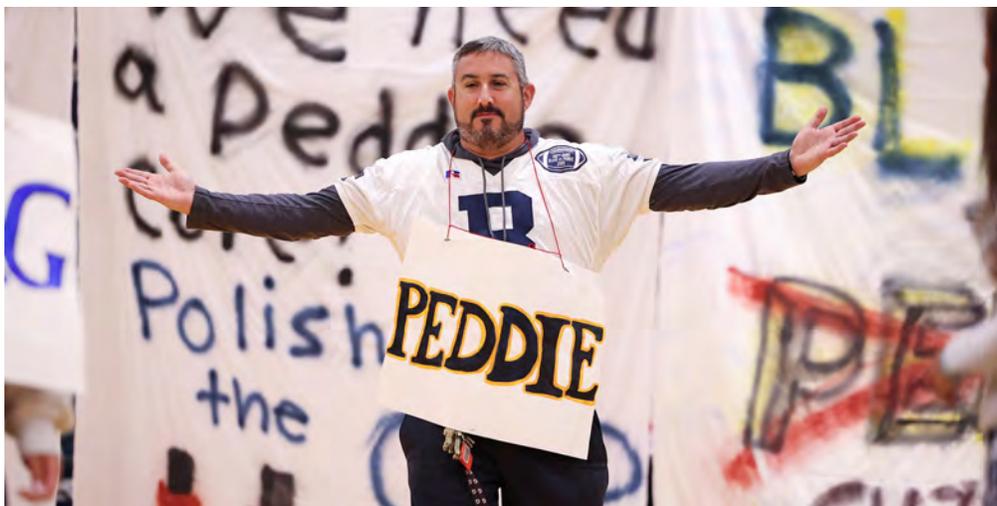
A: Number one is listen to your athletic trainer. Follow our advice. But also, don't wait with an injury. It's a lot easier to treat a small injury, rather than sitting on it until it's something bigger. If you take a month with an injury, it's not going to get fixed in a day. Finally, don't rely solely on the Internet for your answers! WebMD is not your friend.

I really want students to know they shouldn't be afraid to come see us. Our job is not to keep players out—our job is to return players safely. If you don't need to sit out, we're not going to make you. That's one of the toughest things for new students to understand. My intention is always safety first and returning them when it's safe for them and not earlier.

How has your family influenced your approach to your work and how you support student-athletes?

A: Well, my work ethic comes from my mom and dad, who always taught us to go above and beyond. So I stay late when I have to, I come in early when I need to. I help out with everything else in the athletics department—whatever is needed. I learned early to pitch in, and if something needs to be done, don't wait for the ask.

Do you feel the same familial ties here in the athletic



Blair students don't hold back in highlighting Strauss' Peddie School alumni status during the annual pep rally leading up to Peddie Day.



The Strauss siblings are in the business of caring for people. Brad and Tiffany are both athletic trainers and eldest Scott is a physician.

department? I know former football coach Jim Saylor brought the motto "Ohana" to the football team during his prime.

A: There's definitely a strong sense of family. "Ohana" is not just for football; the whole Blair community has become like a family. And you love your family. You are always there to support them.

As a Peddie alum, who do you root for on Peddie Day?

A: I was at Peddie for four years. I have an older brother who went there for five years and a younger sister who graduated after I left. My parents live three miles from Peddie. We do have strong ties there, but

I've been here for 24 years, so time is on our side.

What does it mean for you to hear from the former student-athletes you worked with in the past?

A: It's great to hear from my athletes, interns and some of my past students who've gone into athletic training. Just recently, Moussa Kane '23 came back to visit from Duke, and he brought me a signed jersey. I love to hear how their seasons are going, and I'll text them periodically to see how they're

Outside the Classroom

doing—not only athletics, but how their academics are going and their overall well-being.

Outside of sports, what are some of your hobbies?

A: I like reading just to get out of my own head. I enjoy playing golf and the occasional fishing trip. I love traveling, and I take every opportunity to spend time with my friends and family. Every Thanksgiving, my family and I go to Saint Martin, and I've traveled with some Blair friends and former teachers. I'll head down to South Carolina to visit Jim Saylor and his son, Tyler '14, who's now an athletic trainer at Carolina Forest High School in South Carolina.

If you could only watch one sport for the rest of your life, what would it be?

A: That's difficult to say.... There are times when I love specific sports, but at times, it's almost impossible, because each one brings something different to the table when you're watching it. With wrestling, you watch the methodical way people work to get their opponents in their positions. Then you have soccer and football, where there is the excitement of the goals and watching the defense and how it all comes together. I even like curling! It's a little mind-numbing, but it's fun to see the strategies. I don't think there's a specific sport that I can sit there and watch forever.

If you could put one totally ridiculous sport into the Olympics, what would it be?

A: Well, sometimes I'll watch *The Ocho* on ESPN, and they have slippery stairs. That could be an interesting one to put in the Olympics. There's really not much skill, just a bit of luck that you are able to get through the



Several students joined Head of School Peter G. Curran, Strauss and members of the advancement team for a Baltimore Ravens game last fall to see Odafe Oweh '18, David Ojabo '19 and Sanoussi Kane '20 play in the NFL.



Strauss is proud to mentor students into the field of athletic training, including Blair's own assistant athletic trainer Genie Lavanant '13, posing here during her own Blair prom with Strauss and Michelle (Fox) Kelley '12.

oily stairs quicker than anybody else while people are pelting you with things.

Looking back on your time at Blair, what stands out to you the most?

A: Working with teenage athletes is one of the best things that I've been able to do. They're energetic and mostly positive, but so many sometimes think they're invincible. So that's when they get to see me. I've enjoyed all the years I've worked here: the students, the athletes and the coaches.

As proud as I am of the achievements of my past and future athletes, which include professional, Olympic and collegiate levels, I am most proud of the students whom I have inspired and mentored into the field of athletic training. That includes Blair's own assistant athletic trainer Genie Lavanant '13, Haven Donovan '13, Tyler Saylor '14 and several interns we've had over the years from East Stroudsburg University. It's been a fun experience. ▀



Arts



Blair Musicians Make Carnegie Hall Debut

Since its opening in 1891, Carnegie Hall has earned its place as one of the world's finest concert halls. Legendary musicians, including Tchaikovsky, Dvořák, Mahler, George Gershwin and Billie Holiday, have all graced its stage. This past spring, Blair students joined their ranks, offering a breathtaking performance.

A Broad Repertoire

Blair's musicians presented a carefully crafted program that reflected both their versatility and the weight of the evening on the Carnegie stage. "We aimed for a diverse group of composers and styles for this performance, and we also wanted pieces with gravitas within the orchestral and choral repertoire, that merited performance on such a historic stage," notes Director of Instrumental Music and chair of Blair's performing arts department Jennifer Pagotto.

For the Symphony Orchestra, one of the evening's most moving moments came with their performance of *Symphony No.*

2, Mvt. IV Allegro Vivace by Emilie Mayer, a composer from the post-Beethoven era whose music is finally receiving long-overdue notice. "She's a wonderful composer who hasn't received as much recognition, historically, as many stalwart male composers from the Western canon. We were thrilled to perform one of her pieces," says Mrs. Pagotto.

But, for senior clarinetist Brigette Starrs '25, it was the Symphony Orchestra's powerful rendition of *Boléro* by Maurice Ravel that stole the night. For her, the piece mirrored her own evolution that began as a new student at Blair. "It begins softly,

almost hesitantly and, by the end, it's this powerful force," she reflects. "That's exactly what it feels like to grow as a musician at Blair. Four years ago, I couldn't play a note without squeaking. Now, here I am, playing at Carnegie Hall."

The Chamber Orchestra, meanwhile, took on *Danzón No. 2* by Arturo Márquez. Originally championed by conductor Gustavo Dudamel and the Venezuelan Youth Orchestra, it brought a rhythmic energy to the hall, adding a vibrant contemporary touch to the program.

Voices That Soared

Blair's vocal ensembles added their own magic to the night. The Singers captivated the audience with *Indodana*, an isiXhosa choral masterpiece arranged by South African composers Michael Barrett and Ralf Schmitt. The song's rich harmonies and uplifting melodies "challenged the Singers to extend their respiratory endurance,

harmonic stability and ability to maintain multiple parts beyond the usual four," notes Director of Vocal Music Ryan Manni-Brennan.

Meanwhile, the Chamber Choir delivered a tender and heartfelt *Good Night, Dear Heart* by Dan Forrest. "The choir performed this

piece several years ago on tour in Europe and last year at Merkin Hall," shares Mr. Manni-Brennan. "Chamber Choir was eager to return to it, rediscovering new moments of musical beauty and greater technical challenges."

A Second Chance

While Blair was originally scheduled to perform at Carnegie Hall in April 2020 and again in April 2021, both concerts were unfortunately canceled due to the pandemic. This year's performance marked the School's long-awaited debut at the venue, making the event even more meaningful.

Before the concert, a special reception held in the hall welcomed 125 current parents, past parents and alumni eager to watch the musicians perform. The gathering not only celebrated the students' dedication and hard work but also heightened the anticipation for the night ahead.

"Our students are just beginning to understand the significance of this performance," reflects Mrs. Pagotto. "Not just for them as students and musicians, but also in the broader context of what it means to perform at Carnegie Hall."

For Brigette, it was the perfect ending to her musical experience at Blair. "Tonight we played with everything we had," Brigette says, reflecting. "I hope we made Mrs. Pagotto proud. We came together and played in a way that felt just electric."

Mrs. Pagotto could not agree more. "On one hand, we wanted them to simply experience the joy and magic of performing on such a world-renowned stage. But, more than that, we wanted them to take in the experience of working really hard toward their goal of learning this very challenging music, to pour themselves into it and then give this performance with their music colleagues. Any performance is an opportunity to create art, in the moment, and to share that with the world. Tonight, they did just that." ▀



Director of Vocal Music Ryan Manni-Brennan and Director of Instrumental Music Jennifer Pagotto take a moment to thank the audience at the conclusion of the performance.



Class of 2025 Arts Guild inductees celebrate with those who inducted them. From left: Don Jay Smith '65, P'11; former teacher and theatre director Kaye Evans; Cristina Marie Vivencio '00; former teacher and theatre director Craig Evans; Lukas Dong '15; Director of Instrumental Music and performing arts department chair Jennifer Pagotto; Timothy Sullivan '95 and former art department chair Rita Baragona.

Celebrating Blair's Class of 2025 Arts Guild Inductees

To celebrate the inspirational artistic achievements and contributions as performing or visual artists of its alumni and former faculty, Blair created the Arts Guild in 2022. The Guild's selection committee is proud to announce this year's class of alumni inductees. These artists have left their mark through music, film, stage and fine art, inspiring future Blair alumni to follow in their footsteps.

Don Jay Smith '65, P'11 has extensive experience in public relations and marketing communications, much of it in the arts and entertainment field. He has dedicated his life to preserving and promoting the arts in his community. Timothy Sullivan '95, known professionally as Tim Fite, is a multimedia and print artist, musician, singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist with 16 full-length albums and several EPs; he is now also writing and illustrating children's books. Cristina Marie Vivencio '00, a Tony Award-winning Broadway producer, is senior vice president of

production and development at The Araca Group. She developed the Tony Award-winning musical adaptation of *The Outsiders* and is currently preparing its national and international tours. At 17, Lukas Dong '15 became the youngest winner of "Best American Short Documentary" at the American Documentary Film Festival. He has directed films and interviews worldwide and has credits as director, producer, cinematographer and editor.

To be considered for the Arts Guild, nominees are evaluated on their involvement and achievements in the arts while at Blair, as well as accomplishments in the visual or performing arts that occurred after graduation. Nominees must have been outstanding members of the School community in the areas of scholastic achievement, citizenship, integrity and moral character. Finally, alumni nominees are Arts Guild eligible in the fifth year following their graduation, while former faculty become eligible after their retirement

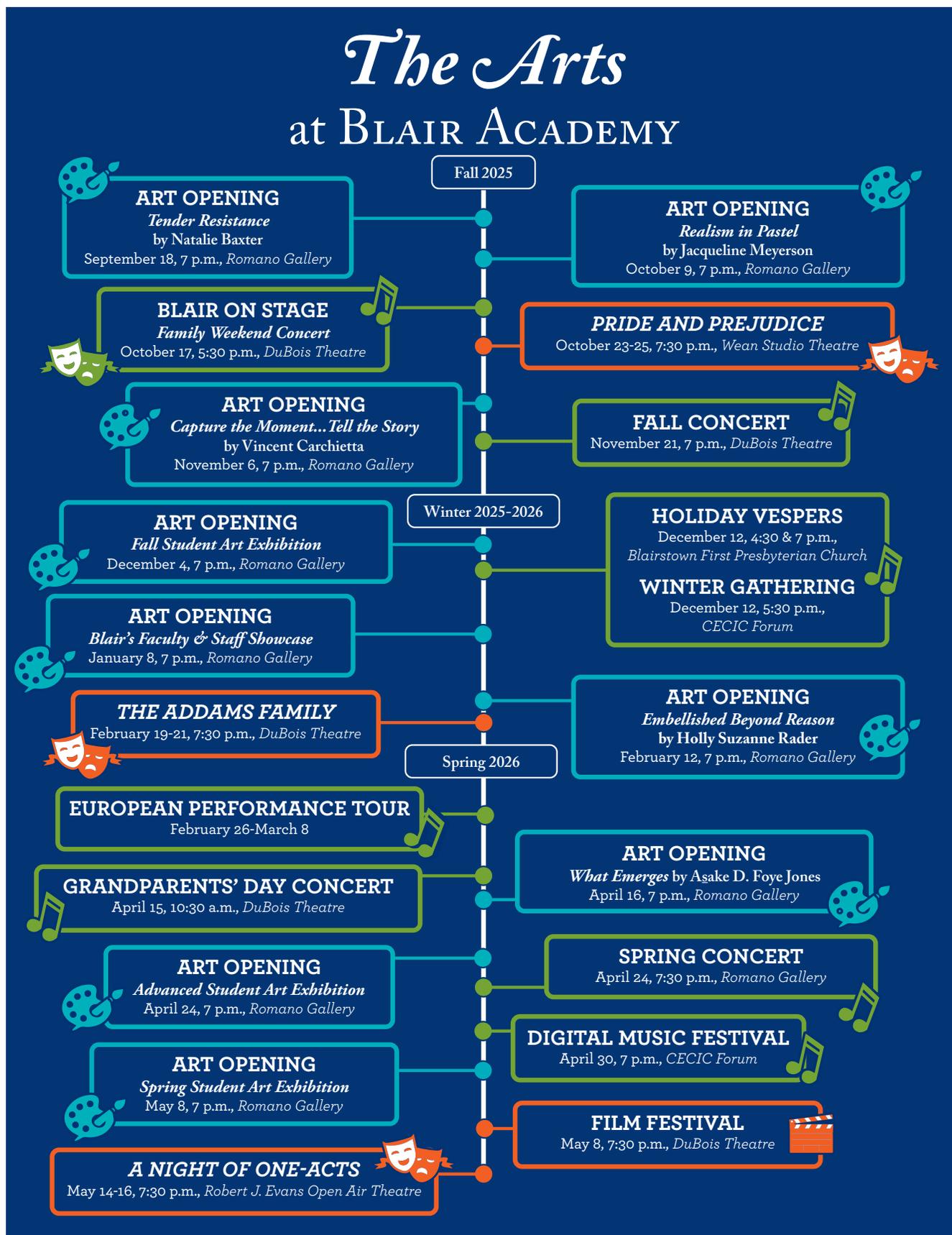
from Blair. The annual selection is overseen by Kate Sykes, fine arts department chair, and Jennifer Pagotto, performing arts department chair and Director of Instrumental Music, with a steering committee to aid in the process, including Director of Alumni Relations Courtney (Brennan) Stanford '95.

"Blair's always had a strong and rich history in the arts," Mrs. Pagotto shares, "and we are committed to continuing in that tradition and building upon it."

Blair inducted this newest class of artists during Alumni Weekend in June, with a special dedication of the Arts Guild wall by the Class of 1965 in honor of Don Jay and his late wife, Linda, for their enduring support of the arts at Blair. To read their biographies or to nominate an artist for the Class of 2026, please visit www.blair.edu/arts-guild. 

The Arts

at BLAIR ACADEMY



A man in a brown jacket and glasses is riding a bicycle on a paved path. The path is surrounded by lush green grass and large trees with vibrant autumn foliage in shades of yellow, orange, and red. The scene is captured in a circular frame, with the top half showing the dense canopy of trees and the bottom half showing the man on the bike. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and scenic.

N in the *News*

CHEF & AUTHOR BECKY SELENGUT '88

DEMYSTIFIES MISUNDERSTOOD VEGETABLES IN NEW BOOK

Becky Selengut '88's profession has all the markings one comes to expect of someone premed. She wields a blade with expert precision, wears a white coat, operates in a sterile environment and helps people feel good. But Becky isn't a surgeon.

As an author, instructor, podcaster and chef based in Seattle, Becky found a career path that fulfills her passions and utilizes her vast skill set. And the world is taking notice! Her latest book, *Misunderstood Vegetables*, was named one of the year's top cookbooks by *Wired* and praised by *New York Times* food writer Florence Fabricant. This year, *Forbes* published a lifestyle piece highlighting Becky and her collection of recipes and profiles on those unique vegetables that receive a bad rap through no fault of their own.

"Just because something is ugly, twisted or not pretty, doesn't mean there isn't a lot to gain from it," Becky explains. "Sure, I'm talking about rutabaga—but am I really? I've been misunderstood in my life; a lot of people thought I was different or unusual. Whether human or vegetable, the unfamiliar ones, the ones that sting you at first encounter usually hold the best secrets."

Becky thought she wanted to be a doctor but changed course while taking premed classes to embark on a field in the culinary arts. After graduating at the top of her class from the Seattle Culinary Academy, she spent many years honing her skills at some of the Seattle area's most well-known restaurants. Since then, Becky's career has moved beyond the traditional restaurant into everything but the restaurant, taking on such diverse jobs as cheffing on a yacht tour of the Inside Passage to teaching cooking to immigrants and refugees and finding them work in the food industry. In 2004, she started her private chef and culinary education business, and she

founded the educational website, Seasonal Cornucopia, two years later.

Becky co-authored *Washington Local and Seasonal Cookbook* in 2008, followed by her solo debut *Good Fish*, a sustainable seafood guide published in 2011. *Good Fish* was a finalist for an IACP Cookbook Award, named one of *Seattle Magazine's* best cookbooks of the year and recognized as a notable read by NPR. Her third book, *Shroom: Mind-bendingly Good Recipes for Cultivated and Wild Mushrooms*, was named one of NPR's top 10 cookbooks of the year. She also co-authored the humor-filled travel memoir *Not One Shrine: Two Food Writers Devour Tokyo*. Becky's fifth book, *How to Taste: The Curious Cook's Handbook to Seasoning and Balance, From Umami to Acid and Beyond with Recipes*, reflects her passion for demystifying flavor and technique. Across all her work, she blends culinary expertise with sharp wit and a deep commitment to sustainability. In addition to her books, Becky contributes freelance articles and develops recipes for both local and national publications, and she regularly gives talks and keynotes on cooking, foraging, sustainability and flavor theory.



"There are so many things I thought I wanted to do that I still do in aspects of my life today, from cooking to teaching to volunteering with local food banks," Becky shares. "My favorite part of what I do is constantly changing. People who are creatives tend to get bored easily and don't like to get pigeonholed. I really enjoy focusing on justice, sustainability, foraging, environmental and lower-impact eating."

In every part of her work, Becky blends creativity with purpose—reminding us that the most overlooked things, whether vegetables or people, often have the richest stories to tell. ▀

RISING STAR

JACK JANUSZEWSKI '13

Jack Januszewski '13 spends a lot of time thinking about the future, and the world is taking note. As a vice president in Spring Mountain Capital LP's Social Impact group, Jack invests in early-stage companies that create technology solutions addressing health, educational and socioeconomic disparities in historically overlooked communities. For his leadership in that field, Jack was recently recognized by EdTech Chronicle as a Best in Education "EdTech Rising Star."

Jack was also interviewed in *Authority Magazine* as part of a recent series spotlighting tech leaders making significant, positive social impacts. The magazine interviewed "leaders of tech companies who are creating or have created a tech product that is helping to make a positive change in people's lives or the environment."

"As an investor, I'm not building a specific technology that might change the world," Jack explained to *Authority Magazine*. "Rather, I am investing in a range of companies that I believe may do so." One such example is IEP&Me, a Spring Mountain Capital portfolio startup that helps students, parents and educators collaborate more effectively on Individualized Educational Programs (IEPs). By simplifying the IEP process through a user-friendly digital platform, the company hopes to improve accessibility and advocacy in education.

Jack's journey into the field of education technology, he explains in the article, was largely driven by an early experience he had. "One of my teachers back in middle

school offhandedly suggested that I 'might not be a math person' when I was very young and struggling with the subject. This offhand remark, which I am certain was not meant in a malicious way, deeply impacted my perception of my own self-worth, my intelligence, my ability to persevere and had the effect of paving the road for the remainder of my educational career."



Now working in financial services, Jack has proven that assessment wrong—and channels that experience into this work.

"My goal in investing in education is to drive us toward a world where young students are not told they're a specific 'type' of learner or that they are 'more suited' to one topic or another.... Arming educators with tools that help them better identify the learning needs of individual students—something that can only be done through advancements in educational technology—is the only way to achieve this long-term goal of truly personalizing learning."

Jack's story is a reminder that a good investment can be more than financial—it can be deeply personal. Through his work supporting technologies that empower students and educators, Jack is helping build a future where every student has the tools to succeed, no matter their starting point. ▀

ASHLEY THOMPSON '08 CELEBRATES A DECADE OF MUSH

Blair Trustee Ashley Thompson '08 has spent the last decade revolutionizing the grab-and-go breakfast game. Now a nationwide brand, MUSH expects to sell its 200-millionth cup of oats this year, marking 10 years of business. On the *Today Show*'s "She Made It" series, MUSH founder and CEO Ashley sat down with host Jill Martin in July to share her journey of transforming her childhood breakfast favorite into a household name.

Ashley cofounded MUSH in 2015 with the conviction that easy, delicious and nutritious food can elevate the world in powerful ways. After receiving a degree in economics and mathematics from Columbia University, she started her career as a trading analyst at Goldman Sachs. Ashley was struck by the surprising lack of access to nutritious food, even on Wall Street. In an attempt to reconcile her strong beliefs with what she found unacceptable, she discovered an unmet need in the market. She quickly set out to create a healthy, delicious, convenient food product, inspired by her favorite hack as a kid: cereal and oatmeal soaked in milk. She quit her job and got to work.

Ashley began selling small, homemade batches at local farmers' markets, using customer feedback to refine the product. The company's turning point came in 2017, when MUSH appeared on *Shark Tank* and landed a deal with investor Mark Cuban. "We got 10,000 orders in the first couple days post-airing," Ashley recalls during

the interview, "and we had never shipped a single cup of oatmeal directly to a consumer before."

MUSH's first product—plant-based, ready-to-eat oats—hit the sweet spot of being both good for you and easy to grab on the go. From the start, Ashley

believed that eating well should be simple and accessible, and that belief shaped everything from

the flavors and portion sizes to the pricing. Named

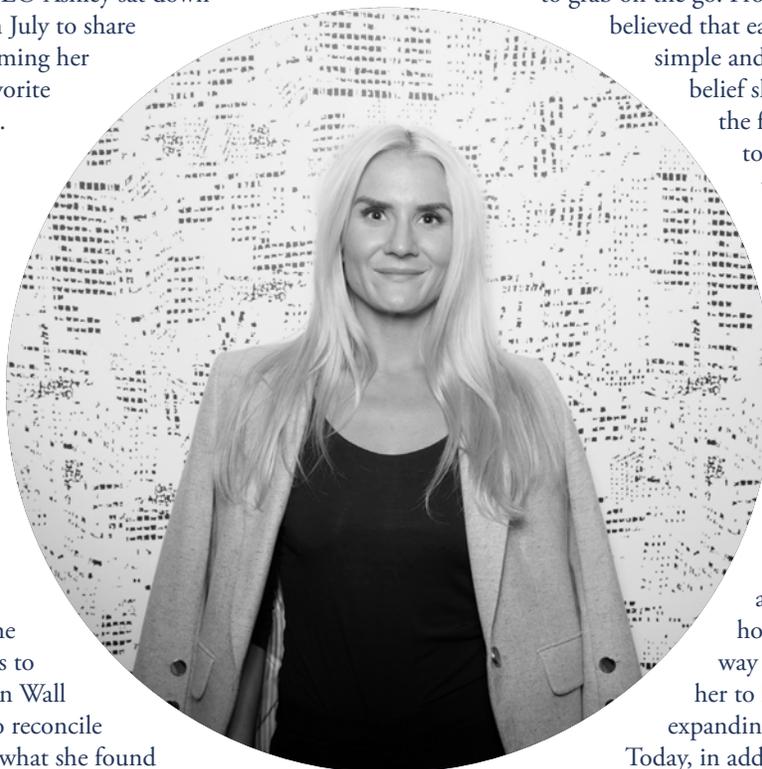
to *Forbes*' 30 Under 30 list in 2020, she's a

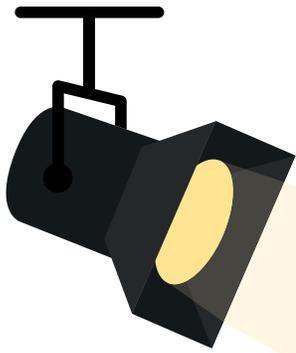
big believer in the idea that when you eat well, you feel better—and when you feel better, you do better.

That mindset fuels her mission to get MUSH into as many hands as possible. She's always thinking about how food impacts the way we live, and it drives her to keep improving and expanding what MUSH offers.

Today, in addition to overnight oats, you can find MUSH protein bars in refrigerated sections of stores across the country.

When it comes to advice for other entrepreneurs, particularly females, Ashley tells *Today Show* viewers: "You don't have to have all the answers upfront. No one does. To pretend would be a disservice to the journey, so keep pushing." ▀





trustee spotlight



Ben Alexander P'26 '28

Ben, a real estate attorney who is a shareholder and board member at Jones Foster, oversees the firm's Palm Beach, Florida, office, specializing in real estate transactions for local and national developers, equity investors, business entities, entrepreneurs, financial institutions, and high-end residential purchasers and sellers.

The service-minded father of Benton '28 and Carlisle '26, Ben has a long history of community involvement, including serving as vice chair of the Board of Trustees for Palm

Beach Day Academy, president of the Royal Poinciana Chapel, treasurer of the Preservation Foundation of Palm Beach, board member for the Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches, and a member of the University of Florida Real Estate Advisory Board. A regular on lists of the best lawyers in Palm Beach and in America, Ben graduated cum laude from Wake Forest University with a BS in business and with high honors from the University of Florida Levin College of Law, where he was named to the Order of the Coif.



David Bigley P'28

David brings over 20 years of leadership experience in the global insurance and reinsurance industry to the Board. He currently serves as executive vice president and head of ceded reinsurance at Sompco. David began his career at The Hartford and spent several years at Endurance Specialty before joining Sompco, where he has held a variety of senior roles.

David has led Sompco's global property, catastrophe, and workers' compensation reinsurance businesses, and has also served as

chief underwriting officer across these lines and affiliated third-party asset managers. His career has spanned insurance and reinsurance markets across the Americas, Europe and Asia. A Bermuda resident since 2005, David lives on the island with his wife, Mollie, and their three children, including Maddie '28. He is a graduate of the Peddie School, holds a BA in economics from Trinity College and earned his MBA from Duke University's Fuqua School of Business.



Stephanie Hui P'28

Stephanie is a veteran of the private equity industry in Asia. She is currently partner and managing director at Goldman Sachs, responsible for the private equity business in Asia Pacific and is global co-head and co-chief investment officer of Growth Equity. She brings to Blair's Board many years of service as a Trustee

of other organizations, including as a member of the Global Board of Trustees of Asia Society, as an Honorary Trustee of The Women's Foundation and Save the Children Hong Kong. Stephanie graduated summa cum laude from Harvard College with an AB in biology and has an MBA from Harvard Business School. She is the proud parent of Timothy '28.



Susan Johnson

A lifelong native of New Jersey, Susan earned her undergraduate degree in finance and economics from Fairleigh Dickinson University in Madison in 2003. She began her career at a small investment advisory firm in Morristown, where she lived, and, in 2006, she joined The Bank of New York Mellon, where she worked in the alternative investments services

branch for many years. In 2011, Susan moved to Chester, New Jersey, to start her family. She still resides in Chester and is an active member at the Community Presbyterian Church there, having joined the Presbytery Highlands of New Jersey as financial administrator in March 2025. Susan's husband, Edward A. Johnson, was a student and 1995 graduate of Blair Academy.



Rev. Jeanne Radak

Jeanne is a graduate of Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where she initially studied music before turning her focus to history and going on to earn a master's of divinity at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. A native of Caribou, Maine, Jeanne was ordained as an assistant pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Geneva, New York, in 1985. She would later serve as an interim pastor for congregations in Big Flats, New York; Davison, Michigan; Plymouth, Indiana; and Michigan City, Indiana. In 1994, she relocated to Syracuse, New York, and pastored at Elmwood Presbyterian Church until 2005,

when she became the associate executive for Congregational Ministry for the Presbytery of Philadelphia. In 2013, Jeanne began her role as the leader of the Newton Presbytery; eight years later, she was appointed to the same position for The Presbytery of The Highlands, a newly realigned organization encompassing seven counties in northern New Jersey, based in Randolph. Jeanne and her husband, Bronc, share two children, Joe and Maggie (and were thrilled to welcome in-laws Heather and John into their family, as well as become proud grandparents to grandson, Rhys).



Advancement



As we look back on 10 years of giving, we thank our generous community for their donations, which have raised more than \$2.7 million for the Blair Fund and strengthened learning opportunities for today's students by funding everything from extracurricular programs to scholarship aid.

Class of 2025 *Invests in the Next Generation*

Blair is a community rich in tradition, and one of its newer customs is creating a scholarship as the senior class gift—a way for graduating students and their families to come together one final time and leave a lasting mark on campus. Since 2019, these gifts have collectively raised more than \$1.4 million, all directed to scholarships that make a Blair education possible for deserving students of every background and experience.

This year, the Class of 2025 proudly continued that tradition. Through

the generosity of families, they raised \$156,545 for the Class of 2025 Scholarship. In an amazing show of support, an anonymous parent also generously pledged to match all donations to the Class of 2025 Scholarship, dollar-for-dollar, up to \$50,000, doubling the impact.

“One of the most powerful and appreciated gifts a donor can make is a contribution to Blair’s endowed scholarship fund,” said Anna Andrasek, Director of Parent Engagement &

Philanthropy. “Funds drawn from the endowment are distributed annually to support students who would otherwise be unable to attend Blair. Endowed scholarships are critical, as four in every 10 Blair students receive financial aid.”

Our sincere thanks go out to all those who contributed to the Class of 2025’s gift. Their generosity reflects the values of community and opportunity that have come to define the Blair experience—leaving a legacy that will open doors for generations of students to come.

From Sharpe House to Shanghai

It has been a bustling few months for Blair's advancement team connecting with alumni and prospective families around the globe. A 10-day trip to Asia in late spring saw Chief Advancement Officer Craig Hall and Head of School Peter G. Curran visiting Hong Kong, Beijing, Shanghai and Seoul, where they hosted receptions with new and current families, past parents and international alumni.

Closer to home, several well-attended events strengthened local Blair connections. Highlights included a wrestling reception at Sharpe House and reception in San Francisco hosted by Will and Parnell Eagle P'28 in January, a New Jersey Devils hockey game in March, and graciously hosted receptions in February in Ocean Ridge, Florida—courtesy of Trustee Neal '76 and Virginia Sigety P'16 '18 '19—and in the Hamptons in July at the home

of Jim Jenkins '66 and his wife, Nevitt. Trustee Jordan Price '97, P'25 also hosted a very popular "Blair Moms" event in Far Hills, New Jersey, and receptions in Washington, D.C., and New York City rounded out the summer. These gatherings reinforced not only the strength of Blair's enduring connections but also showcased the School's growing reputation worldwide. Below and on the following page, enjoy a few photos from these events.





Fred Everett '61 Shares His Lifetime of Adventure with Blair

In the fall of 1957, a determined boy from a family of modest income stepped onto Blair Academy's campus and unknowingly began a journey that would span the globe, leave a legacy in art and ultimately circle back to where it all started. Fred Everett '61 entered Blair on a partial scholarship, armed with a strong work ethic and an open mind—and he's never looked back.

"Blair gave me an incredible foundation," Fred reflects. "It was my starting point, a good educational base that gave me exposure and confidence. It set me up to go to a wonderful college and build a successful career."

From his early days serving coffee in the Blair dining hall to his role as head waiter, cross country co-captain and West Hall prefect, Fred developed the drive and leadership that would define his career. During every school break, he worked delivering milk at 5 a.m. or cutting grass to help his family cover the cost of his education. "Working at the School and paying my way set the tone for the rest of my life," he says.

After Blair, Fred graduated from the College of William & Mary and earned his MBA from American University. He set off on a lifelong career in the frozen food industry, eventually breaking out on his own and forming a company with his business partners. Alongside his wife of 59 years, Beryl, Fred made the defining choice to channel their energy into two passions: entrepreneurship and global adventure travel.

That decision led to nearly six decades of rich, immersive exploration. From Africa's Great Migration to the icy habitats of polar bears in Canada,

Fred and Beryl have traversed all seven continents and more than 50 countries. But their travels weren't just about sightseeing—they became avid collectors of art and cultural artifacts, a hobby sparked by a visit to the home of their first African safari organizer.

"She had these extraordinary objects from all over the world, and we were smitten," Fred recalls. Since then, the couple has amassed a museum-worthy collection of more than 200 pieces, including oil paintings and sculptures from the American West, as well as African masks, Mayan artifacts, Asian

silks and indigenous art from New Guinea. "We started collecting seriously and with purpose. We wanted our home to tell the story of our travels."

Now they're making sure that story continues at Blair. In their will, Fred and Beryl have formally gifted the non-Western portion of their collection—110 pieces—to the School. The remaining art will go to the Booth Western Art Museum in Cartersville, Georgia. This fall, a dozen pieces Fred and Beryl have generously gifted will arrive on campus for the Blair community to enjoy. Blair will also receive the balance of their estate, directed to the Academy's endowment. Part of their gift will support the construction of



With a planned gift, Fred Everett '61 and his wife, Beryl, share their love of art and travel with future generations of Buccaneers.

Planned Giving

secure display cases and the cataloging of the collection by Blair’s fine arts department, offering students hands-on access to global cultures through visual storytelling.

“Blair is a fine institution, and it’s small enough that our gift can truly make a difference,” Fred says. “It’s come a long way since 1961, and I hope this collection will inspire students to explore the world, appreciate different perspectives and see that art isn’t just decoration—it’s a form of education.”

Fred encourages fellow alumni to reflect on the role Blair played in their own lives and to consider giving back. “Anyone who went to Blair understands it’s a great institution and a great foundation,” he says. “Anything an alum can do to support it will be well spent. I strongly recommend it.”

As Fred puts it: “We consciously chose our path—we followed our dreams, followed our passions—and now we want to leave behind gifts for others.” Through his generosity and vision, that legacy will live on at Blair, inspiring the next generation of global citizens. ▀



One of the many pieces the Everetts are sharing with Blair, “Zero Tolerance” depicts the power and beauty of the African wilderness.



JOHN C. SHARPE SOCIETY

BLAIR ACADEMY

“He found a campus of 11 acres; he leaves a campus of over 300 acres. He found buildings few in number, poorly equipped; he leaves a large group of buildings finely equipped for every school purpose. He found a school provincial in type of 100 pupils; he leaves a cosmopolitan school of 300.... He found a school of only local repute; he leaves a school famous throughout the country.”

—Albert Myrick Freeman, on the legacy of Dr. John C. Sharpe, Head of School, 1898-1927

The John C. Sharpe Society of planned givers embodies the spirit and ensures the vision of Dr. John C. Sharpe, one of Blair’s most influential school leaders. Planned gifts are the cornerstone of Blair’s endowment, and membership

in the John C. Sharpe Society reflects a special commitment to the School’s future. Interested in learning more? To join Fred and Beryl and other members of the John C. Sharpe Society of planned givers, please contact Director of

Advancement Cara Mohlmann to discuss including Blair in your estate plans. If you have already made a provision for the School, let us know by contacting Ms. Mohlmann at mohlmc@blair.edu.

ANNUAL REPORT

Thank-You from the Board Chair

Dear Blair Family,

This past year at Blair has been defined by extraordinary growth and the daily inspiration we draw from our curious, kind and thoughtful students—made possible by the steadfast support of the community. Together, we have advanced our mission in ways that will have a lasting impact on the lives of Blair graduates across generations and the future of the School.

The 2024-2025 school year was filled with highlights—chief among them, the successful launch of our advanced curriculum; our students explored their passions through cutting-edge and highly relevant coursework in more than 50 academically rigorous advanced seminar and survey courses that received glowing feedback from families in the first year. Blair continues to attract students who are intellectually curious, high character and eager to fully dive into all that the Blair experience has to offer. We remain committed to academic excellence and challenging students across all areas of campus life. At the same time, we are purposeful about ensuring that students balance academic, artistic and athletic pursuits with their own personal wellness—which is critical to reaching their full academic and life potential. The opening of the Center for Health and Well-Being this fall is a tangible symbol of our ongoing work to graduate students who understand how important well-being and resilience are to living meaningful and fulfilling lives at and beyond Blair.

In an age defined by rapid technological change and the rise of artificial

intelligence (AI), Blair's focus on human connection has never been more vital. We are teaching students how to leverage the use of technology while also emphasizing skills that will serve them for life. Emotional intelligence, creativity, empathy and the ability to collaborate across lines of difference are vital skills that will serve students long after they leave Blair. Our phone-free academic day encourages members of our community to engage fully with the world around them—to look one another in the eye, be present and build the relationships that are at the heart of the Blair experience. This is evident as I walk through campus and see students smiling and engaging with faculty, staff and one another. Connectiveness and a feeling of belonging are the most important factors in gauging the overall well-being and happiness of our students, and we couldn't be more grateful to our dedicated, student-centered faculty for all they do to develop and sustain them at Blair. In their tireless efforts to make sure our students feel known, seen and valued, our faculty and staff are integral to Blair's "secret sauce" as we graduate leaders and changemakers the world needs.

The 2025-2026 admission cycle generated remarkable interest in Blair, with more than 1,450 applications. We welcomed 154 highly qualified students into a student body of 474 from 27 U.S. states and 26 countries to campus in August and September, with 37 percent supported by \$9.6 million in financial aid. Blair's reputation continues to grow in both new and established



markets, and our in-person and virtual programming—from "Wednesdays on the Hilltop" Zoom sessions to our more traditional in-person Revisit Days—have been instrumental in helping families personally experience and embrace the Blair difference.

We could not meet our goal of continually improving the student experience without the generosity of the extended Blair family. We achieved our best-ever year for overall fundraising, securing more than \$12.6 million in 2024-2025. We also closed the largest comprehensive campaign in Blair's history, *All In*, surpassing our \$140-million goal with more than

Annual Report

\$160 million raised since 2018. This remarkable effort has strengthened every aspect of Blair, from faculty excellence (\$8.8 million) and forward-thinking academic programs (\$30 million) to campus enhancements (\$49.6 million) and long-term financial sustainability (\$50.6 million).

Thanks in large part to the success of *All In*, our campus continues to evolve as well. Phase one of the Mason and Freeman Halls work was completed as the 2025-2026 year opened, with phase two—including renovating interiors and transforming the Bowl into our second turf field—slated for next summer. Looking ahead, we will

repurpose the first floor of Hoffman House for additional bed space by fall 2026 and convert another Main Street home, which will be known as “Nancy House,” into faculty housing. These projects, along with more than 140 named scholarships, 20-plus class scholarships, and 79 faculty and staff members honored with gifts, reflect a deep and lasting investment in the Blair community.

From Blair Buzz Live webinars to our new “Blair Bound Family Orientation Series” for new parents to international travel and alumni gatherings hosted in 17 cities across 12 states and three countries, we are building bridges that

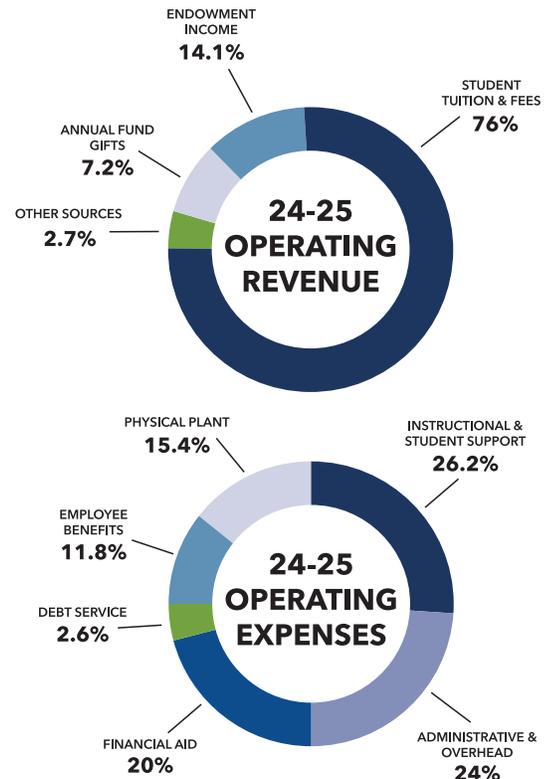
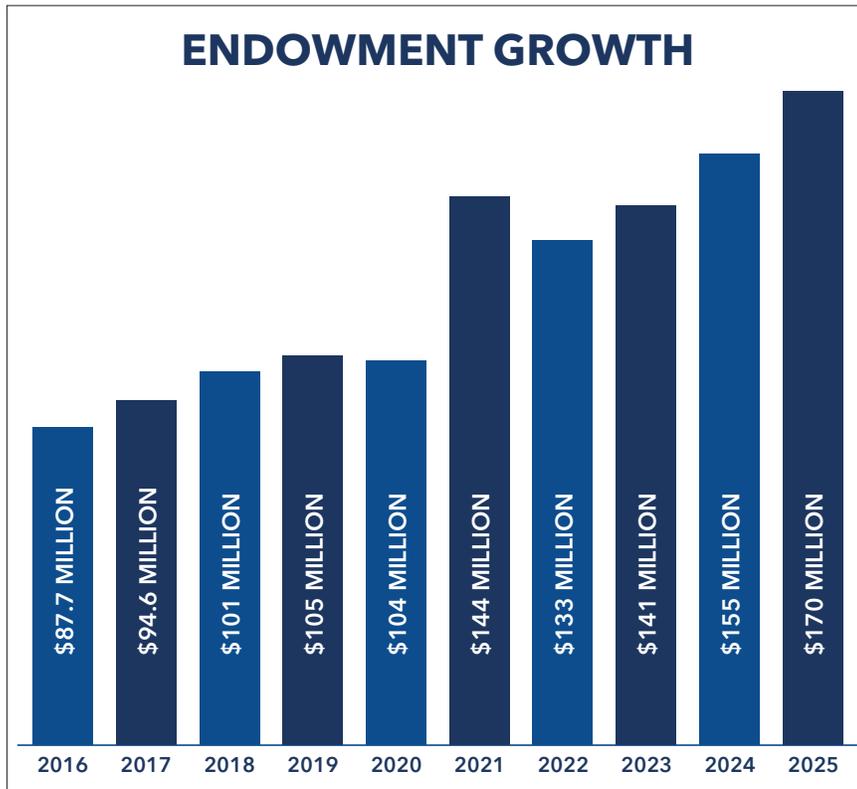
strengthen Blair’s presence around the globe. We look forward to deepening our relationships with families in Bermuda and Asia as Blair’s global reputation grows.

None of this would be possible without you—our alumni, parents and friends—whose commitment ensures that Blair not only delivers on its mission today, but also prepares students to lead with intellect, empathy and fortitude in an ever-changing and complex world. Thank you for believing in our institution, our mission and our students. Your leadership, generosity and support makes all the difference.

year ahead,



Maria Vinci Savettiere, Esq. P’17
Chair, Blair Academy Board of Trustees



2024-2025

BY THE NUMBERS

273

THE NUMBER OF
FIRST-TIME DONORS

\$12,669,433

TOTAL DOLLARS RAISED

\$97,099

DOLLARS RAISED THROUGH GIFTS
OF \$100 OR LESS

527

TOTAL NUMBER OF
\$100 GIFTS

2,024

TOTAL NUMBER
OF DONORS

377

THE NUMBER OF YOUNG ALUMNI DONORS
(CLASSES OF 2010-2024)

\$284,448

DOLLARS RAISED BY YOUNG ALUMNI
(CLASSES OF 2010-2024)

97

THE NUMBER OF GIFTS RECEIVED
OF \$25,000 OR MORE

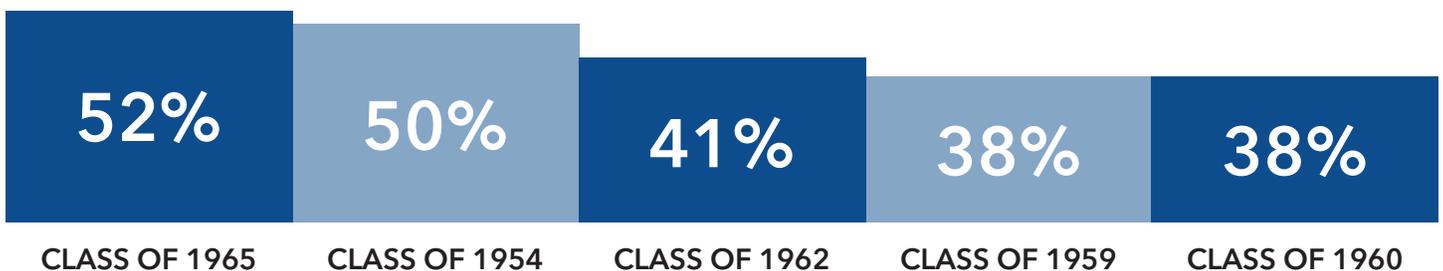
966

TRUE BLUE LOYALTY SOCIETY MEMBERS
(FIVE OR MORE YEARS OF CONSECUTIVE DONATIONS)

50

THE NUMBER OF EVENTS HELD
FOR ALUMNI & PARENTS

LEADING CLASSES FOR PARTICIPATION



**Top-five list spans the classes of 1950-2024.*



“During my years at Blair, I made lifelong friends and was taught by some of the most wonderful teachers I’ve ever had. I learned to be independent both in spirit and in mind. I love to give back by being our class rep. It warms my heart every time a reunion comes around and I get to spend time at Blair and see my classmates. I love Blair!”

—Donna (Salter) Haag '80

ALL-TIME REUNION CLASS GIFT RECORDS

REUNION YEAR	HIGHEST PARTICIPATION PERCENTAGE		HIGHEST DOLLARS RAISED	
	Class	Percentage	Class	Amount
60th Reunion	Class of 1956	74%	Class of 1962	\$705,560
55th Reunion	Class of 1956	91%	Class of 1953	\$1,094,448
50th Reunion	Class of 1945	100%	Class of 1974	\$1,314,702
45th Reunion	Class of 1944	59%	Class of 1976	\$746,391
40th Reunion	Class of 1961	60%	Class of 1976	\$218,684
35th Reunion	Class of 1956	46%	Class of 1974	\$80,040
30th Reunion	Class of 1977	55%	Class of 1974	\$64,312
25th Reunion	Class of 1990	58%	Class of 1997	\$91,006
20th Reunion	Class of 2003	38%	Class of 2003	\$166,350
15th Reunion	Class of 1981	39%	Class of 2008	\$172,084
10th Reunion	Class of 2002	46%	Class of 2013	\$101,877
5th Reunion	Class of 2008	75%	Class of 2006	\$12,482

Note: Reunion records are cash donations only, except the 50th Reunion.

“We are truly grateful for the transformative experience Leslie had at Blair, for the immeasurable impact the School had on her growth and development over the last four years. Her self-confidence, achievements and love for Blair were due in no small part to the community of caring adults who are ‘all in’ for the students in every aspect of campus life—in the classrooms, on the athletic fields and in the dorms—pushing the kids to strive for their best while encouraging a collaborative and cooperative spirit. In turn, we are ‘all in’ to thank Blair for the memories, friendships and learning, and we are eager to support Blair’s mission in order for others to experience the positive influence to become their best selves. Our time on the hilltop has come to an end, but we are proud to be a part of the Blair family.”

—Patricia & Alan Sadayasu P’25, 2024-2025 Parent Fund Group Chairs



“I am ‘all in’ because Blair gave me so many amazing opportunities and introduced me to so many amazing people. Giving back to Blair, volunteering and staying connected with the Blair community allows me to ensure that future Bucs have the same great opportunities and experiences I had. I witnessed countless acts of generosity during my time at Blair, so being ‘all in’ helps me do the same. Blair is a special place. Without it, I wouldn’t be where I am today, and I am forever grateful for my time spent on the hilltop.”

—Garrett Long ’20



ANNUAL & CAPITAL FUND TOTAL	NO. OF DONORS	%	TOTAL GIVING
Alumni	1,493	23%	\$2,611,675
Current parent	375	82%	\$6,289,867
Parents of alumni	179	20%	\$960,618
Current students	53		\$3,444
Friend	157		\$2,501,829
Estate	5		\$447,111
Matching gift company	32		\$99,905
Foundation	38		\$2,211,755
Corporation	7		\$221,396
		TOTAL	\$12,699,433

- Alumni and current parent totals include matching gift company giving.
- Current parents who are also alumni are recognized in both categories.
- Foundation giving has also been credited to the category of the donor who directed the gift.
- Friend totals include gifts from grandparents, as well as former and current faculty and staff.
- Note: The numbers in this publication are not audited and are for recognition purposes only.

LEADING CLASSES FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

CLASS OF 1954

\$337,961

CLASS OF 1977

\$303,837

CLASS OF 1997

\$258,334

CLASS OF 1965

\$201,479

CLASS OF 1974

\$194,155

*Top-five list spans the classes of 1950-2024.



“Blair is more than simply where I went to high school—it was the place I called home for more than 30 years while my parents served as teachers and administrators. Many of the faculty and staff who served alongside my parents are like family to me, and I was privileged to see their unwavering commitment to building a welcoming environment where students’ intellectual curiosity, athletic abilities and creativity could flourish. Being ‘all in’ for Blair means giving back to the community that helped shape me, and I am committed to ensuring that future students have the same great experience that my classmates and I did (shout-out to the Class of 2005 for the stellar turnout at Alumni Weekend!).”

—Lauren (Stival) Hopfer ’05

ALUMNI WEEKEND REUNION ATTENDANCE RECORD



“My father told me a couple things:

1. If you’ve gained/benefited from education, try in some way to give back to that institution, whether it be yourself giving your time or a charitable donation.
2. Think of people less fortunate than you and try to help them with at least the same gain/benefit you experienced.

I have retained that advice throughout my entire life.... Although I was not an ‘A’ student, Blair taught me how to think and communicate rationally. I carry much of what I learned at Blair with me, even simple life experiences. I am truly indebted to the broad cultural education I received. The fact that I continue to have camaraderie with my teachers, classmates (even those from different years) and current staff gives me pleasure to be a loyal alumnus and contributor.

I donate to the scholarship fund with the hope that any student who doesn’t have the financial means will gain help to pay for their education and benefit from at least what I have experienced.”

—Billy Layton ’65



To read the full annual report,
visit www.blair.edu/annual-report.

Blair Academy IN MEMORIAM

1949 Howard I. LeVine
June 1, 2025
Hallandale Beach, Florida

1952 Lloyd J. Macklowe
September 7, 2024
Bridgehampton, New York

William R. Martens
December 5, 2024
Pownal, Maine

1953 C. Peter Tillotson
August 31, 2024
Seaford, Delaware

1960 Eugene S. Taft III
October 11, 2024
Rockledge, Florida

Herbert A. Wilfert
April 10, 2025
Alexandria, Virginia

1961 Philip L. Pecora
February 14, 2023
Toms River, New Jersey

1962 James R. Richart
May 11, 2025
Bound Brook, New Jersey

1963 Bruce D. Shinn
March 26, 2025
Canaan, New Hampshire

1964 Wayner P. Crowder
August 24, 2025
Atlanta, Georgia

Robert V. Johnston
May 18, 2025
Overland Park, Kansas

1967 Kenton C. Dalby
March 21, 2025
Freehold, New Jersey

1968 Stephen Dunn
May 18, 2023
Simpsonville, South Carolina

1969 Steven W. Tanis
April 19, 2025
Navarre, Florida

1971 Thomas S. Blankley Jr.
August 23, 2024
Princeville, Hawaii

1972 William L. Maxson Jr.
August 22, 2024
Apopka, Florida

1974 Margaret A. Ernst
May 31, 2025
Stamford, Connecticut

1987 Karen A. Redfern
June 16, 2025
Summit, New Jersey

Former Faculty
Michal Wright
February 18, 2025
Oakton, Virginia

Past Parent
Thomas E. Meyer
March 30, 2025
Newton, New Jersey

In Memoriam

1949

Howard I. LeVine

Arriving in the fall of 1946, Howard attended Blair for three years and was deeply involved in the community. During his senior year, Howard maintained his honor roll status while participating in the chess and camera clubs, as well as the Varsity "B" Association and the Webster and Stylus Societies. After graduating, Howard earned his bachelor's degree in German literature from Princeton University in 1953. Howard met his loving wife, Rita, at a dance in the Waldorf Astoria and was instantly drawn to her. On August 19, 1973, they exchanged vows and went on to share 52 happy years of marriage. Howard had an impressive career, rising through the ranks to become a vice president at Prudential Life Insurance and becoming a renowned expert on pensions implementation. Upon his retirement, he started his own company, Retirement Management Inc. Howard found joy in tinkering with electronics, watching and reading science fiction, following the stock market and traveling and spending time with Rita. Howard was a supporter of the Blair Fund, making gifts in honor of his brother, Robert '45, and supporting campus life—a tribute to his active years on the hill. Howard was preceded in death by Rita and Robert, and is lovingly survived by his children and grandchildren.

1952

Lloyd J. Macklowe

Hailing from New Rochelle, New York, Lloyd studied at Blair for his senior year. He was active in the camera and dramatics clubs and played for the golf team. After he graduated from Blair, Lloyd attended the University of Miami and Lehigh University. He worked in advertising sales for local businesses

in New York while his wife, Barbara, worked as an elementary school teacher. Co-founder of Macklowe Gallery, Lloyd transformed a modest love for antiques into a decades-long career as one of New York's leading dealers in Art Nouveau decorative arts and antique jewelry. After buying their first Tiffany vase on an installment plan in 1965, Lloyd and Barbara began collecting and selling antiques. In 1971, they opened Macklowe Gallery, which grew into a celebrated destination for collectors, museums and celebrities. The gallery became the largest dealer of authenticated Louis Comfort Tiffany lamps and placed works in major museums. Lloyd leaves behind a legacy of artistry, entrepreneurship and generosity. Lloyd is survived by his wife of nearly 60 years, Barbara; their son and daughter; four grandchildren; and his brother, Harry Macklowe, who also attended Blair for the same year.

William R. Martens

A four-year Buc, Bill fully embraced the Blair experience and credited his teachers with providing the academic foundation that shaped his later success. Active all four years, Bill's senior year saw him singing for the choir, participating in the dramatics, flying and rod & reel clubs. He was also part of the Omicron Delta Kappa Society and ran track for four years. Throughout his life, Bill volunteered and gave back to Blair. He was a member of the True Blue Loyalty, John C. Sharpe and 1848 Leadership Societies. He served on the 1848 Leadership Society Committee for several years and was a part of his class reunion committee. Bill was honored at the 2019 Leadership Dinner for his many contributions to the Blair community. After Blair, Bill was a proud Bucknell University graduate and U.S. military veteran who retired with the rank of captain and built a fulfilling life marked by entrepreneurship, family and a deep love of the outdoors. After

beginning his career in the family's paint manufacturing business, he later founded and expanded Chilton Furniture in Maine. In 1975, Bill married Susan, a creative spirit and devoted partner, and together they raised a family while restoring a 19th-century farmhouse in rural Maine. An avid hunter and passionate fly fisherman, Bill traveled widely in pursuit of game and sport, forging lifelong friendships along the way. He balanced his love of adventure with a deep commitment to his community, serving his church and charitable organizations. Above all, Bill will be remembered as a devoted husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, whose rich, purposeful life touched many. Surviving family members include his wife, Susan; son and daughters; grandchildren, including Ally Eisenhower '07 and Beth Martens '08; and great-grandchildren.

1953

C. Peter Tillotson

After graduating from Verona High School in Verona, New Jersey, Pete came to Blair for a postgraduate year. It was noted in the 1952 *ACTA* that he was a "wicked man with the soccer ball" and "extremely popular." He could be seen on the athletic fields playing for varsity soccer, as well as the basketball and baseball teams. He went on to Bucknell University, earning his bachelor's degree in aeronautics. Pete worked in contract administration for Marotta Controls, Inc. in Montville for more than 35 years. Sports were a lifelong passion for Pete. For 30 years, he filmed games for the Verona High School football team and dedicated 31 seasons to coaching 10- to 12-year-old boys on his White Sox team for Montville Township Baseball. He was also an avid fan of the NY Yankees and Pittsburgh Steelers and enjoyed fishing in his free time. Pete was predeceased by his wife, Florence, and is survived by his twin daughters, their husbands, two

grandchildren, and many friends and extended family.

1961

Philip L. Pecora

Phil attended Blair for the last two years of his high school career. He served as manager for the varsity baseball and basketball teams, was an active member of the chess club and was known for his skill as a Bridge player in his downtime. After Blair, he attended Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Phil dedicated much of his professional life to Ciba-Geigy in Toms River, New Jersey, where he worked as a laboratory technician for 35 years. Before embarking on his career in the lab, Bill served his country with honor as a member of the U.S. Army, stationed in Korea until 1967. After retiring from Ciba-Geigy, Phil remained active in his community by working as a mail carrier for Ocean County. From the time he took up this new role until 2015, he became a familiar and friendly face to the residents along his route. Outside of his professional and military accomplishments, Philip was also a passionate bowler. Phil was predeceased by his wife, Mary Alice, and is survived by two daughters and seven grandchildren.

1962

James R. Richart

After one year at Blair, Jim remained connected and supportive of the School for the remainder of his life. A valued member of the True Blue Loyalty and 1848 Leadership Societies, Jim supported his class scholarship, The Class of 1962 Dennis Wm. Peachey '62 Memorial Scholarship and the Blair Fund. Jim was a devoted family man, accomplished professional and compassionate community member whose life was marked by service, integrity and love. After graduating from Blair, he attended Rutgers University, where he earned a degree

in accounting. Jim then spent 24 successful years at Johnson & Johnson before joining Cardio Technologies Inc. Later, he brought his financial expertise to the Arc of Somerset County as director of finance, remaining active on its finance committee even after retirement. His generosity extended to organizations like Habitat for Humanity, the YMCA, People Care and several local churches, reflecting his lifelong commitment to helping others. In 2003, Jim married Deirdre, his beloved partner of more than two decades. As a husband, father, father-in-law and grandfather, Jim was a steady, loving presence—offering guidance, unconditional support and endless pride in his family. Jim's spiritual life was central to who he was. Rooted in his longtime connection to St. John's Episcopal Church in Somerville, New Jersey, he later became an active member of Christ Church Greenwich in Greenwich, Connecticut, drawn to its inclusive values. His faith guided his advocacy for equality, compassion and justice, inspiring him to champion dignity for all. Jim will be remembered for his wisdom, humility and unwavering dedication to uplifting others. Jim is survived by Deirdre, his children and grandchildren.

1963

Bruce D. Shinn

One of the rare six-year Bucs, Bruce began his Blair journey in seventh grade and went on to excel in football (varsity captain), basketball and track. He earned All-New Jersey State honors in football, received the Blair Academy Trophy for best scholar-athlete and was awarded the Robert F. Harris Drama Award. Alongside his athletics, he was secretary of the Blue & White Key Society, vice president of the Varsity B, an Academy Player, wrote for *The Breeze* and *ACTA* and served on the chapel committee. He continued his studies at Boston University, playing football and earning a journalism

degree in 1967. Bruce led a rich, varied life filled with achievement, service and community spirit. Drafted into the U.S. Army, Bruce served in Korea as a *Stars and Stripes* correspondent and combat engineer, rising to the rank of sergeant. He then worked for Sea Land Shipping before becoming the Adidas sales representative for northern New England. In 1970, he moved his family to Canaan, New Hampshire, where he found his dream home—a classic, red farmhouse. After earning his master's degree from the University of New Hampshire, Bruce returned to Blair to work in alumni relations for several years. He later founded Business Growth Services, focusing on technology retail. Bruce also taught college courses, volunteered his computer expertise and was recognized as a trusted tech specialist at Staples. Bruce was passionate about writing, publishing books highlighting local lives and wit, and contributing to area newspapers. He shared his love of sports and music through coaching, playing in local music groups and participating in community theatre. Known for his positivity, generosity and humor, Bruce was a beloved figure at local events and church gatherings. His kindness, encouragement and zest for life left a lasting impact on all who knew him. Bruce is survived by his two sons, Dave Shinnlinger '90 and Andrew Shinn '93; their spouses; his former wife of 42 years, Susan Shinn; and his granddaughters.

1964

Robert V. Johnston

Student Council prefect Bob was a well-rounded Buc who received the Headmaster's Prize at graduation. During his time on campus, he served as the co-sports editor of *The Breeze* and earned varsity letters in three sports: basketball, baseball and soccer. He also captained both baseball and soccer. Throughout his life, Bob remained connected with Blair,

In Memoriam

1964

Former Trustee

Wayner P. Crowder

Wayner P. Crowder '64, a distinguished alum who dedicated himself in service to Blair for over six decades, passed away on August 24, 2025.

Wayner's journey at Blair began in 1961, and after graduating four years later, he earned a BA from Columbia University in 1968 and a JD from Harvard Law School in 1971. For many years, Wayner served as a senior attorney with the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority, and his leadership was recognized on the national scale when he was named chair of the American Public Transportation Association's Procurement Committee.

Beyond his professional achievements, Wayner's service to his alma mater never wavered throughout his life. He first joined Blair's Alumni Association Board of Governors in 1970, where he quickly showed a passion for advancing the values and mission of the School. That commitment continued when he assumed the role of Trustee in 1996, completing his first term in 2001 and returning for a second term in 2003. All of us at Blair remain grateful for all Wayner contributed during his time as a voting member of the Board and, since 2008, as an Emeritus Trustee.

Throughout his life, Wayner did much to wave the Blair flag and support the School, especially in his hometown of Atlanta, where he became Blair's best ambassador. He approached his work with other volunteer opportunities and nonprofit organizations in the same service-minded way, including the United Way, Literacy Action, YMCA, the Urban League of Greater Atlanta's employment center, the Atlanta Community Food Bank and the St. Francis Table Soup Kitchen. For many years, he also served on the advisory board of the Atlanta Youth Academy.

A true example of using one's time, treasure and talents for the benefit and betterment of others, Wayner leaves behind a legacy of service that stands as an inspiration to us all.

supporting the Blair Fund and the Class of 1964 Scholarship. After Blair, Bob earned a bachelor of science in economics and business from Lafayette College, followed by master's degrees in healthcare management from the University of Kansas and management information systems from Friends University in Wichita, Kansas. His professional career included leadership roles as director of finance at Sprint and administrator of the child development unit at the University of Kansas Medical Center. He also served his country in the U.S. Army, stationed in Korea. A devoted husband and father, Bob created lasting family traditions, especially at Christmastime. He was a lifelong sports enthusiast, a continuation of being captain during his school years at Blair and Lafayette, and enjoyed golf throughout

his life. Bob also had a passion for cats, particularly Maine Coons. An active member of the Cat Fanciers' Association, he and his wife raised and showed cats, and he was a respected show manager in Kansas City. Bob will be remembered for his leadership, warmth, and deep love for family and animals. Bob is survived by his wife and childhood sweetheart, Sandra, his children and his grandchildren. Bob was preceded in death by his brother, Richard Johnston '68.

1967

Kenton C. Dalby

A member of the outing, glee and projection clubs, K.C., known as Ken during his Blair days, also wrote for *The Breeze* and ran varsity track. He went on to attend Moravian University in

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, where he was born and raised. Over the years, K.C. lived in several places before settling in Freehold Township in 1983, where he became a beloved figure in the community. He built a distinguished career in the steel manufacturing industry, focusing on safety and security at companies like Bethlehem Steel and New Jersey Steel. Later, he transitioned into a second career with RadioShack, working in multiple locations until his retirement. A man of service, K.C. volunteered with the East Allentown Township Ambulance Corps and was an active leader with Freehold area Boy Scout Troops 18 and 358. His lifelong passion, however, was mineral collecting. Known fondly as the "Fluorite Guy," he founded and served as president of the New Jersey branch of the Friends of Mineralogy, traveling

widely in pursuit of rare specimens. K.C. was deeply devoted to his family and will be remembered for his quick wit, dry humor and affectionate nature. Proudly referring to himself as “Dear Old Dad,” he was the heart of his family, cherishing every moment with his children and grandchildren. His legacy lives on in the love he shared and the joy he found in life’s simple pleasures. K.C. is survived by his loving wife of 52 years, Betsy, their two children and their spouses, and six cherished grandchildren.

1968

Stephen Dunn

A native of Walpack, New Jersey, Steve was a day student at Blair and quickly made his mark on campus through his humor, intellect and athletic prowess. He served as a Student Council prefect and was active in the choir, glee club, Tweeds, *ACTA*, *The Blair Breeze* and multiple athletic teams, including varsity baseball, winter track, cross country and football, where he earned the memorable nickname “the tree with pie plates for hands.” He was also awarded the Arthur Spring Dramatics Prize. Steve remained connected with Blair through attending reunion weekends, as well as serving on his 50th Reunion committee and supporting the Class of 1968 Society of Skeptics Endowment Fund and the Blair Fund. Steve graduated from Oberlin College, where he remained close to several classmates. He was known for his razor-sharp photographic memory—famously memorizing pi to 50 decimal places—and for his impeccable comedic timing, with stories of his antics becoming legendary among classmates. After college, he worked as a counselor in the Pittsburgh probation office, a role in which he brought empathy and a strong sense of justice. In later years, Steve was known for his love of motorcycles, his affection for Blair, and the humor and heart he shared with friends old and new. Steve

was predeceased by his wife, Alida. He will be remembered with admiration, laughter and lasting affection.

1969

Steven W. Tanis

Steven was a four-year day student at Blair, known for his talent on the varsity wrestling team. His skill and determination earned him the state championship title, which led to a scholarship at Penn State University, where he graduated in 1973. After college, Steven followed his adventurous spirit to Colorado to enjoy the skiing lifestyle, and in doing so, met the love of his life, Cynthia, who would become his wife of 47 years. Steven was known as a man of steady hands, strong values and an open heart. Steven and Cynthia built a fulfilling life together in Carbondale, Colorado, where they raised their family. Steven ran a successful landscaping business and proudly served as a Carbondale volunteer fireman for 17 years. In later years, after traveling and living in several locations, they settled in Navarre, Florida, to enjoy beach life. Steven is survived by his wife, Cynthia; his daughter and son; beloved grandchildren; as well as many other family members and lifelong friends.

1971

Thomas S. Blankley Jr.

A three-year Buc, Tom was deeply involved in campus life. He served as sports editor and editor-in-chief for *The Breeze*, held the role of head prefect, and was an active member of the press and French clubs and the varsity baseball team. Tom was recognized for his academic excellence as the recipient of both the English II Prize and the Harold F. Walker Memorial Prize. After Blair, he remained connected with classmates, served on the Board of Governors and maintained a warm and lasting friendship with former

Head of School James M. Howard Jr. He was a loyal member of the True Blue Society, generously supporting both the Blair Fund and the James M. Howard Fund—including gifts made in Mr. Howard’s memory following his passing. Tom graduated from Bucknell University in 1975, where he was president of the Bucknell Students Association. He began his professional journey at Merrill Lynch in New York and quickly ascended in international finance, with postings in London, Hong Kong and Tokyo, where he became the first foreign member of the Tokyo Stock Exchange. He later transitioned to entrepreneurial ventures and executive roles in Hawaii, including leadership of Hale’ona, Inc., Diana Hanson-Young Corp. and Pahio Vacation Ownership, Inc. He also served as president of Access, Inc., as a trusted financial consultant and was appointed to the Kauai School Advisory Council. Tom is lovingly survived by his wife, Leona, as well as his stepchildren and their families.

1974

Margaret A. Ernst

During her one year at Blair, Margaret was known to frequent the Canteen often with friends and remembered for her love of horses. She also ran for the cross country and track teams. After Blair, Margaret graduated from University of Lynchburg. She began her career at the American Society for Microbiology and the American Cyanamid Company, then joined the National Chicken Council, where she worked for more than 30 years, most recently as senior director of meetings and member services. She resided for some time in Breckenridge, Colorado, where she became an accomplished skier, and for decades in Washington, where she enjoyed gardening at home and hiking in Rock Creek Park. She traveled extensively throughout the United States, Asia and Europe and

In Memoriam

had countless friends. Margaret is survived by her sisters, brother and their families.

1987

Karen A. Redfern

A proud four-year Buc from Sparta, New Jersey, Karen played on the varsity tennis team and cherished her time on the hilltop. In the 1987 *ACTA*, she wrote about favorite memories, including Christmas Vespers, late nights with friends and a special weekend in the Poconos. After Blair, Karen earned her bachelor's degree from the College of Charleston in South Carolina and went on to build a successful career in the finance industry. She served as vice president of human resources at Credit Suisse in New York City, where she was known for her dedication and professionalism. Spirited and athletic, Karen found joy in the outdoors and was an avid golfer, tennis player, skier and cyclist. She was a proud member of New Jersey's Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield and the Beacon Hill Club in Summit. Travel was one of her great passions, and she embraced every opportunity to explore the world. Above all, Karen was a devoted mother, and her son, Patrick, was the light of her life. Her warmth, strength and unwavering love for her family defined her. Karen is survived by her loving parents; her son; her siblings, including D. Jean Redfern-Brown '83 and Jim Redfern Jr. '85; and her adored niece and nephews.

Former Faculty

Michal Wright

Michal was a dedicated educator, coach and mentor who served as Blair's Assistant Dean of Admission and coached the football team from 2000 to 2003. While at Blair, Michal's path coincided with stepson Evan Paquette '02 and stepdaughter Danielle (Paquette) Mirza, who also attended

Blair for a period during that time. A 1981 Kent School graduate and inaugural member of its Athletic Hall of Fame, Michal returned to his alma mater in 2021 after earning his BA from St. Lawrence University. He was associate director of admissions at Kent School, where he also coached football, basketball, baseball and advised students. Michal is remembered for his warmth, kindness, and ability to make everyone feel seen and valued. Michal is survived by his wife, Sherry, his children and grandchildren.

Past Parent

Thomas E. Meyer

Father to three Blair graduates, Ed Meyer '97, Lily Meyer '00 and Sovann Stark '14, Tom will be remembered for his integrity, service, creativity and compassion. He was a man who left a meaningful mark on his community and everyone he touched. Tom was a generous supporter of Blair, and in 2006, he and his ex-wife, Susan Stark, established the Thomas E. Meyer Family Scholarship. That same year, he was honored at the Leadership Dinner. In establishing the scholarship, Tom reflected on how he had benefited from both good luck and the help of others throughout his life. After surviving a serious accident and head injury, he wished to share his good fortune with others. His commitment was also shaped by his family's experience during World War II, when a great uncle helped his family escape from Nazi Germany. Tom and Susan believed that because they had been the beneficiary of other's aid, they wished to assist others, knowing that in life, one's disadvantages may be changed forever by opportunity and education. For almost 20 years, Tom enjoyed meeting and connecting with students who received this scholarship. He remained connected with Blair after his children graduated through friendships with many faculty and attending Skeptics

lectures and the annual Leadership Reception.

A graduate of Pratt Institute, Tom began his career at Ford Motor Company, working on the Mustang project. In 1966, he joined the U.S. Army, serving as a first lieutenant in Vietnam and earning the Bronze Star. After his service, Tom worked as an industrial designer and later purchased Montague Tool & Supply, relocating it to Branchville, New Jersey, after a fire. He remained active in the business until his health declined. A lifelong cyclist and former captain of the Army Cycling Team, Tom also enjoyed kayaking, canoeing and rail travel. He restored a 1905 Pullman baggage car into a unique display beside his store. Tom was deeply involved in his community, serving on local tree commissions and advocating for the environment. In addition to the scholarship at Blair, he supported education by sponsoring children via The Sharing Foundation. He is remembered for his dedication, creativity and generous spirit. Tom is survived by his children, his beloved granddaughters and his partner, Victoria Jeffers. ▀

FOUR THINGS WE'RE TALKING ABOUT

Tara Nicole Whitaker '98 Illustrates PBS KIDS' *Weather Hunters*

Have you seen Tara Nicole Whitaker '98's illustrations on PBS KIDS' *Weather Hunters*? Created by Al Roker, this animated series uses adventure and comedy to introduce 5- to 8-year-olds to Earth science and meteorology. Our forecast? Bright skies ahead—with a strong chance of stunning art.



1

The Atrium of the Center for Health & Well-Being

Is that a wild toucan you hear or did you just step into a rainforest? The atrium of the Center for Health and Well-Being is breathtaking—with a dramatic water wall and lush greenery cascading from floor to ceiling, we like to think of it as a zen jungle disguised as a campus building. Come see it for yourself!



2

Déjà Vu All over Again?

On August 11, Blirstown's Main Street transformed into a film set as crews shot *Crystal Lake*, the prequel to the *Friday the 13th* movie. While its premiere date hasn't been announced, the series is slated for Peacock's 2025-2026 lineup of new streaming shows.



4

The Blair Girls' Crew Team

The Blair girls' crew team capped their season with a historic run to the finals at the prestigious Henley Regatta in the United Kingdom—the only American boat to make it that far. Their focus, discipline and relentless drive, supported by Coach John Redos '09, set them apart on an international stage and made us all proud. Above, the team trains on Paulinskill Lake.

3



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Questions?

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at (908) 362-2059 or stanfc@blair.edu.

Visit www.blair.edu/alumni/alumni-weekend for more information.



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