

Features:

6

Congrats, Class of 2023

Days of celebration for MICDS' newest alumni

32

Life Exceeds Expectations

How Lucy Lionberger Rise '78 tackles mountains and life

38

The Rams' Biggest Fan

Director of Athletics Josh Smith on sports, teamwork, and 12-hour days

In this issue:

MISSION MATTERS

02 A Message from Jay Rainey

03 | Headliners

10 | Seen and Heard

17 | Academic Excellence

36 | Faculty Excellence

44 Our Community

50 | The Arts

62 | #RamNation

68 | Vibrant Future

CLASS NOTES

93 | For the Record

110 | Alumni Association









MICDS

MARY INSTITUTE AND SAINT LOUIS COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

OUR MISSION

More than ever, our nation needs responsible men and women who can meet the challenges of this world with confidence and embrace all its people with compassion. The next generation must include those who think critically and resolve to stand for what is good and right.

Our School cherishes academic rigor, encourages and praises meaningful individual achievement, and fosters virtue. Our independent education prepares young people for higher learning and for lives of purpose and service.

ABOUT MICDS MAGAZINE

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MARY INSTITUTE & SAINT LOUIS COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL ALUMNI

Dear MICDS Family,



As someone who experienced "tweenhood" and adolescence in the 1980s, I remain embarrassingly fluent in Phil Collins well into middle age. Need to know which Beatles song Collins covered on his debut solo album, Face Value? That's easy! Tomorrow Never Knows. (Whether it took me a very long time to realize that John Lennon actually wrote this song I cannot say.) Among related trivia cluttering my brain are the (cringeworthy?) titles of Collins' other '80s solo efforts: No Jacket Required, ...But Seriously, and Hello, I Must Be Going! It is the last of these whose name reliably comes to mind for me every autumn at MICDS. Otherwise, what excuse could I possibly have for beginning this letter with Phil Collins references?

School years proceed in long, anticipatory cycles. Hardly, it seems, does a new one begin than we are planning the next one—preparing the operating budget, forecasting facilities maintenance needs, finalizing academic calendar dates, and, of course, anticipating the enrollment of students who have not yet even applied by launching a new admissions season. "Hello, I must be going!" indeed.

In conversations with prospective MICDS families throughout this fall, I have found myself highlighting two aspects of student life that are both distinctive and valuable here. First, we are both a big school and a small school simultaneously, meaning that we enjoy many benefits of scale (a broad range of curricular and extracurricular opportunities, expansive facilities and grounds, a student body that hails from 72 local ZIP codes) and that we are dedicated to being a close-knit community where every student is known and is invested in knowing others.

I also make a point of emphasizing that MICDS is a very comfortable place to be new. In any given academic year, relative to the number of returning students, the number of new students is significant at seven different grade levels. I have spent the majority of my career in K-12 independent schools, most of which have far fewer entry points than we do, and most of which therefore have to manage against a risk of social

stasis as students grow up together in relatively changeless cohorts. It is a considerable, if not immediately obvious, institutional strength that approximately one out of every six students is new to our community each year. Such a large fraction helps to ensure not only a comfortable transition for the one who is entering but a more socially dynamic environment for the five who are returning as well.

In this edition of the Magazine, we have so much to share with you about our dynamic students and programs. See how our students have been exploring all-things-cold in our Lower School multi-disciplinary Winter Wonderland themed week, delving into the power of children's literature by designing their own curriculum, decoding volvox algae to understand human development and coding TI-Innovator Rovers to protect the Middle School from Jurassic Park dinosaurs, discovering the effects of ocean acidification, facilitating the Diversity Leadership Conference for peers from other schools, and celebrating the arts with our entire community at our first ever Arts Fest.

Tomorrow never knows, I suppose, what opportunities for learning and growth will challenge, inspire, and elevate our students as these extraordinary experiences have, but you can take at face value my assurance that they will continue to reveal and avail themselves as our new school year progresses—even at an institution where no jacket is required. It's just another day for MICDS in paradise. But seriously...I think I have made enough Phil Collins references here to see us through another forty years or so without any. After this issue, I promise not to turn it on again.

Hello, I must be going! I wish you and your loved ones much happiness in the fall season, and much enjoyment in the pages that follow.

Jay Rainey

Head of School





After lunch with their advisories, the Field Day games began! Students raced through a giant, blown-up obstacle course, tested their strength with a fierce game of tug-of-war, cheered each other on in a lively relay race, and laughed during some highly-spirited sack races. Have you ever heard of surprise volleyball? Instead of volleying the ball over a net, students had to test their reflexes when the ball came flying over a tarp instead. They also had a blast at an egg/spoon race and enjoyed some snacks and many photo opportunities throughout the afternoon.

By the end of the school day, the points earned during all of the competitions were tallied and the winning quadrant was announced. Congratulations to the red quadrant, which netted 15 wins for the day. A huge thank you to Nicole Trueman-Shaw, Director of Upper School Student Leadership, for organizing all of the fun-filled festivities, creating an exciting afternoon of Ram spirit among the whole Upper School!

Remarkable Community Service 71 students receive presidential recognition

Congratulations to the 71 Middle and Upper School students who received this year's President's Volunteer Service Award, which recognizes and celebrates their remarkable commitment to community service.

The President's Volunteer Service Award program thanks and honors individuals who have demonstrated a commitment to service by helping others and giving back to their community. The award recognizes individuals who have achieved a specific number of service hours during a 12-month period. Awards are given to youth ages 15 and under who have completed 50 or more hours of volunteer service and to individuals 16 and older who have completed 100 or more hours.

Erin Hamill, Director of Global Learning and Upper School Community Service, said, "The goal of this program at MICDS is to encourage more people to live lives of service and celebrate the spirit of volunteerism. Recognizing and honoring volunteers sets a standard for service, encourages a sustained commitment to civic engagement, and inspires others to make service a part of their lives, all of which aligns with MICDS' mission to prepare students for lives of purpose and service."

Arjun Puri '25 found a vibrant community online of fellow chess players and volunteered to teach chess during the pandemic. He said, "Volunteering with the Saint Louis Chess Club has given me the chance to connect with others in a way I had never thought possible. Even through a screen, sharing my passion for chess with other like-minded people opened my eyes to the wonders of human connection and how serving one's community can bring people together."

In the Upper School, 63 students logged a combined total of over 7,500 hours of service, and six of these recipients recorded over 250 hours in 12 months. In the Middle School, eight students were recipients of the President's Service Award. This is the first year that Middle School students have been recognized with the President's Volunteer Service Award.

At the Upper School assembly, **Assistant Head of School for Teaching and Learning Sally Maxwell** said, "Small acts of service strengthen community. We can all develop the myopia of our own needs and fail to see the needs of others. The person who sets themselves aside and focuses on others builds a new, powerful connection. We hope that you all find that."





Congratulations!



Students Work to Save the Environment

Saivi Gadi '25 and Kyle Sha '23, Community Service Committee representatives, positioned one of their projects to become an annual tradition at MICDS: the electronics recycling drive. MICDS families were invited to campus one Sunday afternoon to drop off unused electronics for appropriate recycling. A group of students, along with Erin Hamill, Director of Global Learning and Upper School Community Service, met a steady stream of cars at the A Lot flagpole, offloading a variety of outdated and unused technology for storage before their recycling partner, Executive Personal Computers (EPC), collected the items.

"In our current digital age, electronics have gradually become an integral part of our daily lives. However, disposing of these devices can lead to significant environmental challenges, as they often contain hazardous chemicals that can harm the environment." said Gadi. "I organized an e-waste drive in the Middle School at MICDS two years ago to raise awareness and promote safe disposal practices. There was also an e-waste drive organized in the Upper School a few weeks later by Kyle. This year, we successfully completed our second e-waste recycling drive in partnership with EPC, with a lot of participation from MICDS families! We plan to hold an electronic recycling

drive every year in February to encourage proper disposal of old electronics and minimize the negative impact of e-waste on our environment."

The team reports that MICDS families dropped off a variety of devices and gadgets, including old speakers, a tube TV, flip phones, DVD players, tablets, iPhones, cables and wires, monitors, computers, laptops, CPUs, printers, VCRs, headsets, and gaming consoles, and they estimate 20 to 25 families participated in the e-waste drive. Thanks to our students who coordinated this e-waste drive, to EPC for their partnership, and to all the families who participated by dropping off their unwanted electronics.







On Sunday, May 14, the Class of 2023 gathered one last time for a special day: Commencement!

After faculty and leadership processed in, followed by the Class of 2023, Head of School Jay Rainey welcomed guests and presented six Head of School Awards to Henley Danforth '23, Binta Fall '23, Jordan Gross '23, Kareena Kanumury '23, Harrison Mandell'23, and Deren Pellegrini '23. He then presented the Dorothy Wray Roberts Class of 1917 Faculty Merit Award to a teacher from each of our three divisions: Stacie Schneider, Zuowei Chang, and Carolyn Hood. Finally, he presented the Mary Institute Class of 1940 Distinguished Faculty Award, also to a teacher in each of our three divisions: Kara Pracht, Robyn Williams, and Brian Coco.

Andrew Condie '82, Chair of the MICDS Board of Trustees, took to the stage and offered wise words to the graduating class, no thanks to help from ChatGPT. "Be thankful for the faculty and staff that have dedicated their time and devoted their careers to educate you, care for you, and nurture you during your time at MICDS," he said. "This incredible faculty has not only given you a first-rate education, but they also have fulfilled the school's Mission and taught you the more important lessons of how to think critically, act responsibly, and stand for what is good and right."

Valedictorian **Grayson Marks '23** then addressed his classmates. He reminisced about his time at MICDS and spoke to the importance of learning through collaboration. "The intellectual

product of the MICDS class of 2023 is truly greater than the sum of its 158 individual members," he said. "As we split off on our own journeys of individual ambition, I hope that whatever we do, we do not do it alone. Congratulations, Class of 2023."

Upper School English Teacher and Advisor Celeste Prince was asked by the Class of 2023 to speak at Commencement. She captivated the audience and exhorted the class to "say yes" to opportunities, to other people, and to themselves. "Most importantly, Class of 2023, I want you to say Yes to love. Say Yes to hugging your people close as if it's the last time you'll see them. Say Yes to being open to love in all its forms. Say Yes to saying, 'I love you' and mean it without hesitation or blushing. What is there to be embarrassed about? It's the easiest gift you can give someone, including yourself."

Mr. Rainey then assured Mr. Condie that the candidates for graduation had completed the necessary requirements and were poised and prepared to receive their diplomas—their passports for the next phase of their lives—and requested the release and awarding of their diplomas. On behalf of the MICDS Board of Trustees, Mr. Condie released the diplomas. Ms. Gioia then read the name of each graduate, and they came forward to receive their diploma and pose for a photograph with Mr. Rainey and Mr. Condie.

Now that the Class of 2023 are officially alumni, it was fitting that they heard from **Geoffrey Grammer '06,** President of the MICDS Alumni Association. He shared sage advice and wisdom from Mister Rogers and welcomed the class to a vibrant alumni community that spans the country and, indeed, the world.



"Class of 2023, I want you to say YES to love. Say YES to hugging your people close as if it's the last time you'll see them. Say YES to being open to love in all its forms. Say YES to saying, 'I love you' and mean it without hesitation or blushing. What is there to be embarrassed about? It's the easiest gift you can give someone, including yourself."

UPPER SCHOOL ENGLISH TEACHER
AND ADVISOR CELESTE PRINCE





Oh, the Places They'll Go!

Class of 2023 Matriculation

In the Class of 2023, our 158 graduates will attend 91 schools in 29 different states as well as Washington, DC, Canada, Australia, and England. Also, 15 members will advance to play intercollegiate athletics. **Director of College Counseling Matt Essman** shares, "I am so impressed by the diverse array of institutions that the Class of 2023 will be attending next year. The variety of outstanding colleges and universities is a testament to their many accomplishments both in and out of the classroom. I am excited for the successes that await them as they pursue this next step in their education."

American University Arizona State University **Auburn University** Augustana College **Baylor University Belmont University** Binghamton University **Boston University Bradley University** Brigham Young University-Provo **Bryant University Bucknell University Butler University** Carnegie Mellon University Case Western Reserve University Coastal Carolina University Colgate University **Denison University** DePauw University Drexel University **Elon University**

Fontbonne University Fordham University Georgetown University Grinnell College Hamilton College Illinois College Indiana University-Bloomington Iowa State University Ithaca College Lake Forest College Lehigh University Lindenwood University Loyola University Chicago Maryville University Miami University, Oxford Michigan State University Missouri State University Monmouth College Murray State University Northeastern University Northwestern University

Ohio State University-Main Campus Pennsylvania State University **Purdue University** Rollins College Saint Louis University Santa Clara University Scripps College Southern Methodist University Syracuse University Texas Christian University George Washington University The New School University of Alabama University of British Columbia University of Tampa University of Tennessee-Knoxville University of Texas at Austin **Tulane University**

Nova Southeastern University

Union College
United States Air Force Academy
University of Arkansas
University of California-Berkeley
University of California-Davis
University of CaliforniaLos Angeles
University of Chicago
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Delaware

University of Colorado Boulder
University of Delaware
University of Illinois Chicago
University of Iowa
University of Kentucky
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Mississippi
University of Missouri-Columbia
University of Missouri-Kansas City

University of Notre Dame
University of Pennsylvania
University of Richmond
University of Rochester
University of Technology Sydney
University of Winchester
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Vanderbilt University
Wake Forest University
Washburn University
Washington University in St Louis
Xavier University
Yale University



A Time-Honored Tradition May Day 2023 on Lilly's Field

MICDS seniors, juniors, and eighth- and fourth-grade students once again gathered on Lilly's Field on May 6 for the annual May Day Celebration, a Mary Institute tradition since 1912. Although held at various locations throughout St. Louis in the past, the spring festival has found its permanent home on the MICDS campus nearly a century later.

The festivities began with the entrance of the juniors to the tune of *Simple Gifts* from *Appalachian Spring* by Aaron Copland, followed by their traditional Daisy Chain dance to *Carillon* from *L'Arlesienne Suite No. 1* by Georges Bizet. Next, the seniors made their entrance onto the May field, where they were presented with a sprig of ivy by the juniors signifying the graduate's living link with Mary Institute and Country Day School.

The fourth graders performed a joyful dance to *Mock Morrie* by Percy Grainger, while the eighth graders led a ribbon dance to *Ballerina* by David Caballero, using large panels of ribbons to create waves of color. The grand finale brought the seniors onto the field to receive their maypole ribbons from the Ribbon Presenters, who are siblings or relatives of the senior girls, before commencing the weaving of the maypole to the music of *Fantasia on Greensleeves* by Vaughn Williams.

After the maypole dance, Coronation Pages Mia Krieger '24 and Sophie Reed '24 began their journey around the circle of seniors to deliver flowers to the chosen May Queen.

Student Council Co-President Skye Patton '23 crowned Jane Cohen '23 as the Class of 2023 May Queen before classmates rushed in for a monumental group hug.

Thanks to **May Day Director Emily Huber '89** for creating another memorable day for the students. Congratulations to Jane and all members of the Class of 2023!





Harry Weber '60 **Shares Thoughts** on Creativity

Upper School English Teacher Chris Rappleye's Advanced Literary Topics-Creativity class enjoyed a special guest speaker: artist, alumnus, and former MICDS Arts Teacher Harry Weber '60 stopped by to talk about his career, art, and creativity in general.

Weber shared memories and photos of his work with the students, along with his thoughts about creativity. There are two things he considers when judging whether $something \ is \ art: does \ it \ make \ an \ immediate \ emotional \ impact \ when \ you \ see \ it, \ and$ can you automatically see the facility of the artist who made it? "You have to pay your dues," he said. "Every mark is the result of thousands of hours of practice."

Perhaps the best advice Weber imparted is to be observant and curious. "I love looking at people and how they deal with gravity. It's fascinating," he said. "I see movement wherever I go. Even in a gentle tip of the hat."

MICDS Alumni Panelists Share Career Paths and Advice

Five MICDS alumnijoined an Upper School assembly to share information with students about their career paths and advice they would give to their younger selves.

Whitney Gulick Reboulet '97, VP of Pharmacy Account Management for Elevance Health, served as the moderator, asking probing questions of the four panelists about choosing a career, the steps they took to align with their current job, what it's like to work in their chosen field, and what they learned along the way.

Among other great advice, **Farrell Galt Crowley '93** said, "Be an advocate for yourself, do internships, talk to your teachers and professors. That practice helps you develop soft skills and an understanding of how an office works, provides more information on what you want your life to look like, and what opportunities are next to explore."

The panelists for the event included:

- Justin Aylward '98, P '34,
 Co-Head of Middle Market M&A at JPMorgan
- Farrell Galt Crowley '93,
 P '28 '30, Director of Media & Analytics, o2kl Advertising
- Yasmeen Qureshi Daud '94,
 P '23 '25, Pediatric Hospitalist,
 Children's Hospital; Professor,
 Washington University
- Edward Dowd III '97, Assistant United States Attorney, U.S Attorney's Office, Eastern District of Missouri





Exploring the Adjacent Possible

Annual Harbison Lecture Welcomes Dr. Aaron Titus

Dr. Titus has a B.S. in physics from Penn State University and a Ph.D. in physics from North Carolina State University. His contributions are at the intersection of undergraduate research, educational technology, and computational physics.

The morning's lecture was titled Exploring the Adjacent Possible Through Coding. The "adjacent possible" refers to the realm of possible outcomes for an evolving system. With each new discovery, new possibilities emerge, just waiting to be fully understood, discovered, designed, and created. Dr. Titus shared that codingcombined with your imagination—is an essential tool for tapping curiosity and exploring the adjacent possible.

At the end of the lecture, Titus left the students with two main messages: "Learn to code. You can explore and do cool things, but the main thing is that you create, explore, and test your ideas. Number two: explore and create. Have ideas. Have questions. The adjacent possible is the next step...inventions don't happen going from this point to a point way over there; they happen is small timesteps."

What is your adjacent possible? What's your next step?

South African Dancers Bring Universal Language of Movement

Four years ago, Summer Beasley, Middle & Lower School PE Teacher, traveled to South Africa for an Edward M. Rivinus Summer Sabbatical. Beasley and her company of dancers established a reciprocal collaboration with dancers in Cape Town, and dancers Yaseen Manuel and Marlin Zoutman were welcomed to campus last spring. Manuel, Zoutman, Beasley, and members of the local dance company Karlovsky & Company Dance choreographed a routine and performed it for Lower and Middle School students. "The best thing about having them here was the actual collaboration process," Beasley said. "Talking through possibilities, trying ideas out, and finding out what worked and what didn't work. Since we had experience with Yaseen and Marlin from our visit to Cape Town, we already knew that the language of movement/dance was universal, so it was great to continue learning."

Manuel and Zoutman also led a masterclass for Middle School students. While they love performing, they adore the time they get to teach dancers. "You want to inspire them, inspire them to move," Manuel said. Zoutman also hopes to give them the feeling that he gets from dancing. "It's the only place where you're not yourself. You're not hanging on to 'who am I?'" he said. "You're in it—you can't think of anything else. It's a good place."





Guest Composer Visits Upper School Orchestra

Soon Hee Newbold offered feedback and tips It's a rewarding experience when students come in contact with someone working in a field they are interested in, either as a career or a hobby, so it was a delight when the Upper School Orchestra welcomed guest composer Soon Hee Newbold for a virtual visit.

Newbold is one of the most celebrated living composers of educational orchestra music. To prepare, students learned two pieces of music, one featuring a violin solo by **Emma Shao '23**. During the visit, they performed the pieces, and Newbold coached the musicians on the nuances, gave feedback on their playing and tempo, and provided tips for soloists and those playing specific instruments.

After the performance, JK-12 Arts Department Chair and Orchestra Director Dr. Jo Nardolillo facilitated a Q&A session with Newbold. Students asked questions about what inspires her, how she manages other interests, her composing process, her favorite music, and many questions about specific instrument parts in each piece.

"Ms. Newbold has dedicated her life to lighting the flame of passion for music in young people," said Dr. Nardolillo. "I'm so grateful for the amazing tools she has given our students."



Third-grade students at MICDS study the Missouri state government and its legislative, executive, and judicial branches. To help the Beasley students better understand the judicial branch, they had a special visit from a St. Louis County circuit judge.

Judge Nancy Watkins-McLaughlin visited the two thirdgrade classes of Homeroom Teachers Miriam Rotskoff and Meg Mottl. Judge Watkins-McLaughlin, who has two grandchildren in the Lower School, spoke about her job, the Supreme Court, and the other federal courts. Then, she answered many questions from students about how she became a judge, what her day looks like, and why judges are needed. Students learned that judges help people solve problems.

"Thank you for visiting our school and specifically coming to our grade," wrote Allen '32, Mannan '32, and Jackson '32 in a thank you note to Judge Watkins-McLaughlin. "You taught us a lot about judges. This is our favorite thing you taught us—anybody can be on a jury, there are a lot of people in a courtroom, and it takes a lot of hard work to be a judge."

"Thank you for visiting our school and specifically coming to our grade. You taught us a lot about judges. This is our favorite thing you taught us-anybody can be on a jury, there are a lot of people in a courtroom, and it takes a lot of hard work to be a judge."

ALLEN '32, MANNAN '32, AND JACKSON '32 IN A THANK YOU NOTE TO JUDGE WATKINS-MCLAUGHLIN.



The Art of Symmetry Artist Macarena Sotelo Visits Beasley Studio



Lower School art students had a fantastic day creating, making, and finding inspiration with visiting artist Macarena Sotelo. Leading up to the visit, students learned about Sotelo's artwork, radial symmetry principles, and the different ways symmetry is expressed. Senior Kindergarteners designed cat faces with elements of symmetry, first graders created their own shoe designs, second graders developed designs for skateboard decks, third graders drew symmetrical faces, and fourth graders tackled symmetrical mandalas.

Sotelo specializes in creating custom art for skateboards, shoes, wall art, murals, and home décor. For her, everything is a canvas. Her style is diverse and inspired by different colors, abstract shapes, and materials and her unique designs feature flowing shapes and mandalas. She said, "My art is simply designed to encourage a positive mood!"

In the Lower School Makerspace, Sotelo showed the fourth graders an app to create digital mandalas and demonstrated the "old-school" way of making them with a ruler and compass. Her skateboard designs inspired second graders to create their own designs and use the Glowforge machine to make fingerboards.

Lower School Art Teacher Sarah Garner said, "Macarena really enjoyed working alongside our Beasley artists. It is always special to see our young artists collaborate with working artists and find inspiration in their art."

Cum Laude Society **Inducts New** Members

Thirty-four members of the Class of 2023 were inducted into the MICDS Chapter of the Cum Laude Society during a ceremony on Monday, April 17, 2023.

Founded in 1906, the Cum Laude Society is dedicated to honoring scholastic achievement in secondary schools. The founders of the society modeled Cum Laude after Phi Beta Kappa, and in the years since its founding, Cum Laude has grown to 382 chapters.

The motto of the Society is Areté, Diké, Timé-Excellence, Justice, Honor. Areté includes the concept of excellence in the moral sense and is not limited to the ideal of superiority and scholarship, nor does it involve the endeavor of competing primarily for academic goals. Diké includes the concept of what is suitable and appropriate, as well as just. Timé includes the concept of dignity and truth, as well as honor.

The MICDS Chapter of the Cum Laude Society is comprised of the top 20% of the senior class. Each inductee must demonstrate that they have pursued academic rigor by completing three or more Advanced Placement® courses, have no grade lower than a C, and be free of disciplinary and honor infractions. As part of the induction process, each candidate shared one of their Common App essays for review by the Cum Laude faculty members. The faculty selected seven essays to be shared at a special luncheon held for the student candidates. The students selected Penny Chen '23 and Ali Oak '23 to share their essays with the Upper School student body during the ceremony.



Congratulations!



Winter Wonderland

In February, all Lower School students participated in a festive cross-curricular thematic week: Winter Wonderland! They learned about all things winter while incorporating science, math, and physical education.



"All of Beasley loved the fall's Pumpkin Week so much that we knew we had to create another special thematic week to further enhance community building in Lower School while connecting many subjects," said Laura Pupillo, Lower School Science Teacher. "February seemed like the perfect opportunity to freeze our current studies and add in some time to study the phenomena of winter." Students learned about the science of snow, created their own artificial snow, built and dissolved snowmen, and explored ice. They engineered winter climates, explored how animals stay warm in polar environments, and even grew their own crystals.





Lower School Physical
Education Teachers Jim Lohr
and Sue Orlando created
winter-themed challenges
and active games in P.E.
Students enjoyed a snowball
fight by throwing and
catching white plastic grocery
bags. They built snowmen on
the floor of the South Gym
using P.E. equipment (hula
hoops, cones, frisbees, balls,
etc.), they ice skated on the
carpet, and they built snow
forts with hula hoops.



Diane Broberg, JK-12 Math Department Chair, focused on line symmetry in Senior Kindergarten through second grade and radial symmetry in third and fourth grade. Students created symmetric figures and snowflakes, and estimated the number of snowflakes in the snow globe in the cafeteria. The second graders counted the number of snowflakes, and third graders created a dot plot with all of the guesses.





Local FOX 2 News Meteorologist Chris Higgins helped Lower Schoolers understand weather concepts and explained how meteorologists are like doctors for the atmosphere, using their knowledge of weather to determine what the weather will do in the hours, days, and weeks ahead. Students learned about weather sensors and instruments such as anemometers which measure wind speed; barometers which measure air pressure; and hygrometers which measure humidity. They found out that weather balloons can rise to 100,000 feet to gather weather-related data well above the ground. Higgins also talked about satellites and taught students how to read radar.





To bring all of the winter lessons together at the end of the week, students enjoyed a special assembly that was packed with hands-on science demonstrations connected to what they had been exploring. Pupillo, Broberg, and JK-12 Science Department Chair Paul Zahller showcased ice block cutting, an ice collection contest, can crushing, a dry ice crystal ball, flash freezing, a frozen oobleck, and even Ram crystals!





Finally, **Lower School Music Teacher Katy Nichols** added to the festivities by leading the students in singing *Here Comes the Snow* and *I Love the Mountains in Winter.*





Learning From Beasley Friends

Advanced Literary Topics class visits the Lower School

Senior students in Upper School English Teacher Celeste Prince's Advanced Literary Topics (ALT) class on Literature Exploration helped design a creative end to their semester. The class offers students one last "original English literature experience" before graduation and/or college. Under Prince's guidance, students researched and chose a book to read together based on their shared interests. They collectively designed the direction of the course, including the final project. Each period is filled with debate, presentations, discussions, creating, and engagement. Prince said, "I want them to connect more personally with literature alongside their classmates, which prepares them for the intimacy of college humanities seminars and roundtables." Whether her students will study medicine or law, or anything beyond the English classroom, they enjoy this opportunity to be in a humanities space that values English for its own sake, and to engage deeply with one particular work.

"Every class is its own community," she said. "It's so much work to set up a unit so that students are in charge and to make sure they are in charge properly, but it's worth it because at the end, they're always so thrilled and excited. Why can't you be in charge of your learning? We have been in charge for the last four-plus years. They should leave feeling good about taking control of their learning."

To finish their high school English experience, her students decided to tackle children's literature. Prince admits she was skeptical about studying children's literature at first. "I wondered if students were choosing children's lit to get out of doing harder work, but based on what we have found, just by talking to librarians and looking in the library to see what's available, challenged or not, they have learned that books are a great way to have deeper conversations."





"My favorite part has been being able to connect and communicate with the kids while learning in a hands-on environment."

ANAGAYLE SENN '23

Her students quickly learned that while some children's books are designed for amusement, many serve as valuable resources for students who may be struggling with grief and other heavy issues. Then, the seniors had to determine what their final project or assessment would look like. Working with Prince, they decided that each student would construct a lesson plan around a particular children's book. What better way to do research than to visit the Butler-Spencer Lower School Library on our campus?

There, seniors interviewed our librarians, Thomas Buffington and Nicole Liebman, to learn what appeals to students and how they learn about new materials, especially when a resource is needed to address a specific need. They took time to scour the stacks, each choosing a book on which to focus. They were excited to hunt for their old favorites, too, finding the books they loved when they were little.

"The beautiful part of this whole process is it came together organically," said Prince. "We plotted out the calendar and included a celebratory read-aloud when the seniors asked, 'Can we go talk to the kids?' That's when a plan to visit with Beasley students came together." They constructed questions before the visit, preparing to make the most of their time with their younger schoolmates. Everyone enjoyed a vibrant discussion about books and stories in the library.



They also learned about a special section of books in the back of the library, carefully curated to help children navigate divorce, the loss of a parent, and other thorny issues. "The Lower School librarians really jazzed them up," said Prince. "They really learned the power of a story, the power of a book."

The seniors peppered the librarians with insightful questions. "How do you reach the students when they don't even know what to ask yet?" "What do you do when you determine the content of a book might be too much for Lower School students?" (Those books get referred to Middle School librarians for review.) They're also addressing their own thorny questions, like, "How can you teach a controversial book, like To Kill a Mockingbird, from a different perspective?"

Anagayle Senn '23 embraced the project. "My favorite part has been being able to connect and communicate with the kids while learning in a hands-on environment," she said. "Getting our research directly from the kids themselves is preparing all of us with the necessary skills to craft an elaborate and effective lesson plan.

"Being 18 now and looking at some of the same children's books, I am learning a lot about the influence they can have on children and their overall understanding of things that are happening in their life. For example, the book I am using,



Missing Mommy, to teach in my lesson plan illustrates the ups and downs of navigating the loss of a parent or grandparent. It is extraordinary how influential these books can be in these kids' lives while also communicating the message softly."

Prince noticed that the seniors were far enough away from their lower school days to be a little rusty when starting a discussion with small children but close enough to their childhood to let them take charge of the project. "The library visit made things click," she said. "They learned that they have to find a way to teach the same book to different ages, including what they can water down for little students and how can they connect the book to bigger ideas for the big kids."

Ninth-Eleventh Graders Recognized 2023 Prize Day in Brauer Auditorium

Ninth, 10th, and 11th-grade students gathered in Brauer Auditorium for Prize Day, the annual Upper School assembly that recognizes students in a variety of ways. Aniket Joshi '25 played the grand piano on the stage as audience members took their seats and prepared for the program. The rising seniors of the Class of 2024 took their seats for the first time in the front of the auditorium, the space reserved for the senior class.

While we recognize many accomplishments through the year in athletics, community service, and in the arts, Prize Day is a celebration of academic growth and leadership, not only for the honorees but also for the hard work and determination shown by all MICDS students, each with his or her own special accomplishments.



Congratulations to all our 2023 Prize Day recipients!

Leadership: Shil Penilla '26, lan Boon '25, and Camden Miller '24

Respect: Steele Crissman '26.

Grant LaMartina '25, and Isabel Phillips '24

Perseverance: Andy Zheng '26, Lucas Starks '25, and Kelly Zhao '24

Service: Layla Gilbert '26, Amisha Poojari '25, and Ana Estes '24

Wilma Jean Messing Ninth Grade Award: Cade Miller '26

J.E. Beasley Tenth Grade Award: Sanjana Gandhi '25

R.S. Beasley Eleventh Grade Award: Mikaela Mikulec '24

World Languages: Isabelle Cox-Garleanu '26, Oliver Ashman '25, and Sameer Shafqat '24

English: Evita Okohson-Reb '26, Nina Scheurer '25, and Agatha Curylo '24

Nash Poetry Award: Haya Hussain '24

Fine & Performing Arts: Ellie Chen '26, Sam Matisziw '25, and Wyatt Dickherber '24

History & Social Sciences: Taylor Nuzum '26, Mac Froedge '25, and Genesis Starks '24

Science: Dalton Costick '26, Arjun Puri '25, and Bing Su'24

Mathematics: Bella Anadkat '26. Jackson Vetter '25, and Armaan Chandak '24

Ryan D. Seed '95 Leadership Award: **Robyn Davies '26**

John E. Mackey Leadership Award: Madison Sineff'24

McKelvey Award for leadership in athletics: Henry Cordes '24 and Mikaela Mikulec '24

Bowdoin College Book Award: Zoe Zlatic '24

Brandeis Book Award: Devon Catsavis '24

Brown University Book Award: Rachel Phillips '24

Dartmouth Book Award: Ameer Hajji '24

Harvard Book Award: Ananya Kamineni '24

Princeton University Book Award: Shivani Devrapalli '24

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Medal: Henry Clay '24

Rhodes College Book Award: Kenny McDile '24

Smith College Book Award: Ishika Kanjerla '24

St. Lawrence College Book Award: Abby Gray '24

Tulane Book Award: Agatha Curylo'24

University of Pennsylvania Book Award: Madison Sineff'24

University of Virginia Jefferson Book Award: Thomas Woodrow '24

Yale University Book Award: Camden Miller '24

University of Rochester Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony Award in Humanities and Social Sciences: Sonia Oulamine '24

University of Rochester Bausch & Lomb Honorary Science Award: Jeffrey Ge '24

University of Rochester Xerox Award for Innovation and Information Technology: Andy Mai '24

University of Rochester George Eastman Young Leaders Award: Zoie Tolson '24

Harrison Foster '26 Saivi Gadi '25

Devon Catsavis '24



Instead of looking through telescopes for signs of life in the form of little green men, students studying with Laura Bradford, Upper School Science Teacher, are looking through microscopes at little green algae to discover how life forms right here on Earth. Volvox is a multi-cell type of algae that has the important distinction of being closely related to its single-cell ancestor, making it ideal for examining how cells mutate, evolve, reproduce, and inherit DNA. "Bacteria lived for a billion years as unicellular—did just fine, very successful—why all of a sudden was there a shift to multicellularity? How was there that shift?" Bradford asks.

The goal of the volvox lab is to gain a better understanding of how multicellular life evolved.

Studying the volvox evolution from a unicellular organism to a multicellular organism helps us to understand nature at its existence, but is also potentially a key to unlocking our understanding of all multicellular evolution on Earth.

MICDS students have been studying volvox in partnership with the Danforth Plant Science Center in Creve Coeur. The Danforth Center sends wild volvox samples collected from fresh water as well as volvox that they have mutated using UV light. Fabi Theodoro '24 noticed those differences immediately. "We started off looking at these basic little algae particles, then moved into looking at the mutations." she said. "It's really cool to see how there's a physical difference between the regular parent particles versus the mutant particles."

The physical differences are easy to see, but Theodoro and her classmates continued to investigate the underlying question of evolution. "When the Danforth Plant Science Center looked at the volvox DNA, they could easily see that they were very similar and that there were only a few mutations which resulted in one being multicellular and one being unicellular," she explained.

In addition to its important role in studying evolution, volvox is an ideal specimen for lab work. "The volvox are a really good model organism to use because they're easy to manipulate and they reproduce really fast," said Madison Sineff '24. "We we are able to get results within five days of waiting—which was really good." The speed with which

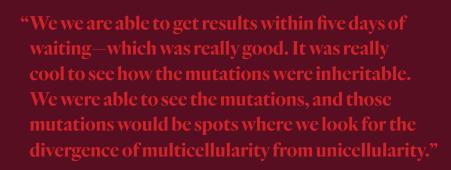
the volvox can mutate and then reproduce, sharing new DNA with its offspring, is crucial. "It was really cool to see how the mutations were inheritable," said Sineff. "We were able to see the mutations, and those mutations would be spots where we look for the divergence of multicellularity from unicellularity."

So, when did the first human cells evolve from unicellular to multicellular? It is hard to know because, as Sineff explains, "The jump was so long ago, and it was such a large jump." That jump, says Bradford, "...happened three billion years ago!" Luckily, "when volvox develops, it does things that are very similar to what our human embryos do when they develop," Bradford says. During volvox cell reproduction, much like in human embryo

cell development, volvox cells perform gastrulation, or flip themselves inside out. Bradford explains it this way, "So a scientist says, 'If I can figure out what gene is responsible for making volvox do that, then there should be a comparable gene in our human cells that early in embryology causes gastrulation—a similar process."

Watching volvox cells develop in similar ways to those taking place in humans is fascinating. "It's cool to see in person, under the microscope, happening in real life," said Sineff.

For Bradford, the lesson is simple and vital. "We aren't changing genes or studying on a genetic level, but we investigate, we study, and we read the primary research and then tell the world 'this is why volvox matters.'"



MADISON SINEFF '24











Writing Books to Share Knowledge

Upper School students pen works to educate about carbon cycle

As they wrapped up learning in their Carbon Unit in Science 10 class, **Upper School Science Teacher Stephanie Matteson's** students authored and illustrated children's books designed to share their new knowledge with younger learners. "Students learned about the carbon cycle and calculated the carbon sequestered in a tree on campus. They then explored deforestation," said Matteson.

"The books that the Science 10 students produced were shared with their class during a project showcase, but I felt that they needed to reach a bigger audience. As a mom of two Lower School students, I am always hearing about their publishing parties, excitement for the library, and love of reading. It made me think there were opportunities for connection."

School Science Teacher, asking about opportunities for the Upper Schoolers to read their work to the Lower Schoolers. "I was incredibly impressed with their hard work and creativity, and it shined in their finished books," said Matteson. It was only fitting that the books be shared with their intended audience.

Pupillo connected with the first- through fourth-grade teachers, and they all welcomed the Science 10 students into their classrooms. The fourth graders had just learned about greenhouse gases and climate change, so the timing for that class was wonderful. Pupillo said, "Fourth-grade students will end the year creating and testing a solution for climate change, and these books provided such a great launch point into our upcoming projects!"





"I was incredibly impressed with their hard work and creativity, and it shined in their finished books."

STEPHANIE MATTESON,
UPPER SCHOOL SCIENCE TEACHER





AP Chemistry students returned from spring break to face a challenge: how does ocean acidification affect seashells and other marine biology?

Upper School Science Teacher Dr. Meg Yoshioka-Tarver knew that many of her students went somewhere warm during the break and saw the ocean and seashells, and she developed this lab to introduce the idea while tying it to a review of what they've already learned. The classes created acidic seawater

experiments, looking at the chemical reaction of atmospheric carbon dioxide being absorbed in the ocean, measuring pH, and observing seashells (made of a basic mineral) dissolving in acidic water.

and conducted a series of

"AP Chemistry students have been learning chemical equations and acidity/ basicity of the chemicals since August," said Dr. Yoshioka-Tarver. "This lab was a great reflection of their knowledge of what is currently happening on our planet. The students were able to explain why atmospheric carbon dioxide

contributes to ocean acidification and explain why marine lives are being destroyed. Many ocean animals and plants need calcium ions and carbonate ions to survive. As the ocean becomes more acidic as we pollute carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, it will change the concentrations of those chemicals in the ocean, and the coral and shell animals, which rely on those chemicals, will not be able to survive."

The students used distilled water, club soda, sodium chloride, and vinegar to see for themselves how the acidity of seawater could affect marine biodiversity. They checked the pH of both tonic water and distilled water using a meter, and noted why the pH is different for each. They also observed what happens when carbon dioxide dissolves in water, writing a chemical equation that shows why the carbonated club soda is

Then it was time to prepare seawater. Seawater contains 3.5% of sodium chloride by mass, so the students had to develop a procedure to prepare

more acidic than distilled water.

100 mL of 3.5% sodium chloride using appropriate equipment. After preparing their seawater, they conducted further tests by adding vinegar to the some of the solution, creating both a normal ocean environment and an acidic ocean environment. Finally, the students placed sea shells into their two solutions and observed what happened. Seashell is made of calcium carbonate. Is calcium carbonate acidic, basic, or neutral compound? It's mildly basic, so it will begin to dissolve when placed into an acidic solution. The more acidic the solution, the faster the shells dissolve. The students created a highly acidic environment so they could more quickly observe what

happens, but even a slight change in pH is enough to destroy marine biology.

"It was fun and interesting," said Zoe Zlatic '24. "It was cool that we were able to take what we're learning in class and apply it to a real-world scenario, especially something that is a prominent issue today and will continue to be in the future."



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It was cool that we were able to take what we're learning in class and apply it to a real-world scenario, especially something that is a prominent issue today and will continue to be in the future."

ZOE ZLATIC '24.

Owen Limbrick '23 agrees. He said, "This lab helped me to realize some of the applications chemistry has on today's world. As climate change continues to have a growing global impact, it is important to understand how and why the phenomenon is occurring on the most basic chemical level. I think that modeling today's environment in a laboratory setting was a great reminder of how the things we learn at MICDS can prepare us to make an impact on the outside world."

"Everything we've learned this year kind of came together and allowed us to understand and explore a real-life problem facing our environment," said **Abby Wyckoff '24.** "We saw how chemistry makes an impact in the real world, not just in the classroom."

Information from lab introduction courtesy of National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration (2020) Ocean Acidification, Department of Commerce, https://www.noaa.gov/education/resource-collections/ocean-coasts/ocean-acidification





Welcome to Jurassic Park (Math)!

Imagine entering your math class to find out you'll be using TI-Innovator Rovers to fence in dinosaurs to save Jurassic Park. This was the scene set by Middle School Math

Teacher Dr. Jody Marberry for her eighthgrade Accelerated Math class. First, students watched the "Welcome to Jurassic

Park" scene and a clip from the 1993 film. Then, they were told they worked at the park and had to build enclosures for the dinosaurs to ensure the safety of the guests. Cue the clever incorporation of a fun math lesson!

These eighth graders were learning about linear functions and linear systems. "Their task was to put their knowledge to the test by constructing fencing to secure the dinosaurs," explained Dr. Marberry. In teams, students began by determining the equation of each line of fencing needed to secure the creatures. The equations also required domain restrictions to ensure the fence line stopped at each fence post. From there, they imported the slope, y-intercept, and domain restrictions for each line. If their

planning was accurate, the Rover drove to the correct post on the grid, stopped, and then drove to the next fence post, completing the rotation until a fence was drawn around the dinosaurs.

What inspired Marberry's lesson? A TI-nSpire lesson called "Corraling the Sheep," which was first introduced to her by MICDS JK-12 Math Department Chair Diane Broberg. "I did some online research using the TI resources site to learn how to adjust the code to have it work with the grid boards we had in the classroom," Dr. Marberry said. "The activity gave students the opportunity to test their knowledge of writing linear equations and determining domain restrictions. When the Rover 'drove' the perimeter of the fence, the students got real-time feedback which allowed iteration and re-testing. It was also an opportunity for the students to see real-world examples of finding solutions to linear systems of equations."

Could the students make the park safe for visitors by using their Rovers to fence in the dinosaurs? To quote a line in *Jurassic Park*, "Life finds a way," but in this case, math found a way. The challenge



was successfully met by several students, but even those who were unsuccessful did not give up. "Instead, they asked me, 'When will we get a chance to work on the project some more?'" said Dr. Marberry.

"I learned a lot about systems of equations and programming rovers. I learned how to use domains and systems that are used in real life," said **Reina Banerjee '27.** "I have watched *Jurassic Park* before and its incorporation made it much more interesting. Lola and I were able to successfully build our fence and the process was fun and informative. Using the rovers was really engaging and enjoyable because it was a hands-on activity, and I personally love doing group activities!"

Lola Compton '27 agreed. "I quite enjoyed learning how to use the math skills we have been learning in class for practical use, like creating an outlined area to hold dinosaurs," she said.

Another successful team was with **Grant Krainik '27** and **Connor Blake '27.** "The Jurassic Park lesson was definitely challenging, as

"I learned a lot about systems of equations and programming rovers. Using the rovers was really engaging and enjoyable because it was a handson activity, and I personally love doing group activities!"

REINA BANERJEE '27



we had to figure out the slope, where the line would go, and when to cut it off," said Krainik. "The incorporation of the dinosaurs was pretty fun, as I was just expecting to see dots and equations. I like how the problem had some story behind it, although the story didn't play much into the actual project. My partner Connor and I were able to successfully plot a fence around the dinosaurs. I enjoyed seeing the actual creation of the fence and having physical dinosaurs to view it better, although the rover is only accurate if the person behind it is accurate. I also just really enjoyed being in the presence of tiny plastic dinosaurs."

A *roaring* applause goes to our students who successfully completed this creative math mission!



Sometimes, Life Exceeds All Expectations

Lucy Lionberger Rise'78 climbs out of her comfort zone and into peak performance.





It all started when a friend whose husband had climbed decided she wanted to create a women's climbing group. At 49, Rise was recruited to make her first ascent: Mount Kilimanjaro. Before being asked to go, she was admittedly not conditioned for the task. "It seemed like a fun thing to do. At the time, I was working out a little in the gym and doing a couple-mile run here and there. I've never been particularly athletic; I was always the last person picked for sports in school. So, obviously, I had to start training for the climb. And I did it. I made it to the top."

The driving force behind her climbs is complex. "A lot of the time when you're doing this, it's sort of miserable. You're cold. You're tired. You desperately want to stop. You go way past your 'I've had enough' points. Then it becomes mind over matter even when you're thinking, 'Why did I do this again? This is terrible.' And yet, somehow, when I get back down, and it's all over, I find myself immediately searching for my next adventure. So there's something about getting through it and accomplishing it. And I'm reminded that it's like a lot of hard things in your life where you forget all about the pain, and all you can remember is how you made it through." After that first ascent on Kilimanjaro, she was smitten with the challenge, took training to heart, and booked her next climb: Mount Rainier.

MOUNTAIN (AND LIFE) MINDSET

Rise may not have realized that her late-70s Mary Institute biology class laid some groundwork for a mountain-climbing mindset. "We were learning about the human body and the different systems. When we got to the final, the teacher listed just one question for a two-hour exam: 'You've just gone into a cafe and ordered a roast beef sandwich on rye. What happens next?' So I

start writing furiously, and I know I have to slow down and think of all the steps: you have to start with your teeth and your tongue, and then it goes down your throat, and the digestive process that sends nutrients into the blood, and so on. I remember being so focused and determined to regurgitate everything I learned all semester and put it into practice and onto the paper."

A storied tradition at MI was the Senior Chapel, where each senior was in charge of a particular chapel assembly. They would choose a topic and lecture or educate their fellow students on it in addition to leading the hymns and other elements of the chapel experience. When it was Rise's turn, she shared her fascination with and knowledge of Aesop's Fables. The fables often held morals or ways of thinking that contributed to her mindset and helped create mantras for her life that stuck with her over the years, such as "'You're as happy as you have a mind to be' or 'Don't whine, dig deep, figure it out."

After obtaining a degree in Art History from the University of Virginia, Rise moved to Washington D.C., where she worked for the RNC and the Reagan administration, then pivoted to New York City, the fashion industry mecca, for a robust career with Adele Simpson and Liz Claiborne. After her third child, she and her husband returned to Richmond to welcome their fourth and settle the children into schools. There, Rise then embarked on "every imaginable parent volunteer job at St. Catherine's and St. Christopher's Schools"—schools much like MICDS—and lovingly attended a monumental amount of practices, games, rehearsals, plays, concerts, and more for their four active children. in addition to volunteering for several local non-profit organizations.

continued on page 34 >>





01. Rise with the MI acapella group "Senior Singers."

- 02. At MI, Rise's biology class laid the groundwork for a mountainclimbing mindset.
- 03. Aesop's Fables helped Rise create mantras for her life.





continued from page 33 >>



"I had never pushed myself out of my comfort zone to such a degree before, and here I discovered that I could. The feeling of getting to the top of a mountain is a true high, a total rush. And looking down from the top is the most exhilarating feeling in the world."

LUCY LIONBERGER RISE '78

Years later, with Kilimanjaro in her rearview mirror, she set her sights on her second climb, Mount Rainier. "The night of the summit was crazy. No one had gone up for days because the winds were 70 miles per hour. Once the winds died down, we decided to go for it. It was freezing cold, and they were concerned about avalanche issues. The week before our climb, someone died and was buried in an avalanche. That night, we learned that someone from another group had dropped off his rope team and was lost. So a search helicopter was whirring above, and we were just being blown all over the place. Only four of our group of 11 climbers made it to the top. It was this climb that separated those of us who were crazy enough to keep going and those who were happy to stick to hiking and trekking," Rise said.

When her son Christopher asked her to do Rainier again this year as his very first climb, she was elated. "He's my baby. Of course, I'll do it," she laughed. "Rainier is a good stepping stone for anyone who wants to get into climbing because they have a lot of guides there to help novice climbers. They have great training where they show you how to walk with a rope team, 'pressure breathe,' do the 'rest step,' and arrest your fall or someone else's. So, for a first climb for him, it was perfect, far less harrowing, and a fabulous mother/son memory."

What serves her climbs well is a memorable moment in seventh grade that links to her organizational skills and drive to make the most out of each climb. "Mrs. Stryker, in seventh grade, was known as the hardest teacher in Middle School, and I was afraid to be in her class. But when I got there, I realized she wasn't scary; she was just insistent on doing things right. Mrs. Stryker taught me how to write a semester-long term paper with research, note cards, footnotes, and a bibliography, and we were graded on all the details. She taught us how to organize. I never

- 01. Lucy on the summit of Rainier with her son Christopher in July 2023
- 02. Lucy's family at her son's wedding.

had a class like it before or since." That early skill development prepared her for all her careers, parenting and, naturally, climbing. "You work on packing and climb prepping constantly. It requires a lot of organization to pack everything you need, but ONLY what you need that you can carry. No redundancies. These trips sometimes last for weeks, where you are pushing 30-40 pounds of food on sleds while carrying 40-50 pound packs on your back. You constantly edit."

THE SIX SUMMITS

Rise has climbed all over the world, summiting 15 mountains on islands and glaciers, including five of the famed "Seven Summits:" Mount Everest, Mount Aconcagua, Denali, Kilimanjaro, Mount Elbrus, Mount Vinson, and Carstensz Pyramid. At press time, she has done all but Vinson and Everest. She trekked to Everest Basecamp at 17,000 feet and summited Island Peak, a 20,000 peak also in Nepal, which is as close as she is getting to the summit of Everest. "Everest is a very dangerous mountain with many issues, so I have no interest in climbing it," she said.

Since climbing, she has summited approximately one mountain a year, but this year has escalated the pace. "My reasoning is that I'm 63 now, and it isn't going to be easier at 64 or 65. I'll just keep going until I can't go anymore," she said. So, this past summer, in addition to Rainier with her son, she summited Mont Blanc, the highest peak in the Alps, and the Grand Teton in Wyoming. In October, she will attempt Mount Aspiring in New Zealand and Vinson in January, and she has plans for the Matterhorn in Switzerland and Chimborazo in Ecuador next summer and fall.









- 01. Lucy at the summit of Denali in June 2022.
- 02. Carrying packs and dragging sleds on Denali in June 2022.
- 03. Climbing in Smith Rock State Park in August 2018 to train for Carstenz Pyramid
- 04. Climbing Seneca Rocks in West Virginia in June 2023 to train for the Grand Teton

The journey hasn't come without injury. Rise has broken ribs rappelling down an 800-foot headwall at 20,000 feet and days from home. Some climbs have local dangers, such as warring tribes in Papua, and weather challenges like sinking into snow up to her hips or jumping outrageous gaps. She even broke an arm during a slip in training, spurring a year off from climbs. None of that seemed to deter her.

Despite her achievements climbing various mountains worldwide, her priorities remain well-grounded. Hands down, she said her greatest accomplishment is her four children. "As a parent, you just want them all to be happy, on a good path, and doing good things. They have checked every box." As far as climbing goes, she holds a perspective that can apply in all situations, whether facing challenges or not. "All you can do is stay positive, don't give up, and don't let people put limits on you."

Rise's senior page in the MI 1978 Chronicle has a solitary quote, "Sometimes life exceeds all expectations." She shared, "In my case, it has. I had never pushed myself out of my comfort zone to such a degree before, and here I discovered that I could. The feeling of getting to the top of a mountain is a true high, a total rush. And looking down from the top is the most exhilarating feeling in the world."

Lucy's Summits

Mount Kilimanjaro, Tanzania, Africa—2009

Mount Rainier, Washington, United States—2010

Cayambe & Cotopaxi, Pichicha & Cotopaxi Provinces, Ecuador—2011

Mount Everest Base Camp & Island Peak, Khumbu Glacier & Sagarmatha National Park, Nepal—2012

Mount Elbrus, Prielbrusye National Park, Russia—2013

Nevado Urus & Ishinca, Cordillera Blanca, Peru—2014

Mount Aconcagua, Argentina—2015

Carstenz Pyramid, Papua, Indonesia—2018

Mount Dickey, Denali National Park, Alaska, United States—2019

Denali, Denali National Park, Alaska, United States—2022

Mont Blanc, the Alps, France/Italy/Switzerland—2023

Mount Rainier, Washington, United States—2023

Grand Teton, Wyoming, United States—2023



Nearly the entire school gathered in the MAC this spring for the third all-school assembly of the year. Coming together in community is always a special time for Rams, and this event was no different. We celebrated milestone anniversaries for faculty and staff, gave out the Rivinus and Duncan Awards, and Head of School Jay Rainey shared the results of his now annual pop culture character trivia contest. Everyone enjoyed music courtesy of our talented Middle and Upper School band members, and a performance of the MICDS Alma Mater by our senior chamber choir members. conducted by Matlynne Hardy-Lyles '23.

Mr. Rainey also recognized the recipients of the Duncan and Rivinus Awards. The Duncan Award is given to a teacher as voted on by the eighth-grade students each year. Likewise, the Rivinus Award is voted on by the senior class.

Callie Bambenek won the Duncan Award, and Mr. Rainey offered these remarks:

"Ms. Bambenek understands what it means for students to be seen and heard and sets that example for everyone around her. Fostering personal growth is always her true north, and her students thrive in the comfort of the learning environment that she creates and sustains.

In her classroom, students and advisees can count on a consistent and nurturing experience with a big splash of humor and fun—the ultimate combination for middle schoolers! Her students know that they are secure under her guidance, not only because she respects them, but because she insists that they respect one another as they learn and grow together.

As the founding Director of ASAP,
Ms. Bambenek has also implemented
a much-needed support system for
7th and 8th graders who benefit from
structure and guidance after school.
Always a team player, always a student
advocate, she lives and breathes our
MICDS mission and inspires others to do
the same, ensuring that our community
is healthy and happy. Thank you for all
that you do, Ms. Bambenek."

Melanie Moody won the Rivinus Award. Mr. Rainey presented it to her and said:

"For more than ten years, Mrs. Moody has been a mainstay in the Upper School Math Department and is a constant, calming, and supportive presence for students and colleagues alike.

Although it is sometimes difficult to see her through the forest of Baby Yoda figurines that have taken over her cubby (plush and plastic, large and small, all gifts of endearment from students and

advisees), I promise Mrs. Moody is there, as she is always among the first to arrive to school in the morning and often one of the last to leave.

Mrs. Moody is relentless in her willingness to assist others, often without even having to be asked. She will drop anything to help a student work through math equations or talk through a challenging social situation. She is unfailingly committed to supporting everyone around her. She is equally magnanimous with her time for colleagues, always willing to cover a class or help plan an activity for advisory. She gives of her time to support Upper School student activities, attends almost every school dance, helps organize Camp Wyman trips, and even finds time to coach JV girls basketball.

Mrs. Moody cares deeply about the MICDS community and is a very deserving recipient of the Rivinus Award. Thank you for all that you do for our community, Mrs. Moody."

Congratulations to Callie Bambenek and Melanie Moody, and congratulations to all our milestone employees!

Milestone Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following faculty and staff who are celebrating big anniversaries this year!



Mary Russell, Admissions



Duane Biggerstaff, Maintenance



Melissa Sharp, Environmental Services Jen Schuckman, Head of Middle School Josh Smith, Athletics Director

Note: All three 25-year recipients received MICDS rocking chairs for this anniversary!

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Donald Thomas, Environmental Services Andrea Ostlund, Middle School Library Assistant



Samantha White, Assistant to Head of Upper School Ginny Otto, Lower School Teacher Rachel Tourais, Upper School Teacher Carla Federman, JK-12 History Department Chair and Upper School Teacher Erin Hamill, Director of Global Learning & Upper School Community Service Andy Kay, Middle School Teacher Chris Militello, Middle School Teacher Amy Scheer, Head of Lower School Stacie Schneider, Lower School Teacher Karen Wildman, College Counselor Aaron Elliott, Upper School Library Assistant Lily Childs, Upper School Teacher



John Lohman, Maintenance Tim White, Security Justin Little, Upper School Teacher Callie Bambenek, Middle School Teacher Emily Farfan, Middle School Teacher Dr. Earl Macam, College Counselor Brian Rueckert, Upper School Teacher & Registrar

Dr. Tanya Roth **Teaches Outside** the Classroom

Over spring break, Dr. Tanya Roth, Upper School History Teacher, was invited to give a talk in honor of Women's History Month at Georgia Southern University. She spoke with upper-level undergraduate students. "I was a quest for a research methods class and talked with students about doing research, writing, and organizing your research," Dr. Roth said. "Then, I gave a talk entitled 'Equality Evolving: Womanpower in the U.S. Military from the Cold War to the Present."

A couple of weeks later, Dr. Roth was invited to be a panelist at Virginia Military Institute on April 5. The panel was entitled "Women, Military Service, and Citizenship" and was to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the admission of women as cadets at VMI. She also taught a section of U.S. Constitutional History while there.



From left to right: Professor Mark Boonshoft, VMI, Dr. Tanya Roth, MICDS History Teacher, Major General Cedric T. Wins, Superintendent of VMI, Professor Kara Vuic, Texas Christian University, Miranda Summers Lowe, Smithsonian Modern Military Curator and National Guard Bureau's Legislative Liaison, Professor Madeleine Ramsey, VMI



Smith has served in this role since 2015, coming into the position with 17 years of teaching math under his belt, in addition to coaching multiple sports such as football, basketball, and lacrosse

and time as an assistant athletics director.

The role is both supremely satisfying for Smith—his work touches every student at MICDS—and also largely unseen. Many players, coaches, and fans won't know that he helped ensure the turf fields were ready for the fall season, the floor of the North Gym was resurfaced in time for volleyball, the entire floor of the McDonnell Athletic Center (MAC) was replaced, that afterschool snacks were ordered for Upper School athletes, and that referees and umpires are scheduled for each game, match, and meet, in addition to myriad other tasks.

Smith was a student-athlete himself, playing football and basketball in high school, and briefly running track. He played football for the Washington University Bears. He'll shy away from sharing any personal accolades, though, nodding to his wife, Julie, who won a Big 8 individual title

while at Nebraska. Both of the Smith children, Megan '19 and Nate '21, went to MICDS starting in Junior Kindergarten and enjoyed very different athletic experiences. Megan played volleyball, basketball, and soccer. Smith was given a chance by Head of Upper School and Varsity Girls Basketball Coach Scott Small to coach in his program when Megan was younger and Smith jumped at it. He credits the amazing work Small does and he is grateful he had a coaching opportunity to learn more about girls athletics. Nate played football and ran track, and went on to play football at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. You could say sports runs in the Smith family.

When he first arrived at MICDS in 1998 as an Upper School math teacher, Smith had no intentions of running the athletic program. He enjoys working directly with students in the classroom. He taught algebra, geometry, and pre-calculus, and served as interim mathematics department chair for part of a semester. And he coached, finding himself on the sidelines of various sporting events after classes each day.

After serving as assistant football coach for several years, he had the opportunity to take over the helm. He dropped his other coaching obligations but assisted the director of athletics part-time, along with other coaches. The first four years as head football coach were great: the Rams had a record of 35-9 and just fell short of a State Championship in a shootout with Webb City. There were not as many wins the three years that followed. After several years of rebuilding, a change was in store. Smith moved from the driver's seat of Rams football to shepherding the entire athletics program at MICDS, serving as interim Athletics Director for one year before being named to the role permanently.

His years of assisting the former AD paid off: Smith could see with clarity what was needed to ensure a smooth program that allows players and coaches to thrive. With some others leaving MICDS, the Athletics Department restructured. Marshall Newman came on as a full-time assistant director. Khannie Dastgah was added to oversee school-wide aquatics. Alison Todd continued to direct Middle School athletics, now assisted by Nick Menneke. Bonita Berry stayed on as the administrative assistant to keep everyone in line. The small team handles a wide variety of tasks from the maintenance and upkeep of 10 fields, two gyms, 15 tennis courts, five squash courts, an aquatics center, a track, and a multipurpose athletics facility (and all their attached scoreboards and accouterments), to scheduling games, securing referees, supporting coaches, and collaborating with the Missouri State High School Athletics Association to ensure MICDS supports and is in compliance with rules and regulations.

Smith has also worked with his extended team to incorporate a variety of improvements over the past few years. Director of Physical Education and Middle School Coach Eric Lay, in conjunction with Teacher and Coach Everett Goldberg, has grown the MICDS Athletic Development Program to incorporate customized workouts for both in-season and off-season athletes, and now offers opportunities during the school day. Likewise, our athletic trainers, Stacey Morgan and Ben



Krueger, are now also available for training during the school day. "We are incredibly lucky to have two wonderful athletic trainers at MICDS," said Smith. "Providing our student-athletes more opportunities to work with them to get healthy made sense. Adding the strength and conditioning piece has received initial positive reviews, and we will continue to look to grow it."

He admits that he misses the direct student experience in the classroom but appreciates that his role affects the experience of every single student in some way. And the work outside the academic setting is a vital component of learning. "Athletics at MICDS is an extension of the classroom," Smith said. "There's a lot of growth happening on fields and courts. How do you exist as a team, push yourself through adversity, and handle the ups and downs of expectations? This growth, nurtured by coaches, is an extension of what our teachers do in the classroom."

At the same time, Smith is realistic about the lives of our busy students and teachers, and how our campus is used. "We are a big part of the community, but we are just a part," he said. "We have to find a way to fit that ensures athletics remains positive for the students as a whole."

continued on page 40 >>



"A healthy high school student is active in some way, especially through athletics. Because we prioritize academics the way we do, having a physical outlet is important." The Upper School forgoes a physical education class during the school day, so students are required to play sports two of three seasons through 11th grade and one season senior year. Whether they're on a team striving for wins or exercising with friends in Essential Fitness, a wellness program that exists within the Athletics Department but isn't teamor competition-based, students are keeping their bodies active in the company of others. This connection is an essential component, said Smith.

"We saw that during COVID-19 especially. Early on, there was no student contact with each other. I am impressed by how our community found ways to work within the parameters given, to get kids around each other and have them on a field together again," he recollected. "When we started that fall season, all the teams practiced without

knowing if they'd play a game. They just cared about being around people again." Athletics provided both an outlet from distance and online learning and a way for students to reconnect with each other and their coaches.

Once our athletics program was back in full swing for all three seasons, Smith faced a new challenge: referees. "There is a referee shortage in every sport," he reported. He's worried that passionate fans who have no qualms about making their criticisms known during the game are driving people from the job. In an ideal world, at every match, the students play, the coaches coach, and the fans cheer. Unfortunately, the cheering often turns to jeering. Smith gets it; as a father, it was hard for him sometimes to hold back when he thought a ref didn't make the right call. "You see something you disagree with, and your first instinct can be to yell," he said. "But high school athletics officials are just people. They aren't going to get it right every time. If that were true, they wouldn't be officiating high school...and even professional league refs make mistakes." He advises patience and grace. "You just have to know that when a call is wrong, the best thing to do is let it go and move on to the next play. Yelling only makes the person on the field not want to officiate, either at all or at our school." With a national shortage of high school sports officiants, we can't afford to lose any. It's already difficult to create seasonal schedules for some sports because of the shortage, and often, Smith has little to no control over several of our teams' schedules due to staffing issues. "Think of it like this," Smith advises, "Would you want to do

"There's a lot of growth happening on fields and courts. How do you exist as a team, push yourself through adversity, and handle the ups and downs of expectations? This growth, nurtured by coaches, is an extension of what our teachers do in the classroom."

JOSH SMITH





a job where the only things you hear are negative criticisms that are yelled at you each time you make a mistake? I wouldn't. We are lucky to have the men and women who are currently officiating."

Smith expands this advice to communicating with our student-athletes as well. He admits it took him years to figure out that right after coming off the football field, the last thing his son wanted to do was dissect the game, analyzing each play and discussing where he could improve. "I'm a parent, and I understand," he said. "Everybody's passionate about their kid." He recommends trying to achieve a little distance between the sports and your emotions. In other words: Breathe, Rams Fans, breathe.

This is good advice for Smith to take, too. He's managing 30 varsity programs each year and 53 teams in total. "It is not as much as it sounds when you keep in mind that we have an amazingly strong

continued on page 42 >>

It takes a small army to run our robust athletics program. Josh and his team handle a wide variety of tasks from the maintenance and upkeep of:

FIELDS

GYMS

TENNIS COURTS

SQUASH COURTS

AN AQUATICS CENTER, A TRACK, AND A MULTIPURPOSE ATHLETICS FACILITY

VARSITY PROGRAMS

TEAMS IN TOTAL

continued from page 41 >>

community of coaches who passionately care about our student-athletes and their sport," said Smith.

Working out all those schedules is only the first step for each season. He's also responsible for making sure what's needed on the field or court is there (think pylons, flags, goals, nets, and more), what workers are needed, who is running the scoreboards and who is keeping score, coordination with our athletic trainers, and ensuring officials can find their way to the proper facility on our hundred-acre campus. He works with a variety of people to ensure scheduling challenges on a large and busy campus since conferences, performance programs, and events like May Day, Arts Fest, and Winter Term could result in conflicts. Even parking can become an issue when there are multiple events scheduled for the same time. In addition to the rest of the team, Smith credits our two athletic trainers, Morgan and Krueger, as essential components of our program. "If we don't have one available and responsible for each game or match, we can't have the event. Theirs is probably the most stressful job when we have a lot of events." Indeed, Morgan and Krueger can be found stalking the sidelines or zipping between games nearly every evening during the school year. "They are the first ones here and the last ones to leave," said Smith.

In fact, it takes a small army to run our robust athletics program. Administrators attend each on-campus game (and some away competitions) to keep an eye on things. Our grounds crew ensures the fields are in tip-top shape for

staff keep our courts and facilities clean for Rams and visiting teams. The security team makes sure the proper doors are locked and unlocked. Smith says these "invisible heroes" should also be recognized for their ongoing contributions. "I have been fortunate to work with some remarkable people in this role," Smith said. "Mark Sweeney, Director of Grounds, Jim Barciszewski, Director of Facilities, Tim White, Director of Campus Safety and Security, and Senad Hadzisalihovic, Housekeeping Supervisor, always step up with their teams to support athletics when needed. They have been wonderful partners in this work." The success of our sports teams relies on a multitude of support staff outside of the Athletics Department each season, and he is grateful.

His own days tend to run long during the three sports seasons. He may be on campus by 7:30 a.m. to attend a Parents Association Sports Boosters meeting, work all day, and then, if Rams are actively competing, he's around until sometime between 6 and 10 p.m. "I try not to be here more than 12 hours a day," he said. "Sometimes I'm more successful than others. But my job is walking around watching sports, so I'm not writing nuclear codes or sweating bullets with tons of critical thinking. It's timeconsuming, but it's also enjoyable."

Yes, he's watching games, but he's also watching everything going on around the games. "That's the biggest change from my previous role to this one," he admitted. "I used to go to a contest as a fan or a coach, and I was focused on the contest. Now, I'm focused on everything around the contest as well. That's been a transition."





Those days are his favorite, though. "I enjoy school life, athletics, and competition. When I can walk around our campus and see a bunch of students competing, and coaches coaching, and sports going on in a positive way...those are the best." When he's not on campus, Smith likes to spend time with his family, read, and cook. And, of course, he loves watching sports. "I enjoy watching competitions," he said, "and I watch a lot of sports because I played only some of them. I watch as many different kinds as I can, and I appreciate the ones I'm not as familiar with."

At the end of the day—or the end of the game, match, meet—success for Smith means students striving to be excellent, competing at a high level, and becoming great teammates. "Our best teams are the ones where students play hard for each other," he said. "That's a pretty visible thing. Regardless of wins and losses, we're always trying to be excellent. Our kids are driven, and even in individual play, such as tennis and track, they play hard for each other. That's a lot of fun to watch." He pushes, above all, for positive experiences for students and encourages his coaches to provide settings for athletes to know they have someone who believes in them. "You can give our students critical feedback if it's designed to help them improve. They'll take good feedback, listen to it, and work to deliver on it."

This sense of teamwork comes right back to the Athletics Department as a whole. "I've enjoyed all my time here because of our community," he said. "We're working with College Counseling, Admissions, the Upper School offices, Marketing and Communications, and more. One of the best things about this job is the community we're in." Just like athletes, Smith recognizes that each person is not the most important but that we all have to work together.

It's a good day for Rams Fan Josh Smith when fans can show up to watch our athletes play and have fun in a safe and positive environment, and they don't even have to consider what happened behind the scenes to make it all come together. "That's the expectation," he said. "At the end of the end of the day, I'm just customer service." And then he smiled and headed out to a game.



"Our best teams are the ones where students play hard for each other. That's a pretty visible thing. Regardless of wins and losses, we're always trying to be excellent. Our kids are driven, and even in individual play, such as tennis and track, they play hard for each other. That's a lot of fun to watch."

JOSH SMITH



Ryen Day '30 Selected as Google Doodle Finalist

For 15 years, Google has offered a contest for K-12 students to create their own version of the Google logo inspired by the prompt "I am grateful for..." This year, MICDS student Ryen Day '30 was the winner to represent Missouri with the other 54 U.S. states and territories. Her Doodle, "A Time to Hangout," was selected from thousands of entries.

Students at MICDS helped Day celebrate during a surprise assembly in May, where she learned she was the Missouri winner. Her family and siblings were in attendance to support her as well.

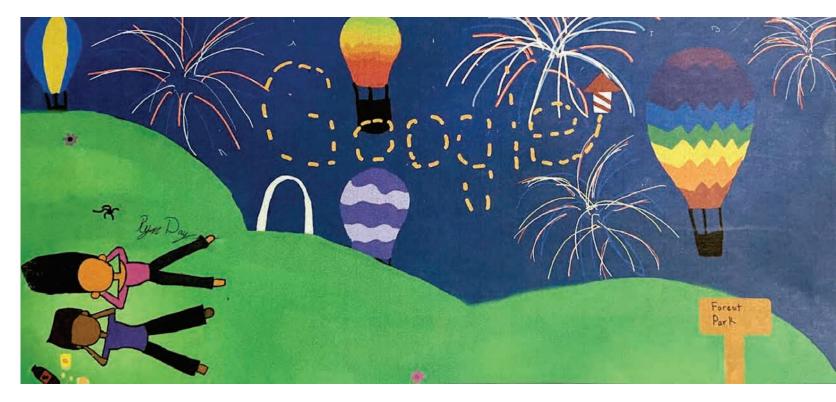
Day said, "I feel proud that the judges liked my art [so much that they chose] for me to be the state winner. It made me feel very special because MICDS made an entire assembly just to recognize me, and I was very surprised—I knew nothing about it. I came up with the idea for my Doodle from going to see the hot air balloons and fireworks at Forest Park. It was a time to hang out with my family and friends, but to me, it was a time to especially hang out with my sister. Even though I see her every day, we are a very busy family during the week and even on weekends, so I finally got to hang out with her more.



During my free time, I'm mostly by myself or with my younger brother, so this was a time with her."

Additionally, Google recognized "a very special educator who has helped to foster the love of the arts in this winner and so many other students!" Congratulations to Lower School Visual Arts Teacher Sarah Garner for earning this recognition. "I am so proud of Ryen!" said Garner. "Her accomplishment is an example of how art can bring an entire community

together in celebration. The art that Ryen created was inspired by the things she is grateful for. As a community, we can mirror Ryen's spirit and remind ourselves that every day at MICDS we are surrounded by things we are thankful for. Art can lift us up, bring us together, and share positivity in a community, and I am so thankful for artists like Ryen that are brave enough to share their creativity and inspire us every day."







Students Facilitate Diversity Leadership Conference for Area Schools

Each year, Upper School students welcome peers from the St. Louis area to the MICDS campus for the Student Diversity Leadership Conference. "It's a great opportunity for our students to work with students from local schools and engage in meaningful conversations and programming," said Changa Bey, Upper School History Teacher. This year, 25 area schools took part in the day-long conference that was held in February. Students from schools including Affton, Clayton, De Smet, Kirkwood, Lutheran North, Nerinx Hall, SLUH, and Whitfield spent time in a variety of engaging activities. "Our students created and led the conference experience. They united schools in our community to discuss a variety of topics that contributed to their own unique identities," said Stephanie Matteson, Upper School Science Teacher. MICDS students facilitated games and small group discussions in order to learn new strategies and build leadership skills that make our schools, cities, and communities a better place for all.

Students in the MICDS iDentity group led the peer sessions and directed conversations on topics such as inclusion, community and school leadership, systemic racism, ageism, sexism, classism, and more. "Students at MICDS have an excellent foundation in this type of work," said Nicole Trueman-Shaw, Director of Upper School Student Leadership. "They want to share their skills with others in the area who may not have

the opportunity to attend the National Diversity Leadership Conference hosted by NAIS each year."

"The goal was to design an inviting and impactful conference experience to reach the community celebrating each person's individual identitiesanswering the question 'Who am I?'—which I think they achieved," Matteson added.

Bey spoke to the conference about how to approach people in power. "For students attempting to impact and sometimes challenge long standing traditions, the thought of bringing ideas to institutional leaders can be scary. In my presentation, I hoped that students could take away some key points and strategies to make that process less so," he said.

Michelle Li, a news anchor with local television station KSDK, was this year's headline speaker. She spoke about the racism and discrimination based on her Asian ethnicity she has faced in public and private moments, and she shared how those experiences helped her launch the Very Asian Foundation, a non-profit focused on shining a light on all walks of Asian life.

What a wonderful example of our students meeting the challenges of the world with confidence and compassion. Bey said, "These students are caring and thoughtful, and really lean into the School's mission of living lives of purpose and service and standing for what is good and right."



"The goal was to design an inviting and impactful conference experience to reach the community celebrating each person's individual identities answering the question 'Who am I?'—which I think they achieved."

STEPHANIE MATTESON, UPPER **SCHOOL SCIENCE TEACHER**

Sixth Grade Passion Projects Make a Difference

One of the best ways for students to learn is by doing hands-on activities. MICDS has excelled in project-based learning (PBL) throughout all three divisions, and shortly before spring break, Middle School students launched into a new project that encouraged them to explore their own interests, skills, and curiosity. Sixth-Grade Passion Projects have been going strong for five years now, and students are just as excited about them today.

"Projects are designed to create personal connections to student learning, and students have complete freedom and control in the direction of their project experience," said **Sixth-Grade Dean Mark Duvall.** "Project topics cross disciplines, and students build skills that are relevant to the classroom and the real world."

To begin, students were presented with a variety of options. They selected what appealed most to them and formed small groups before getting started with planning.



Installation Art is art created for display in a specific place. It is designed with the space in mind and often "interacts" with the space. Students conducted a site hunt on the MICDS campus, specifically the sixth-grade area, looking for a space where an art piece could live. Then they worked in groups to design and create an art piece to be installed in the space.

STORYTELLING USING MINECRAFT

Students explored and researched important moments in their own lives that have impacted them. Using Minecraft, they designed moments, settings, and artifacts that help illustrate and tell their stories from birth to their future selves.





FIX THIS

Students identified a problem (one that they faced, or others), brainstormed solutions, and built a prototype of the device to solve the problem. The project concluded with a Shark Tank-style product pitch of the devices.

Passion Projects

DESIGNON A DIME

Students created, designed, and put into action a real proposal to landscape the outside area in between the fifth-grade science room and the Freeman Arts building. Through interviews with various members of the MICDS community, along with their own creative ideas, students drew up plans, determined the cost, and presented proposals. After approval, students helped complete projects.

TRAVEL SUSTAINABILITY

Students researched various cities and destinations, developing a travel plan that combines eco-friendly and environmentally safe travel along with a service learning part of the experience that helps the traveler learn about the people and culture that live in the area. The experience combines fun travel along with helping, supporting, and learning about the people who are part of the community.

Once their plans were complete, several groups presented their ideas to "clients," which included Head of Middle School Jen Schuckman, MICDS Chief Financial and Operating Officer Beth Miller, and Assistant Head of School for Teaching and Learning Dr. Sally Maxwell.

The Student **Experience**

Shayaan Merchant '29 and his team chose the "Fix This" project. He explained, "I had trouble with navigating MICDS when I was new and my parents frequently got confused when they visited. Because of this, I knew that navigation was a common problem at our beautiful—but large—school. So, I decided to try and help this digitally, and having a chatbot that generated a map seemed more suited to my limited coding knowledge than making a whole interactive app from scratch. My goal with this was to help the many people visiting our large but beautiful school with getting around well."

Their chatbot would allow visitors to scan a QR code with their phones upon arriving on campus, and after entering their desired location, the bot would give specific instructions on where to go. "My favorite part of the project was figuring out how to code the chatbot, learning many new things along the way. This was because it was interesting for me, and also wasn't mechanical like finding a template or copyand-pasting parts of code throughout the project," he said.

He also gained important experience with collaboration. "I learned how crucial teamwork is. I learned this because if it wasn't for my two teammates, I wouldn't have gotten nearly as much done. Besides this, the project was more fun with them figuring it out and working with me."

"The biggest impact for me is that I will know that 'if there is a will, there is a way.' Our project seemed very complex, multi-faceted, and hard on first sight. However,

by breaking it into smaller parts, collaborating with my teammates, and taking it one

> Max Fehniger '29 and Val Landrum '29 chose to learn how to tell stories using Minecraft. "We made an item that represented memories in Minecraft, along with the memory descriptions in our books," said Landrum. "Our goal was to share our life memories and experiences with our classmates." She enjoyed the experience of building representations in the app. "My favorite part of the project was building items that represent our memories

step at a time, we figured it

out in the end," he said.

in Minecraft. It was really fun and I liked that we could use our creativity."

Landrum notes that she improved a number of skills through the project, in addition to reflecting deeply on her own life. "I learned more about myself while doing this project. I reflected on my past memories and experiences. I also achieved better writing skills, and got a lot better at Minecraft!" she said.

"I will definitely remember doing this project because it was really fun and I had a great time. The biggest impact of this project was definitely learning more about myself."

Other students tackled improving the fifth- and sixth-grade hallway, while more sought to improve the space between Danforth Hall and Freeman Arts Building. Several planned out spectacular travel trips that were meaningful and promised a variety of rich memories. All the students presented their work to their peers, celebrating a diversity of passion and growth.





LS Community Day Overflows with Creativity and Courage

It was a day of connection and memory-making when all of Beasley Lower School celebrated Community Day! Students enjoyed a variety of activities that allowed them to interact among classes and grade levels, and share a lot of laughter while at it. "The theme for the day was creativity and courage," said **Amy Scheer, Head of Lower School.** "We introduced these character education words at an assembly in April, and then we reinforced the meaning of the words during Community Day. We also watched our Fourth Grade Leadership Crew share ways that they are creative and how they use courage to share their creativity in the April assembly. The entire day was a chance to celebrate our students and to be in community together!"

SK Plants Sunflowers

Senior Kindergarteners enjoyed community building while planting sunflower seeds. "What a great experience it is, digging our hands in the dirt and imagining what our tiny seed will turn into," said Laura Pupillo, Lower School Science

Teacher. The SKers will return in the fall to find their garden lined with sunflowers. "Science and math partnered in a thematic week about plants when we returned in August, and having these sunflowers to study enriched our theme experience," Pupillo added. They also studied birds, learning that some birds are seed eaters who eat sunflower seeds. Having the sunflowers on campus will help attract birds to their garden. Second graders also got to do some gardening by planting native plants for the expanded monarch waystation in the afternoon.



In the morning, students enjoyed the fourth-grade play *Tale Town and the Story Stealer*, which was adapted from *Peddler Polly and the Story Stealer*, written by Aaron Shepard. The play's antagonists, Dr. Spellbinder and his Sidekick, plan to steal all of the stories from the townspeople of Tale Town and use them to sell Spellbinder's new invention, the Spellbinder Storybox. Spellbinder's evil plan is quickly discovered by the clever Peddler Polly, who outsmarts Dr. Spellbinder and returns all of the stolen stories back to the citizens of Tale Town.

The adaptation incorporated a bit of history by introducing the concept of a radio play and how radio actors in the 1930s used their voices and noise-making objects and instruments to draw listeners into the story and spark their imagination through sound. Throughout the show, audience members heard a variety of sound effects coupled with narration delivered by "Radio Actors."

35th Annual Kids Heart Challenge

The annual Kids Heart Challenge rounded out Lower School
Community Day in the MAC with a skip, hop, and a ton of running and
jumping in support of the American Heart Association. The challenge
has now been conducted at MICDS for 35 years! Students raced

along an obstacle course with sandbags, zig-zagged through pathways, sprinted through tunnels, leaped over obstacles, and more. They also played jump rope and ran around the MAC, some logging two miles in just

the 30-minute timeslot allotted to each group.
It was a ton of fun for everyone and all of the
activity added up to \$18,000 raised to support
the AHA. Way to go, Beasley community!



Fourth Graders Tour Middle School

In the afternoon, fourth graders took a tour of the Middle School with our Admission staff. This tour is conducted every year so that our soon-to-be Beasley graduates can get familiar with what life in MICDS Middle School looks like. The almost-Middle Schoolers traveled to each of the grade-level hallways, the Fitness Center, MAC, makerspace, science labs, dining hall, Freeman Arts Center, the Middle School library, Mary Eliot Chapel, and the Middle School Office. Associate Director of Middle School Admission Kerry Bryan said, "The fourth graders are always very enthusiastic about going on a tour of the Middle School! They have lots of energy!"

Beasley Sends Off Seniors

At the very end of the day, Lower School students lined the Beasley hallway to cheer the seniors on during the annual Senior Walkthrough, where seniors make a lap around campus on their last day of school to say "so long" to MICDS. Nothing says "community" quite like the coming together of all Rams in support of one another!



Seeds of Happiness

Each Lower School class was given Seeds of Happiness, colorful clay pieces with smiles, to share with different spaces and people in different divisions, "In all, we shared 250 seeds to help spread smiles and happiness." said Sarah Garner. Lower School Visual Arts Teacher.

The Beasley students traveled to the Middle and Upper Schools, passing out seeds

to the students and teachers in various classrooms. "The goal was to encourage our Lower School students to be brave, share the message of Seeds of Happiness, and also be creative in how they shared their message." Not only did Lower School students share the seeds, but some students also made cards, notes, heart pillows, and even poems.

Thank you to all of the Lower School faculty and staff for making Community Day such a fantastic, creative, and fun day as a Ram family!

Team **Building Activities**

Students also participated in outdoor team-building activities with Thomas Buffington,

Lower School Librarian, behind

Olson Hall on the open grass. First, students had to line up in age order among their different classes. Then commenced a fun game of chain tag. To play, those who were "it" joined hands and ran together, trying to tag other players. Once a player was tagged, they linked up with the "it" chain and helped tag more Beasley friends.



First-Grade Book Drive & Swap

Throughout the week, first graders collected books from their classes and fellow Beasley students, which were donated to Books for Newborns upon completion of the First-Grade Book Drive and Swap. The organization, according to its website, "partners with St. Louis area hospitals and social service agencies to provide books and other reading materials to low-income mothers and their families." Each morning, the classes took turns gathering and counting the books. They marked the number of books that had been collected on a graph in the Beasley hallway. The goal of this year's book drive was 1,000 books, and students collected a total of 1,018!

Then the "swap" portion of the drive took place. In the first-grade classrooms, books were displayed on the classroom tables. Throughout the morning, all Lower School students had the chance to visit the classrooms and pick out one book for themselves to keep.

First-Ever MICDS Arts Fest

A new tradition has sprung at MICDS, showcasing a community full of color, harmony, rhythm, laughter, and joy: the inaugural Arts Fest was a vibrant success last spring! All current and newly enrolled MICDS families, faculty, staff, and alumni were invited to celebrate the arts amid a plethora of performances and activities suitable for all ages.

Performances included a scene from the Upper School Troubadours' production of Mean Girls, Drama Club performances, and mini orchestra, band, and choir recitals. Student artists from the Lower, Middle, and Upper Schools had fun sharing glimpses into the School's performing arts experiences in the South Gym.

In the McDonnell Athletic Center (MAC), families enjoyed food from the Art Cafe and a variety of artistic activities including chalk

art, splatter painting, a graffiti wall, printmaking, drum circles, stick figure puppets, printing with LEGO pieces, and building your pet. The Beasley Cafeteria and hallways featured masterpieces of our Junior Kindergarteners through fourth graders for Lower School Gallery Night. Additionally, there were stations for learning improv or dance, and a flash mob street dance invited families to participate or watch.

"The Arts Fest was a wonderful opportunity for us to immerse ourselves in music and art as we moved fluidly from appreciating art to making it," said Dr.
Sally Maxwell, Assistant Head of School for Teaching and Learning. "We had so many more people than we expected, and we are already talking about ideas for next year."







is a Radiant Success

Head of School Jay Rainey, his wife Ruth, and their dog Nelson enjoyed the event. "We had such a wonderful time at Arts Fest. The student performances were outstanding, and we loved the activities and delicious food in the MAC. Above all else, though, we were grateful for the joy and camaraderie that permeated the event. We established the Spring Arts Festival as a communitybuilding exclamation point

to the school year, and by this standard, it absolutely succeeded in its debut. We look forward to many more!"

Although Arts Fest 2023 had to move indoors due to forecasted storms, the whole event radiated with brightness and was packed with fun and room for artistic adventure. Even a fire alarm that was swiftly responded to couldn't take away from the special day. **JK-12 Arts Department Chair** and Orchestra Director, Dr. Jo Nardolillo, put it best: "I am so awed by the depth of joy our students and faculty poured into this ecstatic celebration of the arts," she shared. "Neither rain nor fire alarm could dampen the spirit that electrified the event. I could not be more proud of being part of the magical place that is MICDS!"

"We were grateful for the joy and camaraderie that permeated the event. We established the Spring Arts Festival as a communitybuilding exclamation point to the school year, and by this standard, it absolutely succeeded in its debut. We look forward to many more!"

HEAD OF SCHOOL JAY RAINEY











Upper School drama students wowed audiences in Vincent Price Theatre during their studentdirected one-act plays in May. The show name, American Blues, is a nod to how the plays showcase the voices of some of the best American playwrights of the 20th century. Each of the acts was selected because they addressed how we use our voice. Sometimes, we speak to tell stories; sometimes, we speak to soothe ourselves or others. Sometimes, the voice goes unheard, and sometimes, a simple spoken phrase has consequences of biblical proportions.

Students embraced the opportunity to direct these plays and lead crew members. Patrick Huber, Upper School Arts Teacher, said, "I learned two years ago during the depths of the pandemic that students will rise to your expectations. That insight helped me take a leap of faith in five students this year to act as directors, and it paid off. We also had students in the roles of technical director, lighting and set designer, and costumer. Every one of them stepped up!"

Jada Greer '24 said, "Out of all five student directors (Keller Goldstein '23, Ash Aranha '23, Abby Gray '24, Eliza Dorf '23, and myself), I had the least amount of directing and technical theater experience—which was intimidating! I have

been in acting class for four years, but I immediately discovered that directing requires a completely different muscle than what acting requires. It began very difficult but became so fun. The five of us got to do our own advertising, casting, and sets, while working with other student-led departments in order to complete our vision with costuming, sound, and lighting. Mr. Huber gave us a lot of independence, and in the end, it was so satisfying to see it all come together. I really discovered a love of directing and I am looking forward to pursuing it in the future."

Sahar Bhutto '24 also was challenged by the plays and proud of her contribution to the shows. "I think that even though being the lighting designer for the one-acts was stressful at times, it was a really cool experience," she said. "Working with the student directors to try to make their vision come to life even more was really fun, and it was nice knowing I was able to contribute to the essence of the show."

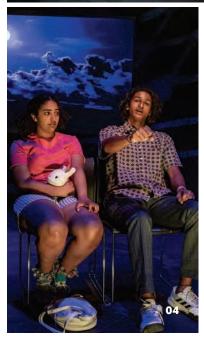
"Being an actor for two plays was hard but rewarding," added Samuel Glasser '26. "I learned that directors put in a lot of work, and you [as an actor or actress] are their way of expressing that work. Also, when performing, the reward of seeing your and the directors' vision come to life is a feeling unlike any other!"

Students showcased how the voice is used over the following five acts:









- **01.** This Property is Condemned by Tennessee Williams is about two young people meeting on a set of railroad tracks in the deep South during the Great Depression.
- **02.** The Blue Hour: City Sketches by David Mamet is a series of vignettes about people in big cities trying to connect.
 - **03.** *Killer's Head* by Sam Shepard is a monologue about horses and trucks delivered by a man in an electric chair waiting for his execution.
 - **04.** *Dark Pony* by David Mamet is about a father and daughter on a road trip.
- **05.** *Poof!* by Lynn Nottage is a domestic drama/comedy about a woman who can no longer abide by her abusive husband and talks back for the first time, with disastrous consequences (at least for him).







Seventh and Eighth Grade Present *The Hundred Dresses Musical*

Wanda Petronski, a second grader in *The Hundred Dresses Musical*, lives way up in a shabby house in Boggins Heights, and she doesn't have any friends. Every day, she wears a faded blue dress, which wouldn't be too much of a problem if she didn't tell her classmates that she had a hundred dresses at home—all silk, all colors, and velvet, too. The children at Franklin Elementary don't know what to make of this peculiar new girl with the strange accent. Soon, Maddie, Peggy, Jack, and their classmates make a game of teasing Wanda about her hundred dresses until one day, she disappears from school, leaving just an empty seat where she once sat. As feelings of guilt overtake the children, Maddie and the others decide they must find out what happened to Wanda and make amends for the way they treated her. But is it too late?

Based on the beloved Newbery Honor Book by Eleanor Estes, this acclaimed musical adaptation tackles bullying, friendship, and forgiveness. It is a timeless tale that explores the bonds of friendship, the willingness to be yourself, and the courage that it takes to stand up to others—even when you're standing alone.

musical on the themes of friendship, being yourself, and standing up for others, the Middle School cast and crew gathered stage presence, teamwork, and problem-solving skills.

In addition to learning lessons from the

Isolde Scoville '28 played the role of Patty Johnson, one of the leads. She said, "I learned that it is better to be with a team. Without some of the people there, I wouldn't have been that good." Scoville also became more comfortable on stage. "At first, I was really nervous to go up and perform, but then when the play started, I was fine."

Lucy Pickett '27 said, "I played Maddie, and I loved my role. I learned how to fully commit to a character. My favorite parts of the musical were the songs *Boggins Heights* and *Never Do Nothing*. Another highlight for me was being able to work with others and getting to know people I would not have otherwise."

Actress Emily Rotskoff '27 also enjoyed her character in the musical. "I played Peggy. I really liked my role. I had to act as a fourth grader who only cares about herself and is stuck up and rude to other kids. My favorite part was all of the people involved because every day, I felt included and welcomed, and everyone was so funny and kind. I learned how to act as someone outside of who I am as a person. I also learned how to have confidence while singing in front of other people. I feel like I have so many more people I can trust," she said.





"Theatre is about storytelling, and this is a wonderful story," said Charlotte Dougherty, Middle School Seventh Grade Dean and Drama Teacher. "Every student has had an occasion where they have witnessed, perpetrated, or experienced bullying. This story highlights what can happen and how important it is to be an ally. This gave the entire cast an opportunity to be an ally and send a great message to audiences of all ages."

This production is funded year over year thanks to an endowment fund set up by the Mary Institute Class of 1954. Our students did a fantastic job of living into the opportunity to bring this musical to life in Freeman Theatre.





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EMILY ROTSKOFF '27





Spring Pops Delights Once Again

of Orthwein Theatre to present an MICDS community favorite: the annual Spring Pops Concert! This high-energy concert, a staple in the MICDS performing arts program since 2008, featured a mix of current and classic pop music, all choreographed by MICDS students.

Upper School Choir Director Dana Self said, "The thing that I enjoy the most about the Spring Pops Concert is that it is student-driven. After we have learned the music, the students take over the process to create and teach the choreography that goes along with each song. Students are also responsible for the stage set-up and decorations, lighting and sound, as well as a handful of other details that pop up along the way."

"This concert is always my favorite of the two or three that we do each year particularly because we get to sing songs we're already familiar with as well as choreograph dances to them," said **Nicole Dai '23.** "I always love watching the other choirs along with the soloists, and it's also fun peering through the Orthwein doors and watching the audience's reaction or quietly dancing to songs backstage."

The 2023 concert included music by FUN, Dolly Parton, Hootie and the Blowfish, Journey, Toto, Madonna, American Authors, Adele, Plain White T's, ABBA, and more!

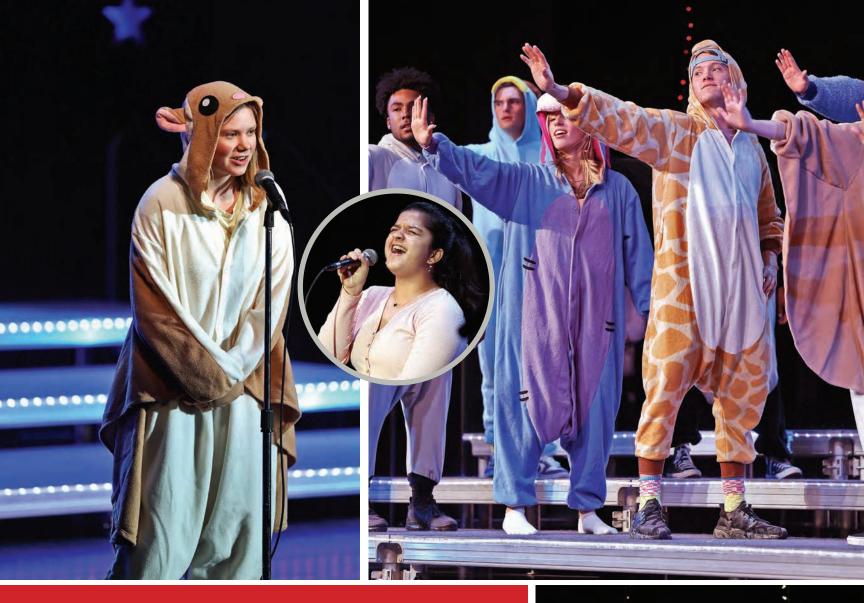
"The student choreographers volunteer their time to design and teach the choreography that accompanies each song," said Self. "These students get a good taste of what it's like to be a teacher. They are charged with designing choreography for students with different levels of dance experience, ranging from no experience to those students who dance professionally. During the performance, the students make the choreography look so easy, but it really is the result of many hours of work. It's true that practice makes perfect."

"This year's Spring Pops Concert was an absolutely amazing experience!" said **Amisha Poojari '25.** "I love this concert especially because of the vibrant energy and fun-filled feel that comes with dancing and singing."

Five featured soloists took to
the stage at both performances,
selected by a committee made up
of senior choir members, Upper School
faculty members, and choir alumni. Featured
soloists for the 2023 concert included Aanya Tiwari
'23, Noah Macam '23, Alizeh Jawaid '23, and a duet by
Livi Thomas '23 and Grace Villagomez '24.

"The students can feel the excitement in the audience, which helps to fuel their excitement as performers and take their performance to the next level," said Self. "They always rise to the challenge, and I couldn't be more proud of the final product come concert night."





"This year's Spring Pops Concert was an absolutely amazing experience! I love this concert especially because of the vibrant energy and fun-filled feel that comes with dancing and singing."

AMISHA POOJARI '25

Musicians Shine at Spring Band Concert

Parents, faculty, staff, friends, and loved ones filled the seats of Orthwein Theatre last May to enjoy a variety of music from sixth-grade, seventh-grade, eighth-grade and Upper School band students.

The sixth-grade band took the stage first, playing Excitation March by Rob Grice and American Folk *Trilogy* by Anne McGinty. Seventh grade then took over, offering A Quiet Rain by Walter Cummings and Fortune Favors the Bold by Matthew R. Putnam. Both grades then came together for a rousing rendition of Jurassic Park, arranged by Michael Sweeney.

Later, after the stage was reset, eighth-grade musicians played Awesome Sauce by Scott Watson and Hymnsong Variants by Robert W. Smith. They made way for the Upper School band, who kicked off their set with a creative piece called Paper Cut by Alex Shapiro. A significant part of the song involved the students using brightly-colored pieces of paper as instruments. The musicians then shared And The Fire Raged by Ted Ricketts and Heartbeat Five by Gary P. Gilroy. Finally, the eighth-graders returned for an 80s-themed Pep Band mash-up that included Industry Baby, Billie Jean, Beat It, Don't Stop Believing, and Separate Ways.

The stage was once again reset for the Upper School Jazz Band performance, a delightful way to cap an outstanding evening of performances. These talented students played Funk Zone, Midnight Snack, Born to Be Wild, and Stompin' at the Savoy, with many players featured in solos.

Several student musicians were celebrated near the end of the evening. The James Andrew Benecke '06 Award went to Sam Fontana '23. Chloe Cheng '23 won the 1955 John Phillips Sousa Award. Thank you to all three seniors, Mike Elvin '23, Cheng, and Fontana, for their amazing leadership and dedication to the MICDS band program and their fellow musicians.



















Spring Orchestra Concert Celebrates Mystery, Leadership, and Community

The Spring Orchestra Concert was a breathtaking adventure! MICDS students from third through 12th grade dazzled the audience with song after song of mounting skills and techniques, beautiful and dynamic music, and moments of awe.

First to the stage were the MICDS Strings students in third and fourth grade under the direction of **Nicole Kovaluk**, **MICDS Strings Instructor.** They performed several folk songs including *Twinkle Little Star Variations* and *French Folk Song*. The third and fourth-grade musicians showed off the D Major scale and even played *Train Song* while marching single-file in a line like a train.

The rest of the groups were directed by **Dr. Jo Nardolillo, Orchestra Director** and **JK-12 Arts Department Chair,** and **Erin Hamill, Assistant Orchestra**

Director. Next came the Middle School performances starting with an MICDS trio. Anna Ko'28 played viola, Nolan Ma '28 played cello, and Emmaus Tzeng '28 played piano. The talented trio beautifully performed The Swan by Camille Saint-Saëns. Then, the seventh-grade orchestra took everyone on an exciting ride as they performed three numbers, including a song called Dragonhunter, conducted by Emmaus, and Perfect, with a guitar and singing solo by special guest Wayne Kelley, Director of Technology Service and Support. The eighth-grade orchestra then performed two pieces including Incognito and Music of the Night with solos by Grace Maher '27 and Siva Ram '27.

The Upper School orchestra played full of adventure as they showcased five different numbers. To name a few. *Mission*

Impossible was conducted by **Ava Janes** '23, It Takes One to Tango featured a solo by **Ellie Chen '26,** and students also played Invicta by Soon Hee Newbold with a solo by **Emma Shao '23.**

The spring concert incorporated some very special details to make the performances memorable. Throughout the show, different students had leadership opportunities to serve as Concertmasters or Conductors. They wore dark sunglasses at times to evoke a mysterious and adventurous tone to the exciting music. Also, one of the pieces called for audience participation which added a fun element for all.

Before the final performance, several awards were given out. Congratulations to the following students on their remarkable achievements: Leonard











"The past year in the orchestra has given me great memories and friends," said Isabelle Williams '26. "I was new this year, and I was very worried at first going into my classes that

I wasn't going to have friends. The orchestra has handed me amazing people, whom I was able to quickly bond with. My orchestra friends from this school year are people I will cherish for the rest of my high school years."

"The Orchestra Program not only helps you grow as a musician but also as a person," said Ella Lin '26. "Dr. Nardolillo cares about everyone as she helps them work their hardest and do their best. She makes sure everyone is comfortable with the pieces and class, and she listens to her students to make her class the best it can be. Her teaching has helped me do better and made me want to work harder."

"I was new this year, and I was very worried at first going into my classes that I wasn't going to have friends. The orchestra has handed me amazing people, whom I was able to quickly bond with. My orchestra friends from this school year are people I will cherish for the rest of my high school years."

ISABELLE WILLIAMS '26

Bernstein Musicianship Award to Emma Shao '23, Director's Choice Award to Hannah Morey '23. National Orchestra Award to Ava Janes '23.

Lastly, all of the strings and orchestra students gathered on stage for one final song, Vivala Vida by Coldplay.

Shao said, "My favorite parts of the Spring Concert were the solos. I had so much fun playing my solo, *Invicta*, and it was a great way to end my senior year in orchestra. Through this past year in orchestra, Dr. Nardolillo provided many helpful resources and gave me advice on practice techniques. It was helpful to learn from her, and I enjoyed helping my classmates as well."



Baseball Head Coach: Michael Kraatz

Upperclassmen drive momentum through the season

The 2023 Rams turned in a 16-7 (8-2 conference) mark on the season, which began with a 2-1-1 showing in Vero Beach, Florida, against stateranked opponents from both Colorado and Connecticut. Upon returning to Missouri, the momentum continued as the squad leaned on highly anticipated performances from upperclassmen, while also benefitting from countless contributions from several varsity newcomers. For their efforts, the Rams climbed into the state ranking yet again before postseason play began. The Metro Conference honored Eric Podgorny '23, Henry Cordes '24, and Brian Gould '25 to its First Team roster. Second Team roster spots were awarded to

Andrew Clifford '24, Cam Cooper '25, and LJ Triplett '26. Jack Mills '23 received honorable mention for his contributions. In a fitting conclusion to the selection process, captain Jack Rollo '23 was chosen as the Conference Co-Player of the Year. Rollo and Cordes were also selected by the Missouri High School Coaches Association as First Team All-State honorees.

Cycling **Head Coach: Chris Ludbrook**

Strong team emerges after rebuilding year

2023 proved to be the year of surprises for MICDS Cycling. After a rebuilding year in 2022, the team looked to continue to grow incrementally, but instead, the group exploded into the strongest team over the past five years. Sophia Ashley-Martin '26 burst on the racing scene in early

April with a 6th place finish in the first race of her career, dropping most of the adult field early. Other highlights for Ashley-Martin included a win in the Juniors Race at the World Wide Technology Raceway Criterium and a 3rd place finish behind two collegiate riders at the Tilles Park Criterium. Other top performers included Connor Paine '24 and Sawyer Merlin'25, who both proved to be tough competitors in the field. Anchoring the team was the continued steady leadership of Ash Aranha '23 and Amara "Quinn" Autry '23. Aranha and Autry have both been cornerstones of the team over the past four years and leave a legacy of hard work and strong character. The team has committed to support their community by raising funds for cancer research through Pedal the Cause on Merlin's Magic Riders. Many of the team took part in PTC summer training rides in preparation for the event and the fall Cyclocross season.









- 01. The Rams Varsity Baseball Team climbed into the state ranking before post-season play began.
- 02. The 2023 Cyclocross Team exploded into the strongest team in the last five years.
- 03. The MICDS Boys Golf Team garnered a 6-2 conference record and 2nd-place finish in the Metro League Tournament.
- 04. The defending two-time state championship Girls Lacrosse Team finished the season with a 10-8 record and a 4th-place finish in State

Boys Golf Head Coach: Changa Bey

All shots count in a comeback year

Boys Golf had a "comeback" year of sorts. The team motto for this season was "All Shots Count." They enjoyed their first spring break golf trip since the pandemic. The team went to Winter Garden, Florida, for a week during spring break to play and practice at Orange County National Golf Center. The extra play and practice combined with the "All Shots Count" mentality helped MICDS secure its best regular season play in the last four years with a 6-2 conference record and 2nd-place finish in the Metro League Tournament. Newcomer Ritchie Sabalvaro '24 made great contributions to the team with a top 10 Metro League finish and earning 2nd Team All-Metro League. Sophomore Ben Gelven '25 had a breakout year with a 2nd-place finish in the Metro League Tournament, 2nd-place finish at the District Tournament, and top-10 finish in the State Championship. He earned All-Metro League, All-District, and All-State Honors with one of the lowest regular season scoring averages in the state. Overall, the Boys Golf team is in great shape and looking ahead to next season and more amazing play.

Girls Lacrosse Head Coach: Kate Haffenreffer

Perseverance prevails in a tough season

The defending two-time state championship MICDS Girls Lacrosse Team finished the season with a 10-8 record and a 4th-place finish in State. The Rams exceeded expectations, given the loss of seven seniors from the previous season and an injury-riddled roster. The team prevailed in a thrilling elite eight matchup against St. Joseph's Academy, winning by a goal from Madison Sineff '24 in the final second of the game. Eventually, the Rams fell to Eureka 7-9 in the semi-final matchup. Individual accolades abounded this season with First Team All-Metro Honors being awarded to five Rams: Kendall Curry '23, Ava Goldson '24, Sineff, Caroline Koman '25, and Amelia Mackin '26. Ella Etherington '24 was awarded Second Team All-Metro Honors, and Erica Engelhardt '23 received Honorable Mention honors. Goalie Curry, Attacker Goldson, and Midfielder Sineff made the All-State Team, comprised of the best 20 players in the state. Goldson was one of seven players in Missouri to be a USA Lacrosse All-American recipient, while Curry and Sineff were awarded USA Lacrosse All-Academic honors. Curry was also named All-Metro Conference Player of the Year. The Rams look forward to a strong and healthy 2024 season!







- 01. The Rams Boys Lacrosse Team finished the season as the MSLA State runners-up, Metro Conference Champions, and with an overall record of 15-5.
- 02. The MICDS Girls Soccer Team showed great promise, dedication, and hard work this season.
- 03. The Boys Tennis Team finished second in the championship round of Districts.

Boys Lacrosse Head Coach: Andy Kay

MSLA State Runners-Up; Metro Conference Champions

The Rams Boys Lacrosse team finished the season as the MSLA State runners-up, Metro Conference Champions, and with an overall record of 15-5. Leading the way were senior captains George Herron '23, Brin Lewis '23, Mac Stevens '23, and junior captain Willy Carpenter '24. Highlights of the season included wins over Indiana power Cathedral Catholic and North Carolina state semifinalist Durham Academy. The future of the program looks bright. The Rams will return seven starters and many players who got significant playing time in the 2023 season. Post-season awards once again featured many Rams. Included on the All-Metro conference list were midfielders Stevens, Carpenter, and Graham Faust '26, as well as defenders George Pronger '23, Conference Player of the Year Tyler Petersen '23, Henry Oliver '25, Tyler Tschudy '24, and Herron. All-State honors went to Carpenter, Oliver, Petersen, Herron, and Tschudy. Lastly, Herron earned one of only five All-American spots, and Carpenter picked up Academic All-American.

Girls Soccer Head Coach: Megan Caulfield

Hard work, dedication, and teamwork needed for challenging schedule

The MICDS Girls Soccer Team showed great promise this season, battling through a challenging schedule. The Rams fought together as a team, demonstrating hard work, dedication, and support of one another. The Rams were led by senior captains Madolyn Mackin '23, Zara Nourie '23, and Kate Slone '23. Alongside the captains,

the Rams graduate five more starting seniors whose leadership and devotion to the team will be greatly missed: Penny Chen '23, Nicole Dai '23, Rachel Keener '23, Ali Oak '23, and Rhea Patnana '23. Nourie was selected to the All-Region Team and earned First Team All-Conference recognition. Mackin and Chen earned Second-Team All-Conference honors.

Boys Tennis Head Coach: Patrick Huewe

Second at districts; Niemeyer'24 picks up first place at Conference Championships

The Boys Tennis team completed a successful year both as a team and individually, returning to the championship round of Districts and finishing second to eventual state team champion Ladue. The team had a lot of young talent with sophomores Jai Patel '25 and Arjun Puri '25 at #1 and #3, respectively, and freshman Owen Kizer '26 at the #2 position. Patel and Kizer made it to the finals of the State Doubles Championships before succumbing to Ladue, and Puri won the consolation bracket at State to finish in 5th place in the singles competition. One of the top regular season wins for the team was against Clayton, with a 6-3 result. Another standout performance included a 1st place finish by Louis Niemeyer '24 in the Metro League Conference Championships at #4 singles. Patel, Puri, and Kizer earned First Team All-Metro League honors, while Niemeyer made Second Team All-Metro League. Looking ahead to next year, the Rams return the top six players on the team, which include rising seniors Armaan Chandak '24 and Dhruv Krishnan '24.

Girls Track & Field **Head Coach: Jim Lohr**

Anderson'23 picks up two State Individual Championships

Maya Anderson '23 won two State Individual Championships, avenging her loss last year in the 100m hurdles by winning over last year's State Champion, and finished second in the 300m hurdles. She also successfully defended her title in the triple jump, winning for the second time in as many years, and she set a school record of 40'-2-1/2" during the season. Julia Ray '23 ended her illustrious career at State, finishing third in the 3200m run. Ray completes her high school run as two-time State Champion, 2022 All-Region Honors, 2021 Gatorade Player of the Year, 10-time All-State, a Silver Medalist (Runner Up), a Bronze, and MICDS Record Holder in 5K, two-mile, and one-mile. Nicole Green '25 was a State qualifier in shot put. Grace Coppel '25 also made a run in the 800m final and closed for a 10th-place finish. Ray received the Harriet Green Award, and Anderson received the new Greg Foster Award, which recognizes Foster's mentorship and coaching. The MICDS Girls Track & Field team finished in 5th place in Class 5 this season at the State Championship.

Boys Track and Field Head Coach: Jim Lohr

Moore'23 captures 100m title at State, 4×100 and 4×200 relay teams nab wins

At the State Championship, captain Winston Moore '23 captured the 100m title. He was also the district and sectional champion and ran sub 11:00 in each race this season, finishing with a personal best of 10:53, second on the all-time list. Captain Nate Schuckman '23 finished his career with an All-State performance in the discus throw on his last trip to the Championship. He finished eighth, earning All-State honors, and is the MICDS record holder in that event. Tristan Williams '24 had a spectacular season in the 400m, finishing third and breaking the MICDS record set last year. The 4x100m relay team of Steve Hall '23, Moore, Jeremiah Clay '24, and Henry Rohan '26 won the State Championship and set a School record of 41:96 in prelims. The 4x200m relay team of Moore, Clay, Williams, and Rohan were State Champions this season. Rohan qualified in the 100m dash and finished in 10th place. Luke Allgeyer '25 qualified in the shot put and finished in 15th place. Cole Gipson '23 set a school record in the javelin, throwing for 144'-6". Moore earned this season's Charles Story Gillis '16 Award. Overall, Boys Track & Field finished in 6th place at State.

Water Polo Head Coach: Claudio Mermelstein

Key late-season victories spur playoff run

What a season it has been! The team faced tough competition and overcame many challenges, mostly due to hard work and coalescing as a team. Several key victories near the end of the regular season helped the team make it to playoffs, where the boys played with heart and determination before falling just short of their ultimate goal. They played with sportsmanship, integrity, and a never-give-up attitude. Every player gave it his all, and each made progress over the course of the season. Their dedication and commitment to the team serve to inspire younger players coming up, and the team looks to come back stronger next year. Departing seniors Mason Bedell '23, Mason Boon '23, Logan Donnelly '23, Theodore Elfenbien '23, and Owen Limbrick '23 served as leaders and will be missed.

- 04. The MICDS Girls Track & Field Team finished in 5th place in the Class 5 State Championship with several notable individual accomplishments.
- 05. The MICDS Boys Track & Field Team finished in 6th place at State with several notable individual accomplishments.
- 06. The MICDS Water Polo Team landed several late-season victories that spurred a playoff run.













The MICDS Varsity Boys and Girls Lacrosse teams invited their Beasley friends to a free clinic on McCreery Field after school on a sunny spring Friday, sharing their love of the game with a new generation of players. Lower School students didn't even need equipment, just a desire for a fun time learning a new sport while interacting with older schoolmates.

"The clinic was a hit for both the Beasley students and the varsity players alike! A bit of organized chaos is always fun, right?!" laughed **Kate Haffenreffer, Varsity Girls Lacrosse Head Coach.**

The fledgling lacrosse players rotated through stations to learn stickwork, ground balls, and shooting. At the end of the skills session, everyone

united for a game of Sharks and Minnows, which brought a lot of smiles and giggles to everyone.

"I thought it was really fun to get to interact with the Beasley kids and spark their interest in the sport," said **Kendall Curry '23,** Girls Lacrosse Goalie and Co-Captain. "For most of them, this was their first time playing lacrosse so we tried to make the drills really fast-paced and entertaining to help them find a similar love and passion for the sport that we have."

Varsity Girls Co-Captain and Defender Erica Engelhardt '23 said, "Playing with the younger kids was super fun because we got to share our love for lacrosse with them and connect the Upper and Lower schools."



"For me, the continued growth of lacrosse in St. Louis and even more so at MICDS is incredibly important," said Haffenreffer. "My goal has always been to grow the girls' game in Missouri to the level that it is in other parts of the country like the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. As a nontraditional St. Louis sport. many families have never seen the game or know how to get their child involved in playing. This clinic was a small opportunity to do just that.





"I love to see the joy that picking up a stick for the first time can bring so many kids. As a coach, there's nothing more fulfilling than watching the growth of a second grader as they play through the high school level and sometimes beyond.

"This clinic also allowed two parts of our MICDS community to come together. The Beasley students see the high school athletes as role models and this was a great hands-on opportunity for everyone. Andy and I share a passion for the sport and the

school, and we look forward to any time we can combine those two entities on the lacrosse field."

Boys Varsity Lacrosse Head Coach Andy Kay agreed.

"Our high school athletes are the absolute best versions of themselves when they are surrounded by the vibrancy and energy of our Beasley school students," he said. "The lacrosse clinic is as much about bringing childhood back to our athletes as it is about bringing joy to our little brothers and sisters from the Lower School."



Bedell Named St. Louis Post-Dispatch Scholar Athlete

Mason Bedell '23 was selected by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch as a scholar athlete last spring. At MICDS, Mason participated in swimming, water polo, and track and field. He was a National Merit Finalist, earned the top ACT score possible, received the Yale Book Award and Science Department Award, and is a member of the Cum Laude Society. He is now studying at the University of Alabama. In his bio published by the Post-Dispatch, he gives a shoutout to Upper School Math Teacher Al Begrowicz. "My calculus teacher, Mr. B [is my role model]. He comes to work every day excited to teach and interact with his students, and it is evident that he has dedicated his life to what truly makes him happy. I aspire to one day find a purpose in life that makes me as happy as Mr. B is when he's teaching."

Congratulations, Mason!

Gifts Abound During National Teacher Appreciation Week

Throughout the history of MICDS, teachers have provided an educational experience that fosters curiosity, self-discovery, and academic inquiry. They set high expectations and create a supportive learning environment. Last spring, we celebrated their commitment and passion during National Teacher Appreciation Week!

Parents, alumni, and friends of the School showed their tremendous support during National Teacher Appreciation Week by making an MICDS Fund gift in honor or memory of a present or past MICDS faculty member. All donations were designated to the Faculty Excellence area within the MICDS Fund because excellence begins with supporting our world-class faculty.

To add to the outpouring of appreciation, the Parents Association provided delicious and fun daily treats during National Teacher Appreciation Week for our faculty and staff in all three divisions.

On behalf of our students and faculty, who are the direct beneficiaries of this phenomenal support, we are grateful for your support! to be her true, silly self and encouraging her excitement for science!"

-CURRENT PARENT

WE MICOS TERCHERS!

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MAY 8-12

MAY 8-12

Many notes and testimonials accompanied the gifts for teachers who made a lasting impression, inspired curiosity, and shared enduring lessons. Read a few excerpts:

"Thank you for being a kind and patient English teacher, inspiring students to develop an interest in English and literature." - CURRENT PARENT

"Thank you for making complex science concepts both understandable and interesting!"-CURRENT PARENT

"Thank you for being a psychology teacher who truly understands the psychology of the students, fostering their love for the subject, and creating a positive, pressure-free learning environment."

-CURRENT PARENT

"Thank you, Kelly Long,

for allowing our daughter

"Who knew AP Calculus could be fun?" -current parent

"Coaches like Brian Coco, Josh Smith, Ron Holtman, and Dave Stevens helped me learn the importance of hard work and dedication."-ALUMNUS

"You gave me a new outlook on English. Every class is engaging, and I take something away from it. You've also belped me a lot in my writing."-CURRENT STUDENT

"Bonjour M. Crumb, merci beaucoup pour m'avoir donné tellement d'opportunités fantastiques cette année!! J'adore le Cercle Français:). Vous êtes le meilleur professeur, et je me réjouis de travailler avec vous l'année prochaine. [Hello Mr. Crumb, thank you so much for giving me so many fantastic opportunities this year!! I love the Cercle Français:). You are the best teacher, and I look forward to working with you next year. "-CURRENT STUDENT

> "Mr. B is one of the best teachers I have bad, and I actively looked forward to bis class. He is excited to be there and excited to teach, and that makes bis students excited to learn. He is supportive and kind and always makes sure all students genuinely understand while making the process fun. Thank you, Mr. B!"-ALUMNUS

"Thank you for being a supportive and understanding advisor who encourages students, identifies their potential, patiently motivates them to further develop and showcase their abilities, listens to them, and genuinely cares for their well-being."-CURRENT PARENT

WE MICDS TEACHERS!

NATIONAL TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

MAY 8-12

"Thank you for being supportive and helpful, teaching math in a way that is both unique and interesting!"

-CURRENT PARENT

"Thank you for making such a positive impact on our son during his first year at MICDS. As his advisor, you made his transition seamless! He will miss your mentorship and guidance next year!"-CURRENT PARENT









Kona Ice Truck for Lower School Participation

The last day of school was full of sunshine and Ram pride as students transitioned from an incredible school year to the start of summer. To make things even "cooler," Lower School students were treated to a visit from the Kona Ice Truck in recognition of their parents and quardians having the highest MICDS Fund participation out of all the school divisions.

The School has tremendous gratitude for parent's ongoing support of the MICDS Fund. Students, teachers, staff, and administrators feel very fortunate to have you all as members of this wonderful community.

WITH AN AVERAGE OF

91% PARTICIPATION,

Beasley parents achieved the highest overall MICDS Fund participation rate among Lower, Middle, and Upper School parents during the 2022-2023 school year!

Who plants Friday's Tree? YOU DO!



Did you know that tuition accounts for about 80% of the total cost of an MICDS education while the remaining 20% is funded from other sources? One way to think about this is that current parents support the education of their children Monday through Thursday of each week, while generous donors pay for Friday. Those other sources include, most notably, income from invested endowment gifts, as well as donations to the MICDS Fund.

In its purest form, philanthropy is the selfless act of giving, of planting a sapling today whose branches will grow to benefit future generations. The seed you plant now in the form of a gift to the MICDS Fund could grow to cure cancer, solve the climate crisis, land

Support the MICDS Fund:
www.micds.org/give

the first crew on another planet, or lead our nation. As a school dedicated to forming men and women who can meet the challenges of this world with confidence, we must continue to plant these trees.

At MICDS, every fifth tree—Friday's Tree—is such a gift, and we are ever grateful for it.
Please help us plant Friday's Tree today by making a gift to the MICDS Fund!



Reunion Weekend Brings Generous Gifts

Reunion Weekend 2023 was a big success for classes ending in 3 and 8. From the fifth to the 80th reunion honorees, 600 alumni returned to campus. They represented eight decades and 26 reunion classes, and they participated in a yearlong fundraising campaign to raise \$373,975. We are deeply grateful to those who participated in their Reunion Class Gift. MICDS depends on the generosity, enthusiasm, and spirit of its Reunion alumni/ae to anchor the MICDS Fund as well as to support various endowed funds. We look forward to working with this year's cohort of reunion classes (ending in 4 and 9) as they set their own aspirational—yet achievable—fundraising goals.

Thank you, MICDS alumni!

600
ALUMNI RETURNED TO CAMPUS

8
DECADES REPRESENTED

26
REUNION CLASSES ATTENDED

\$373,975

Save the date

Reunion Weekend 2024

May 2-4, 2024

Join your classmates and share fun memories

1944- 80th	1969 –55th	1999 –25th
1949 –75th	1974 –50th	2004– 20th
1954 –70th	1979 –45th	2009 –15th
1959- 65th	1984 –40th	2014 –10th
1964 –60th	1989 –35th	2019 –5th
	1994 –30 th	

To help organize your class activities, call 314-995-7312 or email Louise Jones at Ijones@micds.org.



Letter from the **MICDS Board** Chair

Once again, the MICDS campus is pulsing with the vibrant energy that befits a school educating children as young as four and as old as 18. Our classrooms, outdoor learning spaces, and athletic facilities are a fitting backdrop for the work of shaping children to be responsible citizens who can meet the challenges of this world with confidence and embrace all its people with compassion.

I am so proud to serve on the Board of Trustees for a school thriving under the leadership of Jay Rainey and the creativity and dedication of our beloved faculty and staff. I am proud of our students, too, and grateful for the ongoing partnership and support of our families.

This is an exciting year for MICDS. Enrollment continues to be strong and interest in the School is rising with each season. Our finances are managed responsibly and professionally with appropriate board oversight, resulting in a fiscally sound organization able to provide students with an abundance of resources. Our campus is a shining jewel, welcoming all to learn and play and connect with each other. We have welcomed new faculty and staff and celebrated our veterans, fusing fresh new perspectives with solid pedagogical experience. And we are embarking on the creation of a new strategic plan designed to fit the ever-changing needs of a school on the forefront of educational innovation.

All of this is possible, of course, thanks to the generous philanthropic support of our alumni, parents, grandparents, faculty, administrators, and friends. Your gifts are critical to ensuring MICDS' position as a leading independent school in the country. Gifts to the MICDS Fund contribute directly to the operating budget, benefiting every student, directly impacting the student experience, and assuring robust resources for opportunities and experiences that deepen and extend learning and engagement.

We are pleased to share here our Honor Roll of Donors, which includes every community member who made a gift of \$100 or more to the MICDS Fund in the 2022-2023 academic year as well as individuals who made gifts to the 25th and 50th Reunion Class Gift Program, Special Projects, Memorials, Tributes, and Bequests.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I thank everyone who so generously supported MICDS during the past year. Our school is grateful for this community that cares deeply about our mission.

Andrew Condie

Ander & Col Chair, MICDS Board of Trustees



The following list celebrates those donors who supported the MICDS Fund with a gift of \$100 or more in the fiscal year July 1, 2022–June 30, 2023.

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It all adds up, Ram community! Thank you.

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1,823 Contributions to MICDS this year

916 (51%) Donors increased their support

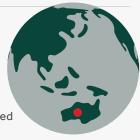
New donors said "YES" to giving back—welcome to the Ram giving community!

\$3.501.769

TOTAL SUPPORT FOR THE SCHOOL IN FISCAL YEAR 2023

AUSTRALIA

9.80



Number of Miles the Furthest Gift Traveled (Susan '58 and Marc Daniel-Dreyfus)

TOP 3 PARENT CLASSES WITH HIGHEST MICDS FUND PARTICIPATION

2035

97%

2034

2032 + 2036 (tie)

94%



DIVISION WITH THE HIGHEST PARENT PARTICIPATION

ower School.

Way to go Beasley parents!

OVERALL MICDS FUND PARENT PARTICIPATION 700

(up 23% from the prior year)

MICDS FUND ALUMNI PARTICIPATION 9%

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Andrew Haas '25

Brian Rueckert

The Brothers Family

Reagan Saur '29

Kimberly Saur ${f P}$

A. Clifford Saxton '64

Laura Lortz Edge

Sloane Schwendinger '29 Tatjana and

Robert Schwendinger P GP

Susanna Schwendinger '35

Tatjana and

Robert Schwendinger P GP

Alice Seddon '26

Margaret Gilleo and Chuck Guenther GP

Dana Self Amy and Michael Zlatic P

Abigail Selner '28

Avery Selner '31 Anonymous

Anonymous

Steven Shepley '76 Sally Rosenthal P

William Shockley Christina Valentine '08 and Jeffrey Cammon '05

lan Sims '27 Melissa Doud '94 and Justin Sims P

Sadie Small '27

Leslee Small GP

Scott Small P

Caroline Sivewright '04 and Glenn Warren

Oggy Smiljanic

The Theodoro Family

Scott Smith

Ramya Chinnasamy and Senthil Aruchamy P

Joseph Sonderman '31

Sarah Walsh and Joseph Sonderman P Grayson Sonderman '35

Sarah Walsh and Joseph Sonderman P

Isabella Spann '29

Tawana Spann P

Katherine Speckhals '29

Anonymous

Connor Steindorf'27

Sara Steindorf P

Gregory Stevens P

Elizabeth Hall '58 and James McDonnell '54 P GP

Elizabeth Markwardt '97 and Matthew Sherman P

Julian Steward '34 David Steward '95 P

Blake Stone '35

Karen Prange GP

Sienna Stone '32 Karen Prange GP

Oscar Sun '26

Xiumin Wang and Zhui Chen P Yan Chen and Zhen Sun P

Elias Tanane '28

Erica Chertow and Ahmed Tanane P

Audrey Taves '28 Erin and Adam Taves P

David Terrell

Mary and Arthur Chou P

Valerie Pantaleoni Terry '58 P Mary Koenigsberg '58 and Cary Lang

Elena Thomas '20

Victoria and Scott Thomas P

Elijah Thomas '24

Olivia Thomas '23

Angela and David Thomas P

Victoria and Scott Thomas P

Maximilian Thomas '25 Victoria and Scott Thomas P

Zion Thomas '19 Tamara and Demetrius Thomas P

Zuri Thomas '18

Tamara and Demetrius Thomas P **Darrett Thompson**

Kerri and Christopher Mileski P

McKay Baur '92 and Jason Mills P

Aanya Tiwari '23 Savita and Sanjay Tiwari P

Abraham Toney '36

Betsy and Colin Toney

Tex Tourais P Mary and Arthur Chou P The Finnegan Family

The Schukar Family The Theodoro Family



London Troupe '28 Danielle Garrett ${f P}$

Nicole Trueman-Shaw Molly and Peter Gray '93 P

Graham Uetrecht '29 Tricia and Jason Uetrecht P

Fletcher Wall '33 Carol Wall and Rob Ciampoli ${f P}$ ${f GP}$ Megan and Thomas Wall '98 P

Henry Wall '31 Carol Wall and Rob Ciampoli P GP Megan and Thomas Wall '98 P

Bridget Wallace Anonymous The Fries Family

Gwendolyn Wallach '35 Anonymous

Kelly Walsh P McKay Baur '92 and Jason Mills ${f P}$

Nandini Warrier '28 Mini Kumar and Manoj Warrier P

Revathi Warrier '25 Mini Kumar and Manoj Warrier P

Donna Waters Yasmeen Qureshi '94 and Shiraz Daud P

Dominic Weaver '23 Sara and Todd Weaver P

Gabriel Weaver '26 Sara and Todd Weaver P

Nicholas Weaver '27 Sara and Todd Weaver P

Kelly Weidenmiller Mary and Arthur Chou ${f P}$

J. Garneau Weld III '79 Caroline Weld '83

Elizabeth Wells '99 Yang Yu and Dan Su P

Derin Whitaker '24 Funda and Walter Whitaker P

Krystal White P Ramya Chinnasamy and Senthil Aruchamy P

Blake Whitney P The Balci Family

Daniel Wiederkehr The Finnegan Family

Letitia Stephens Wightman '58 P Mary Koenigsberg '58 and Cary Lang

Rilyn Williams '28 W. Zach Williams '95 P Erin Wong '23 Meng Wang and Erwin Wong P

Isabelle Wood '23 Sara Wood P

Nathan Yao '23 Hong Ke and Song Yao **P**

Zihang Yin '31 Xiao Li and Zeyang Yin P

Megumi Yoshioka-Tarver P Andrew Haas '25 The Schukar Family Amy and Michael Zlatic P

Paul Zahller P Amy and Michael Zlatic **P**

Hiba Zamir '26 Lubna and Ray Kahn

Addie Zha '34 Fang Wang and Jikun Zha P

Bowen Zhao '25 Fang Huang and Yongping Zhao P

Yule Zheng '26 Shuangyan Li and Hong Zheng P

Zoe Zlatic '24 Amy and Michael Zlatic P

Eliot & Thompson Society

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Mr. L. Rumsey Ewing '38*



Births and Adoptions

01. Katherine Hanlon 07' and Bryan Tedder, Jackson Ethan Tedder, September 1, 2022



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING ALUMNI ON THEIR RECENT NUPTIALS.

02. Mary Elizabeth "Mimi" Abbott '12 and Brandon Lee Cox, November 12, 2022







GETTING MARRIED? EXPECTING?

We'd like to help you celebrate, but we can't print news about future weddings or babies. When your plans become reality, please let the Alumni Office know and we'll gladly print your news after the fact, and all share in the excitement!

Search The Country Day News 1917-1992

Can't remember that 1956 Rams football score? Want to learn about your father's years as a Country Day student? Codasco's student newspaper, The *Country Day News*, covered activities from the school's opening in 1917 until the merger with Mary Institute in 1992. Now, all 1,765 issues (8,300 pages) of the *News* are available online, in searchable form, provided by the Country Day Archives.

To access the site, here are two options:

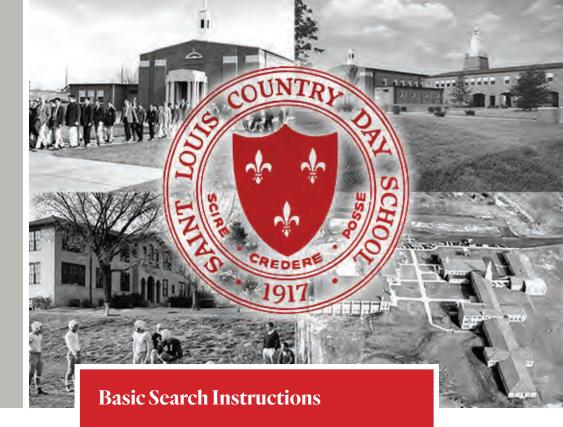
1 Go to www.micds.org/alumni/cds-centennial and click on the red icon next to "Search Country Day News 1917-92."

Or

2 Go to micds.org and click on MENU or the three horizontal bars in the upper left corner. Click "Alumni." Under "Contents," click on "CDS News."

Questions?

E-mail countrydayarchives@micds.org



To search, once you have clicked on "Access Country Day News Archives"...

- 1 For Search Type, select Phrase.
- **2** For Search Terms, as a test, enter the first and last names of any CDS alumnus.
- In the box containing the words "All Years," click the down arrow, which will open a list of all the years Country Day existed.
- 4 Choose a year during which the alumnus whose name you entered attended Country Day; or if you don't know a specific year, choose "All Years."
- 5 Now click "Search." On the right, you'll see a synopsis of each page from the years you specified which include the name you entered. If you hover over a synopsis, on the left you will see a small version of that page. The synopsis will give you an idea of where to look for the alum's name.
- **6** For a more readable page, click on the synopsis and a full-screen version will appear.
- 7 To go back and look at other pages with the name you are seeking, click on "Word Search Documents" and the full list will reappear.

1952_{CDS}

WARREN LAMMERT

warrencloud@me.com

Roger Reynolds sends an upbeat report: "I remain blessed with good health. Returned to Aspen for five days of skiing in March and now enjoy lots of bicycle-riding and pickleball. I also still teach orienteering to the Boy Scouts."

Bob Shapiro: "I continue to be involved on a very regular basis with an investment management firm with which I have been a partner for many years."

Peter Fuger's message reads: "Hope you all are doing well. Many happy memories of CDS, our classmates, faculty, and events. Best to you all."

John Wallace writes: "There's not much to report, which I suppose is good considering our age." He and Ellen'56 spent the summer in Idaho for the 51st year, and they are expecting a fifth great-grandchild in August.

Bo Meyer: "The Meyer clan is alive and well. Lois and I turned 88 this year. Both daughters— Dr. Barbara in Charlotte and Ali in DC—are good with careers helping others. One grandson just graduated from NC State magna cum laude in chemical engineering, the middle will graduate from Clemson next summer, and the youngest is a senior at Proctor Academy in Andover, New Hampshire. I have finally announced my retirement from the travel industry. Lois and I plan to relax and maybe visit St. Louis sometime in the next year."

Don Streett: "I am now happily and proudly married to a great-grandmother! Our daughter Carolyn Streett Simpson'77 has a daughter who gave us two great-grandsons. Anna Hendon lives happily in Charlotte, North Carolina, with her husband, Chris, and their two sons, ages four and one. Perry and I are in St. Louis for nine months of the year and in Harbor Springs for three. The great-grandmother and I celebrated our 65th wedding anniversary in January this year."

Bob Post: "At 89, I'm doing okay, not requiring medications but experiencing side effects of the end of the ninth decade. Energy is not great, and the late aftermath of successful iodine seed treatment for prostate cancer limits my mobility. Becky and I have been married 58 years, and she, having been cured of metastatic lung cancer by immunotherapy, skates or plays golf almost daily. All three of our kids live in Portland within 20 minutes of our house, and our seven grandkids, all boys, are frequently available to us."

Anne and Torrev Foster are doing just fine in Moorings Park, a CCRC in Naples, Florida. Torrey's COPD is a bother, and some days are better than others. He no longer travels, having the need to continually use oxygen. He is active on several committees. Anne is also very active in the community. While Anne was on an Alaskan cruise, Torrey had visits from his three boys for support. All four kids are wellemployed, with each having two grandchildren.

Warren Lammert: My thanks to our classmates whose responses are included in these Class Notes. Very nice to have heard from you. On a personal note, Susan and I have recently celebrated our 63rd wedding anniversary. And we have been blessed with nine grandchildren.

The CDS 1952 class wishes to extend our sincere condolences on the loss of two of our classmates, Howard Elliott and David Wenthe.

1954мі Жеймом



SUSAN SPOEHRER ELLIOTT

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Jeannie D'Oench Field: At the end of May, I flew to Chicago for my grandson Gardner's graduation from Carthage College. It was fun to catch up with the rest of the family. Gardner's brother Fritz is at the University of Illinois, Forrest is a senior at Barrington High School, and Wynne is in her last year of middle school. My son, Steve, and his wife, Allison, live in Coral Gables, which is wonderful for me. Their kids were home for vacation, so I saw them on a regular basis.

Mydie Baldwin Sant: The Sant family is fine. After breaking my upper arm and then hip a week later, I'm back together. Our grandchildren are all over the U.S. Our granddaughter-in-law is working for Tim Scott's presidential campaign. Our summer will be spent in Michigan as usual, with multiple cousins and family also spending some time up north. John '50 has been active in The Urban League, which is involved in most aspects of life in St. Louis City.

1956_{CDS}

TOBY JAMES

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Joe Sparks: Thanks for a great start in life due to my education and exceptional teachers at CDS. The students were of a quality that we built friendships for life. I have been blessed with a great wife, Petra, and her son Stephan and as well as my son Joe C. Sparks Jr. and eight grandchildren (five boys and three girls), not to mention 18 great-grandchildren. Life goes on, and we are so thankful to be part of it. God bless all of you who contributed to my success.

Alumni/ae Deaths

THROUGH AUGUST 29, 2023

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES TO THE FAMILIES OF ALUMNI/AE WE HAVE LOST.

Herold L. Wind'53

Elizabeth Upthegrove Cheek'57

G. James Frick'59

Signe Whitelaw Myles'59

Caro Nichols Holmes Schneithorst '60

James R. Goldfarb '64

Geoffrey K. Provo '64

Richard A. Oertli'65

Richard K. King'74

Thomas M. Ford '82

Robert Scott Montani'83

Editor's Note: We inadvertently misspelled the name of Margaret "Pandy" Goessling Reiser '67 in the last issue of MICDS Magazine, and apologize for the error.

Faculty Deaths

D. Stephen Hyde, CDS History Teacher, Coach, and Director of Admissions

1957_{ML}

MARGOT MARITZ MARTIN

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Sadly, the Class of '57 has learned of several more deaths this year. In October 2022, a lovely outdoor memorial service was held for Jane Vollmer St. John, sister of Mary Vollmer Rassieur'54, at St. Peter's Episcopal Church across from MICDS. In May, several of us attended the visitation and memorial service for Julie Kassebaum Eggleston. While there, we learned that in 2021, Laurie **Grant Peters** died during the COVID pandemic. Also in May, we received word of two more losses: Judy Jones Motley died unexpectedly, and Betsy Upthegrove Cheek (sister of Amy Upthegrove Wheeler'59 and Linn Upthegrove Wells'64) passed away at her beloved home in the Berkshires, with her husband and son by her side. We send our sympathy to all the families who have lost loved ones.

As our numbers are dwindling, it is especially nice to hear from those who are able and want to respond. Pat Doughton Anderson and her husband Jim continue to travel extensively, visiting Dallas, St. Bart's, St. Martin, Anguilla, Breckenridge (Colorado), Bucharest, Budapest, Portugal on the Algarve coast, and Alicante, Spain.

Bonnie Barton Summers Wolfarth reports that her grandson, Meade Summers IV'20, graduated summa cum laude in three years from the University of Tulsa. "He has signed up for the Army for a two-year enlistment because he wants to serve his country." Bonnie will have three more graduations to attend and says, "The children are growing up beautifully."

Our sympathy goes to Julie Meier Schmitt, who writes that her husband, Fred, died last February 25 from cancer compromised by COVID. "I miss him each and every day but feel blessed to live in a wonderful retirement community surrounded by family and good friends." Two of Julie's grandchildren graduated from high school this year. Henry, who graduated from Druid Hills in Atlanta, will attend Berry College in Rome, Georgia, and Zoe, a graduate of Westtown Friends in West Chester, Pennsylvania, will be taking a gap year.

Marge Drum Bergfeld continues to work in landscaping, "but only three days a week, with a helper." Marge reports her husband, Bill, is still doing well, investing, reading, and doing puzzles." Their oldest daughter and her husband live on their farm. "We still enjoy going there, but now we don't have to do all the work."

Cookie Ellermann Arneson enjoyed a family trip to Alaska on a Silversea cruise ship with Drees Arneson Cline'87 and her family.

Suzi Chapman Stolar and Henry "have enjoyed lovely visits with offspring in Austin, Chicago, and Columbus, Ohio, in early June, before storms, heat, and Canadian wildfire dust descended." They spent the summer at home in Miami Beach catching up on exhibits and area museums, and they plan to travel in the fall. "We are trying to keep the bodies in reasonable shape and are grateful for every day." She sends her love to all.

Penny Gray Howland continues to sell The Carlisle Collection as she has for the past 40 years. She also represents Diane Snyder Cashmere and Freida Rothman Jewelry. "Gardening is my passion, as is feeding my yard birds (outdoor variety). May/June took me to Seattle and Raleigh for two high school graduations and NC State, then a quick trip to Santa Barbara. Happily, we spent part of April in Anguilla with family and fun friends. Let's all stay healthy and happy. Hugs to all."

In 2020, our office closed due to COVID and has not reopened, so I decided to retire. I miss the work, but I have managed to find interesting ways to spend my time. I've gotten accustomed to enjoying the beauty of a variety of green native growth. Thanks to all who sent in their good as well as sad news. We all appreciate hearing from one another, and your responses give us an opportunity to connect and take us back in time to reflect.



Members of the Class of 1958 at their 65th reunion: front (I-r): Lee Stephens Wightman, Carol Kent Diggs, Muffy Hensley McPheeters, Nancy Agress Brodsky, Nancy Harrigan Child, Lil Brokaw Metcalfe, Mary Koenigsberg Lang, and Joyce Thompson Stericker. Back (I-r): Alice Blanke Boeschenstein, Connee Darmstatter Counts, Cynthia Williamson Metcalfe, Libby Hall McDonnell, Val Pantaleoni Terry, Marnie Crossen Bell, Helen Campbell Weise, and Sally Spoehrer Lemkemeier.



Another photo of members of the Class of 1958: front (I-r): Alice Blanke Boeschenstein, Nancy Agress Brodsky, Lil Brokaw Metcalfe, and Connee Darmstatter Counts. Middle (I-r): Libby Hall McDonnell, Lana Mueller Jordan, Mary Koenigsberg Lang, Carol Kent Diggs, Marnie Crossen Bell, and Laura Orthwein. Back: Head of School Jay Rainey.

1958мі

MARY KOENIGSBERG LANG

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LIBBY HALL MCDONNELL

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Hello, girls! We had a marvelous 65th reunion in May! We were so glad that Connee Darmstatter Counts, Nancy Agress Brodsky, Laura Rand Orthwein, Lana Mueller Jordan, Marnie Crossen Bell, and Mary Koenigsberg Lang came from out of town. This was a real added treat at all our events. We started with a lunch at the St. Louis Country Club for all classes having 50th or higher reunions. Really fun to be together-a delicious lunch-and we had two tables! That evening was our special, private classmate dinner. There were 18 of us, and we had a nostalgic and memory-filled evening. We sang the Alma Mater, said the Prayer for the Graduates, as well as read the names of those dear classmates we have lost. Lots of great anecdotes and stories were told and celebrated!

The following evening we had a grand dinner at school. We had two tables, and Jay Rainey, Head of School, and his wife Ruth

sat with us. Also in attendance was Connee's daughter, Margaret. The dinner included lots of memorabilia décor-posters of our class through the years—and a delicious buffet.

The next day a few of us went to the Maypole (now known as May Day)! Marnie's husband Gary came with us. Still a very nostalgic and beautiful event. Long, white dresses coming over the bridge-very emotional!

We missed everyone who couldn't be with us. Please send us your news; we would love to be updated!

We did hear from Susan Russe Dreyfus, who has been happily residing outside of Melbourne, Australia, for 23 years. She and André feel fortunate to have one daughter and two granddaughters living nearby.

Even though Carolyn Glaser Caplan and Fran Cordonnier McKinnon died several years ago, we are reporting that Carolyn's husband Mel Caplan and Fran's husband Rob McKinnon both died this year. Many of us knew and remembered them.

Stay well, everyone, and keep in touch!

1958_{CDS}

DANIEL FEINBERG

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Our 65th reunion was held on May 3 and 4, 2023, with events at the school campus and St. Louis Country Club. The reunion was attended by Hugh Bartlett, Warren Boeschenstein (and Karen), Dan Feinberg, Lou Goldring, Bud Hirsch, Dick Helmholz, Bill Kelley, Geoff McClelland, J. Ben Miller, Rich Nelson, Bob Meier, Mike O'Reilly, David Scharff, and Charlie Valier (and Patsy). A great reunion, with 45% of our classmates in attendance. I hope to have everyone attend the 70th.

Bud Hirsch has a series of his images invited to several juried exhibitions at Art Saint Louis and Webster Arts. His Dog Walking in Venice received the Award of Merit of the Tails of Love exhibition at Webster Arts. Bud plans to take a photography trip to Morocco this fall. www.hirschwrites.com

David May and Tessa are now living part-time on the island of Crete, as well as in the French Riviera backcountry and in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Each location has unique challenges and experiences, but he finds that life feels the same everywhere. Tessa loves Greece especially. In David's words: "After months of intense research, I've put together a paper on climate warming, exploring all the possible causes I could think of." Read David's paper at myclimatequestions.com

Charlie Valier received the Icon Award last summer, "given to attorneys age 60 and older in recognition of their exemplary careers and longstanding commitment to the Missouri legal community." He was named to Lawyer's Weekly's Power List. Charlie gave a St. Louis Art Museum gallery lecture in October on George Caleb Bingham's election series paintings. Next February, he will offer both a Zoom lecture and an in-person lecture on Bingham.

Bill Kelley and Judy sold their place at Hilton Head Island and bought another house at Rose Hill Plantation, Bluffton, South Carolina. They are looking forward to the new digs!

J. Ben Miller says he doesn't have anything worthy of a reader's time, except perhaps to underline his time at CDS as a member of the class of '58 as a fortunate milestone in his life.

1959 CDS REUNION



ARTHUR LUEKING

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Lots of happenings for the Class of '59: Bill Tucker has returned to Manhattan after several years in the Hamptons. While he loved Amagansett, with the end of the pandemic he felt isolated from his grandchildren, so he and Sheila moved to the Upper West Side. He has also moved his sailboat to City Island and invites classmates who want to sail in western Long Island Sound this summer (or its eastern tip next summer) to join him.

Speaking of boats, R. K. Barton has upsized to a 44' Viking. He shared the tribulations associated with the purchase process, beginning with the new boat being too wide for his current slip. He found an appropriately large slip, but before he could park it there, the yacht failed its marine survey. He subsequently purchased a suitable replacement, but on the trip up the Saint Clair River to Lake Charlevoix, it struck an underwater obstruction and bent a propeller shaft.

Norman James returned to St. Louis after 10 days in Berlin during which he attended four operas and sampled local beers. You may remember that one of his early careers was as a German teacher (a younger version of Roy Battenberg?). He has clearly been bitten by the travel bug: he rafted through the Grand Canyon and booked a trip in November to New Zealand, where he will bungee-jump because it's on his bucket list and is free to seniors.

On a more somber note, we lost Anthony Buford in February. Carl Roessler wrote: "Although Tony Buford and I went back to first grade together and had a long, lasting relationship for many years thereafter, the trajectory of our careers, unfortunately, took divergent paths that prevented my being able to continue enjoying his affable company except on sporadic occasions. While Tony could be serious and thoughtful when it counted, you always waited for an opportunity to trigger his contagious sense of humor."

Our Zoom host, Butch Welsch, and his wife, Carole, have moved from their home of 40+ years to a new house in Chesterfield about 500 yards (as the crow flies) from my home. Welcome to the neighborhood, Butch.

Plans are being hatched for our 65th reunion: a loosely-assembled committee, initially consisting of Kent Faerber, Fred Hanser, Butch Welsch, Norman James, and Jim Schneithorst, met in June to begin the planning process. These fine men are working diligently to flesh out the program.

I continue to look for "lost" classmates. Those who have evaded discovery so far are Art Stuart (the Alton Flash), Jim Cavenaugh, Harry Cash, Dave Eynon, Bruce McKee, Lloyd Roberts, Dick Sugg, Bill Victor, and Dan Wood. If anyone has information about these gentlemen, I would love to have it. Unfortunately, my searches discovered that Jim Frick passed away in 2021. He spent his professional life in the DC area, where he was a lawyer. He's survived by a daughter.

Monthly Zoom meetings hosted by Butch Welsch continue on the first Friday of each month (email him at bwelsch@welschheatcool.com for an invitation), and anyone in St. Louis can come to lunch at Lester's every Monday at 11:30.

1960_{CDS}

BOBKARN

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Steve Achuff and his wife of 52 years, Cary, were in St. Louis for the induction of Harry Weber into the St. Louis Walk of Fame. Steve and Harry grew up across the street from each other and have been close friends since they were two years old. Steve has retired after 25 years as chief of cardiology at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore.

Dick Amberg and his wife Beverly Sharp '60 continue their travels which have included all seven continents and more than 120 countries. Their 2023 trips include countries bordering the South China Sea, Alaska, Hawaii, Easter Island, the Amazon region, and East Africa, with 2024 plans for Mediterranean countries, Indian Ocean nations, and Central Europe.

Tom Drake and his wife Laurie moved to Rochester two years ago and are near their son, who is at Mayo Clinic as an endocrinologist. They have three children and seven grandchildren ranging from 3 to 21. Tom is reminded of what he was taught by Henry Gilland at CDS sixty-plus years ago: "Si la jeunesse savait, si la vieillesse pouvait," translated roughly as "If only youth knew, if only old age could."

Sandy Galt and Marianne'64 recently took a golf river cruise with their son, Scott'90, and daughter, Farrell Galt Crowley'93, and spouses from Evian, France, to Amsterdam. They still spend the winters in Florida and part of the summer in Cape Cod. Sandy caught up with Rusty Messing and Tom Singer at the memorial service for Denny Wedemeyer.

Bob Karn and his wife of 57 years, Sue, with their daughter, son Bob'87 and his wife, grandson, and granddaughter, traveled to South Africa (two safari camps), Zimbabwe (Victoria Falls), and Cape Town for Bob's 80th birthday celebration in May 2022. Bob and Sue spend their winters in Florida. Bob is still playing pickleball four times a week and golf two or three times a week.

Harry Weber was inducted into the St. Louis Walk of Fame on Delmar on June 21, 2023, for his artistic bronze sculptures that surround Busch Stadium and are found all over the world. He joins 161 notables, including Stan Musial, Tina Turner, Vincent Price, and Jack Buck. His acceptance mentioned close friends, including his wife of 40 years, Anne. He closed with a quote from Keats: "Think where man's glory most begins and ends and say my glory was I had such friends."

We are sorry to report Hugh McPheeters and Denny Wedemeyer passed away in the last vear. Denny was our class president.

1961мі

CHARLOTTE MASTIN ELLIS

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Fo Hatton Logan: Have two grandchildren who have weddings in their future. Took my three kids and most of my grands to the Dominican Republic in August. A busy spring with two high school graduations—both out of South Carolina—while turning the large 80 in New Jersey on a football field. Happy birthday to all my classmates!

1963_{CDS}

JAY HENSLEY

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The 6oth class reunion has come and gone, and there is much to reflect upon. Because it was such a success, there was a tendency to just let it speak for itself, but too many people went way over the top to make this possible. There needs to be reflection with recognition.

We have spent previous issues lauding the tremendous effort put forth by John Allman and Mark Webber to compile the biographies of a large majority of our 'mates. Next up—for this celebration to have had a chance, someone needed to step up and champion the project from in town. My first phone call was to John Kittner. John had helped out a great deal at





CDS '63 celebrates their successful, well-orchestrated 60th reunion.

our 50th. Much to my surprise and yes, glee, John quickly hijacked the whole project. He researched venues, coordinated lodging with MICDS, and generally either did it himself or enlisted support. It was a joy watching the weekend come together under John's leadership.

I mentioned venues earlier. Somewhere in the development of the weekend, Steve Brauer and Kimmy Thompson Brauer'64 offered to host a cocktail party and sit-down dinner at, where else, Hunter Farms—the site of many summer parties on the lake as well as a picnic at our (maybe) 20th reunion. What a gracious couple, and what an evening they had for us.

Several more 'mates need mentioning. As he has done throughout the years since graduation, Don Smiegiel supplied the weeks before the May event with an unbelievable array of pictures from our class history. Pretty much every week, the entire class received another batch of photographs of a group of youngsters, probably with white socks and a Buddy Hollystyle hairdo.

Paul Hales took on the role of class historian, and he provided a bevy of items from our years at CDS which he displayed at the huge cocktail party and dinner at the campus on Friday night. Also, a huge personal shout-out to Rusty Shapleigh and Marky for solving the mystery of the missing Randy Fingland, which I had been struggling with for several years. Marky was able to reach out to Randy's sister and get us brought up to date.

There were, of course, many others who contributed to this raging success. You know who you are, so give yourself a pat on the back.

One last thank-you to the school, and especially Louise Jones, for hosting this fabulous event. Louise has been so helpful through the years, and this year was no exception. All in all, the weekend adds credibility to David Elliott's claim that the Class of 1963 remains the greatest class to ever grace the halls of Country Day School.

In other news, Dr. Peter N. Kirstein published a book chapter, Marx, Neoliberalism, and Academic Freedom: Toward a Dialectic of Resistance and Liberation, in Neoliberalism and Academic Repression, Haymarket Books. He also published an article on the most senior opponent of using the atomic bomb: The Interim Committee's Lone Dissenter: The Bard Memorandum and the Decision to Use the Atomic Bomb, New Mexico Historical Review, 2022. After fifty-two years of university teaching, Peter is now professor emeritus of history.



JANE COX

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ANNE STUPP MCALPIN

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We trust you received the email we sent in July reminding you we're in the countdown phase until we celebrate our 60th reunion May 2-5, 2024. The Class of 1963 really enjoyed getting together this past May, and we look forward to having a wonderful, shared experience in 2024. The school will begin reunion festivities on Thursday, May 2, with the Golden Rams Reunion Luncheon. Betsy Payne Biggs, Kimmy Thompson Brauer, and Marianne Schultz Galt have planned a hen party for that evening. On Friday, May 3, there will be a school-sponsored alumnae/alumni dinner in the MAC at MICDS. Kimmy and Steve Brauer'63 will host a dinner at Hunter Farms on Saturday, May 4, and Anne and Blockie McAlpin'65 will host a bon voyage brunch at the Deer Creek Club on Sunday, May 5. Start resting up now. We want to have as many of you as possible here to celebrate our 60th!

Thank you for responding to our plea for news as we approach our grand reunion. Our first email arrived from our May Queen, Kim Marschel Flachmann. Her news follows: "I continue to serve as the Writing Program Coordinator at California State University-Bakersfield, overseeing all writing courses from freshman to graduate level. I also received a literacy grant this year to coordinate efforts across the curriculum at the university. My son Christopher and daughter Laura and their families currently live in Bakersfield. My daughter had a baby boy during COVID, which makes a total of three grandchildren for me."

On the same day, Anne Greve Sadler remarked: "Seriously! 60 years ago! I remember when the reunion used to happen when we were in school, and those ladies looked ancient... surely not us! Hoping to attend and to convince my sister, Mary'61, to come over as well, as I haven't seen her since before COVID. Maybe even my granddaughter, who is with me fulltime, will join me. My health is good, and I have almost sold my place. Settlement is due soon, and already looking for a new home."

Helen Diepenbrock Vollmar contributed: "So happy to get invited to this special event! I haven't heard a word from the John Burroughs crew-maybe MI had better math classes! Anyway, hard to believe it's the big 60. I would love to see you all again, and I'll try to get Cindy Bricker to come!"

Mimi Ferriss Wilson wrote: "I don't think I have big news since the last time. We now have eight grandchildren, and their parents live in

Toronto, Sacramento, Oak Run, California, and Anchorage, Alaska. We plan to go out west in the fall. Love and prayers."

Marie Campagna Brauer said: "Count me in from start to finish, with many, many thanks to our wonderful hosts and hostesses. I don't know about John, as it may be FOCUS again at that time!"

Carolyn Michel Hirsch commented: "Life is good. I directed in a New Play Festival here this August. I was also nominated for best actress in a short new film. My wonderful husband Howard came through some health issues with flying colors and at 92 is still smarter than I am and is going strong! I have lots of family visiting me here in Sarasota, even during the heat. Life is good. Hard to believe we are so old...sheesh! 6oth reunion! Really?!"

Barbara Baur Dunlap, our illustrious class president, observed: "It will be interesting to see how many are able to come next May. The highlight of every March is a visit from Josie. This has been going on for years, and Charlie enjoys it as much as I do! We got out of Arizona's heat this summer with a Noland Family Reunion in Virginia, then a trip to show two grandsons Greece and the Adriatic, followed by lots of time in Telluride. We are spending time simplifying our lives."

Marianne Schultz Galt stated: "Feel very fortunate on many fronts: Sandy'60 and I are fairly healthy and doing well. Both of our children live near us in St. Louis with their families. Two granddaughters attend MICDS and seem to be thriving there. I get to see so many of our classmates who are still good friends after so many years. Pretty amazing! Really looking forward to seeing everyone next May!"

Josephine Pettus Wiseman sent: "I don't have much to report. Barbara Dunlap says she has included my annual visit to Phoenix in her Notes. I go to Phoenix ostensibly to volunteer at the Heard Museum Indian Market, but seeing Barbara and Charlie is a big part of it, too! I am certainly planning to be in St. Louis for our 60th...wouldn't miss it! Thanks in advance for all the time and effort you all

put into organizing things and encouraging everyone to come! Cheers!"

Susan Primm Thel chimed in: "I am having fun swimming laps, walking with friends, continuing to learn to paint, and this fall, I became a literacy coach two afternoons a week for first, second, and third graders in a low-income community who have fallen behind or not learned to read due to the pandemic. I struggle with witnessing and personally experiencing our climate emergency and have joined protests to add my voice to get this disaster mitigated."

Barbie Macdonald Stamper added: "Nothing new to report except I spend a lot of time following various high school teams and going to school plays and concerts that my eight intown grandchildren are involved in. Three are bound for college, so my schedule will be lighter next school year. Cheers!"

We have some sad news. Linn Upthegrove Wells's sister, Betsy Upthegrove Cheek'57, died last spring. Some of you may remember that Betsy taught Latin while we were in the Upper School. Our condolences go to Linn and her family.

We also want to mention that the memorial service for Dr. Kahn, Susan Kahn Bromberg's father, and our last living parent, was held recently at Shaw's Garden. Jane Cox and Patsy Clark Ball attended. Patsy has spent most of her summer dealing with downed trees at both her St. Louis property and their farm. Eldon '64 has become reacquainted with his chainsaw.

Finally, on May 31, Jacky Israel Blakeslee became a great-grandmother. The grandmother is her daughter Stacy, Mayor of Cape Girardeau, and Miss Eloise Kinder is the daughter of Stacy's son, Luke, and his wife, Christina. All of this makes Kathy Israel Starnes a great-great-aunt. Does anyone else have great-grandchildren to claim? Please let us know, and again, we urge everyone to come in May. Kimmy Brauer, our most enthusiastic classmate, says you must all come! It won't be a happening without you!



JAY MARSHALL

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Plans are taking shape for the 6oth reunion of the great Country Day Class of 1964 as part of the May 2-4 MICDS Reunion—an opportunity to defy the passage of years and get together while we still can! A notice was sent to all classmates for whom email addresses were available, and more than a dozen responses were received. If you haven't indicated your interest in being part of our 60th, there's still time. Email Jay Marshall at cvcattle@icloud.com. Further details will be circulated in the coming months.

1965мі

PEGGY DUBINSKY PRICE

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Our condolences to Sandi Whitelaw Russell on the loss of her sister, Signe Whitelaw Myles'59.

Elizabeth Kendall was a hit in New York City when MICDS Head of School Jay Rainey and Louise Jones met with alums there.

Bobbi Buell: I have no family left except my kids, Rett (37) and Molly (35), and my husband David. I'm still a principal at onPoint Oncology, working with physicians, hospitals, and pharma companies to ensure that cancer drugs are covered. For love/higher purpose, I conduct seminars to help community oncologists survive. My newsletter has been around for 33 years and rocks a 53% open rate. If you need help paying for expensive drugs or with Medicare or medical insurance, contact me.

Alice Langenberg Abrams: I continue to make ceramic frogs. Enjoying New England summers in Vermont with friends and family and escaping to warmer climes in winter. I recently curated a ceramic show in Lexington and won honorable mention for my Guard Frog. I listen

to books a lot on Libby. Recommend anything written by Tom Hanks. He's an excellent writer and narrator.

Mimi Johnson Severs: I'm finishing the final year of my second term as treasurer of the Residents' Association at my senior living facility in Scottsdale. Our employees are not allowed to receive tips, so in the fall, I begin a six-week fundraising campaign to collect donations for the Employee Gift Fund. Administration hosts a holiday party for the employees and their families in December, and I always enjoy passing out our gift checks to the employees.

Irene Leland: My children's books are now in hardback and paperback and are available through all the worldwide distributors, including Barnes & Noble, Amazon, etc. Sad news: my darling Yorkie Gracie of almost 16 years entered doggie heaven in June.



Talbot Leland MacCarthy '54 with her sister Irene Leland '65.

Jane Atwood Whitehead: Had fun in London with daughter Hadley and her amazing 13-yearold son. The price: home with COVID and afib. Not to worry because our Florida governor says COVID is no longer a problem. So why did I have to spend four days in the hospital? Recently read Adele Starbird's book, Many Strings to My Lute, a compendium of her best columns with references to mythology, music, and art. Starbird was a friend of Mrs. Giesselmann's and once spoke at MI.

MI trivia from **Donna Schultz Heidbreder**: Did you know we wanted Ike and Tina to perform at our Junior Prom, and Mr. Beasley vetoed it? That would have been fun! Who was our band at Junior Prom'64?

I had a fun mini-reunion lunch with Jane Ruwitch Mitchell, Jan Shapleigh Mackey, Leigh Limberg Mason, and Julie Grote Rogers in May.

Wendy Price'99 and her son Jack Patinella spent a week with Dick and me at our summer place in Park Rapids, Minnesota. Jack is named after his dad John and my grandfather Jack Dubinsky who won the land where our houses are in a poker game (or maybe as part of a real estate deal). Jackie is the fifth generation to spend time on Potato Lake.

Book recommendations: The Personal Librarian, Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow, and The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo. TV streaming: The Bear, Ted Lasso, Only Murders in the Building. Enjoy!



Wendy Price '99 with son Jack Patinella in Park Rapids, Minnesota.

1966мі

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Noel Messing Hefty '66 and Diane Deal Parks '66 in front of the Sydney Opera House in May of 2023. They had a truly wonderful visit there.

1967_{CDS}

JIM MORGAN

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Hugh Scott: My news is that I am selling my house in Florida and have moved back to St. Louis. I've had a great time for the last 24 years in Palm Beach County, but I can sell my house for a huge price and I'm ready to be close to family, especially grandchildren.

Scott Schirmer: Retired and living on Bainbridge Island, Washington, with Ginny Rice. Playing golf just about every day and taking it easy in the beautiful Pacific Northwest.

Sandy Peters: My wife, Cindy Shoenberg Peters'67, and I just got back from taking our family (14 in all!) to Italy for a wonderful vacation. We had a great time! I badly broke

my left arm this past March after a fall at home. I'm still in physical therapy but making good progress. All of our three children and their spouses live in St. Louis, and four of our grandchildren will be attending MICDS this fall!

Jim Morgan: Pam and I moved 15 miles north of Prescott, Arizona, about 2.5 years ago. Love the quiet, dark sky, and few cars and people. We both play golf, Pam more than I as I am still building houses in our neighborhood, Talking Rock Ranch. Hope to see or hear from some of you soon. God bless you all.

1969мі 🚾

JILL DOWD

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Marie Howe Sprague and her husband took a wonderful trip on a four-masted tall ship known as the "Sea Cloud" from Dubrovnik to Sicily and up the Amalfi Coast with an extension to Naples, Sorrento, Capri, and Positano. More importantly, her first grandson, Winston Howe Kearns, was born on April 3. He and his parents live in Redondo Beach. Thanks to Tandy, Marie and I have connected over a common hobby, weaving Nantucket Baskets! Marie, an expert! Jill, a beginner.

Tandy Thompson's news: Between French Colonial America, The French Heritage Corridor, and the dogs, I keep busy. My youngest dog, Trés Bon (a two-year-old black Labrador), earned his first master hunter ribbon. In June, I returned from Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, where I represented Missouri at the third annual French Heritage Corridor Conference. Marie and I signed up for another cruise in 2025 when we will embark in Rio de Janeiro, cruise the Amazon, and disembark in Miami. Marie's sister Susie Howe Dubin'67 may join us in this adventure.



^ Stephanie Spatz Chilcott is enjoying her ranch property and shared her favorite place to eat.

Susie Wiegand became a grandparent in March and shares that it is an experience like no other!



^ Christy Trauernicht writes: My husband Don and I migrated full-time to Florida at the end of last summer and are enjoying life in the tropics. The first half of 2023 was spent traveling to St. Louis during my youngest sister Cyndi'71's battle with cancer. My sister, Cathy '70, from Virginia, and I coordinated efforts to care for Cyndi at home until her passing in late February. In the following months, we carried out her wishes for interment and a celebration of her life. Bright spots in my recent travels to St. Louis have been spending time with Beth Green Kling. In June, we spent a morning at Missouri Botanical Garden admiring the

Chihuly exhibits. Beth and her husband Bill come to Florida for the month of February now, so we enjoy getting together then, as well. I am slowly settling back into my routines here in Sebastian, Florida—creating pottery at Indian River Clay studio, playing piano, nurturing my orchids, working out at the gym, and serving on our HOA's grounds committee.



^ From Pamela Lanier Valdes: After six wonderful granddaughters, along came Santiago, now two and a very feisty boy. Still working with IUCN; our most recent effort is the long-coming now long-implementing Glasgow Declaration addressing sustainability in tourism. I have a new book, Healthy Vines, Pure Wines, on regenerative viticulture and "natural" wines. Coming to Sonoma/Napa? Be in touch, and we will go tasting!

Barb Kennedy's more recent activities include "pulling an all-nighter" in the Amsterdam airport, keeping up with her spoiled Lab Ellie, art classes, gardening, line dancing, pickleball, and MRIs.

Marki Cady spent last Christmas in Australia with her sister Lisa Cady Leiweke '72, Marki's niece Caitlin, and Caitlin's family. "It was great since I had not seen Caitlin and her family since 2019 due to COVID restrictions. Heading up to Maine soon for our annual visit to Damariscotta Lake."

1969_{CDS} REUNION



ED HALL

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Erwin Bry: "Had my daughters and grandkids in town (Chicago) the week of the Fourth, and activities included the aquarium at Union Station, the Botanical Garden, swimming, fishing, and more. In July, Tony Delf accompanied me to Great Slave Lake in the Canadian Northwest Territories for a week of extreme pike fishing."

Stephan Fihn: "A year ago, we moved to Whidbey Island. I am partially retired, though still go to Seattle once a week to see patients. I also edit 7AMA Network Open and work on a few research projects at UW. Judy is more retired but works a few days a month as a palliative care nurse. We see our older son and two grandsons, who live on San Juan Island, and our daughter, who lives in Seattle, as often as possible. Our younger son completed his doctorate this summer and moved to Santa Cruz for a post-doc."

John Hohlt and Eileen made their postretirement, post-COVID pilgrimage to Alsace, France, in May with daughter Anne, who just finished her first year at UT-McGovern Medical School. "We visited the caves and sampled the vins d'Alsace in and around Colmar, Eguisheim, Riquewihr, and Strasbourg; very refreshing. New additions to the family: son John (Lindsey) had daughter Lilly Leigh Hohlt in October, and daughter Mary (David) had daughter Astrid Kathleen Schneider in December. Had the pleasure of seeing Charlie Schott'70 and Ed Hall during a recent visit to St. Louis to see sister Deb, who still lives in the Central West End."

Robert Larkin: The Mendocino Coast is beautiful and never gets hot. Last year was tough. My sister Jo Anne Larkin'66 passed away, as did some other good friends. I know it is that time of life, but it's still difficult. I have joined the emergency services here, and I am a ham radio member. I am still playing the banjo a lot. We have a little band and play for various functions and dances. I hike in the Redwoods and along the coast every day.

Wallace Meissner: Nothing momentous to report. The happiest news from the year past was the arrival of our third granddaughter, Gaby, at the end of December. She joins Mona and Josie in the new world of our learning how to be grandparents.

Clayton Perry: Monica and I retired right before COVID. We spend our summers on Beaver Island in northern Lake Michigan and winters in St. Louis. In the summer, we sail and golf. Monica gardens, and I build and restore classic boats. In the winter, we have been able to travel a little, Chile and Easter Island last vear, Ireland this year, and Monica shows her AKC champion Chow Chow at Purina Farms.



Some members of the CDS Class of 1969 enjoyed spending time together over a meal: (I-r) Peter Griffin, Mike O'Guin, Joe Rechter, Rick Weitzer, Andy Glaser, Peter Deibel, Dick Lammert, and Bob Lesser.

1970мі

TINA RUTLEDGE VERALDI

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We extend our heartfelt regards and sympathy to Cathy Trauernicht, whose sister passed away. She says, "The loss of Cyndi'71 to cancer last February has been a tremendous loss for our family. My sister, Christy'69, and I spent several months caring for her at her home in St. Charles, then settling her effects, and now cherishing our memories. Lasting MI friendships have meant so much to all three of us. I truly miss not seeing my classmates on a regular basis. Wishing everyone a restful and peaceful summer."

Maud Essen is pleased to report that the City of St. Louis has agreed to let her act as her own architect and approved a general permit for the long-awaited high-efficiency, all-electric renovation of her 1903 house. "For aging in place, it will feature universal bathroom design thanks to Tina, plus a Stiltz lift like the one at Balmoral Castle. The Solar PV, a 400-amp service upgrade, demolition, and framing are already complete. The next steps are plumbing, HVAC, and electrical. Excelsior!"

Genie Cannon Guilliams reports that it has been a joyous year as daughters Emily Newport Fitz'02 celebrated her one-year-old twins, Hillary Newport Hazlett'05 married in summer 2022, and niece Tasha Thaman (Maida Cannon'67's daughter) is thrilled with her new baby girl. "All is well with Dennis and me, including lots of travel as the girls live in Houston, San Francisco, and Charleston."

Lawrie Conant Chiaro has come out of retirement! "I'm back teaching K-5 music at the same school here in L.A. where I taught for 20 years. It's great fun. And I take a singalong music program to local assisted living facilities in my free time. Of course, I miss family a lot, so I travel to St. Louis to see my gang whenever I can." Her friends say that the close connection with those around her and the fun, creative energy shine on!

Annie Conant Schlafly has expanded her commitment to the St. Louis area: The International Mentoring Program is thriving since she started it with Susan Gobbo in 2017. Sally Schlafly Cohn and Linda Ferguson Benoist have joined the core of this non-profit organization, which has a mission to "connect international women and their families to St. Louis-area women, helping to welcome and integrate them into the St. Louis community." Over 60 countries have been represented, and there are 250 mentors.

Sunie Lasky continues to live in St. Louis while traveling regularly with plans of venturing farther and wider. Most frequently, she loves visiting her daughter in California. She has joined The International Mentoring Program and is working with a woman who has moved to the St. Louis area from New Zealand.

Ellen Shapleigh Sedgwick says, "Bill'67 and I have great times. We enjoy spending time with friends, golfing, and our new house in beautiful Vero Beach, Florida. We're celebrating our 50th anniversary with a Kalos Golf Cruise to New Zealand! Time is flying by. Enjoy! All the best to the Class of '70."

Tina Rutledge Veraldi: "I'm traveling a bit more and enjoying the different tasks needed to fix up my place, which includes a bit of amateur landscaping. It's been fun to learn to work with plants in an area dominated by full sun and winds. I enjoy being the Class Agent and write occasional blurbs, one topic being the discovery about my album, Bob Dylan's Greatest Hits, which I truly had just given away. Long gone was the original free poster, now worth over \$800."

Ellen Langtree writes in from Vermont: "Dear Class of 1970, do you remember that I was only interested in working with clay at MI? Well, I'm back at it! Through a friend, I found a whole new creative group at a clay studio near Burlington. My work has evolved into experimenting with clay slabs, making 3D forms. There's a new grandbaby. My life has certainly changed by the addition of this new soul, Maeve."

1970_{CDS}

PAUL ANAGNOSTOPOULOS

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Greetings to all the classmates, family, and friends reading this installment of the CDS '70 *Class Notes*. I hope this finds you healthy and enjoying life. As is now a tradition, we will have a mini-reunion dinner in October at the Racquet Club of St. Louis. Thanks again to **John Fox** and **Dave Octting** for hosting the event.

Charlie Schott let me know that he had dinner early in the year with Parker Smith and Danny Stephens. Parker lives in Philadelphia and has seven grandchildren, most of them also in Philly. Jeff Miller reported on the annual fishing trip: "Jon Heitner, Ed Potter, Mike Burns, and I spent another excellent week in the Bahamas this past May. We fished out of the storied North Riding Point Lodge on Grand Bahama once again, and the fishing was very good. Some of the anglers weren't too bad, either. Fishing for bonefish from a skiff is not an especially taxing way to spend a day, so it's a pretty safe bet that this crew has a fair number of bonefish trips still ahead of them. Fish on!"

Mooie Carpenter sent a bit of news: "Phil Estep and I are still living and working in St. Louis. We look forward to Phil's oldest son visiting from Sweden with his family for a month in October."

Mark Johnson tells us about his Colorado trip: "Nancy and I returned from nearly a month in Colorado, which included multiple sightings of elk and moose, post-holing our way through deep snow on nearly every hike, a trip to urgent care in Denver for my (temporarily) disabling neck and back pain, and the wife's dubious experiments sampling the various and sundry Rocky Mountain highs produced by gummies from the local dispensary. The only thing missing this time was Ernie."

In fact, I was pleased to hear from Ernie Planck, who informs us of the birth of his fourth granddaughter, Atlas Victory Planck, in May.













From **Tom Barad**, we received some sad yet extraordinary news: "Thought you might like to know that my mother died on April 30. Born and raised here, she loved St. Louis. She also loved Country Day and fondly remembered so many of you wise guys. On one of her daily walks, a young boy, towing a backpack of books down Wydown, passed by and asked if she'd been in the neighborhood a long time. 'Only about 99 years,' she responded."

Paul Anagnostopoulos: All is well here in Carlisle. I'm still about 90% retired, working on just one book now. Cynthia and I enjoyed a few weeks at our favorite beach, East Matunuck State Beach in Rhode Island. Lucas and Rose are doing just fine. I'm looking forward to our annual mini-reunion in October. Take care, one and all.

- 01. Ann Hardy Aschauer '71 attempts to put out the blaze on her birthday cake.
- 02/03. The Barge Crew: Bartow Lammert Molloy '71, Judy Griesedieck '71 and Mike, Audie Woolsey '71, Babs Claggett Wagner '71 and Tim Wagner '70, Lissy Hawes Pollnow '71, Debbie Smith Fitzgerald '71 and Art, Sally Braxton Schnuck '71 and Terry.
 - 04. Big turnout from the Class of 1971 for Cyndi Trauernicht '71's memorial: Debbie Smith Fitzgerald, Babs Claggett Wagner, Cammi Fetté Mock, Lisa Culver, Hope Jones Welles, Beth Trueblood, Mary Dubuque Desloge, Abbie Carlin, Gloria Niedringhaus Jarvis, Laurie Wolff Miller, Sally Braxton Schnuck, Jeanie Roy, and Sue Thomasson Wienstroer.
 - 05. The Class of '71 supports Lucy Ferriss at her book signing: Laurie Wolff Miller, Noel Goding, Ferriss, Abbie Carlin, Jeanie Roy, and Beth Trueblood.
 - 06. Good times with Hope Jones Welles '71, Bartow Lammert Molloy '71, and Judy Griesedieck '71.



CASEY MALLINCKRODT

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Cathy Mellow Goltermann: Our family has expanded with the addition of our grandson, William Wetzel Grote (Christen and Peter's son). Catherine is a First Grade Teaching Assistant at Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Webster Groves. Woody and Thamara plan to get married in late November in New York, where they both continue to practice law. I am still teaching at St. Peter's Playgroup and enjoy summers at Burr-Oak Camp and beautiful Wisconsin lakeside trips.

Joan Hagedorn Ball: Our daughter, Jessica '05, married Justin Cook in June 2022. They welcomed Harper Elise Cook in April 2023 in Minneapolis. Our son, Chris'07, is working for Handi-Craft as an e-commerce account coordinator. Roger'72 and I celebrated our 40th anniversary in 2020 and just got back from our belated anniversary trip to Switzerland, up the Rhine, to Amsterdam. Looking forward to our 50th class reunion.

Sally Garhart Eneguess: On year two of retirement from my "day" job and loving it! Bought myself a second horse that is getting ready for hunting season. Learned how to use my battery-powered chainsaw after last winter. My gardens look a little neglected, but I can't do it all! We have plenty of room for the three grandkids and overnight guests.

Margot Lyman Sprague: It poured rain and love in New England this summer! We had our daughter Emmy's amazing seaside wedding to her husband Matt in June in Annisquam; small and so lovely. A wonderful chance to also see our son Jay and his wife Vanessa, who came from Brooklyn. In the quieter, colder months, there's lots of bridge and singing and paddle... and some happy grand-dog sitting.

Casey Mallinckrodt: I've moved to Denver for a great job as head conservator at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, but even better, I now live within a few minutes of my wonderful daughter Leeds and her partner Dave. Nina Primm McIntyre visited me in Denver for a mutual 67th birthday weekend in March, and I've reconnected with fellow Denverite Reggie Sprung Townsend. Currently in Maine to enjoy a week in our house and for College of the Atlantic trustee meetings. Looking forward to seeing all of us for our 50th reunion!

Trudi Glick Carey: I still work as a developer architect. Both of my sons are remodeling their homes, so helping out there. My youngest, Sam, has a son, Louis Jacob Carey, who is now 13 months. My new house is finished, and I welcome visitors. I built a Golden Girls house, all one level, all ADA, with four separate suites with their own outside entrances with great views. Please look me up if you come to Santa Barbara. My sister Linda'65 often comes down from San Francisco.

Holly Hermann Gulick and Dave'72 have three wonderful grandkids, two in St. Louis and one in Dallas. Babysitting, reading, needlepoint, power-walking, and lap-swimming keep her happily busy. She also volunteers for a community-service organization, ITN/Gateway, driving elderly and vision-impaired people to their appointments. It is gratifying to know they really appreciate the rides. Holly is already looking forward to seeing everyone at the big 50th reunion in May!

Nina Primm McIntyre welcomed a second grandson, George von Reyn, on April 1! His mom Ellie and her husband, Ben (and 2 1/2-year-old Charlie), renovated a home in Kennebunk, Maine. Ellie's sister Georgia, engaged to a different Ben, has moved to Hanover, New Hampshire. Both daughters still work in technology marketing, like their mom, who is thrilled with her first six months of retirement. She's happy her husband Archie is also now retired, so they can see and try out new stuff.

Muffy Roulhac Sewall: Save the dates of May 2-5, 2024, as we will be the 50th Reunion Class honored at MICDS. Wherever you are, whatever you are doing: would you think about making plans to attend/come together? Whether you are in St. Louis or as far away as Tokyo, California, or Washington, come to see old friends and classmates. Come to share memories and news of you and your families... all that has been happening in your life over the years.

1975мі

LISA COULTER

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KAT SCHNEIDER CLARK

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Hi, everyone! We only heard from one classmate, but she had very exciting news: Martha Scott Roeder shared, "Daughter Ashley had a baby girl on July 6, 2023! I am so excited! Both mother and daughter are doing well!" Congratulations, Martha-being a grandmother is just the best!

1979 CDS (REUNIO)



PETER GULLBORG

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Charlie Windsor writes that he celebrated his 20th year of owning Oakwood Systems Group in July. Charlie is also celebrating his 15th year of ownership of another company, Talentporte. "Business has been quite a ride. Also celebrating 36 years with Lisa'80 this August and just celebrated the second granddaughter's addition to the family in May-two baby girls with my youngest daughter, Devon Windsor Barbara'12. Both Alex'11 and Devon are in Miami and working together running devonwindsor.com. Look forward to less work and more play at some point in my life."

1980мі

FIFI LUGO

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Barbi Cady Macon writes, "Bill'77 and I are loving our new home and our three canine pups. It's been a busy year with portrait photography and travel with all four of our kids living out of town. We welcomed our first grandson, William IV, in Nashville in January 2022 and will have another Sugar Tree wedding in the fall for our daughter, Georgia."



Members of the Class of 1980 celebrating 61st birthdays in June (I-r): Harriette Moore Warren, Lea Diederich Bender, Melissa Chamberlain Bozesky, Julie Goldstein Bearman, Jenny Steinman, Jenny Veron Ewing, Barbi Cady Macon, and Wendy Goessling Wolfsberger.

1981мі

JEANNIE ROBB HUBERT

jeannie@huberts.us

Emma Belt Forget writes: "Mom passed in August 2021, so we sold the homestead. Michael and I bought a smaller home in the city of Marthasville, Missouri, where we moved with the three youngest boys. Rehabbing our home has kept us busy. I enjoy cooking, planting flowers, photography, reading, going to church, adventuring, bicycling on the Katy Trail, quilting, meeting new people, and Face Timing my children/grandchildren. We are all in a lifelong school of life, praying for calm and patience for the journey."









Members of the 1981 classes of Mary Institute and Country Day gathered to celebrate their 60th birthdays.

- O1. Front row (I-r): Sara Woods Wallace,
 Coretta Bozeman, Lorna Vaughn, Sarah
 Lane Hurth, Camilla Roby-Owens, Karen
 Breckenridge Gernstein, Jeannie Robb
 Hubert, Jana Inman, and Dino Collier.
 Back row (I-r): Lyn Hermann Grace, Roger
 Scherck, Bob Hensley, Doug Franciscus,
 David Weiss, Laura Challoner Wright,
 Molly Sims Weber, Betsey Homeier, and
 Kendall Miller.
- 02. Front row (I-r): Jeannie Robb Hubert and Karen Breckenridge Gernstein. Middle row (I-r): Sara Woods Wallace, Laura Challoner Wright, Caroline Polk, and Linda Tschudy Werner. Back row (I-r): Camilla Roby-Owens, Lorna Vaughn, Betsey Homeier, Jamie Stern Driver, and Coretta Bozeman.
- 03. Roger Scherck, Betsey Homeier, Sara Woods Wallace, Bob Hensley, Laura Challoner Wright, Caroline Polk, David Weiss, Kendall Miller, Jeannie Robb Hubert, and Camilla Roby-Owens.
- 04. Karen Breckenridge Gernstein, Sara Wood Wallace, Caroline Polk, Gwen Lind Sadawi, Betsey Homeier, Jeannie Robb Hubert, and Laura Challoner Wright (in front) at the Missouri Botanical Garden.

1985мі

AMY MCFARLAND DOVE

amcfdove@gmail.com

Vanessa Roman: I've had a fun and eventful year working with Sundance Film Festival in January and the Sundance Summer Labs for Directors, Screenwriters, and Documentary Creators. It was a unique experience where I got to live in Sundance Mountain homes for a month and work at the resort with some of the most creative and brilliant minds in the film and television industry. I'm working in Atlanta and New York and making plans to move to Atlanta after my youngest graduates from high school in St. Louis.

1987мі

DREES ARNESON CLINE

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Wendy Brafman: In June, I finished a threeyear assignment at the U.S. Consulate General Mumbai (India) and have returned with our two dogs to the Washington, D.C. area to serve in the Department of State as the chief of staff in the Middle East Bureau. My husband will serve for another year overseas before rejoining us. I look forward to reconnecting in person with my MI and CDS friends and family.

1987_{CDS}

BOB KARN

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BRIAN ROCHE

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Our class was very sorry to learn of the passing of **Jonathan Moon.** Always energetic and a friend to many during our school years, Jon provided us with a wealth of good memories during his eight years at CDS and five years at Beasley. He later served our country in the United States Army. We would like to offer our condolences to his sister **Jennifer Moon Kennedy'84.**

Expert sleuthing by Fritz Faerber and Gordy Scherck located Devin Baker in central California, where he is doing well with two kids.

Steve Banks recently provided the words for Mr. Oleski's PQRST study system upon request: Preview, Question, Research, Survey, Test. Yes, he is still AV-qualified and is available for all of your filmstrip needs.

Pat Behan: Peggy (Anthon) and I will be celebrating our 25th anniversary in November and, amazingly, are already empty nesters. Our youngest, PJ '22 (20), graduated and is on the lacrosse team at Brown University. Brooke (22) just graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill with a major in advertising/public relations, winning three field hockey National Championships along the way. Caroline (28) works for Butler's Pantry here in St. Louis, while Foster'12 (29) lives in Phoenix, enjoying his job at Cushman & Wakefield.

The voice of Monday Night Football, **Joe Buck**, recently lent his vocal talents to an ad campaign run by the large New York ad agency **Adam Tucker** oversees.

Joe Dilschneider provided his note via Chat GPT in perfect iambic pentameter!

Ennis, Montana, is still my home, where I own and operate

my little fly fishing business, my oldest daughter

junior at Colgate, and my youngest a senior at Ennis High School.

My wife and I are starting to contemplate the empty nest

with both excitement and total uncertainty.

Perhaps will tour the country, visiting all of our high school classmates?

Brother **Tucker Franciscus** lives outside of Denver but still occasionally makes his patented "fly bys" to St. Louis. Tucker's oldest daughter is matriculating at Vanderbilt.

Steve Gontram proudly led his team, featuring **Eric Van Luven**, to victory at the Kehrs Mill Elementary School Trivia Night.

John Gregory: "Still teaching English at Asheville School and living on campus. My son, Jack, got married last summer. My youngest, Willie, is turning 18 in August. Hoping to take him to see a Willie Nelson concert (90 years old and still touring and putting out new albums). Celebrated my 30th wedding anniversary this past June. My brother, Andrew'96, is opening a second restaurant in Seattle. Will be in Farmington, Missouri, this fall celebrating my wife's parents' 50th anniversary."

John Hagen reports that he is still living in the San Francisco East Bay (City of Lafayette) and does get back to St. Louis from time to time. After 50+ years of residing at 20 Willow Hill, his parents sold the house and moved into Allegro in Richmond Heights, where Bob Karn is the CFO. (This is not a solicited advertisement: John reports that his parents have good things to say about Allegro. Bob says, "Thanks, John!")

Brian Roche: "I still reside in St. Louis, where I have remained gainfully employed at Express Scripts for 14 years. It's fun to be able to see classmates around town and still keep up with the out-of-towners as a class rep. My daughter is following in my footsteps, attending Tulane, albeit with a much higher GPA!"

David Strain lives outside of Pittsburgh across the street from one of my (Brian's) daughter's college roommates. She says David is a good neighbor.

The 4x400 track relay school record held by Mike Mayweather and David Son (along with David Hinch'85 and Doug Teasdale'85) since 1985 was finally broken last year. Impressive the record stood for so long.

Arizona has become the West Coast residence of choice of the Class of '87. **Dr. Guy Borders**, **Kevin Omell**, and **Ed Plotkin** reside in the Valley of the Sun, with Kevin reporting that **Ken Brakebill** is building a house there and will be relocating from California soon. Also in Arizona are Lower School classmates **Dan Pasternak** and **Lou Werner**. In his spare time, Kevin teaches a college class as an adjunct professor. He is amazed at the stuff some students try to get away with. Perhaps he should go old-school Mr. Duncan* on them and announce everybody's

test grades in front of the class. It will motivate you to work harder when everyone knows you just got a 95...turned around! Or a 44...any which way you like it!

*Editor's Note: Did you know that the iconic teacher Thomas S. Duncan Jr. was a member of the CDS class of 1938 and taught at CDS for 27 years? He was also a CDS parent.



Libby Curtis McCandless: 2023 has been a great year so far! In March, my daughters and I spent a week in Paris—Madame York would have been proud that my French kicked right back in! In May, our oldest graduated from college, and our youngest graduated from high school. We celebrated by going to see Taylor Swift in Kansas City, where we ran into Emily Black Bremer and her daughter! I've also loved catching up with fellow classmates Danica Elsesser Enlow, Jen McKnight, Connie James, Christina Dubis, and Suchita Vadlamani over some fun dinners out. Much love to the rest of our class!





1993 MICDS

TINA FRERICHS KEMPIN

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ADAM TAICH

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Sumner Charles: Greetings, Class of 1993. Hope you all are doing well. I was sorry to have missed some of you at our recent 30th Reunion weekend, as I was out of town with our oldest son, Summy Charles III'27, spectating the UNC-Notre Dame men's lacrosse game at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, that weekend. Our two boys, Summy and Walker'29, are both doing well, and they keep us busy with their various sports (lacrosse, ice hockey, and squash) and activities. I have been with my current employer, MedImpact Healthcare Systems, for six years, competing against Express Scripts in the Pharmacy Benefit Management space. Jenny'94, my wife, is well and is approaching the 20-year mark with Aon as a VP and senior property and casualty broker and team leader. We also seem to be running a kennel at our home in Briarcliff and currently have three dogs. I enjoy doing yard work, reading, camping/floating, and seeing friends locally in St. Louis.

1999 MICDS TRUNG

ROBB PRESTON

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Yelena Podorozhansky is an OB hospitalist at St. Luke's Hospital. In her free time, she enjoys hiking top-rated trails in national parks with her family. She tried to continue her tennis legacy through her kids, but David (9) chose taekwondo and basketball, and Abby (11) has

- 01. Suchita Vadlamani '89 and Libby Curtis McCandless '89, with Libby's two daughters.
- 02. Emily Black Bremer '89 and Libby Curtis McCandless '89, with their daughters.

found her passion in basketball as her only sport. "It was great running into Becca Perry Bryan during a recent campus tour. Abby enjoyed spending her day at MICDS, and the campus looks phenomenal!"

Jennifer Belmont Jennings recently joined MGD Law in Clayton as an estate planning attorney.

2009 MICDS REUNION



Brenndan Crumley completed a residency in anatomic pathology at Barnes-Jewish Hospital and Washington University School of Medicine in June 2024 and will be staying with WashU for another two years as a neuropathology fellow.



(I-r) Jessie Brown Wagner '12, Shelby Narike '12, Mimi Abbott Cox '12, Lilly Simeon '12, and Annie Goessling Fernandes '12 celebrate at the wedding of Mimi Abbott Cox in September.

2012 MICDS

Mary Elizabeth "Mimi" Abbott '12 married Brandon Lee Cox on November 12, 2022, in St. Louis.

Letter from the Alumni **Association Board**



L to R: Raj Tailor '92, Lindsey Herzog Shipley '07, Muffy Peters Brennan '96

Dear MICDS Alumni Community,

What an exciting time to be a Ram! We have kicked off a new school year and with it, another year of opportunities to connect with our growing alumni community. There are more than 8,000 alumni living all over the world, all of whom are an invaluable part of our school's past, present, and future. Our shared memories from our time at Mary I, CDS, and MICDS are what connects us—our favorite traditions, teachers, athletic teams, theatrical performances, projects, and more. As the leaders of the MICDS Alumni Association, our job is to create even more shared memories and engaging moments that bring alumni back together on campus and beyond.

This year, our Alumni Association will continue to deliver on our mission of providing MI, CDS, and MICDS alumni with meaningful opportunities to connect with the MICDS community at large. Throughout this school year, the Alumni Association will offer a variety of ways for all alumni to continue learning, networking, and building relationships within our community by attending events, supporting our sports teams, celebrating reunions, submitting Class Notes, or participating in annual giving.

We are proud to serve as your Alumni Association leadership and welcome your thoughts, questions, and suggestions to help strengthen our MI, CDS, and MICDS alumni community. Whether you attend an alumni event, volunteer your time, follow along on social media, or return to campus, we hope you will continue to enjoy participating in MICDS' vibrant community.

Cheers to another exciting and impactful school year,

Lindsey, Raj, and Muffy

Lindsey Herzog Shipley '07

President First Vice President

Raj Tailor '92

Muffy Peters Brennan '96 Second Vice President

Muffy Bus

Alumni Gather in New York

New York area alumni toasted their alma mater at the Union Club of New York this past June. Those in attendance reminisced about their time as students and visited with other alumni/ae. **Head of School Jay Rainey** welcomed everyone and addressed the current happenings of the School. Many thanks to **Jack Burkhardt '07** for sponsoring this event.

- 01. (I-r) Marine Yamada, Nicholas Kuntz, Dennis Grigoryan '10, Caroline Niesen '16, Allison Tielking '16, Vineet Chauhan '16, and Shreya Anand '15.
- 02. (I-r) Andrew Levine '02, Jon Powell '00, Amanda Kahn '00, Tracey Lewis Johnston '96, Caroline Stephens '10, Sloane Schaefer '12, Dustin Threlkeld, Kate Rouse '10, Nina Ewing '15, and Carly Reed '10.
- 03. (I-r) George Reynolds '13, Jordan Taylor '14, Lizzy Reisinger '18, Olivia Polk '14, Harry Wellford '17, Gaines Bundy '17, Harrison Smith '15, and Tom O'Hara '15.
- 04. (I-r) Jay Rainey, Jack Burkhardt '07, Elaine Burkhardt, and Steve Burkhardt.
- 05. (I-r) Jon Powell '00, Amanda Kahn '00, Heather Riggin '00, and Clara Borders '01.











Reunion

MAY 4 - MAY 6, 2023

Weekend

Welcome back!

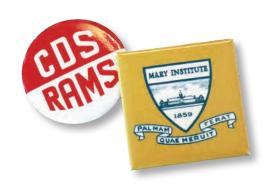
















Reunion

MAY 4 - MAY 6, 2023

Weekend



















Reunion

MAY 4 - MAY 6, 2023

Weekend











- **01.** Congratulations to **Harry Weber '60** for being chosen among 250+ nominees to be immortalized on the St. Louis Walk of Fame in the Delmar Loop. Weber is known worldwide for his in-motion sculptures of both sports and historical figures, and his fingerprints are visible all over St. Louis through Cardinals players at Busch Stadium, Lewis and Clark on the St. Louis riverfront, Chuck Berry mid-strum in the Loop, and Dred and Harriet Scott in front of the Old Courthouse. Weber was inducted in June outside the Peacock Loop Diner in the Delmar Loop.
- **02. Peter Tao '75** was honored by the Very Asian Foundation (VAF) at a St. Louis Cardinals baseball game in October. The VAF celebrated the Cardinals' first-ever AAPI Heritage Night by honoring five incredible people who make St. Louis a better place to live through Asian American enrichment.
- **03.** Dave Steward II '95 of Lion Forge Entertainment struck a deal with Nickelodeon that gives his St. Louis-based film and animation studio an exclusive link to one of the biggest names in children's entertainment. With the deal, Nickelodeon



will have the first right of refusal to produce any of Lion Forge's kids and family content, including animated series, feature films, short form, or digital content. Lion Forge has the option to co-finance and serve as the animation studio for projects it brings to Nickelodeon. In addition, Lion Forge's new TV series, *Iyanu*, is set to premiere on Max and Cartoon Network in 2024.

- **04. Robin Thompson '14** named marketing manager at Brown-Forman He has a portfolio in several states (Michigan, Ohio, North Carolina, New Hampshire, Maine, and Vermont). Thompson holds a BS in marketing from Maryville University, as well as an MBA in marketing from Maryville.
- **05. Skye Patton '23** was selected for a lead role in Disney on Ice. After training in Tampa, Florida, she will travel across the United States and to Canada, Puerto Rico, and Mexico to perform, taking a gap year before attending Taubman Architecture School at the University of Michigan.



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In 1923, the Country Day School Senior Orchestra consisted of nine young menplus banjos, mandolins, a guitar, and a saxophone—and their teacher, Alf. Westphalen, listed in the yearbook as "Instructor stringed instruments." One hundred years later, the MICDS Orchestra program welcomed strings students as young as 8 and as old as 18, all of whom perform in annual concerts. They are supported by three instructors: JK-12 Arts Department Chair and Orchestra Director Dr. Jo Nardolillo, and Orchestra Teachers Erin Hamill and Nicole Kovaluk. Last May, the entire strings and orchestra program—47 students strong—closed their spring concert with a shared performance of *Viva la Vida* by Coldplay.