We & Thee

SUMMER 2022



SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

Check out some of our most popular photos from social media this year! Be sure to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and Youtube: @CarolinaFriends.


Feb. 22


Mar. 12


Mar. 3
Upper School teaching assistants aid Terry Prendergast in baseball dugout repairs.

CAROLINA FRIENDS CONNECT

Join the 337 Carolina Friends alumni, alumni parents, and current and former staff already on our new social platform!

https://carolinafriendsconnect.com/

FEED

DIRECTORY

MENTORING

Carolina Friends School is a vibrant and inclusive learning community empowering students to think critically, creatively, and independently. We foster active exploration and quiet reflection, individual endeavor and collaborative engagement. Inspired by Quaker values—pursuit of truth, respect for all, peaceful resolution of conflict, simplicity, the call to service—we teach our children that it is possible to change the world.

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We & Thee

SUMMER 2022

4 A Note From Karen
5 The "Women Crowd"
7 Students Taking the Wheel in School-Wide Change
8 Thinking Outside the Box: Tommy Noonan Leads a Life of Creativity and Purpose
10 Welcome a New Assistant Head
11 Head Teacher Transitions
12 Turning Vision Into Reality
14 Celebrating Dance (and Each Other)
16 Athletics Update
18 Congratulations to the Class of 2022!
20 Update from the Parent-Staff Association
21 Celebrating Retiring Staff
22 Alumni News



Above, students meeting with Cornelio Campos (far left), a self-taught Mexican American artist based in Durham. The Upper School's End of Year Experience program was more fully revived this year, including travel opportunities in New York, California, Florida, and across the state.



A NOTE FROM KAREN

With our all-digital issue of the magazine last winter, I appreciated the heightened sustainability and leaning into connecting with our increasingly tech-savvy community in ways that were convenient (and mobile-friendly!). I will say it feels good to think about the print edition of this magazine physically traveling to places near and far, providing a tangible link to the power of our program and the incredible talents of our community.

In reading alum Bonnie Morris's essay, which calls forth the formative years not only of a group of budding feminist scholars but of the Upper School itself, I was again reminded of the powerful ways that Carolina Friends School has not only provided a safe learning environment in which students can find their voices and purpose, but also a community of individuals equally committed to the dream of this radical school and to nurturing, and sometimes housing, the students themselves.

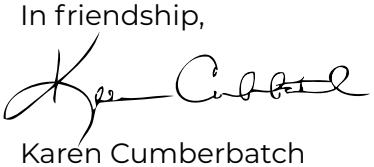
When I hear these stories from decades of students, what I think of is refuge. Providing that sense of security and confidence is crucial to the work of challenging our students to lean into their "growing edges" as scholars and community members. Throughout this magazine, I see evidence of the transformational power this educational approach has on our students, both while they are here and for many decades after.

I see Upper School students advocating for themselves by researching and proposing new ways to partner with leadership and make their voices heard. I see the many diverse ways our students go on to be guided by service in a wide range of personal and professional fields, including building community through the arts. And I see the incredible educators whose dedication to relation-based teaching and learning is the cornerstone for our mission — those coming to us with fresh eyes, those bravely stepping into new roles, and those whose retirements we celebrate after decades of leadership, learning, and love.

One of the Quaker values that has felt most relevant to me these past years is the understanding that truth is continually revealed. Even as the pandemic has continued to throw unexpected, and sometimes deeply dispiriting, challenges our way, the members of this learning community have remained committed to both being our best selves in this moment and to continuing to plan for the future. We remain rooted in our hopes and aspirations for being all we can be.

I want to close this message with a quote by bell hooks, "When we work with love we renew the spirit; that renewal is an act of self-love, it nurtures our growth. It's not what you do but how you do it." I thank you all for the many ways you have brought your whole selves to this community, and look forward to finding new ways to continue to grow together in love.

In friendship,



Karen Cumberbatch

THE "WOMEN CROWD"

How the formative years of Carolina Friends School's Upper School and its students influenced three trail-blazers in women's studies.

Huddled in one of the spackled UK shacks that served as classrooms while Carolina Friends School (CFS) finished building the Upper School log cabin in 1973, I took my first women's history class with Darlene Wells and Peggy Phelps. It was my first "high school" experience, too: I was one of four or five Middle School feminists studying with a range of older Upper School girls. How I admired them all! How strong and beautiful they seemed to me, at age twelve! "I hear you've joined the Women crowd," Don Wells remarked approvingly as he raced past with an armload of paperwork (having just been promoted from head of Middle School to Head of School).

So many memories. But it was reading about the death of Sonja "Dolly" Hilford, who attended CFS from 1972–1975, that sent me right back to that first women's studies class with Darlene and Peggy.

Our focus for autumn 1973 was preparing a dramatic reading about the first Seneca Falls Women's Rights Conference of 1848. Dolly was the narrator, so every rehearsal, each time we were together, time after time, began with the sound of her dignified intonation: "London, 1840." I could be inside a pyramid in Egypt or underwater in any of the Seven Seas right now, and if someone whispered "London, 1840" I'd be back at CFS, age twelve, learning about first-wave feminism in America. Dolly's voice, her stature as a more mature older classmate, and my eventual pathway to becoming a women's history professor are forever entwined.

Thus wistful about Dolly's passing, I reached out to Page Hundley, Dolly's best friend from CFS years, to learn more. I knew that Dolly had gone to Guilford College for her high school senior year and college enrollment, but was amazed to learn anew that Dolly was the daughter of a white ship captain and a Nigerian mother. Dolly's aunt, working as a chaplain at Duke, housed her for many years, though later Dolly lived with several CFS families. Always beautiful in my memory, Dolly later became a model, as did several of her daughters.





Left: Sonja "Dolly" Hilford '76 and Page Hundley '76 in front of the Middle School.

Right: The author, Bonnie Morris '79, in 1972.

> "We at Friends in the '60s and '70s were in a Camelot moment that will never come again; a microcosm of positivity and joy, a feeling that peace was a possibility."
>
> — Page Hundley '76

While Page shared details over the phone, I reminisced nostalgically about the Seneca Falls recitation our women's history class performed at the Durham YWCA. I found the clipping about that event, announced in the *Durham Morning Herald*, in my battered first scrapbook. More than once, in a few of my books, I've written about my journey from that class to college teaching. Now I learned that Page, too, although not in our Seneca Falls class of 1973, had gone on to make waves in women's studies. Enrolling at Appalachian State in 1976, she found a home in Watauga College, a CFS-like community that lived and studied together, with professors offering topical art and literature courses. Page recalled being "passionate and very vocal in the many Women-focused classes I'd taken with them; I was active in the ERA vote of that time." Three of Page's professors —Maggie McFadden, Helena Lewis and Virginia Wolfe—asked if she would be the student representative in their effort to start a women's studies major, and together they presented it to Appalachian's board. There were many questions: How many classes would have to be in such a major? Would they be art, history, or literature credits? In the end, the administration rejected the major, but approved a minor, and Page used credits from courses she had already taken to become the first student graduating with a women's studies minor.

I was flabbergasted. *I had done the exact same thing:* becoming the first student to graduate from American University with a minor in women's studies, with the minor only being approved during my senior year. Here we had pursued almost identical activism after graduating from CFS, but were just now talking for the first time in our lives, as CFS alumni. And all because Page had sent the notice of Dolly's passing to the *We & Thee* Class Notes.

Dolly's voice, "London 1840," resonated above us.

I asked Page why she thought CFS held such magic and power for us. Certainly, the School set us both on a lifelong path to make sure women's history was available to others as a significant field of study. And, three years older than me, Page was in that first generation of CFS graduates. She reflected, "CFS was hugely, hugely influential in my life, my underpinnings. I think the way that I've lived my life has always had that in the background." I mentioned that, like Dolly, I had lived with several different families during my Upper School time—my parents having moved to Maryland—and we marveled at how the CFS community stepped up to house and mentor so many of us. Part of what Page and I brought to women's studies was experiencing such alternative, communal family structures in the 1970s, and the strength of women's relationships with one another. We had each lost our best friend from that 1973 era (mine was Jennifer Rosse, who voiced the role of suffragist Charlotte Woodward in our Seneca script). These overlaps and similarities in the lives of CFS alumni always inspire me to consider how we all learned to navigate grief as well as opportunity and possibility. With fresh gratitude for my education, I see anew how "the Women crowd" gave me the tools to write my school days into memory, and to inscribe the lives of other women too.

— Bonnie Morris '79

STUDENTS TAKING THE WHEEL IN SCHOOL-WIDE CHANGE

Last fall, the ninth grade class set forth a proposal to integrate participatory budgeting in the Upper School, a proposal that would eventually lead to students being given a voice in Upper School spending. Participatory budgeting is the act of allowing the broader community—in this case, the Upper School student community—to decide as a group on what ways to use a designated amount of money out of a public or private budget.

This model for budgeting was introduced to ninth-graders by Upper School teacher Melissa Zemon in her class "Democratic Systems." After exploring the history of participatory budgeting in theory and practice, Melissa asked the students what they would do if they had this opportunity in the Upper School. "They listed all kinds of great and sometimes fantastical ideas," Melissa noted. "We noticed there were also commonalities between the four different classes. So, I went to Lauren and I asked if she would sanction participatory budgeting for the students. She agreed, as long as the entire Upper School could participate."

The natural outlet for all-student involvement is Clerks, a student-led effort facilitated by staff that allows for students voice concerns and needs for the Upper School and how to implement changes. On November 18, ninth-grade class members presented at a Clerks meeting possible uses for allocated funds and how the participatory budgeting process could work in the Upper School. In the proposal, all Upper School students would have the responsibility to think of different ways to best use $1,500 of the Upper School's budget annually. Typically, each teaching unit requests a school-year budget from the School that is largely used for books and supplies, as well as student life programming such as End of Year Experiences.

After three Clerks meetings, consensus was reached on a participatory budget proposal, which was then brought to a Meeting for Business with the entire Upper School and approved on December 2, 2021. Moving forward, students interested in submitting ideas must explain what their proposed budget item is, how it would be beneficial to the whole of the Upper School, an estimate of how much it would cost, and the goals they are hoping to achieve. These proposals will then be discussed and decided upon in Clerks. Aspects of this process, even though it is guaranteed, will be evaluated and will evolve continuously.

While some students remain skeptical, a good majority of students and staff alike see this as an amazing reminder of Carolina Friends School's community-centered approach and students' ability to make their own decisions. Tenth grader Kaeli Nguyen commented on how big of an impact this is for the ninth grade specifically, "I think it's great that the school's empowering younger students to speak up and become vocal members of the community. And then giving them the support to see projects through."

One cannot help but be excited to see what the students at the Upper School are capable of next.

— Kemi Heyward-Rotimi '24

A version of this article appeared in the *We & Thee* Winter 2022 digital issue.

Kemi Heyward-Rotimi is heavily interested in activism for POC, the LGBTQIA+ community, and body normativity. He has a love for writing, music, the *Terminator* franchise, piano, guitar, and especially musical theater and acting. Kemi hopes that he can utilize his teachings from Carolina Friends School to not only further his studies but also find and amplify his voice for subjects he is passionate about.



THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

Tommy Noonan Leads a Life of Creativity and Purpose

When Tommy Noonan ‘01 discusses the practices that guide his life, the imprint his Carolina Friends School education made on him is easy to see. Noonan—who describes himself as a dancer/performer/choreographer/theater maker—says that he is committed to being present with people, being curious, and viewing relationships with others as abundant resources in themselves rather than transactions.

“At Carolina Friends, the emphasis on being in community and the embodied practice of sitting in silence during meeting for worship were incredibly formative toward both my career and life choices,” says Noonan. “The idea of the inner light within each of us which is inherently beautiful and good has supported my creativity in life and in the arts. Developing a connection to my own self and my inner creativity, laid the perfect foundation for me to explore a life of creativity.”

Noonan’s life involves a wide variety of creative and community-building pursuits. Noonan and his partner, Murielle Elizeon, are the co-directors of Culture Mill, a performing arts laboratory whose mission is “to foster a creative ecosystem based in Saxapahaw, North Carolina, through the cross-pollination of artist residencies, educational outreach and groundbreaking immersive artworks from local, national and international artists.”

Noonan came to the arts through dance and the guidance and nurturing of Annie Dwyer, who served as the dance teacher at Carolina Friends for 31 years. “I have to completely uplift Annie Dwyer, as so many of us do,” he says. “In middle school, when I was playing soccer, Annie would just stop by and say, ‘take a dance class,’ and I’d say, ‘Nah,’ and then she’d stop by again and say, “take a dance class.’” With Dwyer’s encouragement, Noonan took a dance elective primarily because dance could make him a better soccer player.

He grew to love dance and has gone on to become an award-winning artist who performs and has his work presented throughout the world. At the same time, much of his work through Culture Mill is about using the arts to bridge spaces, ranging from realms of social justice, spaces of health care, or community organizing. “Artists have incredible skills that are relevant

to many other sectors within a broader social context," says Noonan. "I consider myself like a social worker, using my tools—such as embodiment, creation of systems for innovative thinking and for collaborative practices, the balance of executive function and abstract thinking—to help individuals and groups explore new ways of doing things."

Noonan brought his skills to Carolina Friends during the 2017–18 academic year as the first visiting artist-in-residence in the dance program. "I felt gratitude to be able to be part of that program and to be back in the Center building," he says. "To have that reciprocal exchange with Annie and with the students, and hopefully giving something to some of the students, was wonderful."

He encourages young artists to trust themselves, live courageously, always learn, and follow their joy. "It took me a while to learn that we artists are making up things as we go along," he says, "It's possible for young people to think there is a right way to create art and that they have to figure that out. I think the sooner that young artists can give up the idea that there is a right way to pursue art, the better off they are."

In addition to Dwyer, Noonan cites the late Jamie Hysjulien and former staffers Cotton Bryan, Willy Rotella, Susan Kincaid, Bill Messer, and Beadsie Woo as important influences in his life. His Carolina Friends connection started at home with his mother, Mary Harwood, a long-time Lower School teacher and librarian. "So much of Friends School for me was my teachers," he says. "I'm incredibly indebted to so many people. I feel that I am a vessel for so much of the wisdom that has lived around me, whether it's Murielle, Annie, or my other Carolina Friends teachers. I'm committed to a process of learning."

— Michele Lynn



Working with Carolina Friends School students as visiting-artist-in-residence in January 2018.



Tommy and Annie Dwyer in *They Are All* (2019), a work by Tommy and Murielle Elizéon, performed at the American Dance Festival. Photo by Sarah Marguier.

Photo on opposite page by Anna Maynard.

WELCOMING A NEW ASSISTANT HEAD



John Sharon has joined us as Assistant Head for Teaching and Learning, a position that serves to assist the Head of School with academic initiatives and special projects; oversee supporting staff through professional development, recruiting, and retainment; and provide ongoing, direct support for head teachers. John is thrilled to be returning to North Carolina where he served at Trinity School of Durham and Chapel Hill for two years as director of school and two years as founding director of the upper school. In his career as a caring teacher and accomplished administrator, John has also served at independent schools in the Northeast and Washington, D.C.

As an educator with a life-long physical disability, whose parents were told to put him in an institution, John says that his philosophy of education and leadership is intricately intertwined with his life story. "I know that every student and teacher with whom I work has a story too," he says. "They too have assumptions made about them, and they too know the pain of not belonging."

He adds, "A good leader knows how to cultivate a sense of vulnerability and place and belonging for every member of a learning community, to move people from the margins to the very center of the page. That's the kind of teacher and leader I aspire to be." John's commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion is reflected in his presentations at numerous schools and diversity conferences across the country about disability and equity in education.

John and his wife, Amy, are parents to two adult children who have "flown the nest." A musician, John plays the harmonica and sings, and is looking forward to getting back to playing in an environment where bluegrass music is beloved. He earned a bachelor's degree in government from Connecticut College, a diploma in Christian studies from Regent College Graduate School of Theology at the University of British Columbia, and an MEd (education administration) from the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

What are you most looking forward to in your new role?
While it's hard to narrow that down, I'm the most excited that the full range of students at Carolina Friends is pre-K through grade 12, spanning the entire range of human development. I'm also really excited about joining a Quaker community. I've immersed myself in the Quaker world since I was offered this job and I've realized I'm probably more of a Quaker than I realized. Quaker values resonate with me so I'm excited to make the transition into a more holistic enterprise of education.

What do you love about being an educator?
I love working with students and seeing them have lightbulb moments when something clicks for them and they understand something that they haven't before. I see my role at Carolina Friends as helping teachers become the best version of themselves, a role that will be mutually interdependent. Carolina Friends is a community that's going to help me become the best version of myself and I'm excited about that.

What do you want members of our learning community to know about you?
I'm a human being first—more than an educator, administrator, or teacher. I care deeply about the notion of human flourishing, for both students and adults.

— Michele Lynn

HEAD TEACHER TRANSITIONS



JENNI SCOGGIN is starting a new role as Lower School Head Teacher after serving as a classroom teacher in our Lower School for 12 years. Prior to joining us, Jenni worked in marketing before earning a master's in early childhood education and teaching in public schools.

What are you most looking forward to in your new role?
I'm looking forward to being a part of and helping to facilitate the building and strengthening of relationships throughout the Lower School community. I remember gatherings on my interview day: with students in a circle on the carpet and with staff around the Lower School kitchen table. I was witness to the bonds that were built by creating this space. Over the past two years, the global pandemic has made this almost impossible. The possibility of gathering and connecting people brings me a lot of joy!

What is one of your favorite teaching moments?
I love to see students find themselves in stories or learn about other spaces and characters through stories. One of the most memorable examples is when my students were reading the book *Ninth Ward* by Jewell Parker Rhodes. It is a tale of a twelve-year-old girl living in New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina. Students thought about how access to common places and resources in a city are impacted by where a person lives. There was such rich discussion, and students planned their own cities, with the goal of making common places and resources accessible to all residents. I loved hearing them share their ideas about how to create equitable spaces for people. It gave me such hope and inspired me.



DAVID CHOTTINER joins us as Middle School Head Teacher from Old Trail School, in Bath, Ohio. In addition to proving himself as an innovative history and social studies educator, David has served as a middle school director and interim intermediate school director.

What are you most looking forward to in your new role?
I am most excited to get to know the students and staff of the Middle School community. In the few brief interactions that I had before I began in July, I recognized Carolina Friends School as a place where people could feel comfortable in their own skin and grow towards their potential. I am counting down the days until everyone returns!

What is one of your favorite teaching moments?
Last fall, due to a teacher's illness, I found myself teaching sixth grade math for several weeks. As a former history teacher, I was lacking in actual content knowledge, so I poured over all kinds of resources I could find in order to develop lesson plans, assignments, and assessments. I decided I just needed to ensure that the students were not provided with incorrect methodology during their several weeks of less-than-ideal teaching—a tall task, indeed!

Those three daily sections of math were not only a fun-filled joy to teach, but also a reminder of what our students experience in a classroom each and every day. We were discovering the material together. I arrived with a sense of awe and wonder each day. In the end, it was a wonderful exercise in stepping into the shoes of our early adolescent students!

TURNING VISION INTO REALITY



Updates on our continuing progress toward our strategic vision

In January 2020, we shared our multi-year strategic vision for the School, *The Dream That Drives Us*. We aim to become: a beacon of inclusion and equity; a learning environment for the students of the future, now; and a global resource and exemplar for child-centered education. Amidst all the challenges we've faced, we have also maintained progress towards those goals, including the following updates as we look to the new school year.

Curricular Review and Communication

We are nearing completion for our multi-year, school-wide curriculum documentation process, looking at curricular progression of knowledge and skills within and across disciplines and units. We anticipate finishing that internal process this fall.

The next phase of this project will be to examine the curricular continuity from Early through Upper School. That will then inform the creation of an outward facing articulation of our academic program. Once that project is complete, our dynamic curriculum will be captured and refined through periodic and continuous curriculum review. A familiar face to many will be guiding these efforts; we are excited to have Lisa Wilson Carboni taking on a new role as Director of Curriculum this August.

In addition to having served as our Lower School Head Teacher for the past fifteen years, Lisa has been an adjunct associate professor of education with Duke University. These experiences, her leadership of the committee guiding the staff's curriculum documentation process, her PhD in curriculum and instruction, and her perspective as a parent of two Carolina Friends graduates make her ideally suited for this important work.

Supporting Belonging and Inclusion

This past year, we revitalized our affinity group for parents and guardians of students of color, as well as created new affinity groups for families of neurodiverse and LGBTQIA+ students. We also expanded the number of student-driven affinity groups in the Upper School and thoughtfully introduced affinity groups in the Middle School.

This year, two teaching staff joined director Naa Norley Adom in the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion office. In addition to their teaching roles, they also now serve as unit-based iversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinators: Isabel Ríos-Torres in the Upper School and Kate Pendergrass in the Middle School.

We are also excited to announce that Clay Thomas has joined us as our first Assistant Director of Enrollment for Equity and Community Outreach. Clay comes to us with years of experience as a diversity coordinator and English teacher in several independent schools, and has family roots here in Durham. In this new role, he will be engaging with prospective and current students and families in a number of ways.

New Innovations from the Institute for Teaching and Learning

In addition to housing existing initiatives like Peaceful Schools, our Extended Learning programs, and professional development opportunities, the Institute for Teaching and Learning is also an innovation incubator. This summer, we are launching a new Summer Institute for Educators focused on restorative practices training. Looking forward to the school year, the institute is excited to offer The Art of Resiliency and Renewal, a personal growth and renewal program for seasoned teaching professionals led by former Carolina Friends Head of School Mike Hanas and former Assistant Head for Teaching and Learning Renée Prillaman.

Strengthening Our Physical Campus

During the previous *Building Friends* campaign, much attention and care was put into renovating and creating spaces that best meet the needs of our students. We are now at a place to direct that nurturing care to our Upper School facilities. We are engaged in developing a new main campus plan that both meets current needs and anticipates where flexibility will best support the development of our academic program. As part of our current needs assessment, this fall we are looking to engage consultants to partner in analyzing demographic trends for our area and ensuring right-sizing for our student body. They will also help us engage in community conversations about programmatic needs and desires. Once that information gathering is complete, we will begin seeking architectural solutions and ideas that will make our campus more accessible and adaptable while maintaining its unique feel, which one visitor recently described as a "learning village."

— Katherine Scott

CAMPUS VOICES

If you haven't yet, be sure to check out our online profile series, "Campus Voices," sharing stories of alumni and current students who are learning and living with purpose.

Visit our website to read the full articles (and stay tuned for more!):

www.cfsnc.org/campusvoices.



Chavi Koneru '01, Advocate



Mike Iskandar '97, Truth-Seeker



Layla Safi '25, Bridge-Builder

CELEBRATING DANCE (AND EACH OTHER)

On April 8-9, the community was able to gather in celebration of our dance program and everyone it has touched over the years. Organized by alum staff Annie Dwyer and Carrie Huff, "Celebrating Dance and Each Other" featured two dance performances, four musical interludes, a "Living Arts Dancewave," and workshops for current students. Alumni were able to fly in for the program, originally scheduled for April 2020, from locations including New York and Cuba. Generations of Carolina Friends students, families, and staff members were finally able to gather, thanks to COVID safety protocols.

Additional photos may be viewed by visiting: cfsnc.org/alumdance

Photos by Satsuki "Sunshine" Scoville '90

































ATHLETICS UPDATE

FALL HIGHLIGHTS

Girls' and Boys' Cross-Country
Kavi Gibson, 2nd place at TriTAC Conference Championships, 3rd place in State Championships

Boys' Soccer
Sören Potthoff, all-conference

Varsity Volleyball
Lula Fraser, all-conference

Girls' Ultimate
Finished 3rd place in Triangle Ultimate High School Fall League, 2nd place in State Championship

Boys Ultimate
Finished 4th in State Championships, earned 10th place national ranking and received invitation to attend High School Nationals

WINTER HIGHLIGHTS

Girls' Basketball
Shelby Boulware-Johnson, all-conference
Rachel Collini, honorable mention

Boys' Basketball
Justin Brader-Araje, all-conference
Evan Simon, honorable mention

Boys' and Girls' Swimming
Competitors at the NCISAA State Championship: Shannon Dolina, Esperanza Jimenez-Reller, Laura McDow, Olive Rugani, Piper Shunk, and Samantha Wilson

SPRING HIGHLIGHTS

Girls' Soccer
Talia Debenedette, all-conference
Olwen Taylor, all-conference
Jordan McCullough, honorable mention

Golf
Michael Schaal, all-conference, all-state, conference player of the year

Boys' Tennis
Eli Werness, all-state, all-conference
Noah Dichter, all-conference
Logan Godfrey, all-conference
Ken Mori, all-conference
Henry Coy, honorable mention
Nathan Pearce, honorable mention

Boys' and Girls' Track and Field
Kavi Gibson, 3rd place finish, conference championship (3200)





















CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2022!

Ryan William Allen-Schindler
Alice Hamilton Andrade
Callum Edward Ashley-Shanahan
Kieran Thomas Ashley-Shanahan
Eleanor Anders Bolick
Charlotte Brown
Phillip Brown
Noah Bryson Bush
Savanna Case
Lucy Elizabeth Cornwell
Zari Maria Emerson
Benjamin Ethan Gillespie
Winfield Croft Holt
Christopher Webster Howard Jr.
Jonas Lester Jessee
Wells Zachary Logan Jimerson
Leah Brubaker Johnson
Jordan Bramwell Kalisher
McCallum Elizabeth Keats
Graham Frederick Lyle Koeberl
Sky Mahanna Kreivenas
Isabelle Quetzal Kurtz
Holland Points LaGarde
Lucia Law
Lance Thomas Lawida
Viola Linton
Jasper Owen Mayer
Laura Mishler McDow
Davis Munsat
Chelsea Marie Norman-Scott
Krista Padilla
Lucelia Grace Percy
Eva Nicole Yusheng Petrella
Ezekiel Monk Petrou
Emily Maxwell Pierce
Kaley Elizabeth Pignone
Aidan Tolliver Piontak
Amelia Rose Posner-Hess
Olivia Lauren Rugani
Luke Alexander Seashore
Aidan Tilak Shimpi
Olwen Coleman Taylor
Tehya Hutchison Weaver
Caroline Celeste Willhoit
Samantha Catherine Beatty Wilson
Kenan Wade Yiğit

Photos by Satsuki "Sunshine" Scoville '90

Where They're Headed

Appalachian State University (5)
Bard College
Colorado College
Eastman School of Music of the University of Rochester
Elon University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Daytona Beach
Guilford College (2)
Middlebury College
North Carolina School of the Arts
North Carolina State University (4)
Oberlin College
Pennsylvania State University
Pratt Institute
Tulane University of Louisiana
University of California, Berkeley
University of Maryland, College Park
University of Massachusetts, Lowell
University of North Carolina Asheville (2)
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill (8)
University of North Carolina Charlotte (2)
University of North Carolina Greensboro
University of Vermont (2)
Vassar College
Wake Forest University
Warren Wilson College (2)











UPDATE FROM THE PARENT-STAFF ASSOCIATION

This past school year, we experienced a genuine desire from families to emerge from "hibernation" and reconnect. Despite the many COVID challenges throughout the year, the PSA was able to achieve some significant successes.

PSA Athletics Committee and Sports Days

We realized our aspiration of creating a PSA Athletics Committee with representatives from the Lower to Upper Schools. The PSA Athletics Committee supported two Sports Days in March and May. We were able to generate excitement and anticipation through messages to all families across the school and directly to students via their teachers and advisors. Both events were well attended, and we were able to provide refreshments and activities, including a quiz with prizes and poster making. The atmosphere was exciting, supportive, and uplifting.

PSA Unit Liaisons

Our PSA Unit Liaisons have been enthusiastic and active this year, doing all they can to organize events that foster connection and community within shifting protocols and COVID surges. Some of the achievements this year include on-campus casual gatherings for families, weekly outdoor walk and stretch opportunities for parents and guardians, an Earth Day after school celebration, and off-campus meetups.

Welcoming New Families

We were able to invite incoming families to campus for Sports Day in early May. New and returning host families mingled—younger children ran around waving bubble wands, while older students applied temporary tattoos or just hung out. Our favorite quote of the day from a new family was: "We heard CFS was a friendly welcoming place. This gathering has demonstrated it is true and reaffirmed we made the right decision!"

This year, in addition to continuing the Welcome Buddy Groups, we are trying an additional approach for connection, establishing Welcome Committees to organize a few informal gatherings for each teaching unit over the summer. These gatherings will help to continue the CFS community through the long summer break by offering new families more opportunities to connect.

As we look ahead for 2022–23 we hope to harness the energy of our community and their desire to reconnect. We look forward to regular and diverse social gatherings that help families, parents and students to develop a strong sense of belonging within our community.

— Ingrid Arnold and Emily Tsai, PSA Co-Conveners



Left: Students at spring's Middle School Sports Day

Below: A scene from the Lower School Welcome Gathering in August.



CELEBRATING RETIRING STAFF

Robert Bittle '71 was among the first graduates of Carolina Friends School and has retired after teaching for 37 years. He taught in the Chapel Hill Early School, the Lower School, and the Middle School, and is a parent of four Carolina Friends alumni. Robert could reach students that struggled to find their way; he often gravitated toward them, could see their light, and shaped the course of those students' lives. His understanding of child development was vast and he used it, along with his creativity, to make learning fun. Robert is a gifted musician, and music filled his classroom. Robert devoted his twenties to his music and continued to record music throughout his life. He used his guitar and voice to soothe and serenade, as well as to inspire. He is skilled at developing protest songs and helped students use their voice to be heard, make a difference, and bring about change.

Judith Hawkes is retiring after serving 14 years as Upper School registrar. She has not only created the Upper School course schedule annually, she has also prepared and shared our students' transcripts, an important step as we send our graduates out into the world. Students have always been at the center of Judith's work. In addition to serving as registrar, Judith also taught classes that brought joy to students over the years. The products of her "Twig Furniture" class can be seen around campus. One of her classes was "George Fox Alt News," a satirical newspaper that served as an outlet for student creativity and a source of delight. She is ever-willing to lend a helping hand and to lighten the mood with comic relief during the most stressful situations. Although Judith does not enjoy being in the spotlight, her work has been foundational to the successes of our Upper School academic program.

Bryce Little has been teaching social studies in the Upper School since 1987. His background in archaeology and Native American studies has informed his teaching of United States history classes, and his wide-ranging interests led to his elective classes on mythology, cooking, and politics. Bryce has taught a range of powerful classes over the years, including "Tolkien," "History of American Music," "Human Evolution," "Middle East History," "The Vietnam War," "Environmental History," "History through Film," "Women's History," and so many more. He was instrumental in establishing the Upper School's End of Year Experience program, and has served on and clerked many committees for the School. There are decades of Carolina Friends School alumni connected through his US History classes, in which the weekly historical analyses and the signature Family History Project are rites of passage.

Leon Ikenberry has served as math teacher, advisor, and "Math Goddess" in the Middle School for 39 years. Leon has taught scores of students with her unique mix of deep empathy, love of math education, and profound understanding of adolescents. She has helped generations of students find the placement in math that best suited their experience and best spurred them forward in their math learning. A true teacher-leader, her leadership always centers on lifting others up and honoring their gifts as well as helping us all think critically about how and why we teach math. Leon's "Wall of Fame" of favorite numbers designed by students is legendary, and she can tell you exactly which child created which one even though some of those "children" are in their 40s now! Leon's students consistently report that they discovered an appreciation for math in a whole new way because of her teaching. Leon and her husband, David, are also parents to two alumni.

ALUMNI NEWS

NEWS & UPDATES

Jim Lauderdale '75 performed at That Music Fest in Durham, NC ,on June 24.

Bonnie Morris '79 has a new book out: *What's the Score? 25 Years of Teaching Women's Sports History*. This teaching memoir is a peek inside her class, "Athletics and Gender, A History of Women's Sports," and features a decades-long dialogue with student athletes about the greater opportunities for women.

Congratulations to **Debby Freed '80**, who participated in the Blue Ridge Potter's Guild 22nd Annual Show and Sale in October 2021 in Roanoke, VA.

Jennifer Laszlo Mizrahi '82 shared lessons from her work at RespectAbility at the United Nations in Vienna last March.

Dmitri Resnik '84 has a new album out, *Still Out There*, available on iTunes, Spotify, and more.

Kirsten Krueger '86 co-published "Condoms: A Tried-And-True Family Planning Innovation," with colleagues from FHI 360, in collaboration with Knowledge SUCCESS, a five-year global project funded by USAID's Office of Population and Reproductive Health.

Josh Lozoff '89 participated in the 17th Annual XTERRA EX2 Off-Road Triathlon in July 2021 and placed 13th in his division.

Bradley McDevitt '89 has launched *The Quotidian*, a podcast dedicated to exploring the depths of the creative spirit in everyday people's lives, available on Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and at www.thequotidianpod.com.

Leah VanWey '90 started a new role as Dean of the Faculty



Leah VanWey '90, named Dean of Faculty for Brown University.



Amy Shmania '07 married Danielle Carney on April 24, 2022.



Lateef Mitchell '09 married Miryea Houston on October 22, 2021.

for Brown University. She most recently served as dean of Brown's School of Professional Studies.

Leah Sobsey '91 installed the photographic sculpture, *Swarm of Butterflies*, at Duke Raleigh Hospital and participated in "In Search of Thoreau's Flowers: An Exploration of Change and Loss," a multimedia exhibition inspired by the digitized collection of Henry David Thoreau's plant specimens at the Harvard Museum of Natural History.

Ayesha Ahmad '93 is teaching high school English in Albemarle County, VA. She also runs a wedding and portrait photography business, now going into its thirteenth year.

Matthew Young '95 is married with two sons and lives in Durham. He has a website, www.dancingcarpenter.com, where he shares his carpentry and remodeling business, as well as his artistic pursuits.

Jennifer Curtis '96 plays violin regularly, solo and with Diali Keba Cissokho and others in the Triangle and beyond. Keep up with her and view performance videos at www.jennifercurtisviolin.com.

Alison Hughes '96 has a young son who was in a severe sledding accident in January. We're happy to report that he returned home from treatment and rehabilitation as of March.

Sol Osterkatz '96 left his position at RegEd after almost 20 years and has joined Aspida as Chief Technology Officer. In other news, he accompanied his son Nathan to Germany to compete in the Junior division of the Pokemon European International Championships.

David Hughes '99 has released his first solo EP, *Trials in Time*. Check it out at themusicofdavidhughes.com, or on Spotify, Apple Music, and other major streaming services.

Beth Littlejohn '99 is the Executive Chef of Carolina Flavors, which is now the in-house brand of prepared foods (ready to heat sides, soups, and meals) for The Produce Box.

Shannon Winston '99 had her full-length poetry collection, *The Girl Who Talked to Paintings*, published by Glass Lyre Press.

Eileen Meyer '00 works as a film editor based in Los Angeles, CA. Her recent work includes the award-winning film *Crip Camp* (Higher Ground/Netflix), which won Best Documentary Feature at the Independent Spirit Awards and the IDA Awards, the Audience Award at the Sundance Film Festival, and was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature in 2021. She also completed *Roadrunner: A Film about Anthony Bourdain*, which premiered at the 2021 Tribeca Film Festival.

Maggie Conner Jones '01 welcomed son Finnley Cash McKay on November 5, 2021.

Jonathan Henderson '01 recently defended his dissertation and headed to Maine to serve as Music Professor at the College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor.

Tommy Noonan '01, with spouse and alum parent Murielle Elizéon (and collaborators), taught American Dance Festival's "Dancing With" classes via Zoom last fall. This project followed the 2019 creation of the ADF-commissioned performance *They Are All* and is part of a unique three-year project led by choreographers Murielle Elizéon and Tommy in collaboration with a diverse group of dancers living with and without Parkinson's, dance educators, physical and occupational therapists, and neuroscientists. Find out more at movingthrough.live.

Suzanne Richardson '01 is pursuing a PhD in creative writing at SUNY Binghamton with a focus on memoir. She also had a new haiku published in *Femku Magazine* last July.

Maile Mercer '03, is currently pursuing her PhD at NYU's Rory Meyers College of Nursing and recently published a piece in the online publication *Undark* exploring ways we might rethink and restructure the nursing profession to reduce burnout and improve the lives of nurses and patients.

In October 2021, **Nathan Toben '03** took part in an ultra race in Western NC, his first since the pandemic began.

Holly Triplett Curtis '04 married Dan Curtis on December 21, 2019.

Pete Kiehart '04, photojournalist, has been capturing the conflict in Ukraine. You can find selections of his photographs on his website: petekiehart.com.

Jasmine Powell '04 participated in Saxapahaw's "Black History Celebration" in February 2022.

Robert Jentsch '05 and his wife Simone are first-time parents of a daughter, Sofia Blue, born on September 3, 2021 in Silver Spring, Maryland. Robert also recently received his Executive MBA from the University of Maryland-Robert H. Smith School of Business.

Jason Hopkins Parker '05 relocated to the Triangle with his family.

ALUMNI NEWS

Mary Kate Shapley-Quinn '05 married Mitch Stamm in September 2021 in Malahat, British Columbia.

Spencer Woodman '05, a reporter at the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists, helped investigate leaked documents known as the "Pandora Papers," revealing how some of the world's richest and most powerful, along with their inner circles, are moving and hiding money through the offshore financial system.

Andrea Love Young '05 runs a full-service animation studio in Washington, creating iconic work for commercials, short films and social media. Her work has been screened at film festivals around the country including the Tribeca Film Festival and the LA Shorts Fest.

Sarah Booker '07 published her translation of Mónica Ojeda's *Jawbone* with Coffee House Press and her translation of Cristina Rivera Garza's *New and Selected Stories* with Dorothy Press.

Nathan Case-McDonald '07 has opened the Way Out Bar in Chicago.

Amy Shmania '07 married Danielle Carney in Occidental, CA, on April 24, 2022.

Kathleen McLaughlin Quinn '07 and spouse Molly welcomed Sky Everett Wild Quinn on June 25, 2021. Kathleen and family also recently moved back to North Carolina, where she has started a private practice in therapy and mental health services.

Los Angeles-based director **Samuel Miron '08** signed with production company Panoptica.

Lateef Mitchell '09 married Miryea Houston on October 22, 2021.

Writer and producer **Betsy Bertram '10** presented a film about her late father Scott Bertram, *Captain Scott B and the Great Adventure*, to close the Carrboro Film Festival last November.

Morgan Linney '10 started at Massachusetts Institute of Technology as a postdoctoral scholar. She recently completed her PhD in biological oceanography at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, Honolulu, HI.

Miles Bonsignore '11 married Sarah Peterson on September 25, 2021.

Michael Rozier '11 and his fiancée Ellie built their first home in Madison, WI.

Katie Venters Shamoun '11 passed her poultry specialty board exam and is a board-certified veterinarian and diplomate of the American College of Poultry Veterinarians.

Christopher Stevens-Brown '11 and his significant other Kelly moved to New York City in October.

Helen Tadese '11 received a BSc in civil engineering from the University of Gondar in Ethiopia and an MA in social work from UNC-Greensboro. She recently interned with Church World Service Greensboro. Helen also serves on the board of Hope for the Children Fund and plans to start a PhD program in 22–23.

Violet Trisolini '11 was honored with the Daisy Award for exceptional nurses.

Pippin Ke-Lind '12 is working as a research lab tech for the University of Michigan.

Nicholas Lent '12 accepted a job as a research technician at Duke University and has relocated to Durham.

Jessica Alexander '13 made the news for her pandemic-inspired project, Driveway Dances, that brought dance—performed outside—to audiences in their own homes and gardens.

Rhiannon Faith '13 married Brendan Sanders on September 4, 2021 in Candler, NC.

Olivia Howes '13 accepted an internship with RTI International for summer 2022 after graduating from UNC-Greensboro.

Sydney Ray '13 celebrated the completion of her doctorate of physical therapy.

Rosie Valentine '13 launched a photography business, rosievalentine.photography, focusing on LGBTQIA+ affirming, trauma-informed photography services.

Anthony Berry '14 married Chelsea Staiger on September 18, 2021 in Westerville, OH.

Isabella Brezenski '14 started as Operation ART program poordinator for The Joel Fund.

Carter Hodge '14 released an album, *Tricky Things*, as part of the band Dissimilar South. It is available on Spotify and Bandcamp.

Doug MacLeod '14 married Katie Treamer on September 25, 2021 in Durham, NC.

Sarah Bellavia '15 received an MA in Human Resource Management/Personnel Administration from University of Glasgow, started a position as a Talent Acquisition Associate for Small Girls PR, and is engaged to Corrie Innes.

ALUMNI, SHARE YOUR UPDATES!

Births, marriages, professional news, whatever you'd like to share. You may submit your announcement or update your contact information online:

cfsnc.org/alumnotes



Bonnie Morris '79 with her latest book publication, available now!

Lex Jin Coelho '15 married Seth Harrison on March 31, 2022, at the Sapphire Point Overlook in Colorado with **Lauren Boyle '18** as a bridesmaid.

Mason Dwinnell '15 is engaged to Kelsey Campbell. A January 2023 wedding is planned.

Knox Engler '15 completed an MA program in audio technology at American University and released a collection of folksy songs recorded during his final semester there.

George Gildehaus '15 was promoted to senior team lead at proSapient.

Logan Wilson '15 started a position as administrative assistant at Bridge II Sports.

Daisy Hodge '16 moved back to Durham and is teaching adult dance and Pilates mat classes, as well as numerous youth dance classes, for American Dance Festival.

Adelaide Rowe '16 is serving as athletics coordinator at Ravenscroft School in Raleigh.

Molly Bahr '17 started school at Chiang Mai University in July 2021.

Sam Chilton '17 started a position as digital technology junior analyst at NTT Data Services.

Selena Faith '17 was the 2021-22 Atlanta Fellow for Quaker Voluntary Service. Selena graduated from Earlham College, where she double majored in sociology-anthropology and studio art with a focus in photography.

Campo Larrick '17 was the 2021-22 Boston Fellow for Quaker Voluntary Service. Campo earned a degree in social work at Warren Wilson College in May 2021 and studied indigenous social movements and community organizing throughout Southern Mexico in Fall 2019.

Morgan Bellavia '18 is pursuing an MSc in business management at the University of Edinburgh.

Cash Cole '18 is part-owner of Franklin Motors and Beer Garden in Chapel Hill.

Todd Neville '18 has accepted an internship position for summer 2022 with Laufer Sports & Entertainment.

Tal Chatterjee '19 wrote, co-directed, and acted in a recent film, *SWATCH*, currently in the editing stage.

Alex Chilton '19 competed with the UNC tae kwon do team in the US Collegiate Nationals.

Anderson Proescholdbell '19 will intern as a product analyst summer 2022 at WillowTree.

Taylor Andorfer '20 passed the state exam of the NC Real Estate Commission and earned her real estate license. She is also continuing her studies at Queens University of Charlotte.

Jasper Ewing '21 released an album, *Open Air*, under the name Skeleton, available in the iTunes store.

Laura McDow '22, who was involved in the first March for Our Lives in 2018 after the high school shooting in Parkland, FL, organized the June 2022 March in Raleigh, which took place the day before her graduation from CFS.

GROUP ALUMNI NEWS & UPDATES

Alums who competed at the 2021 College Ultimate Championships in Norco, CA, December 2021

ALUMNI NEWS

included: **Matt Gouchoe-Hanas '14** (coaching), **Conor Chickos '16**, **Daniel Garlock '16**, **Dillon Lanier '16**, **Seth Lee '17**, **Rosie Fisher '18**, **Kate Lanier '18**, **Nola Kim Mayer '18**, **Liam Searles-Bohs '17**, **Jason Manning '19**, **Gigi Paulig '19**, **Kevin Pignone '19**, **Matt Frey '20**, **Will Hassell '21**, and **Matt Lee '21**.

Raleigh Ring of Fire won the 2021 National Ultimate Club Championship in October with a 13-12 victory, the first national championship in their 30-year history! Teammates included **Matt Gouchoe-Hanas '14**, **Sol Yanuck '14**, **Dillon Lanier '16**, **Liam Searles-Bohs '17**, and **Henry Fisher '14**.

Augie Kreivenas, long-time CFS ultimate coach and parent of **Griffin '19** and **Sky '22**, was inducted into the Ultimate Hall of Fame on November 1.

Alums **Jess Shell '97** (also a current staff member) and **Jasmine Powell '04**, along with alum teacher **Maggie Bradley**, participated in *Pairs in the Park*, a collection of site-specific duets choreographed by Chris Yon and Taryn Griggs and presented by American Dance Festival late July 2021 at the North Carolina Museum of Art Park.

STAFF AND ALUM FAMILY NEWS & UPDATES

Alum parent **Camille Berry** was elected to Chapel Hill Town Council.

Alum parent and Carrboro resident **Diane Robertson** is one of 14 individuals appointed by President Biden to serve on the President's Advisory Committee on the Arts. She is the only individual appointed from North Carolina.

Former Summer programs sports camp instructor **Ryan Firpo** and his cousin **Kaz Firpo** are the screenwriters and story writers for Marvel's *The Eternals*. Both are nephews of former staff member **Chris Firpo** and cousins of **Kirsten Stajich Sardi '99**.

Samantha Garlock '11 shared that her mom, former staff member **Karen Phillips Garlock**, wrote the story "To Be Seen," published in the *New York Times* column Modern Love in late March.

Former Lower School librarian **Natalie Sapkarov Harvey** and her husband Kevin welcomed their second child, Morgan Elise, on November 25.

Alum parent **Jackie Macleod** had an exhibition up at PS118 Gallery in Durham (owned and operated by current parent Dave Wofford). The show, *The Magic of Patinas: Works in Metals by Jackie MacLeod,* ran through December 23. While PS118 is set to close as of July 2, Horse & Buggy Press will remain open.

Alum parent **Samantha Meltzer-Brody** was recently recognized by "Forbes 50 over 50: Vision" for her important work on postpartum depression, and women's mood disorders.

Alum parent **F. Caperton Morton**, an independent audio producer and storyteller, is executive producer for Cow Hill Productions, cowhillproductions.com.

Staff member and current parent **Joanna Sisk-Purvis** is music director for Stone Soup Theatre Co., a community theater company in Chapel Hill/Durham. Stone Soup is producing the award winning Broadway musical *Into the Woods* in October 2022 at Chapel Hill's Historic Forest Theatre.

Alum parent **Jane F. Thrailkill** published *Philosophical Siblings: Varieties of Playful Experience in Alice, William, and Henry James*.

Congratulations to current and former staff members **Joan and Henry Walker**, who celebrated their fifty-first wedding anniversary on Dec 27, 2021. Additionally, Henry has published a new book of poetry, *Child Development through Poetry*, inspired by his grandchildren, and *The Maze and Her Path: My Mother and Alzheimer's, A Book of Verse*, illustrated by **Aileen Clougherty**. Henry has added many new videos to his blog, "Friends School, An Unofficial History," friendsschoolanunofficialhistory.blogspot.com.

Alum parent **Steven Young**, MD, PhD was recently awarded an NIH grant of $7 million to create an Endometriosis Research Center at UNC Health.

IN MEMORY

Sandy Altshuller Hughes '75, a member of one of our first graduating class of Carolina Friends, died from uterine cancer in March. In memory of Sandy, her family has established the Crestmont Azalea Garden at the end of their street in Collingsworth, NJ.

Becky Lang Clodfelter '84 died last August after being diagnosed with ALS in 2019. She was a fabulous artist and friend to many. Most recently, she shared one of her paintings with us for the opening celebration of the Performing Arts Center in spring 2019.

Former teacher and Upper School Head **Robert William Fulks Jr.** (father of **Robbie Fulks '80**) passed away in June 2021 at the age of 78. In addition to teaching history at CFS, Robert also worked with at-risk youth at the Wright School.

Alum **Yvette Bonaparte '79** shared that **Mary Berry Grainger '79** died last July. Mary played basketball and made many friends in her two years in Upper School.

Condolences to **Julia Menapace '77, Adrian Quattlebaum '79**, and **Gianna Drew '81** on the death of their mother, **Marion Menapace**.

Abby Rosenson Overton '87 (attended CFS from 1975-1982) passed away in October. Abby leaves behind a husband, Ed, and two children and her love of theater.

Win Shea, alum parent of **Lisa '76, Sean '77, Ann '79**, and **Bon '80** and husband to former trustee **Charlotte**, died December at home on hospice care. The family is active in Miami Friends Meeting (Coral Gables), and Win was an active tennis player well into his 80s.

Former CFS business manager and teacher **William (Bill) Henry Chappell** passed away at the age of 95 on April 28. Bill served the school from 1974 to 1997 and was married to former school secretary **Hilda Chappell**.



Family members of Sandy Altshuller Hughes '75 at the Azalea Garden in Fairmount Park, Philadelphia created in her memory.



Laura McDow '22, helped organized the June 2022 event with March For Our Lives in Raleigh. Photo credit: Bab Karp.



Sol Osterkatz '96 and his son, Nathan, at the Junior division of the Pokemon European International Championships in Germany.

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138 Current Families

97 Current/ Former Staff

123 Alum Families

April 4-5, we held our annual giving day, Carolina Friends Gives. With your help, we surpassed our donor goal!

Together, we raised $142,786, including $69,600 in matching and goal challenge funds, thanks to an anonymous group of generous friends.

We're especially grateful to the 59 of you who have donated in all four of our giving days.

This year, we also added a service challenge. Community members near and far pledged at least 157 hours of service to over 100 different organizations across the country.

These donations are essential to our ability to provide an education that nurtures the whole child, rooted in our Quaker values of the pursuit of truth, respect for all, peaceful resolution of conflict, and the call to service.

We hope you'll join us next April for Carolina Friends Gives 2023!