

# MICDS

THE MAGAZINE

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**Field Day Fun in the Sun**  
Students celebrate the spirit of community



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# 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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MICDSSTL

# Dear MICDS Family,



"Imagination is the air of mind." So declares the title character of Philip James Bailey's 19th-century literary epic *Festus*. Festus is a mortal youth whose name means "joyful," and his dialogue with a cast of other-worldly characters is philosophical. When Festus praises imagination as "the air of mind," he is speaking with "the Muse" about a child's gift for invention. "Oh! to create within the mind is bliss," Festus declares, when "thoughts, like bars of sunshine in shut rooms, / Mid gloom...win the world to light."

That children "create within the mind" is an observation hardly unique to Bailey, of course. Walt Disney said much the same years later. ("Every child is born blessed with a vivid imagination.") That *teachers* can be just as imaginative as the students in their care, however, is a fact less commonly noted—yet it garners substantial support in these pages.

Here you will discover our faculty's imagination at play: state government explorations in Jefferson City for our third-grade students; city management role-playing and breakfast cereal package design work in our Middle School math classes; chemistry and geology connections in our Upper School science program; and exposure to artistic and architectural innovations in our AP Art History course.

A teacher's gift for invention, as each of these stories illustrates, can fan "the air of mind" just as inspirationally as a student's own. How I wish that all members of our MICDS community, spread far and wide across our country and globe as you are, could witness as I do the myriad manifestations of teacher creativity—every day and at every grade level—beyond the few to which practical considerations limit us here. The heft of hundreds of bound pages might risk reader injury!

At the graduation ceremony for the Class of 2024, which we are also celebrating in this issue, I referenced *The Hollow Men* by T.S. Eliot, a St. Louis native and grandson of our school's founder. The poem's final verses achieved notoriety for subverting the innocence of the

nursery rhyme *Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush*:

This is the way the world ends  
This is the way the world ends  
This is the way the world ends  
Not with a bang but a whimper.

My remarks at graduation contrasted Eliot's familiar refrain with the chorus of a song by the alternative rock band R.E.M.—a song from my own senior year of high school:

It's the end of the world as we know it  
It's the end of the world as we know it  
It's the end of the world as we know it  
And I feel fine.

As I urged the Class of 2024 at Commencement, so I urge you here to take very seriously this word "fine." The world's manufacture of rationales for disillusion and despair—essential characteristics of Eliot's poetry according to his *New York Times* obituary—has persisted unabated in the decades since R.E.M. announced their refusal to be cowed by them; and has, regrettably, coincided with the gradual and seemingly universal acceptance of despondency as modern humanity's default emotional state.

How, then, to feel fine? My thoughts return to the essence and necessity of our work at MICDS, once again by way of Bailey's Festus, who suggested that humankind "might be better if we better deemed / Of them. The worst way to improve the world / Is to condemn it." Our Mission compels us to no lesser purpose than to make the world a better place—not to "condemn" the world, but to meet its challenges and "embrace all its people with compassion." Imagination is indispensable to that endeavor. This is the work that we undertake together at MICDS, to "win the world to light."

Happy reading!

**Jay Rainey**  
Head of School

# 31 Members of the Class of 2024 Inducted Into Cum Laude Society

Thirty-one members of the Class of 2024 were inducted into the MICDS Chapter of the Cum Laude Society during a ceremony on Monday, April 15, 2024.

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 college 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 **Chloe Davis '24** and **Intisar Iqbal '24** to share their essays with the Upper School student body during the ceremony.

The following members from the Class of 2024 were selected for membership into the MICDS Chapter of the Cum Laude Society:

Ella Brauer '24

Devon Carruthers '24

Armaan Chandak '24

Ana Chu '24

Henry Clay '24

Ellie Coverdell '24

Agatha Curylo '24

Chloe Davis '24

Shivani Devrapally '24

David Ding '24

Jeffrey Ge '24

Ameer Hajji '24

Janet He '24

Intisar Iqbal '24

Ananya Kamineni '24

Rachel Li '24

Andy Mai '24

Azael Mayer '24

Mikaela Mikulec '24

Louis Niemeyer '24

Isabel Phillips '24

Virginia Portell '24

Emma Rupinski '24

Sameer Shafqat '24

Madison Sineff '24

Samruddh Singh '24

Bing Su '24

Thomas Woodrow '24

Abby Wyckoff '24

Cody Zheng '24

Zoe Zlatic '24

*Congratulations to the newest members of the MICDS Chapter of the Cum Laude Society!*



# MICDS Shares Partial Solar Eclipse Spectacle

On Monday, April 8, 2024, MICDS students, faculty, and staff enjoyed one of nature's grandest and rarest spectacles: a partial solar eclipse with 99% totality. Leading up to the main event, teachers in all divisions touched on various aspects of the celestial event, with Lower Schoolers going all in on "Moon Week." It was a sight to behold, and our community seized the moon-ment as the light and shadows started to change, leading up to near darkness, with streetlights popping on, birds fluttering, and a chilly breeze in the air.

During the special "Moon Week" in the Lower School, students had the unique opportunity to delve into the world of celestial bodies. They enjoyed classroom visits from **Liz Crowder, Lower School Literacy Coordinator**, where she read *Moon! Earth's Best Friend* by Stacy McAnulty. The students engaged in a "cause and effect" literacy activity, which helped them build sentences to improve their reading and comprehension

skills. **Lower School Librarian Thomas Buffington** curated eclipse and planetary book selections and helped students create a LibGuide page to explore additional eclipse resources during Library time.

In Lower School science and math, activities ranged from making models of the earth, moon, and sun out of modeling clay to mapping the distance and ratio of planet size, distance from other

planets, and orbit rotations. Students also created planet models, used light devices to create shadows, and programmed Ozobots to zip through an orbital journey.

In Spanish class, students read *Buenas Noches, Luna*, the Spanish version of the classic

Margaret Wise Brown book *Goodnight, Moon*. Then, after watching a video of how an eclipse works, they created their own sol, luna, and terra models on paper with oil pastels.

On the official eclipse day, our entire community came

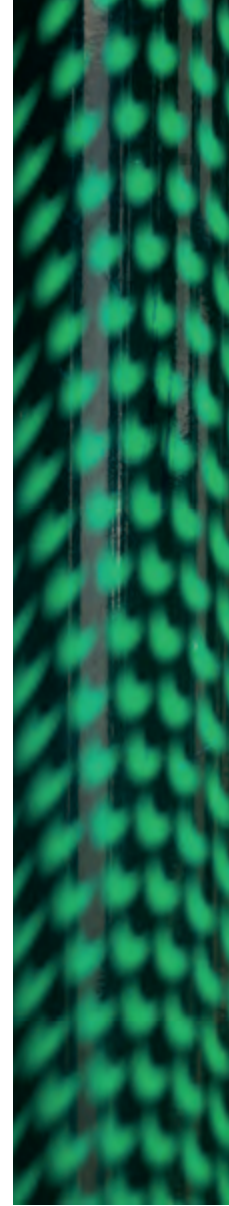


together to witness this celestial wonder. Students eagerly flocked outdoors while teachers orbited around their students, ensuring everyone was using proper ISO-certified solar glasses. All eyes were (safely) on the sky as the moon eclipsed the sun, creating a shared day of cosmic proportions.

Lower Schoolers set up camp on the playground, while Middle Schoolers enjoyed a wide open swath of space with their advisories on Thomas Field. At the same time, Upper Schoolers hung out by advisory on picnic blankets on McCreery Field. During the celestial event, they enjoyed music by our in-house DJ and **Upper School Arts Teacher Patrick Huber**. Top Eclipse Day tunes included *Black Hole Sun* by Soundgarden and the perennial favorite, *Total Eclipse of the Heart* by Bonnie Tyler.

After the event, our community demonstrated its generosity by turning in their eclipse glasses for donation to Eclipse Glasses USA for shipping to children in Latin America in time for the August 2024 eclipse.

Preparing for this fantastic opportunity to witness this historic event with our students, faculty, and staff was such fun. Here's to the next planetary party in 2044!





# A Spirited End for the Class of 2024

## Commencement

The Class of 2024 gathered for one last time at their Commencement on May 19 before launching into the world. A vibrant and enthusiastic audience filled the McDonnell Athletic Center (the MAC), with students and faculty filling the north end to line up for their procession while family and friends found seats and connected with others. Promptly at 4 p.m., MICDS band students began playing *Pomp and Circumstance*, signaling to all that the festivities were beginning. Faculty and administrators processed first, taking their seats that flanked the stage. Then the Class of 2024 began their march up the center aisle, streaming in two-by-two.

**Head of School Jay Rainey** welcomed everyone and introduced two special faculty awards. The Dorothy Wray Roberts Class of 1917 Faculty Merit Award was made possible by a bequest in 1988 in support of teaching excellence. **Eric Kimminau, Lower School Teacher, Olivia Halverson, Middle School English Teacher, and Dr. Ethan Graf, Upper School Science Teacher,** received the award.

The Mary Institute Class of 1940 created the eponymous Distinguished Faculty Award on the occasion of its 50th reunion to recognize a member of the faculty whose work with students has been marked by great distinction. **Meg Mottl, Lower School Teacher, Christine Mayer, Middle School Spanish Teacher, and Fifth Grade Dean, and Cathy Leitch, Upper School History Teacher,** were the award recipients. Congratulations to the extraordinary teachers for their well-deserved recognition.





**Andrew Condie '82**, Chair of the MICDS Board of Trustees, then presented remarks. He noted that the Class of 2024, and indeed all MICDS students, should reflect on not only what they've learned here, but on the people who made this education and experience possible.

Valedictorian **Mikaela Mikulec '24** addressed her classmates with an inspiring and heartfelt speech, full of fond memories and an exhortation to the crowd to cheer on the Girls Lacrosse team, of which she was co-captain, at their upcoming playoff game.

Mr. Rainey returned to the podium to present the Rivinus Award, which is selected by the graduating class each year to honor one of their Upper School teachers. This year's recipient of the Rivinus Award is **Kristin Roberts, History Teacher**.

The Class of 2024 also chose an Upper School teacher to share wisdom and advice at their Commencement. They selected **Max Campbell, History Teacher**, who encouraged them to take time to eat breakfast every day, to be ready to pivot, and to embrace new opportunities.

Finally, it was time to present the graduating class for their diplomas. "Mr. Chairman," Mr. Rainey began, "the MICDS faculty and administration have informed me that these candidates for graduation have completed the necessary requirements and are poised and prepared to receive their diplomas...their passports for the next phase

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of their lives. I ask that the diplomas be released and awarded." Mr. Condie then said, "Mr. Rainey, on behalf of the MICDS Board of Trustees, I hereby release the diplomas to be awarded to the Class of 2024."

**Nicole Trueman, Dean of the Class of 2024**, read each graduate's name as they walked forward, accepted their diplomas, and shook hands with Mr. Rainey and Mr. Condie. It was an emotional time for all.

After much applause for the Class of 2024, **Lindsey Herzog Shipley '07**, President of the MICDS Alumni Association, took a few moments to induct the graduates into the association and to share a few words of wisdom.

Mr. Rainey then shared his thoughts, reminding the graduates that while the world may appear to be ending, while things have been and continue to be dire, the Class of 2024 is well-equipped to make a difference for the better. "It's the end of the world as we know it. It's the end of the world as we know it. It's the end of the world as we know it," he quoted the alternative band R.E.M., "And I feel fine."

After much applause, the MICDS band once again played the new alumni and their former faculty out, before the sound system turned to R.E.M.

Congratulations to the Class of 2024! We can't wait to see what you accomplish. Don't forget to come back and visit!





## Senior Walk

After a day of snacks and selfies, spirit and connection, the Class of 2024 enjoyed the tradition of their Senior Walk, traversing the campus to say goodbye to their younger schoolmates and beloved teachers. Tears were flowing and hugs abounded. Beasley students chanted "SENIORS!" and Middle Schoolers offered applause, cheers, fist bumps, and high fives. At the end, the senior class flag was passed from the 12th-grade Student Council co-chairs, **Devon Carruthers '24** and **Camden-Sinclair Miller '24**, to the rising senior STUCO co-chairs, **Lilly Loeb '25** and **Grant LaMartina '25**.

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## Senior Night

The Friday before Commencement, seniors and their families gathered in Brauer Hall to celebrate the accomplishments of the Class of 2024. Senior Night gave the class as a whole the opportunity to connect one final time before graduation and honor the academic, athletic, and artistic contributions these students have made to their classmates and MICDS.

**Nicole Trueman-Shaw, Dean of the Class of 2024**, shared the podium with invited guests and department chairs as awards were handed out. "Senior Night was special from start to finish because it's a more intimate way for the class to say goodbye to an era," says Trueman-Shaw. "Special thanks to **Dr. Tanya Roth, Upper School History Teacher**, for her exceptional work in planning the evening!"

Before awards were presented, senior class president **Willy Carpenter '24** addressed his classmates. In a poignant speech about the transition from childhood to adulthood that accompanies senior year, he reminded his classmates, "If we are to walk off campus on Sunday and never look back, we won't go very far. The people you've met, the challenges you've faced, and the experiences you've had at MICDS are formative." Emphasizing the important role that MICDS has in the success of the senior class, he said, "We should recognize that MICDS is what grounds us. That having this institution as our foundation propels us forward."

The evening also included remarks made by the **Class of 2024 Salutatorian, Ananya Kamineni '24**, and by the class-selected speaker, **Madison Sineff '24**. All remarks from Senior Night and Commencement can be found in full on the MICDS Blog at [www.micds.org/blog](http://www.micds.org/blog)

"This class set a wonderful tone for the US community all year," said **Scott Small, Head of Upper School**. "I thought Senior Night was an important moment to both celebrate the class and just be in community with them one last time before their graduation."

## Senior Awards

James A. Baur Award: **Henry Cordes '24**

Mary Elizabeth Burlingame Award:  
**Mikaela Mikulec '24**

Head of School Award: **Ella Brauer '24, Willy Carpenter '24, Agatha Curylo '24, Camden-Sinclair Miller '24, and Genesis Starks '24**

Excellence in the Arts Awards:  
**Abby Wyckoff '24, Ben Iken '24, Greyson Brown '24, and Carter White '24**

Eagleton English Award: **Madison Sineff '24**

Kalish History Award: **Thomas Woodrow '24**

Ryan Guilliams Creative Writing Award:  
**Haya Hussain '24**

Mitchell Science Award: **Andy Mai '24**

Nadia Danett Foreign Language Prize:  
**Isabel Phillips '24**

Frederick Werremeyer Mathematics Award:  
**Henry Clay '24**

Faculty Prize: **Kenadi McDile '24**

Aurelian Prize: **Shivani Devrapally '24**

James Andrew Benecke Award: **Bing Su '24**

Wood Humanitarian Award: **Ana Estes '24**

Morse Family 12th Grade Award:  
**Devon Carruthers '24**

Mary Eddy Klein Spirit of Learning Award:  
**Alana Doherty '24**

## Matriculation List

In the Class of 2024, our 150 graduates will attend 85 schools in 27 different states as well as Washington, DC, Canada, Italy, and Scotland. Also, 21 students are planning 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 2024 will be attending. 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  
 Amherst College  
 Auburn University  
 Baylor University  
 Boston College  
 Boston University  
 Brown University  
 Butler University  
 Carnegie Mellon University  
 Case Western Reserve University  
 Claremont McKenna College  
 Colgate University  
 Cornell University  
 Dartmouth College  
 Denison University  
 DePauw University  
 Dickinson College  
 Elon University  
 Florida A&M University  
 George Washington University  
 Gettysburg College  
 Hanover College  
 High Point University

Indiana University-Bloomington  
 John Cabot University  
 Lafayette College  
 Lindenwood University  
 Loyola University Chicago  
 McGill University  
 McKendree University  
 Miami University-Oxford  
 Michigan State University  
 Missouri University of Science and Technology  
 New Jersey Institute of Technology  
 New York University  
 Ohio State University  
 Purdue University  
 Queen's University Kingston (Canada)  
 Queens University of Charlotte  
 Ranken Technical College  
 Rhode Island School of Design  
 Rochester Institute of Technology  
 Rutgers University

Saint Louis University  
 Santa Clara University  
 Southern Methodist University  
 Spelman College  
 Stanford University  
 SUNY at Purchase College  
 Syracuse University  
 Texas Christian University  
 Truman State University  
 Tufts University  
 University of Arizona  
 University of California-Los Angeles  
 University of California-San Diego  
 University of Chicago  
 University of Colorado  
 University of Denver  
 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
 University of Illinois Chicago  
 University of Iowa  
 University of Miami

University of Michigan  
 University of Missouri  
 University of Pittsburgh  
 University of Richmond  
 University of Rochester  
 University of Southern California  
 University of St Andrews  
 University of Tennessee  
 University of Texas  
 University of the South  
 University of Toronto  
 University of Tulsa  
 University of Utah  
 University of Virginia  
 University of Washington  
 University of Wisconsin  
 Villanova University  
 Virginia Tech  
 Wake Forest University  
 Washington and Lee University  
 Washington University in St Louis  
 Wesleyan University



# Ninth-11th Graders Honored at Prize Day

Ninth, 10th, and 11th-grade students gathered in Brauer Auditorium in late spring for Prize Day, the annual Upper School assembly that recognizes students. As **Ellie Chen '26** played the piano, the rising seniors of the Class of 2025 took their seats for the first time in the front of the auditorium, the space reserved for the senior class.

After the awards presentation **Head of Upper School Scott Small** ended the event by sharing some wisdom with an address to inspire the students.

*Congratulations to all our  
2024 Prize Day recipients!*

## LIVING THE MISSION AWARDS

Leadership: **Reagan Hamilton '25**,  
**Cade Miller '26**, and **Lilah Pronger '27**

Respect: **Joe Intagliata '25**, **Harrison Foster '26**,  
and **Jonathan Weiss '27**

Perseverance: **Nina Schuerer '25**,  
**Amelia Mackin '26**, and **Margot Crowley '27**

Service: **Jacob Daus '25**, **Shritha Devisetty '26**,  
and **Lola Compton '27**

## CLASS AWARDS

R.S. Beasley Eleventh Grade Award:  
**Mac Froedge '25**

J.E. Beasley Tenth Grade Award:  
**Robyn Davies '26**

Wilma Jean Messing Ninth Grade Award:  
**Max Padratzik '27**





### COLLEGE BOOK AWARDS

Bowdoin College Book Award: **Abby Derdeyn '25**

Brandeis Book Award: **Saivi Gadi '25**

Brown University Book Award:  
**Zariyah Nance-Leach '25**

Dartmouth Book Award: **Joe Walsh '25**

Princeton University Book Award:  
**Amisha Poojari '25**

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Medal:  
**Jason Song '25**

Rhodes College Book Award:  
**Carli Salazar Estrada '25**

Smith College Book Award:  
**Reagan Hamilton '25**

St. Lawrence College Book Award:  
**Anika Mulkanoor '25**

Tulane Book Award: **Diya Makkapati '25**

University of Pennsylvania Book Award:  
**Hale Foster '25**

University of Virginia Jefferson Book Award:  
**Sophia Huddleston '25**

Yale University Book Award:  
**Jeremy Kalishman '25**

University of Rochester Frederick Douglass and  
Susan B. Anthony Award in Humanities and Social  
Sciences: **Nina Schuerer '25**

University of Rochester Bausch & Lomb  
Honorary Science Award: **Sanjana Gandhi '25**

University of Rochester Xerox Award for  
Innovation and Information Technology:  
**Andrew Haas '25**

University of Rochester George Eastman Young  
Leaders Award: **Arjun Puri '25**

### DEPARTMENT GRADE-LEVEL ACADEMIC AWARDS

World Languages: **Mac Froedge '25, Shil Penilla '26, and Navya Reddy '27**

English: **Joe Intagliata '25, Rose Sabalvaro '26, and Grant Krainik '27**

Nash Poetry Award: **Zoe Gannon '26**

Fine & Performing Arts: **Natalie Benoist '25, Will Fendler '26,  
and Daniel Kuhlman '27**

History & Social Sciences: **Claire Giokas '25, Meredith Mack '26, and  
Lola Compton '27**

Science: **Abhinav Katyal '25, Cade Miller '26, and Daniel Haas '27**

Mathematics & Computer Science: **Norah Wright '25, Hannah Wang '26,  
and Eric Zhang '27**

The Ryan D. Seed '95 Leadership Award was presented to **Kaan Caliskan '27**.

Jay Rainey, Head of School, presented the John E. Mackey Leadership Award  
to **Grant LaMartina '25**.

Josh Smith, Director of Athletics, presented the McKelvey Award for  
leadership in athletics to **Cece Harris '25 and Lucas Allgeyer '25**.

### DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR AWARD

**Andrew Haas '25**

**Siboney Oviedo-Gray '26**

**Forest Gong '27**



## What's For Breakfast? Cylinders, squares, and pyramids...yum!

The cereal market is diverse, so when a major cereal brand asks you to design their new packaging, what do seventh-grade math students do? They design packaging in the shapes of triangular prisms, cylinders, square pyramids, and cones.

A seventh-grade 3D geometry unit provided the perfect inspiration for understanding the surface area and volume of three-dimensional solids, and the cereal box assignment brought the concepts to life.

The assignment: The package must hold the same amount of cereal, which requires measuring the volume of a regular cereal box before designing a new concept. Also, the company prefers the container to use less cardboard (surface area) than the current box model. Students presented four new designs using 3D solids and created a physical prototype for one of the designs. They designed "composite shapes" with two or more simple solids. Everyone had to make a cut list for the product face before drawing, cutting, and assembling their solid shape.



**Middle School Math Teacher Steve Looten** shared, "Some students realized that by starting with a small base, their solid had to be much taller. Some initial designs were over four meters tall! We had to analyze whether or not that would be a practical design to have in stores or at home. Some classes had to make a one-third-scale







model instead of a full-sized one. Their projects analyzed how scaling down the length of a model also changes its surface and volume but in different ratios.”

In the Middle School Makerspace, **Middle School Science Teacher & Maker Coordinator Branson Lawrence** provided students with the materials and tools needed to start cutting and building their various shapes. He said, “It was great to see the students use many different forms of measurement (length, width, height, angles) to create their model accurately. Several students found this more challenging than they might have initially thought.”

Reflecting on the build, **Peter Tschudy '29** shared, “I enjoyed working with friends in the maker space to create our boxes. I was surprised by the difference between the difficulty of the work packet and the actual cardboard project. The packet wasn't too difficult but took much more time and effort than the cardboard project.”

Challenging students to combine different math concepts into 3D form was all part of the plan. **Middle School Math Teacher Cameron Youngman** said,

“This is a great project because it challenges students to combine two major mathematical concepts: algebra and geometry. Incorporating the makerspace is an additional hands-on component that allows students to see how important it is to connect real-life ideas to the dimensions of the shape they need to build.”

**Stella Bergquist '29** said, “The project was so fun, and it was entertaining to figure out all the surface area and the volume of each shape.”

As the students put their mathematical and creative skills to the test, they not only mastered the concepts of geometry but also discovered the practical implications of their designs, making breakfast a truly multidimensional experience.

**“This is a great project because it challenges students to combine two major mathematical concepts: algebra and geometry. Incorporating the makerspace is an additional hands-on component that allows students to see how important it is to connect real-life ideas to the dimensions of the shape they need to build.”**

**MIDDLE SCHOOL MATH TEACHER CAMERON YOUNGMAN**



# Third Grade Journeys to Jefferson City

After learning about cultural regions of long ago and the regions of the United States today, third graders study the state of Missouri in depth (natural features, natural resources, Missouri history, important people of Missouri, and Missouri government). They dove deep into their learning and took a trip to the state capitol of Missouri: Jefferson City. "We've been working for years to make this field trip a possibility, and our hope is that it will continue to be a cornerstone of our social studies work in third grade for years to come," said **JK-12 History Department Chair Carla Federman**, who, with other teachers and parents, tagged along on the trip to support the third grade faculty.

An early arrival at school meant the students could get on the road quickly, arriving at the Capitol building by 9:30 a.m. After a quick bathroom break, they were off and running!

The first stop? The Supreme Court! Students were able to see the seat of the Missouri judiciary, taking in the courtrooms and the Supreme Court Library.

The Supreme Court of the State of Missouri was created in 1820, the year before Missouri officially became a state. Since the state's third constitution was adopted in 1875,



the Supreme Court has been located in Jefferson City, the state's capital. In 1905, using a portion of the proceeds from the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis, the general assembly appropriated \$400,000 to build the present Supreme Court Building.

The class then visited the Capitol House, starting in the rotunda on the first floor and visiting the Hall of Famous Missourians and the House Lounge. A guide explained how the legislative session works.

Students were able to meet with Senator Tracy McCreery of the 24th Senatorial District in St. Louis County, where MICDS is located. "Senator McCreery and several of our tour guides commented on what an amazing group our third graders were," said Federman. "They were curious about everything, from the number of books in the Supreme Court Library to the paintings and insignia on the walls of the Capital, but also deeply interested in and unafraid to ask questions to the many government employees and guides we met with."

Everyone enjoyed lunch outside on the South Lawn before walking to the Governor's Mansion for a tour. The Missouri Governor's Mansion is one of few executive residences in the United States open to the public. It has been the official residence of Missouri's Governors since 1872 and is one of the oldest governors' homes in the United States. It was completed in late December 1871. The cost, including some of the furnishings, was \$74,960. The Mansion was designed by noted St. Louis architect George Ingham Barnett and is an example of Second Empire architecture, a style characterized by the patterned mansard roof popular in the 1860s. The original three-story structure was built containing 13 bedrooms and no bathrooms or closets. The home includes a freestanding winding stairway with a hand-carved black walnut banister, marble fireplaces, elaborate 17-foot ceilings, and handsome Renaissance Revival furnishings.

Their final stop was a visit to Jefferson's Landing, a former general store turned into an interactive museum. A guide led the students through the museum, explaining exhibits along the way.



"In the second semester, third grade focuses in on Missouri history and government, and this field trip was able to bring so much of that to life," said Federman. "The opportunity to hear about the judicial branch while sitting in the main courtroom in the Missouri Supreme Court, or ask questions of a state Senator in the halls of the Capital, or tour the Governor's Mansion, all were remarkable opportunities for our students. And, this gave them a unique opportunity to practice so many of the skills that they've been working on all year, from note-taking, to interviewing, to summarizing, to digital literacy!"

At each location, students worked on graphic organizers designed to help them get the most of this field trip. They recorded what they noticed and answered questions such as "What is the purpose of this building?" and "Who works here and what are their jobs?" They noted two facts about each spot, and considered additional questions that their visit sparked. Their last page encouraged them to be creative, filling an outline of the state of Missouri with words, images, questions, ideas, observations, and wonderings from the day.



The bus ride home was made more enjoyable by Central Dairy ice cream cups.

What a wonderful experience for our third-grade citizens. "I am so grateful to **Third Grade Homeroom Teachers Meg Mottl and Jessica Lloyd, and Teaching Associate Angela Bruun**, for the tremendous amount of work that they put in to make this field trip happen. Their love of experiential learning and exceptional attention to detail is what made all this possible," said Federman. Hear, hear! We couldn't have said it better ourselves!



# Welcome to Math City

## Where Minecraft and Math Collide

*By Dustin Delfin, Middle School Math Teacher*

At the beginning of the school year, sixth-grade math students created a fictional Math City to simulate their everyday lives. As we explored new concepts, students used those skills and applied them to real-world situations connected to our math city.

To start, students were given fictional bank accounts using MyKidsBank.org, allowing each to establish their own financial stake in Math City. Students earned DY (Delfin/Youngman) Dollars by participating in class and through accurate formative assessment responses. This experience helps students understand movement on a number line, positive and negative rational numbers, and absolute value.

Similar to The Game of Life, students selected the education they wanted for themselves (Associate, Bachelor, Master, or Doctoral degrees) and calculated the amount of their monthly student loan. They then selected a career and computed their monthly net income by taking out taxes and other deductions.

Next, students purchased a property within the Minecraft Math City and calculated the monthly cost of their home (including interest and taxes) after taking out a 30-year mortgage. These financial tasks involved finding a percent of a number and using proportions to solve for the unknown values.

**“I thought the project was a perfect balance between having fun and using the things we learned to make the house and business in the Math City. The project was a great experience, I learned new math skills, and I had lots of fun building my house and business.”**

GEMMA AMINI '26



After working on these computations, students' monthly bills were automatically deducted from their accounts while their monthly income was automatically deposited. From there, students were tasked with monitoring their finances.

Students began constructing their Math City in Minecraft at the midpoint of the year. The city was designed using the coordinate plane to guide its layout, creating properties of land that provide space for students to build their structures. The ordered pairs in this city represented the addresses of buildings and structures. Students worked together to design and construct various buildings to contribute to their town. With the help of **Middle School Science Teacher & Maker Coordinator Branson Lawrence**, their designs became reality using the 3D printer to build their Math City homes to spec. This allowed students to use their critical thinking and collaboration skills to solve problems, including zoning, area, perimeter, and volume.

**Julia Leonard '30** said, "Something I enjoy about Math City is experiencing what it's going to be like when we are grown up, like having to pay taxes and bills. We are also learning to spend our money wisely by choosing the house we can afford the most. I love that we get to use Minecraft to make our Math City, and it is so much fun to build our own houses and buildings!"

**Connor Berkes '26** liked the design process as well. He said, "I enjoyed being able to build very personalized designs for our homes. I found it challenging to build our houses in a limited amount of time."

"I thought the project was a perfect balance between having fun and using the things we learned to make the house and business in the Math City," said **Gemma Amini '26**. "The project was a great experience, I learned new math skills, and I had lots of fun building my house and business."

Fellow **Sixth-Grade Math Teacher Cameron Youngman** added, "Jumping back into sixth-grade math this year was so much fun thanks to Mr. Delfin's innovative teaching style. He does an amazing job finding ways to bridge students' interests to our curriculum. We focused on using Minecraft to teach students about the coordinate plane, area, perimeter, and writing algebraic expressions. It was amazing to see the students make connections when they weren't even building on Minecraft. They often would take notes or work on assignments and express, 'Ohhhh, this is why we had to count each unit of our house!' It's those 'aha!' moments that really validate what we do as educators."



**"Something I enjoy about Math City is experiencing what it's going to be like when we are grown up, like having to pay taxes and bills. We are also learning to spend our money wisely by choosing the house we can afford the most. I love that we get to use Minecraft to make our Math City, and it is so much fun to build our own houses and buildings!"**

**JULIA LEONARD '30**



# Juniors Study the Chemistry Under Our Feet

## A visit to Washington University offers new perspectives

MICDS juniors learned more about the chemical makeup of the very ground we walk on. **Upper School Science Teachers Andi Galluppi '10** and **Dr. Meg Yoshioka-Tarver** accompanied AP Chemistry students on a field trip to Washington University. There, they received a private lecture from Dr. Bob Dymek, professor emeritus of the school's Earth, Environmental, and Planetary Science Department, and toured the university's lab.

Understanding chemistry can be a key component of understanding geology. "Rocks are made out of different minerals, and the students researched chemical compositions of minerals," said Dr. Meg. "For example, the chemical composition of sapphire and ruby ( $Al_2O_3$ ) are exactly the same. However, the small impurity in the rock makes the gems in totally different colors."

The research instruments and methodology interested **Sam Matisziw '25**. "I thought the part where we got to see the lab was the most interesting part...the different instruments and methods they used to identify different minerals. I also liked [learning] how bond geometries can influence the shape of crystals/minerals, which we already learned about in class."

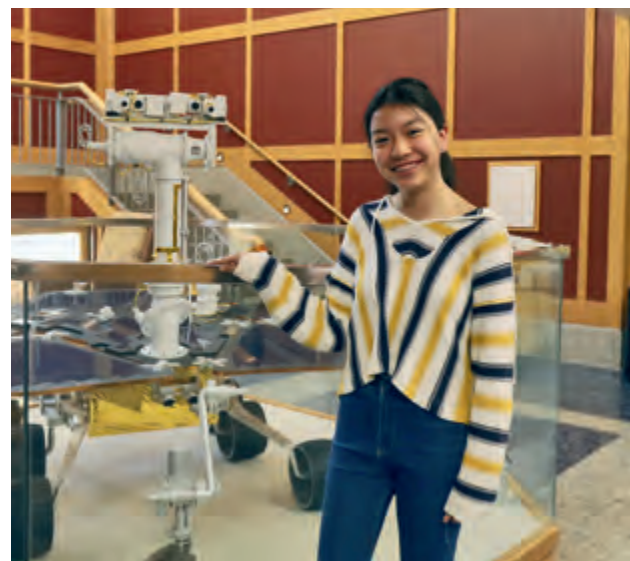
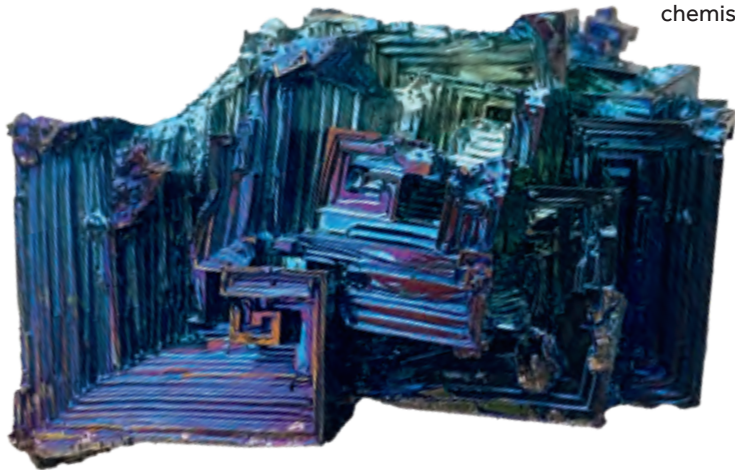
The trip allowed students to observe rock samples in the university's extensive collection and learn more about inorganic chemistry by building on the lessons they have been studying in class at MICDS. **Nina Schuerer '25** saw the important connections between chemistry and geology. "The field trip was so much fun, especially when we got to see the electron probe because it integrated my love of physics," she says. "There were so many connections to chemistry, too, more than one

might think there would be between these two subjects. As someone who was originally kind of skeptical about the field trip, I thought it was really educational and interesting."



**Ian Boon '25** reacted similarly, saying, "I enjoyed seeing the concepts learned in chemistry apply to other fields of study."

Finding common ground between chemistry and geology was an important element of the trip that Dr. Meg hoped her students would explore. **Aniket Joshi '25** was glad for the experience. He summarized, "It's really great to see chemistry in the real world with such an amazing application!"





## Baroque Music Comes to Life

### Visiting Artist Shares His Passion

At the invitation of **Dr. Jo Nardolillo, JK-12 Arts Department Chair and Orchestra Director**, Kenneth Kulosa spent a day visiting and coaching MICDS Middle and Upper School music students. Kulosa is a world-renowned cello player specializing in Baroque music. He plays professionally in France during the summers when he is not teaching at Webster University and Washington University, tutoring musicians, or playing as a member of Chamber Project St. Louis. Our students thoroughly enjoyed a day of demonstrations, lessons, practice sessions, and conversation.

# MICDS Honors Four With Distinguished Alumni Award

On Tuesday, April 2, 2024, MICDS honored four of its own with the Distinguished Alumni Award, presenting medallions to **Carol Bodenheimer Loeb '59**, **Dr. Jay Mason '64**, **Linda Wells '76**, and **Joe Buck '87** at an Upper School Assembly. They are each outstanding in their chosen fields and continue to make a positive impact on our world. From educational philanthropy and innovation in cardiology to trailblazing journalism and award-winning sports broadcasting, each one of these former students personifies the mission of MICDS.



The honorees spent time earlier in the day with small groups of students, sharing their experiences in intimate settings while also learning a little about what it's like to be an MICDS student today. The US community then gathered in Braur Auditorium for a formal presentation and assembly. After the Chamber Choir sang the *Alma Mater* and **Head of School Jay Rainey** introduced and presented medallions to the alumni, ninth through 12th-grade students were treated to a lively panel discussion with our honorees, moderated by **JK-12 English Department Chair Lynn Mittler**. Mittler asked our alumni questions that had been submitted by Upper School students.

**“Each of you has broken barriers in your field and beyond,” began Mittler. “Tell us about your hardest barrier and what you needed to do to accomplish this?”**

Loeb kicked off the answers. “The hardest barrier for me was 61 years ago when I started my teaching career at JBS. I entered a male-dominated math department, which wasn't unusual then,” she said. There were four male math teachers who were all 15 to 40

years older than Loeb, and well versed in teaching. She noted that they were all out of their element: they had never taught in a co-ed environment before, and she had never taught at all. “I forged really strong relationships with them, and relationships with other faculty members and the administration. I earned their respect by performing well. I tried to be energetic and collaborative, not competitive, and confident but not cocky.” She noted that, thankfully, times have changed, and it's much easier for women entering the workforce.

Mason explained that he desired to conduct clinical research and to do that, you need money. At the time, much of the funding for research came from chemical companies, and those companies decided what to research, how to analyze it, and how it was reported. “That, I did not like,” he said. After determining that there was funding available through grants, he set about making it happen. “I studied the game. I learned as much as I could about grant funding mechanisms and how to convince, reading research grants every quarter. I submitted a hundred research grants a year, sometimes 30-40 per quarter, and each grant would take 20 hours.



**“If I were to be serious and go back to school in the 50s knowing what I know now, I think I would be a much better steward of the earth. I would be much more aware of my actions, pay attention to water consumption, recycle more, and pay attention to conservation, all the things we have to deal with as a global issue now.”**

**CAROL BODENHEIMER LOEB '59**



The payment for this was zero, but I learned how to write a grant. The trick was that your idea didn't have to be that good; it could even be bad, but if you could present clear logic on why it should be studied and if you could state it in writing with great clarity, that's all you had to do. I ended up being awarded about \$90 million in National Institute of Health funds. I want to give thanks to Country Day for that, now MICDS, because the clarity of writing is so critical, more than the idea and even more than the logic behind it." He reminisced for a moment. "My writing skills just got hammered by an English teacher who was only here for three years: Alan B. Howard. He took a red pencil to everything we wrote as students and just hammered it. You really learned how to make a concise statement. So, MICDS, thank you for those \$90 million dollars."

Wells shared about the challenge she faced when she transitioned from writing for *Vogue* and began at *The New York Times*, and elaborated on Mason's thoughts about learning how to write. "I was the lightweight of all lightweights," she said. "I was reporting beauty and fashion in a world where the value was in being a war correspondent and being a serious person. I was not a serious person. I was hired on trial for about three months, and they would decide whether to keep me based on my performance. It was a lot of pressure. I decided I would bring the same type of reportorial rigor to a subject usually treated as ditzy, and report the living daylights out of it. I made it cultural. I found the meaning out of what was going on, because there's cultural meaning in everything. I learned how to report by watching everyone else report. I killed myself in order to make what I was doing respectable. That really worked out. I had a similar teacher [as Mason]. I had a teacher here who pushed and pushed and was so annoying, and she would not let it go, and I'm so grateful for that. The skill of writing is so diminished, and yet writing is so important to clarity. You don't need a writing career to find value in writing. I had the value of that at MI, plus a real need to watch and improve all the time. That was a really important aspect of success for me."

Buck took the conversation in a humorous, salty direction. "I wrote a book called *Lucky Bastard*," he stated. "I am both lucky and a bastard." He was charmingly self-effacing. "To think I broke through barriers is comical. I am the luckiest person in the history of anyone who earned this award. You all are too young to remember my dad. His name was Jack Buck. He was a Hall of Fame broadcaster for the Cardinals, and he worked for CBS and NBC. I got to have a master class in my home and every night of my summer and most of my school year from one of the best to ever do it. I walked the halls in the roaring 80s as Jack Buck's kid. I'm in awe of the three people to my left." Buck then admitted that perhaps it wasn't the easiest to be the son of a well-known personality whose career matched the one he wanted. "I was trying to put the idea of being Jack Buck's kid to the side and forge my own career and make

*continued on page 24 >>*





**“My advice is to identify your main competitor and then immediately stop competing with them. Instead, compete with yourself. Perfect whatever you’re doing; make whatever you’re doing better. The moment you attach your efforts to beating them, you’re attached without a stake, and you won’t be able to be as creative or able to perfect your thing as well as you could if you ignore them. Compete primarily with yourself.”**

DR. JAY MASON '64

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my own way. I am now 54, and I still think of myself as Jack Buck’s son.” Although he has earned his own spot in the Sportscasters Hall of Fame and numerous accolades through years of hard work, he remains humble. “I broke no barriers. I’m a lucky bastard, and I’m thankful I went to school here,” he said.

**Mittler shared the next question: “If you could go back to high school knowing what you know now, is there anything you would do differently?”**

Loeb at first said she wouldn’t change a thing. “My 13 years at MI were very functional, happy, simplistic years, where we could walk around the city and not worry about crime. We had freedom that you all don’t have because times are so different now.” She shared a fond memory of a typical day: the figure skating club taking the MI school bus on Wednesday afternoons to the winter garden to

skate, enjoying a meal at the Parkmoor before returning to school, and then maybe going home to study. “If I were to be serious and go back to school in the 50s knowing what I know now, I think I would be a much better steward of the earth,” she reflected. “I would be much more aware of my actions, pay attention to water consumption, recycle more, and pay attention to conservation, all the things we have to deal with as a global issue now. If I were to go back now, in the 2020s, I think would immerse myself in technology: programming, coding, and artificial intelligence. The thing I really want to do is to learn every language of the world so I can communicate with everyone face to face in their own language and meet people where they are.”

Mason said he would specialize in his studies. “Pick one area, one class, and go way beyond that. Specialize in something. Do it by taking advantage of what is available to you here. At Princeton, we had a preceptor system. Every large class—defined as 30 or more students—had an extra class several times a week where you could go to and sit down with a preceptor and learn more. I never did it, not once. I never went to my CDS teachers and tried to take advantage of those teachers’ expertise. You learn how to learn by doing that. What you learn at MICDS, what you learn in college and graduate school, is a drop in the bucket compared to what you have to learn to be successful. There is a wealth of information available on the internet; please learn how to learn and do it now, while you’re in high school.”

Wells shared that she liked school and is grateful for everything she learned, but “I would have taken SAT tutoring, probably from Carol. I took the test only once, and I didn’t do well, and I didn’t get into the school I wanted. I had to make my own education and push it further.” She credits her time at MI for opening the world more to her. “I went to live with a family in Turkey when I was 16, and it was





an exceptional opportunity that I wouldn't have gotten if I hadn't been here." She wishes she'd have done more of that. "I'd get out of my world and put myself in uncomfortable situations and do things that weren't easy, instead of swimming all summer. I should have tried a little harder to get into a better school. Other than that, it was a great experience." Then she paused for a moment and continued. "I wouldn't have smoked and drank Diet Coke and sunbathed simultaneously. I wouldn't recommend it." The audience laughed. "But you guys are much smarter than I was."

Buck said that if he could go back, he would not have gotten up one snowy weekend morning, gone to campus, got into a snowball fight with friends, and broken a window. "I felt guilty for weeks," he said, finally admitting to the head of school that he had broken the window. "That's the type of person I am. I carry guilt. I was the good kid," he said. "There's nothing I would do differently, but I would tell myself now, as a 54-year-old man looking back at a 16-year-old kid, 'Be more positive. Have a better self-dialogue. Put the schoolyard self aside.'" He told a story about being overweight and made fun of by a boy a year older. "It made me tough, but it wore me down.

I learned to use words to turn attention back on that kid. So, if I went back, I would learn to navigate high school as a confident kid, knowing that everything would be ok. Life is what you make it, this school is what you make of it, and the next level after you go here is what you make of it." He matriculated to Indiana University and it was a great fit for him. "It was gigantic, and I was just a number. I could find my own way and my friends and see where I fit. If you have a lack of confidence or you think the weight of the world is on your shoulders, it gets better and you grow and mature and find your people and blossom. It took me a while to come up with something, but I would want to be a more confident person as a teenager."

### **Mittler asked the panel a third question: "Risk is inherent in the work you do. How did you overcome failure and achieve success?"**

Loeb shared that her greatest personal risk was when she left the formal environment of teaching in a school and began tutoring students in her home. "There's not a lot of risk as a teacher," she said, "You're embedded in a school environment with an administration, and there are a lot of layers to your protection." When she began tutoring students to take the SAT, the stakes felt higher. "You have a personal risk because you want your students to do as well as they can in whatever discipline you're in. On standardized tests, you want their scores to be high enough to get into where they want to go. You have to try different ways of teaching and accommodate their learning styles and personalities. So you work harder and harder and do whatever it takes to make the learning experience a positive one for your students."

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**"The skill of writing is so diminished, and yet writing is so important to clarity. You don't need a writing career to find value in writing. I had the value of that at MI, plus a real need to watch and improve all the time. That was a really important aspect of success for me."**

LINDA WELLS '76





**“If I went back, I would learn to navigate high school as a confident kid, knowing that everything would be ok. Life is what you make it, this school is what you make of it, and the next level after you go here is what you make of it.”**

JOE BUCK '87

*continued from page 25 >>*

Mason's sense of risk is also tied to other people. “My risk is my patients' risk,” he said. He spoke about his time at Stanford when he specialized in studying cardiac arrhythmia and sudden death. Most people don't survive sudden cardiac death, but those who do require treatment and protection against having another episode. “I had a lot of referrals coming to me. The problem was, however, I treated them, it had to work because if the treatments weren't effective, they would die. The method I developed involved putting electro catheters in the heart and using programmed stimulations of the heart to make beats occur in a particular sequence.” He was effectively inducing the fatal arrhythmia. “The patient would pass out, then we'd use a drug to try to initiate the rhythm again. As it turned out, it worked. That was the first really big clinical grant I got from the NIH: to settle this process where we demonstrate this works. How did we overcome this risk? Hard work. Purely by hard work. The faculty at Stanford was totally against the idea of doing this. They said, 'You're going to kill people?' I convinced them with hard work and a huge amount of practice in the cath lab. We learned how to resuscitate patients. It was hard preparation and extreme prep that made it possible to overcome these risks.”

Wells shared that her biggest risks—starting a new magazine, starting a makeup line, and starting another new magazine—didn't feel risky to her because she knew what she needed to do. “The riskiest part was the beginning: getting that first job and keeping it. It was unknown; I didn't know what work was and what it required. Every day was Groundhog Day, and it was so hard. Each step you take makes you more capable of taking the next step, and those incremental moments are very manageable once you get in the door, and that leads to success going forward. Then, when I started *Allure*, all the other media people were really after it and trying to knock it down. Before we even came out with the first issue, there were articles in the *Wall Street Journal* saying it would be a failure. I took that inspiration to defy it, and if there's anything you can learn, it requires a certain amount of resiliency and thick skin you develop over time.”

Buck agreed. “It's the idea of fake it 'til you make it,” he said. “I did that in '94 when I auditioned to go to Fox Sports. I had done two years of minor league, then three years with the Cardinals, and then Fox Sports dropped out of the sky and had the rights to football. I had never broadcast football, and they were trying to legitimize it. I had done college basketball, horse jumping, and baseball. I was 24 when I flew out to California and did a game in front of all the Fox executives. It went well, and had that audition not gone well, the entire course of my professional life would have changed. I had worked for it, prepared for it my entire life, being in my dad's shadow. Before I left, I practiced doing a game with my dad. He told me the do's and don'ts, and it all kind of took off from there. That was the biggest junction that could have gone one way or the other. That was the most risky. I just went and did it. You do what's in front of you and hope it goes well.”



**Mittler’s final question was, “Do you think the world is as competitive as people say it is, and how do you persevere by honoring your personal strengths and talents?”**

Buck admitted that the world is very competitive, “but there’s always room for talent and hard work. It’s easy to look at the number of people looking for a job or admission to a school and think, ‘The numbers are against me, and I’m not going to make it.’ I’m here to tell you: you are...if you’re willing to work and put the effort and sweat into it. This place is a great breeding ground. I wasn’t a great student, but I was a good kid. I tried to go about things the right way. I had a leg up, but if you are talented and willing to put the work in, there’s no limit to what you can do. Do not look at the numbers and get discouraged. Get excited that you’ll end up on top.”

Wells told the students that it always feels daunting when you’re on the outside. “It was competitive when I started. When I moved to New York there were hiring freezes everywhere. It was never easy, but you have to have faith in yourself and put yourself in a situation where you’re taking risks. You might embarrass yourself and do something stupid, but if you’re capable of recovering from that, you’ll do well. We all think someone else is lucky, or think about an advantage someone has, a legacy, or that they’re attractive or talented, and it seems like you’re not going to be included. You can put yourself in the path of luck by being really prepared and educated and doing the work.” She shared a quote from Louis Pasteur: “Luck favors the prepared mind,” and continued. “You can make yourself lucky if you work hard enough and are prepared for it. If you’re open to opportunities and not afraid of them. There are many once you get out in the world and stop getting in your own way. We all feel a little self-conscious. You have to put yourself out there and do the work.”

Mason continued along that line. “It is competitive; it’s cutthroat. It is particularly competitive in academic medicine. Clinical sciences are competing for grant money, and the competition is fierce. The

payline is 5%. Only 5% of NIH grants are funded. There is competition to get your work published, to gain tenure, and move up the food chain. My advice is to identify your main competitor and then immediately stop competing with them. Instead, compete with yourself. Perfect whatever you’re doing; make whatever you’re doing better. The moment you attach your efforts to beating them, you’re attached without a stake, and you won’t be able to be as creative or able to perfect your thing as well as you could if you ignore them. Compete primarily with yourself.”

Loeb said, “Competition is inherent in the world we live in. If you don’t compete, you fall by the wayside because you won’t be as good as the next person. But as Jay said, compete with yourself. I try to use competition to be the best person and educator I can be. In no way would I ever sacrifice my morals and values and strengths to accomplish that. Your mission statement is to live a life of purpose and service and I strongly believe that. I know you all will reflect the education and values you learn here. At my college graduation, our commencement speaker in 1963 was then Secretary General U Thant of the United Nations. He said to take the privilege and value of this special gift, your education, and make a difference in the world. I can see, especially from the girls I met today, you will make a difference in the world; you already are.”

Buck rounded out the session with some personal advice. “If you were my kids, I would say, ‘Be serious, but don’t take yourself too seriously.’ Please be able to laugh at yourself. Take the pressure off, and if you make a mistake, know you’ll do better the next time. Nobody’s perfect, you’re not perfect...chill. Be nice to the person next to you. It’s amazing what that will bring your life.”

Congratulations to all four of our Distinguished Alumni, and thank you for spending time with our Upper School students.

Read the official bios of each of our 2024 honorees here:



# A Celebration of Dedication

## MICDS Honors Milestone Employees

It's tradition to recognize our long-serving employees at our annual spring All-School Assembly, where students and faculty/staff can bear witness to the dedication of these amazing contributors to our community. Congratulations to all!

**40**  
YEARS

Sue Orlando,  
Lower School Physical Education Teacher

**35**  
YEARS

Christopher Rapple, Jr.,  
Upper School English Teacher

**25**  
YEARS

Paul Imbeaux, Maintenance Team  
Brian Coco, Upper School Science Teacher  
Charlotte Dougherty,  
Middle School Drama Teacher and Dean  
Scott Small, Head of Upper School  
Jason Rajchart, Groundskeeping Team

**20**  
YEARS

Dana Self,  
Upper School Performing Arts Teacher  
Julius Glenn,  
Environmental Services

**15**  
YEARS

Nolan Clarke,  
Middle School Science Teacher  
Mark Duvall,  
Middle School History Teacher and Dean  
Daniel Sadicario,  
Upper School English Teacher

**10**  
YEARS

Susan Weber, Business Office  
Christopher Barker,  
Upper School World Languages Teacher  
Steven Crumb,  
Upper School World Languages Teacher  
Elizabeth Wells '99,  
Upper School History Teacher  
Matthew Essman,  
Director of College Counseling  
Sarah Elliott-Vandiver,  
Upper School World Languages Teacher  
Branson Lawrence, Middle School Science  
Teacher/Maker & Robotics Coordinator  
Brooke Williams, Upper School Arts Teacher  
Matthew Blair,  
Director of Extended Day Program  
Carmen Sharp, Environmental Services

*Thank you for your continued commitment to MICDS!*



# Laura Pupillo Serves as Green Mentor

MICDS, with **Lower School Science Teacher Laura Pupillo** leading the effort, was a finalist in the Green School's Quest contest, "an annual project-based challenge to PreK-12 schools to devise and implement no/low-cost sustainability projects at their school over a six month period of time with the help of a community volunteer who serves as a Green Mentor. Schools document their impact, such as energy savings or increased biodiversity, during the project and submit their project's process and impact for judging by an impartial panel at the conclusion." Thanks for all you do in honor of sustainability, Ms. Pupillo!



## Helfant Receives ATLIS Pillar Award



**Elizabeth Helfant, Dean of Curriculum & Instruction**, was recognized as a recipient of the ATLIS (Association of Technology Leaders in Independent Schools) Pillar Award! The ATLIS Pillar Award program recognizes those often unsung heroes who exemplify the ATLIS mission—to empower schools to thrive through technology leadership. Helfant was honored onstage and joined at the conference by MICDS employees **Sudha Venkatachalam, Data Analyst, Lynn Mittler, JK-12 English Department Chair, Stewart Crais, Chief Technology Officer, and Jason Ulrich, Institutional Data Manager.**

Helfant has contributed through her thought leadership, volunteerism, mentorship, and support of the ATLIS

community. Her body of work has made a significant impact on ATLIS and the entire community of technology leaders in independent schools.

"So often, technology leaders work quietly in the background of our schools, making sure our communities remain safe and creating special, impactful moments in our students' independent school experiences," said Denise Musselwhite, ATLIS board chair and founder of Tech & Thrive, a leadership consulting firm.

Upon receiving the award, Helfant shared, "The previous Pillar Award winners are folks who have been my mentors and thinking partners, and I am humbled to be included in that group."

# MICDS Teachers Prized For Their Expertise

## Presenters and Panelists at Conferences Share Their Wisdom



**“Several participants commented that the activities we shared seemed engaging and thought-provoking, and they were extremely excited to try the activities with their students.”**

**FIRST GRADE HOMEROOM  
TEACHER ROBIN CAMPBELL**

### Broberg, Campbell, and Crowder Present at STLinATL Conference

**Diane Broberg, JK-12 Math Department Chair**, was one of three MICDS faculty members who presented at the Summit for Transformative Learning conference hosted by Woodward Academy in Atlanta, Georgia. She presented two workshops.

Her first workshop, *Building Thinking Classrooms*, was created to help teachers design ways for students to engage in mathematical thinking. It is based on the book by the same name that was written by Peter Liljedahl.

Her second workshop, *Engaging Students with TI Technology—Using the NSpire & Navigator*, was designed to introduce teachers to the features of the TI Navigator to engage students in math class. They explored data collection and distribution along with formative assessment.

“It’s always rewarding to return from a presentation to emails from participants who are excited to use what they have learned,” Broberg shared. “Several participants sent messages about their lessons and how they used activities that we had done together the day before.”

**First Grade Homeroom Teacher Robin Campbell and Lower School Literacy Coordinator Liz Crowder** gave a presentation called *Learning Through Authentic Thematic Units*. Thematic units incorporating literacy, math, science, and art are powerful tools for creating engaging, authentic, student-centered learning experiences. These units can effectively build curiosity in students and allow them to explore a topic across various subjects while also providing ample opportunities for students to demonstrate their knowledge of a topic and make meaningful connections across different areas of study.

“The feedback Liz and I received from the class participants was overwhelmingly positive and truly validated that the work we are doing with our Lower School is of the highest quality,” said Campbell. “Several participants commented that the activities we shared seemed engaging and thought-provoking, and they were extremely excited to try the activities with their students.”





## Dr. Kevin Slivka Presents on Two Art-Related Panels

Last April, **Kevin Slivka, Upper School Fine Arts Teacher**, spoke at the Kistler Beach Museum of Art as a distinguished speaker at a symposium called *Kansas Schools, Native Americans, and the New Deal*. The symposium was organized in conjunction with the exhibition *To the Stars Through Art: A History of Art Collecting in Kansas Public Schools, 1900-1950*. At the symposium, Dr. Slivka spoke on a panel about *Contextualizing Arts Education During the Boarding School Era: Carlisle Indian Industrial School and Haskell Institute*.

Dr. Slivka also spoke at the National Art Education Association Conference as part of an invited panel presentation called *Acknowledging Indigenous Histories in Art Education and Historiography in Art Education*.

He gave context to his talks. "Both presentations were intended to inform audience members concerning assimilationist practices which

occurred during the boarding school era for indigenous students," Slivka said. "The National Art Education Association panel presentation also covered my work with Anishinaabeg artists in 2012 to expand Indigenous art practices in contemporary spaces that include traditional art practices. I also touched upon my participation with Indigenous artists in 2019, which involved a print exchange and resulted in numerous exhibitions across university spaces that considered personal relationships to home.

"The second presentation at Kansas State University was to provide context to Indigenous art during the boarding school era, in particular, with the Carlisle Indian Industrial School. This presentation entirely focused on archival research and provided information for understanding artwork that originated out of Haskell University by a colleague and work produced during the WPA time period in Kansas."

## Dr. Nardolillo Inspires Music Teachers at Conference



**Dr. Jo Nardolillo, JK-12 Arts Department Chair and Orchestra Director**, delivered a presentation at the American String Teachers Association National Conference in Louisville, Kentucky. Her presentation was entitled *Orchestrating Your Canvas Page: Enhance and Extend Your Orchestra Classroom*. Her seminar demonstrated engaging and meaningful ideas for using Canvas (or a similar LMS) to enhance and extend a classroom with individualized, personal instruction and feedback. The talk was inspired by TikTok, YouTube, and the impossibility of teaching orchestra during the COVID lockdown. She gave listeners numerous tricks to engage students of all ages and backgrounds, building off of the media that students already know.



## Dr. Grace Lee Serves on Be Heard—Women in Leadership Conference Panel

**Dr. Grace Lee, Dean of Faculty**, served as a panelist in the Be Heard—Women in Leadership conference. The conference was hosted by the Emerson Leadership Institute at Saint Louis University and draws "hundreds of distinguished academics, businesses, and next-generation leaders from St. Louis and beyond for a series of presentations, discussions, debates, keynotes and networking sessions under the goal of advancing gender equity, empowering women, and creating a culture of holistic well-being for all." Dr. Lee spoke on the Asian Women in Leadership Panel.

# Creating a Haven for Growth

## Bridget Wallace surrounds her students with experiences and love

**Bridget Wallace's** Junior Kindergarten classroom is a haven on the 100-acre MICDS campus, and her charges enjoy every moment they spend there. The colorful environment can range from decidedly peaceful during naptime to full of raucous joy and laughter while learning. Wallace loves every moment.

The 14-year veteran educator comes by her vocation honestly; it's nothing but a family thing. Her mother was a high school teacher, both of her sisters are early childhood educators, and several aunts and cousins teach. "It was something I was always surrounded with," she said. "I knew when I was younger that I wanted to be a teacher." In the fourth grade, she wrote essays with her classmates about what she wanted to be when she grew up. For Wallace, it was easy: she was going to teach. Her fifth-grade English teacher, Mrs. Dultz, gave her the framework that inspires her teaching to this day. "I remember her talking to us like we were humans," she said. "She would of course correct us, but she'd never get too upset." Wallace also enjoyed the humor she brought to the classroom, using silly sayings like, "You got your mords wixed." Fifth grade is a hard age, Wallace admits, and she appreciates that Mrs. Dultz always responded with calm patience. "I saw her again when I was a teen, and she was exactly the same."





Wallace combines this calm patience with a vibrant spirit for learning each day in her lessons at Beasley, whether she's teaching in her classroom, the pollinator garden, or on the playground. She incorporates the ideas of Reggio Emilia, an educational philosophy that focuses on social collaboration and communication and understands that a child's environment is also their teacher.

Her first students were her own three children, and she enjoyed staying home with them and volunteering in the library at their preschool. "After 11 years, I decided it was time to get in the classroom," she shared. When her youngest was in kindergarten, she went back to school, first to finish her undergraduate degree at University of Missouri-St. Louis. "I was juggling a lot with kids and school," she admitted, but she persevered and went on to earn her master's in early childhood education at Webster University. As part of that program, she traveled to Italy with fellow **Junior Kindergarten Teacher Ginny Otto** to see the origins of Reggio Emilia in person. "We were able to be in classrooms and study their schools," she said.

Learning never stops for Wallace. She's a member of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, and seizes every opportunity that MICDS offers. Right now, she and other early childhood educators are going through Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) and Core Knowledge Language Arts & Literacy Curriculum (CKLA) training. She's excited about both opportunities, and grateful for the guidance and support of **Head of Lower School Amy Scheer** and **Lower School Literacy Coordinator Liz Crowder**. She also takes advantage of her own community. "I'm always talking to my sisters and my teacher friends," she said. "We love sharing things when we learn about them. I also research on my own and reflect, honestly, about what I know, what's true about these kids, and what I think is the best practice."

She enjoys carefully planning each school day for her young students. "I'm thinking about all the kids and all the different needs they have, and how to get it all into our day." She strategizes to incorporate play and sensory resources into each activity. "They are talking and feeling and smelling, and I want to fully immerse them into everything we do." Her goal is for every student to glean something from each activity, and make sure she's meeting the needs of each individual child.



**"I'm thinking about all the kids and all the different needs they have, and how to get it all into our day. They are talking and feeling and smelling, and I want to fully immerse them into everything we do."**

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BRIDGET WALLACE

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She also wants her students to feel understood, and she appreciates that she has only 12 children in her classroom each year. "It's a great student-teacher ratio," she said. "They grow so much, and I want them to feel known. They are seen and this is their space to grow and to learn with confidence, even after they leave Junior Kindergarten. I talk about how I'm going to see them in the hallways. I want them to know we all recognize them as individuals."

Routine is essential to keeping the classroom organized and running smoothly, and Wallace reports it takes about three to six weeks to get students solidly in their routines. "Kids thrive on routine, so they look for it," she said. "When we know what their routine is going to be and start doing it right away each day, they feel better about it." Daily routines also contribute to effectively building a classroom community. "They grow together," she said. "They come in as little individual people and then they form this great group together and support each other and play."

Mornings at MICDS are Wallace's favorite time of the school day. After everyone arrives, she begins with a morning meeting and story time. "Have you ever been greeted by a group of four and five-year-olds?" she laughed. "They make you feel so good. They come in and they're so happy to be here. It's fun to see them become independent in the routine and in the classroom."



**"They are seen and this is their space to grow and to learn with confidence, even after they leave Junior Kindergarten. I talk about how I'm going to see them in the hallways. I want them to know we all recognize them as individuals."**

BRIDGET WALLACE



Outside of MICDS, Wallace enjoys reading, cooking, shopping, and spending time with her husband, Ian, and their three children, who have all reached independence under her tutelage: Grace (24), Olivia (23), and Graham (21). She and Ian enjoyed a trip to Scotland over the summer, hiking and exploring the area where Ian's family is from. She spent the rest of the summer preparing for the arrival of her first grandchild, who will reap the benefits of being the loved one of a teacher.

Wallace's feelings about children extend beyond her family to her classroom. "I hope our parents know that when their children come here, they are so 100% loved and known by the teachers. My colleagues are my friends, and I truly know they feel as I do: we love watching these children grow up." Wallace's first class at MICDS will graduate next year, and she said it has been wonderful to get to see them all grow.

Today, though, and every day, she'll welcome the youngest learners at MICDS to her classroom with compassion and patience. "This age reminds me of what's good about humanity," she said. "They're amazing. They have their own personalities but they're so pure and innocent."

**"This age reminds me of what's good about humanity. They're amazing. They have their own personalities but they're so pure and innocent."**

**BRIDGET WALLACE**



# May Day! May Day!

## A tradition so nice, we did it twice

Since 1912, each senior class of Mary Institute and then MICDS has celebrated May Day. The first May Queen was crowned at a Maypole dance held in the School gymnasium. Over the years, annual fetes were held at various locations around St. Louis, including the Washington University Chancellor's Garden and Forest Park's Municipal (Muny) Opera Stage. In 2000, the children and grandchildren of alumna **Lilly Busch Hermann '41** arranged for the renovation of the May Field on the MICDS campus, and it was rechristened "Lilly's Field" in her memory. Since then, senior girls—joined by fourth, eighth, and 11th-grade girls—have celebrated spring in a beautiful location. Younger sisters of seniors serve as ribbon presenters.

This year, a pop-up thunderstorm right after the presentation of the seniors sent everyone scurrying for cars and buildings. We did manage to crown **Madison Sineff '24** as our 2024 May Queen! Our intrepid seniors made a plea to dance in the rain, but in the name of safety (a Maypole is quite the attraction for lightning) **Head of School Jay Rainey** asked everyone to instead seek shelter.





Overnight, a small group of committed staffers made arrangements for the seniors to return to Lilly's Field on Sunday to complete their ceremony. They gathered, with support from their ribbon presenters and a few younger schoolmates, to conduct their Senior Circle and to weave the Maypole. The weather cooperated and the girls were able to demonstrate all the work they had put in through numerous early morning and weekend practices. Sineff was re-crowned and celebrated all over again!

After, families gathered together on Lilly's Field to exchange flowers and take photos. While it wasn't the May Day anyone expected, it was special in its own way and will provide stories for years to come.

Congratulations to our May Day seniors! And many thanks to **Emily Freeman Huber '89, Director of May Day**, and our dedicated grounds, facilities, and security teams for rallying to execute not one but two events! Special thanks also to **Annie and David Sloane P'20 '25** for their help with photography on May Day Part Deux.



Madison Sineff '24, May Queen





# International Expo 2024 Draws Community Together

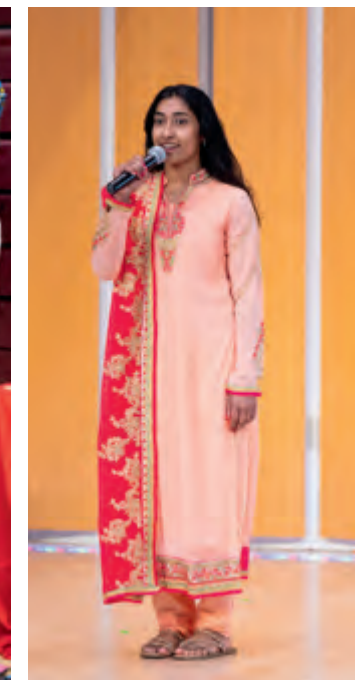
In a flurry of bright colors, tastes, and sounds, the MICDS community celebrated its diversity with its biennial International Expo in April.

Students, parents, teachers, and friends first gathered in Brauer Auditorium, where they awaited a beloved tradition: the Parade of Cultures! Students of all ages bearing flags from a variety of countries and cultures and wearing traditional clothing entered the auditorium from the back, assembling on the stage for a brilliant display of our rich community. The audience was then treated to performances from around the world, including a Chinese Lion Dance by members of our US Lion Dance Club, the performance of Zambian and Serbian folk songs by our eighth-grade concert choir, a French ballad, a Nigerian praise song, a Bollywood vocal performance, Latin dance, Irish step dancing, an Indian keyboard and vocal performance, Turkish folkloric dance, and a Bollywood dance.

After the performances, everyone walked over to the McDonnell Gym, following a path lined by flags of many nations, where the Expo awaited. Long rows of tables adorned with decorations of cultural significance and laden with delicious food greeted guests. The tables were staffed by students and parents, all eager to share







their information and customs. Guests wandered around, getting their passports stamped and learning about traditions and fun facts. Several enjoyed a henna application on their hands, while others posed for a photo with Argentinian soccer legend Lionel Messi (or his cardboard doppelganger). From empanadas from Argentina to Vegemite from Australia, Challah from Israel to tea eggs from China, madeleines from France to falafel and shawarma from Palestine, and more, guests could taste their way around the world.

They were also entertained by two learn-to-dance sessions: a Bollywood lesson and an Irish step lesson, both taught by our talented students. An African dance troop accompanied by a thumping drum rounded out the entertainment.

Many thanks to **Erin Hamill, Director of Global Learning** for her invaluable help in coordinating the International Expo. And of course, much gratitude for our wonderful performers and our Expo booth volunteers for their impressive displays and interesting facts. Your enthusiasm is inspiring, and encourages us all to celebrate and share our community's cultural knowledge and diversity by embracing all with compassion, respect, and dignity.





# Student-Led Diversity Conference Fosters Meaningful Conversations

MICDS welcomed 52 students from nine St. Louis area schools, including Nerinx Hall, McCluer North, Webster Groves, Clayton, Chaminade, Lutheran North, Incarnate Word, Visitation, and Cardinal Ritter College Prep, to the annual Student Diversity Leadership Conference. The student-planned conference is a welcome opportunity for students to engage in meaningful conversations and activities, and, in addition to 50 of our own students, the diverse group of students, faculty, and facilitators dove into the theme of "Breaking Barriers."

The iDentity club planned every aspect of the day, including promoting the conference, registering students to attend, designing the logo, t-shirts, lunch menu, all small and large group activities, discussion questions and prompts, and scheduling the keynote speaker. Students practiced skills such as finding a middle ground on hot topics, discussing issues of concern in their communities and schools, and, most importantly, brainstorming solutions for making effective changes in the future.

**Nicole Trueman-Shaw, Director of Upper School Student Leadership**, said, "I want to give a big shoutout to **Kenadi McDile '24**, who reached out to author, poet, and motivational speaker Dr. Omékongo Dibinga's booking agent, negotiated a

rate the club could manage, and booked a renowned international speaker for our conference day. The title of his talk was *Be An Upstander, Not a Bystander*, which blended perfectly with the conference theme."

iDentity co-head **Zoie Tolson '24** shared, "Over the past three years, the Student Diversity Leadership Conference has prepared me with true leadership skills. For the past two years, I've been able to use these skills to plan the iDentity Conference alongside the other iDentity co-heads. It was truly a student-led conference, and we had total control to do what we thought would best serve the club's mission. As a co-head, I took many different ideas from others and combined them into a fully planned day; this club allowed me the opportunity to expand



my planning and communication skills. Personally, I was in contact with other school diversity leaders, creating the itinerary and moderating the activities during the conference. I am so happy for the club to continue in the following years, as I know great ideas are already brewing." **Ishika Kanjerla '24** also served as an iDentity co-head.

The conference united schools as a community and generated ideas on how each person can take small or large actionable steps to break barriers in their lives and community. What an excellent example of our students living the MICDS mission to meet the world's challenges with confidence and compassion and stand for what's good and right!



# Learning For All Ages



## Beasley welcomes grandparents and special friends

Another memorable chapter of the Grandparents and Special Friends Day tradition has been etched in the Beasley books! Our youngest students were thrilled to share their love for music and engage in interactive classroom activities with their special guests. This unique event offered a glimpse into the vibrant life of a Beasley Lower School student.

In the classroom, students and their guests explored reading and writing samples, played educational games, and delighted in sharing details about their typical school day. In addition to these hands-on events, this year's gathering featured a delightful musical journey to the Beasley Studio. Students demonstrated their musical talents, dancing skills, and presentation prowess with their guests. From lively performances to interactive music lessons, there was plenty to entertain and engage both young and old alike.

**Head of Lower School Amy Scheer** said, "This lovely afternoon event is such a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our students' growth and provide cross-generational connections with their friends and loved ones. The performances and sharing in the classrooms were very much appreciated by all, and I loved seeing the joy on the students' faces as they interacted with their special guests."





# A Springload of Activity

Upper and Middle School students enjoyed peer- and teacher-planned community events that celebrated our spring athletic teams and gave everyone a chance to enjoy some friendly competition.

## FIELD DAY FUN

The weather was perfect for an amazing afternoon of competitive fun for the annual Upper School Field Day on Friday, April 19. The entire US student body was divided into quadrants by college counselor, and then into smaller teams by advisory. The event began with a picnic lunch on the lawn behind Olson Hall. Students then partnered to compete in games such as a water balloon toss, a team sprint with interlocking arms, an oiled melon relay race, a sack race, and a water cannon target. Laughter and strategy ruled the day. After the games, everyone gathered in McDonnell Gym for a spirited student vs. teacher basketball competition. Our dedicated Sports Booster parents topped off a great event with sweet treats (Ted Drewe's Frozen Custard!) to keep the momentum and spirit going for many home games that afternoon. A huge thank you to our student athletics committee for their hard work to plan and execute this fun competition, and to our Sports Boosters team for their support. Congratulations to the Macam Quadrant (in pink!) for their Field Day victory.

## SPRING FLING SPIRIT

Middle School students got their game faces on for the energetic opening ceremony in Mary Eliot Chapel, where each advisory showcased their team spirit with colorful cheers and enthusiastic performances. Activities included a kickball tournament, knockout basketball, and Hungry Hungry Human Hippos. The Front Lawn Fair offered blow-up slides, obstacle courses, and yard games. For those seeking a more relaxed pace, campus walks, movie time, karaoke parties, and art were planned. Picnic-style meals by advisory added to the festivities. To close out the day, students, faculty, and staff gathered in the South Gym for the Spring Classic, which opened with a rally cry musical number by the Middle School Band and Choir before leading into the competition round of games, such as bobsledding, pickleball, hobby horse riding, and more, with a closing number by the Concert Orchestra. Students cheered to a deafening roar and headed out to enjoy several Middle School athletic contests on campus.

**Middle School Choir Teacher Jason Roberts** served on the planning committee and remarked, "Today I saw happy kids, bright smiling faces and laughter, friendly competitions, memory making, and more. This is truly the best community of humans working together to achieve something bigger than ourselves and we consider ourselves so lucky to work with such kind-hearted professionals and helpful humans. They say it takes a village, and this village is such a great one to reside in!"





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**MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR TEACHER JASON ROBERTS**



# Beasley C.A.R.E.S. Lower School Community Day

Beasley Community Day is certainly a favorite day in the MICDS Lower School, and this special day was held with a lot of "C.A.R.E.S." on Friday, April 26. "We worked all year on five words which are connected to our social emotional learning curriculum: cooperation, assertiveness, responsibility, empathy, and self-control," said **Amy Scheer, Head of Lower School**. "We use the acronym C.A.R.E.S. to help students remember them, and the theme for Community Day was Beasley C.A.R.E.S. so we could reinforce what students have learned while working together to build community."

The activities for the morning were each connected to one of the five words. For the word assertiveness, our Junior Kindergarteners through fourth graders read the book *Change Sings* to learn how important it is to hear everyone's voice. Students worked together in groups to create a guitar that represented the ideas from the book, and then they traveled to a Middle or Upper School class to share their message with the older students. In the morning, they also played self-control games, read *Last Stop on Market Street*, and engaged in conversation and a group



collage to reinforce empathy. They built a tower together to demonstrate cooperation and participated in the Beasley Book Swap, which emphasized responsibility.

The first graders presented a short skit to announce the Book Drive to the MICDS community this year.

**Robyn Williams, Lower School Coordinator of Instructional Technology**, recorded the students and the video was shared with homeroom teachers to view with students. They also created and hung posters to provide information about the event. They counted the books each day and posted





totals in the hallway. On the last day of the Book Drive, the first-grade students cheered with excitement when they counted the books and discovered they had exceeded their goal. They collected 1,660 books, which were donated to an elementary school in the St. Louis community and the organization Books for Newborns, a 100% volunteer non-profit organization that partners with St. Louis-area hospitals and social service agencies to provide books and other reading materials to low-income mothers and their families.

In the afternoon, Beasley students participated in the Kids Heart Challenge which is the chance to give back

to the larger community by supporting the American Heart Association. "We raised \$11,800 for the American Heart Association," said **Sue Orlando, Lower School Physical Education Teacher**. "We have been doing this event for at least 35 years." The students could run, jump, and climb over objects on the awesome obstacle course, jump rope, hula hoop, and run the track to stay active during the Kids Heart Challenge. Some students ran two full miles during their 35-minute session.

Thank you to all of Beasley for showing your C.A.R.E.S. to one another on this very special Community Day in the Lower School!





# A Festival of Creativity

## Community Enjoys Second Annual Arts Fest

It was an absolute delight to welcome the MICDS community to our second annual Arts Fest. The sun was out, the winds made a grand entrance, and there were end-to-end smiles along Carpe Diem Drive.



Parents, students, faculty, staff, alumni, and even newly enrolled families for the fall of 2024 joined the festivities for an evening full of the arts. With performances, hands-on art, and much more, creativity was unleashed at every turn.

**Dr. Sally Maxwell, Assistant Head of School for Teaching and Learning,** said, "This year, teachers wanted to recapture the spirit of what they did last year, or go even bigger! And since we were able to showcase Arts Fest on Carpe Diem Drive, it was like opening up our art classes and letting the awesome things that happen in our walls spill outside for everyone to join in. It's always Arts Fest in our arts classrooms!"

Entertainment included music and drama performances from Beasley students, faculty and staff, a sax ensemble, the eighth-grade Concert Choir, Upper School thespians with productions of *The Good Doctor* and *Amelie*, and the Upper School Chamber Choir, Treble Choir, and Tenor-Bass Choir. For added fun, there was an audience-participation-required hoedown with the Fiddle Club and a flash mob dance performance to close out the night.

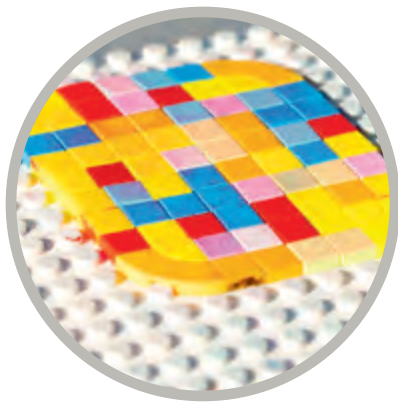
Throughout the festival, several art stations were bursting with activities such as mural painting, pottery wheel throwing, theater improv and pantomime, stage makeup for warts & scars, crazy line



sculptures, the Mad Splatter, Gelli and LEGO printmaking, a strings instrument testing experience, Blue Man Group-style drumming, and more.

"There is something special about acting with students performing improvs," said **Middle School Arts Teacher & Dean Charlotte Dougherty.**





"For a moment in time, we are saying 'yes' to each other and freeing the imagination. To me, that is the magic of the arts. Whether you are a performer, observer, or facilitator, it fills the soul. I saw smiling faces everywhere."

**Middle School Arts Teacher Jayme Zimmer** added, "For both years that I have run The Mad Splatter, I have been pleasantly surprised at how many parents are willing and joyful to let their kids get a little messy in order to participate. It is so fun to see parents enjoy the arts with their children. It also takes a lot of help to run the activity. I am blown away by the eighth graders willing to jump in, get messy, and engage with the younger participants. They really raise the energy level and make it fun. I appreciate them!"

After the Beasley performance, parents and friends were invited to peruse the outstanding work of our Lower School artists via the Beasley Gallery Walk and the Art Rescue station, where student and faculty work was available to be taken to their new forever homes.

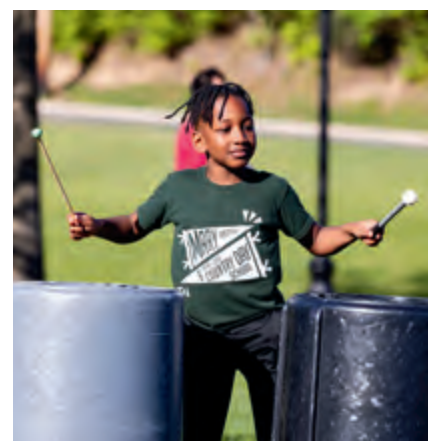
**Lower School Art Teacher Sarah Garner** said, "It is always so beautiful to watch the students fill up with pride sharing their art with their families. One student grabbed me by the hand and whisked me away to show me their art (as if I had never seen it before), and the magic was there in the eyes of the artist. We are creating opportunities for our MICDS students to become lifelong artists, creators, performers, makers, and musicians and build their love for the arts."

Immense gratitude is owed to **Dr. Jo Nardoillo, JK-12 Arts Department Chair, Dr. Sally Maxwell**, and the entire Arts Department for pulling off this fabulous Arts Fest and Spirit Week for all! The following



groups also contributed to the magic behind this event: FLIK Independent School Dining, the Parents Association Arts Boosters, and the MICDS Grounds, Housekeeping, Maintenance, Marketing & Communications, Security, and Technology Departments. Thank you, all, for making this event possible!

**As Upper School Arts Teacher Brooke Williams** articulated so well, "It was fun to see so many smiling faces celebrating the many talents here at MICDS. Arts Fest just keeps getting better and better."



# Seventh and Eighth Grades Grow Their Community

## LEAD Summit unites students

The LEAD Summit allowed seventh and eighth graders to explore what it means to grow together as a community. The day began with students gathering in advisory to enjoy a small breakfast and set their intentions. After that, they were off and running to participate in various activities designed to foment community and reflection, learning and engagement, and bonding with each other and their teachers.

### FINDING MIDDLE GROUND

This session was moderated by our amazing Upper School students, who returned to the Middle School to share their experiences and wisdom with their younger schoolmates. They posed an array of statements for debate, which we invite you to discuss with your own family members!

- > A hotdog is a sandwich.
- > Water is wet.
- > Xbox is better than Playstation.
- > Music is not important to express feelings.
- > Collaboration overcomes barriers more than conflict ever could.
- > Style is important to one's identity.

After watching the Upper School students moderate the discussion, each group considered how they could use these discussion tactics to resolve when two people are seemingly on two different sides of an issue or experience, how to find middle ground without compromising beliefs, and what is needed to make this a successful strategy as a leader.

### SNOWBALL ACTIVITY

The Snowball Activity served as an opportunity for students to reflect on their school experience and offer feedback to improve it. It's a fun way for students to reflect while thinking about how compassion, belonging, and inclusion are or aren't always the experience at school. Student reflections were used as valuable feedback, allowing teachers to hear from a wider student body audience.

Each group began with a discussion about ways students can allow compassion, belonging, and inclusion to guide thoughts and actions during the activity. Then each student received a piece of





paper and a pencil. They folded the paper to make ten squares. During the activity, students heard a series of statements related to compassion, belonging, and inclusion.

They wrote down the name of each statement and then used the Likert scale to write down the number that best describes their experience, and a quick comment explaining their rating. Finally, they lightly balled up their paper into a “snowball” and tossed it to the other side of the room. Students then grabbed random snowballs, read them, and shared their contents with the group. Each group discussed their reactions to the activity, how well it aligned to identify each person’s experience at school, whether there were any surprises, and the themes that emerged.

### PLAYBACK THEATER

**Middle School Drama Teacher Charlotte Dougherty** ran the Playback Theater activity. Students write small scenes based on their lived experiences, and then perform for their peers. Dougherty explained, “Playback is different from traditional theater because it is based on the audience’s stories. It is truly interactive. There is no fourth wall as in most staged plays. There is also no script. Playback has a set of forms, or stylized improvisation techniques, that are used to act out a teller’s (an audience member’s) story. Playback is used to build community; it is an opportunity to share stories about a common happening, a tragic event, or to just get to know one another. It can also be healing and very cathartic.

“The main purpose of Playback is to bring the teller’s story to life for them—so they can relive, rethink, revisit, rebuild, share—it is never about the actors. Playback holds a mirror up to the audience; it is a community service. The audience has an opportunity to experience events through the eyes of others to embrace similarities and differences.”

### MICROAGGRESSIONS

“You’re too young for that.” “You’ll understand when you get older.” “That’s for grown-ups.” “You need to man up.” “Boys will be boys.” “You throw like a girl.” “Stop being so bossy!” “You’re just being emotional.”

Has anyone ever said these phrases to you? Or others along the same lines? Maybe it didn’t bother you too much the first time you heard it, but after many times, you got sick of it. That’s because these are examples of microaggressions, small acts of cruelty (such as words, jokes, or actions) directed towards a person or a group of people. Microaggressions can be unintentional, but still painful. They can hurt because of what they imply about a person or situation.

Students learned about microaggressions and subtext, which is the hidden meaning underneath a word, action, or object. We all use subtext every day. One example is when a student gets into their parent’s car at the end of a long day and answers, “Fine,” to the question, “How was your day?” Depending on how the word is uttered, it can have many different meanings.

Discussion centered around the subtext of the phrases above, and more, and what happens when we challenge the subtext in those statements. Finally, students learned how to think critically when they suspect they hear or see a microaggression. They should first ask themselves what the subtext is and

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**“Playback is used to build community; it is an opportunity to share stories about a common happening, a tragic event, or to just get to know one another. It can also be healing and very cathartic.”**

MIDDLE SCHOOL DRAMA TEACHER  
CHARLOTTE DOUGHERTY



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decide whether it's a microaggression. They then discussed healthy, effective ways to challenge the microaggression.

**ACTIVE TIME**

The planning team for the LEAD Summit wanted to make sure bodies got exercise, in addition to minds. They planned a series of games that got students moving and laughing. The hula hoop race involved students standing in a line and holding hands, passing a hula hoop from person to person without letting go. In the pool noodle race, students laid on the floor head to feet. The first person starts by passing a pool noodle to the next person with their feet, and so on down the line. Ships and Sailors rounded out the fun, offering a dynamic version of "Simon Says" with a variety of movements called seasick, shark, man overboard, jellyfish friends, row your boat, and more.

**MIX IT UP LUNCH**

Lunch was another new setting. The students got to "mix it up," eating their meals with new friends. This created a perfect opportunity for students to interact with peers and teachers outside of their immediate social circle and to reflect on the morning sessions. They grabbed lunch in the MS Dining Room and headed to their assigned rooms, where teachers fostered discussion with questions like, "What is something unique you bring to your community," "What are some challenges we might face in fostering understanding and respect, and how can we overcome them," and "What is something you want to learn more of?"

**CONCLUSION**

After the sessions were complete, the students met in advisory to debrief about their day. They conducted a "circle session," sharing answers to questions like "What is one word for you how feel about today," "What was the most interesting part of the day for you," "What did you learn about your community—not specific to other kids," and "What do you think you'll take forward?"

A closing ceremony in Eliot Chapel rounded out the day, cementing warm feelings and fond memories. Students watched a video from alumnus **Bryce Berry '19**, who first instructed them to turn to their left and right and tell their neighbors, "I'm happy to see you here today!" He said that it's impossible to grow your community without knowing your community, and encouraged them to continue doing the hard work of coming together, getting to know each other, and do great things.



**“Every MICDS student, when working together, has the power to move mountains.”**

**BRYCE BERRY '19**



## Author Liz Kleinrock Visits First and Second Grade

It's exciting when students get to meet an author whose books they enjoy, and this spring, MICDS was thrilled to welcome author Liz Kleinrock to campus. First- and second-grade students, who had been reading Kleinrock's *Eyes That Weave The World's Wonders*, spent time with her in the South Gym.

Kleinrock, with fellow author Joanna Ho, co-wrote a book that shares her story as a transracially adopted Korean Jewish American. She decided to share her story after realizing that, out of all the books in the world, there wasn't one that mirrored her own experience.

Her book offers a moving look into what it means—and how it feels—to be a trans-racial adoptee. Kleinrock projected her book on the wall and read it to students and teachers. The gym was quiet, and the audience was entranced by the story and the art.

After the reading, Kleinrock welcomed questions from the students. There was no shortage of hands in the air, and she patiently listened to a variety of questions and answered them all.



Immersing themselves in the vibrant art scene of the Windy City, a group of MICDS Upper Schoolers and their dedicated chaperones embarked on a whirlwind tour of several artistic hubs in Chicago. Students enrolled in AP Art History, AP Studio Art, and AP 2D and 3D Design, along with **Upper School Arts Teachers Patrick Huber, Denise Douglas, and Dr. Kevin Slivka**, were eager to explore the robust itinerary. They marveled at everything from the iconic halls of the Art Institute of Chicago to public architecture along the city's skyline. They studied the intricate details and history of

Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House, wandered through the contemporary masterpieces at the Museum of Contemporary Art, dove into the depths of history at the Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures, and enjoyed enriching exhibits at the Field Museum.

Robie House was particularly inspiring for **Mia Krieger '24**. She shared, "The attention to detail and the house's backstory were very interesting as he also designed the interior, windows, lighting, rugs, furniture, and textiles. It inspired me to learn more about his architecture!"

## AP Art Students Find Inspiration in Chicago





**“At times it is difficult to understand the importance of an art piece or why its history and its creation change the way we look at art today when we only see it on a projector in the classroom. Seeing similar works and pieces in Chicago was very eye-opening, as we understood why these artists were revolutionary for their time and how they could evoke such change in the art community.”**

**CARLI SALAZAR ESTRADA '25**

Along the way, AP Art History students encountered familiar artworks from their curriculum, forging connections between the classroom and the galleries and even experiencing awe at viewing some of the works in real life. During the weekend of arts immersion, there was still room for fun at classic eateries and a live performance. **Ella Brauer '24** appreciated both. “It was a good balance of fun and learning; we went to museums and presented our chosen works and we saw the entertaining Blue Man Group! Our presentations had to cover artists who are included in the AP Art History required works, so the trip served as preparation for the AP test,” she said.

**Carli Salazar Estrada '25** shared, “At times it is difficult to understand the importance of an art piece or why its history and its creation change the way we look at art today when we only see it on a projector in the classroom. Seeing similar works and pieces in Chicago was very eye-opening, as we understood why these artists were revolutionary for their time and how they could evoke such change in the art community.”

For these students, Chicago was more than a destination; it was a canvas of discovery with many memorable moments and a boost to their artistic knowledge and preparation!



# Exploring the Arts of London and Berlin

Over spring break, MICDS students took their sense of adventure overseas to London and Berlin for a tour of the cities' significant landmarks and more arts than you can imagine.

## First Stop: London

A tour guide led students through the city's unique neighborhoods, walking along the South Bank, and visiting the historic Tower of London and Tower Bridge before heading to the Tate Modern Art Gallery to explore some of the most famous contemporary artworks in the world.

On day two, students learned about London's majestic past and fast-paced present on a sightseeing tour of Trafalgar Square, the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, and Buckingham Palace, as well as new buildings changing the historic

London skyline. One of the highlights was visiting St. Paul's Cathedral, Sir Christopher Wren's architectural masterpiece well known as the seat of the Church of England. Across the River Thames, students toured Shakespeare's Globe Theatre and enjoyed a performance of *Stranger Things* in London's famous West End—a crowd favorite!

A day trip out of the city was calling, so the group made their way to the mysterious prehistoric monuments of Stonehenge and the city of Bath. After exploring Bath's history, they spent an evening in London under the lights of the Picadilly Circus.



For the final day in London, students experienced a guided walking tour of London's West End Theatre District, led by a theater expert, and a guided tour of the world-famous Royal Opera House in Covent Garden. They enjoyed a backstage tour and marveled at the imagination of set designers, props and costumes, and sound and lighting. To close out a theater-full day, they attended an evening performance of *Dear Octopus* at the Royal National Theatre.

Chaperones for the trip included **Upper School Arts Teacher Patrick Huber, JK-12 Arts Department Chair Dr. Jo Nardolillo,** and **Erin Hamill, Director of Global Learning & Upper School Community Service,** who shared, "This was an opportunity to explore the arts in London and Berlin with our students who are interested in the arts, whether they are thespians, musicians, or studio artists. We saw so much excitement in the areas they were particularly interested in, but also curiosity and awe with the arts in another country."







## Second Stop: Berlin

After a short flight from London, students descended into Berlin, known as one of Europe's most dynamic cities. When Berlin was divided, the Eastern and Western sections maintained separate opera houses and other institutions. Now, the united city offers two of everything and is known as a hub of European innovation. Before dinner, students visited the dome and rooftop terrace of the Reichstag Building, home to the German Parliament.

The following day, our intrepid travelers got to the heart of Berlin's World War II and Cold War heritage with guided visits to a remaining portion of the Berlin Wall, the Holocaust Memorial, and Potsdamer Platz. The afternoon brought a lovely visit to the Neues Museum, where notable antiquities such as the bust of Nefertiti reside.

Since the fall of the Berlin Wall, the city has been on the cutting edge of street art, and students got an insider's view of Berlin's street culture with a tour. They learned about this edgy modern art movement that revealed stencil art, paste-ups, graffiti, murals, and tagging. After a visit to the KINDL Contemporary Art Museum, a rugged, primitive, yet futuristic-looking museum, students enjoyed a performance at the Konzerthaus.



**Dalton Costick '26** said, "The musical performance in Germany was breathtaking, and the technical parts of the *Stranger Things* play were inspiring. As someone with an interest in technical theater, I was ecstatic to see and be inspired by plays that pushed the limits of what's possible in theater."

Huber appreciated the guided tours. "The highlights provided by the tour guides included a passionate story about St. Paul's Cathedral during World War II, a wonderful tour of the West End in London with a dynamic young actor/theater historian, a thought-provoking tour of street art in Berlin, and an impromptu performance arranged and directed by our tour leader Johann at a Berlin memorial for the books burned by Nazis," he said.

Costick added, "I enjoyed coming closer to and making new friends while getting to experience the wonderful and vibrant culture and art of London and Berlin."



Twenty-four intrepid fourth graders signed up for a theatrical adventure. From spring break on, they would devote two days a week, countless hours at home, and even a few recess periods to rehearsals, memorizing lines, stage blocking, set building and painting, and lighting, sound, and costume design for the fourth-grade production of *The Land of the Jesters*.

Under the direction of **Lower & Middle School Drama Teacher Debra Mein**, students participated in theatrical skill building for this adapted musical production. "I heavily adapted this play from a children's theater textbook by Pamela Prince Walker. She wrote it for elementary school programs in the 1950s, so I added more characters and music to make it a musical. It's centered around empathy, inclusion, and accepting differences in others," Mein said.

For the students, the show was a mix of familiar tunes and storylines shaped into a new form altogether. **Brooklyn M. '32**, who played the Butcher, had no prior theater experience and enjoyed working together with her classmates. She said, "I chose to do this because fourth grade felt like the right time. I would do it again!"

**Priyanka G. '32** played Princess Prissy. "I liked working together to make a really good play. As Princess Prissy, I liked acting really sassy, and it was fun. I found it hard to memorize my lines, but I managed to do it, so I'm happy. I feel really proud of overcoming my stage fright and managing to do it," she said.

**Elliot B. '32** played the Baker and said, "What I liked the most was the acting and singing. I've done school plays before at my other school. I enjoyed the big part of the Baker. I feel most proud of getting the solo in *Two Plus Two Equals Five*, I'd like to do bigger stuff with theater in the future."

With the help of a student director and production manager, the production became an incubator for student leadership to shine and for the rising tide of older students at the helm to lift all boats. Mein tapped **Tess Thompson '28** to serve as the student director. "I saw Tess's work in the seventh and eighth-grade play and the *Little Mermaid Jr.* musical during Winter Term, so with that and her background in leading a summer drama camp, she was a natural fit for this role. She's easygoing and playful, and the kids respond well to her."

Thompson shared, "I love helping and interacting with younger students. I really enjoyed how much the kids loved playing games. They also liked it when I took them aside to work on the speech and presentation. I want to be a movie director in the future, so this experience really helped me prepare for it."

## A Journey to *The Land of the Jesters* Fourth-grade musical offers theatrical adventure





Mein also capitalized on the theater tech skills of sixth grader **Elika Coff '30**. "I worked with Elika in the fifth and sixth-grade drama club, where she demonstrated a lot of interest in theater tech, so I put her on lights for the seventh and eighth-grade play. Then, when the fourth-grade production came around, having her on the team made sense. She's passionate and confident in this area. Students need to see other students, even older students, in leadership positions and in charge of decision-making. Kids will perform differently with older peers, which empowers students to challenge themselves."

As Coff mentored on lights and sound, she offered gentle guidance, allowing her younger schoolmates to make mistakes to learn. "During the evening performance, there was a miscue in the music, and part of the process is letting the students learn and problem-solve on the spot. Theater tech people have a calm presence and seem to love riding the wave of chaos," said Mein. "Elika managed the creative ventures of the sound and lighting team, and, among other things, they came up with live music sound cues for the play. It was beautiful and surprising."



Coff said, "I really enjoyed teaching the fourth-grade boys how to use the tech and help find costumes. My biggest takeaway was that teaching can be hard, but if you get a handle on it, it is very fun."

**Brandon D. '32** drove the overall costume design theme. Many costumes were pulled from our costume shop, and some designs had to be purchased and augmented to meet budget and timeframe requirements. "His choice to have Princess Punky wearing black worked out great as we just so happened to have a black leather jacket in the costume shop," said Mein. Brandon said, "I was excited about being a techie and enjoyed the costumes and helping the sound and lights team. I've never done that before. It was challenging to be quiet in the booth."

In the end, the students held a lot of pride in a job well done, as did Mein. "They were spot on with memorizing early. I made sure there was a role for everyone and had to expand the script a little to accommodate everyone interested in stage performances," she said.

Mein added, "I love to empower students where their interests lie, create roles perfect for them, and figure out a way to help them succeed. It's so fun to do an adapted show because we can change the script to their talents and needs."

# Sound Leadership

## How the Lower School Music Program Helps Students Become Music Makers and Creators

By **Dr. Sally Maxwell, Assistant Head of School for Teaching and Learning (and Zach Bryan buff)**

### “One, Two, Three, Count on Me.” Our Shared Goals for the Lower School Music Program

Children are musicians before they are students. Babies coo, babble, and improvise pitches before they speak. In Beasley, we believe that music education is fundamental for our learners. **Dr. Jo Nardolillo, JK-12 Arts Department Chair** and enthusiastic Sting fan, explains, “If you look at brain scans, music is the one place where all areas of the brain are activated at once. For brain development, music is literacy, physical education, social-emotional learning, and math.” Nardolillo supports and applauds our Lower School Music program’s use of early, public performance: “When children are young, they will sing and dance. In Beasley, they write and perform music before they know that it is hard, and by the time they realize it is hard, they can already do it.”

“It’s my goal to create life-long music makers and music creators,” says **Dr. Katy Nichols, Lower School Music Teacher** and follower of Icelandic folk band Of Monsters and Men. Instruction in reading music begins at the end of Kindergarten so students can sight-read simple melodies and rhythms. In first grade, students are sight-singing and doing rudimentary composing on a music staff. By third grade,



**Entrainment** is when our bodies naturally sync up with rhythms around us. It's important for humans because it helps regulate our internal clocks and improve our coordination and timing. Observable in all societies, entrainment helps coordinate our voices and movement and creates connection and social bonds.

students are singing in multiple parts, holding different harmonies, and arranging and composing music. And in fourth grade, the culmination of the Beasley music program, students are reading music to play the recorder. They are also authentically creating their own music; fourth graders are improvising, notating, and composing 16-beat songs. **Amy Scheer, Head of Lower School** and Pink Floyd fan, appreciates that the Beasley music program is robust and teaches theory, rhythm, ensemble, instrumental, and vocal skills in a way that is exciting and fun. She says, "Music helps us reinforce lessons in different ways. Students learn how to cooperate, let others take the lead, and be patient. Tempo is a really hard thing to master. It forces little ones to slow down, pause, and really be present in the moment."

The LS music classroom is structured so that students feel comfortable taking risks and highlighting all childrens' voices. Scheer applauds Nichols' commitment to inclusivity and diverse representation and appreciates that the spiraling curriculum ensures that there are songs that the entire Beasley community can sing together. John Denver devotee and **Fourth-Grade Teacher Donna Waters** connects public risk-taking to support. She says, "You have to build a community where kids feel comfortable making mistakes. You teach confidence by finding little successes that might be a surprise to the student and amplifying it." **Susie McGaughey, Lower School Counselor** and Wilco admirer, goes into homeroom classes to teach social-emotional learning (SEL) lessons using the Fly Five curriculum. And the Leadership Crew, which all fourth graders cycle through, develops skits to reinforce the concepts and give students examples of real-world moments where they might need to remember to be, for example, *responsible*. **Bridget Seery, Fourth-Grade Associate** and Abba superfan, accompanies the fourth graders to choir and guides Leadership Crew. "I view leadership as being in the position to create change with the insight of others," she says. "A big part of leadership is the follower, meaning that you can't be a leader without being true to the people you are trying to lead."

The shared vision and close partnership of Scheer, Nichols, Nardolillo, and the fourth-grade teaching team weaves together music, community, and leadership into a vibrant program that our families treasure. Trish Saddler, Erykah Badu buff and parent of **Taaj '25** and **Terrence '33**, values music education because "music is global communication, music is joyful." Saddler wants her children to be able to explore music in school and see what instruments spark their interest. Terrence, fourth grader and Kendrick Lamar fan, tried a violin at the Instrument Test Drive table during Arts Fest, and now he is thinking of playing the violin in Middle School. Jen Kawicki, Jon Bon Jovi fan and parent to **Amelia '35** and **Inara '33**, says that the emphasis on taking risks matches her goal as a parent to encourage children to "keep building, keep trying, keep refining. Failure is a part of everything. Keep experimenting."

## "Let Us Sing Together One and All, A Joyous Sound!" Children Find Their Voices

At the beginning of the year, Nichols asks students to share music that they and their families like so that they have a voice in the class and can learn about each other. Students expect that class will be a place where their musical tastes matter. Nardolillo explains that there is a fundamental relationship between singing and belonging because of the natural phenomenon of entrainment. "When you entrain, you align your voice and body with the people around you," she explains. "It releases endorphins and you are instantly connected to others. That's why we tap our foot to music."

As students line up in the hallway in front of the music studio, class has already begun. Nichols meets them there and begins the routines that warm up their voices and help them transition quickly to class. "We sit in a circle because I believe in the symbolism of equality—we are all here to make music together," she says. Scheer

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**“I was happy and excited and felt like I was in a cloud. We used scarves and moved them over the rainbow. There were some spots where only one color could put their color up, like for bluebirds and lemon drops. I was blue. It really felt like you were over the rainbow.”**

Inara Kawicki '33, on performing *Over the Rainbow* in Mary Eliot Chapel



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connects these routines to both *self-control* and *cooperation*—two more Fly Five words. She says, “Ensemble work supports students in developing empathy as they recognize and celebrate where everyone is in their learning.” Students have to harmonize and contribute their parts to create the whole song. Inara Kawicki, fourth grader and Taylor Swift fan, also connects cooperation to success: “You have to cooperate to make your music sound good so other people want to listen to it.”


For assemblies, Nichols chooses songs that reinforce the Fly Five concepts for students to perform along with the fourth graders’ Leadership skits. Waters values the shared expectations across classes and notes songs that support the Fly Five curriculum. In the song *Brave*, the lyrics, “Say what you want to say and let the words fall out” support assertiveness. “The song *Count on Me* is all about being here for each other,” she explains. “It’s easier to be a leader when you feel the support around you.” In second and third grade, Terrence remembers ringing the chime when the class sang. “I was very nervous. I kept going even if I messed up and just tried my best.” Taking risks together and depending on each other to make a song also encourages the development of empathy. As students take turns leading, they learn to appreciate the experience and encourage each other. Even after music class, Seery hears students supporting and praising each other in the hallway. Inara finds singing with peers challenging when they begin a new song and recognizes the growth that happens along the way. “You have pitches all over the place, but once you get to know the tune it becomes one puzzle put together,” she says. “Everyone is a different puzzle piece when they sing and then all those different parts come together to make one puzzle.”

## **“We’re What the World is Becoming.” Students Progress from Singing to Creating Music**

During their time in Beasley, students shift from making music together to creating music together. This is an essential evolution because we want Beasley students to write their own music just as we want them to write their own stories. Empowering students requires that we help them access different ways of expressing themselves. Nardolillo says, “We want to give students the voice and tools to express those really complicated things that you feel



**Fly Five** is a spiraling curriculum that supports students in developing their social and emotional competence through five key concepts: cooperation, assertiveness, responsibility, empathy and self-control (CARES). The MICDS Lower School has adapted aspects of the Fly Five curriculum as part of our academic, support services, and community-building programs.



**Kodály and Orff Influences:** Our music instruction is heavily influenced by the Kodály Philosophy, which emphasizes music literacy and joyful, social singing. This approach prioritizes giving children direct access to the world of music and helping them understand the cultural heritage of music so that they are lifelong musicians. Orff Schulwerk focuses on children experiencing music through singing, speaking, dancing, playing instruments, and creating. Orff instruments, including chimes and timpani drums, encourages percussive rhythm as a natural and basic form of musical expression.



Inara Kawicki '33 serves as board leader in the background. Edie S. '33, Nicholas L. '33, Evelyn K. '33, and Jackson B. '33 lead their peers in a choir game of changing rhythms.

but are impossible to put into words.” The third and fourth graders arranged *What is a River* for the spring concert, lightly guided by Nichols. Inara shares, “When you make music with other people you have different ideas and if your idea isn’t picked, you can get bummed. But you can combine two ideas and that makes it even better.” After all students have learned all of the parts, they choose their own roles, giving them ownership at every stage of the work. Creating music also means helping to create a successful music class. Nichols shifts over the course of the year from leading routines, to taking student volunteers, to requiring all students to help create their successful music classroom. Students can choose to be a board leader and sing the morning message, which is both a vocal warm-up and a low-stakes vocal solo. Terrence says, “When we go to music class, Dr. Nichols picks out four or five people to lead the class. I feel nervous when I go up there. I’m not a public guy. I am able to do it and I feel good that I get myself out there.”

The music program builds from small leadership moments in class to larger ones in the Lower School Assemblies. Classes can ask to perform at assembly and highlight their work in other disciplines; for example, a first-grade class sang a Lunar New Year song they learned when studying China. Second graders rapped the book *The Magical Yet*, and tied the theme of the book—that we are always developing and learning to do more—to their studies on the Monarch butterfly. Students also have the opportunity to see exemplars when Upper School students perform and Lower School students who study music outside of school give solos to showcase what they have learned. As Scheer explains: “Our highest priority is for students to come to know themselves and feel known by the community. The more that students know themselves and feel good about who they are, the easier it is for them to transition to Middle School and beyond.”

### “Now introducing the Magical Yet.” The Future for the Program and Our Students

The culmination of all of the teachers’ and students’ work comes together on the stage in Mary Eliot Chapel (MEC) for the winter and spring concerts, where students have been performing since the building was constructed in 1940. When Nichols first came to MICDS, she was excited to learn that she could use MEC as a performance space for students. “They get excited and ask

to perform there,” she says. “It’s awesome and special to get to perform on that stage.” Terrence remembers performing a Hannukah song in the Chapel in Junior Kindergarten. In third grade, he enjoyed performing the song *Fly Away* and dancing with his fish prop. Inara also loves performing for a big audience on the stage. She says, “My favorite song this year [*Discovery*] began with, ‘Open your eyes’. It was thrilling. The audience did a loud applause and they were excited.”

Mary Eliot Chapel continues to be a cherished community space that we preserve and update. The chairs were refurbished in 2007 by the Mary Institute Class of 1956, which raised funds the year before on the occasion of their 50th reunion, and last year, the Middle School band room behind the stage underwent extensive remodeling. Looking ahead, Nichols would love to see sound and lighting updates in this beautiful, traditional space. As she continues to develop opportunities for Lower School students to work on productions with Middle and Upper School students in technical theatre roles, the existing technology is an obstacle. The current lights have to be moved manually and there are no built-in monitors. In a choir production, lighting can be coordinated to support the performance’s ideas and themes. There are also no choral microphones, which are now standard in theatres and important for younger children who don’t have the physical development of adults. Learning about lighting and sound helps students take ownership of the show, collaborate in new ways, and see the perspective of the audience. For Nardolillo, upgrading the technical capability of Mary Eliot Chapel connects to what we believe about children and want them to believe about themselves. “Lighting and sound are about the creation of the magic. The message to students is that what you are doing is worth attention,” she says. “We put a spotlight on you and a microphone in front of you so that you can shine.”

When Lower School students confidently stand in the spotlight and speak into the microphone, our mission and curriculum help them think about what they should do with that attention. All of the elements of our program: the challenges and joys of putting on a performance, the journey to become a music maker and music creator, social emotional learning, and leadership come together to support students. As Nichols explains, “The arts get at the humanness. We are raising little human beings to be good citizens and caretakers of one another.”

# #RamNation

2024

# Rams Rewind

SPRING SPORTS SEASON RECAPS



## Boys Tennis

Head Coach: Patrick Huewe

**A Legendary Run to the State Title**

The MICDS Boys Tennis team embarked on an extraordinary journey this year, culminating in a triumphant run to the State Tennis Title in Class 2. This victory marked the program's 17th state title and the first since 2016, a testament to the determination and team spirit that defined their season. The momentum from their district victory carried MICDS to a resounding 5-0 win over Cape Notre Dame in the quarterfinals, earning them a spot in the State Championships for the first time since 2019. In the State Championship final, MICDS demonstrated their dominance with a commanding 5-1 victory, the culmination of a season marked by exceptional performances from every member of the team. The doubles teams set the tone, with **Louis Niemeyer '24** and **Armaan Chandak '24** winning at #3 and **Arjun Puri '25** and **Max Padratzik '27** securing the win at #2. These

victories were instrumental in establishing an early lead that was never relinquished. Niemeyer, Puri, **Owen Kizer '26**, and Padratzik all won their singles matches within minutes of each other without giving up a game. Throughout the season, standout performances came from every corner of the roster. **Jai Patel '25**, playing #1 singles all year, provided leadership and skill. Contributions from Niemeyer, **Cameron McMillan '24**, **Abhi Madala '26**, and others underscored the depth and talent of the team. In Metro League, the deep roster sealed the Conference title thanks to the following players: McMillan (#7 singles 3rd place), Madala (#8 singles champion and #4 doubles finalist), **Ric Jain '25** (#5 doubles finalist), **Oliver Ashman '25** (#5 doubles finalist), **Arney Parwal '27** (#6 doubles champion), and **Dhruv Krishnan '24** (#6 doubles champion). Captains McMillan, Chandak, and Patel played pivotal roles in maintaining focus and fostering a positive team atmosphere, which ultimately fueled their belief in achieving the title. Congratulations to the entire MICDS Boys Tennis team for an unforgettable season, a testament to their hard work, dedication, and unwavering team spirit.

## Boys Lacrosse

Head Coach: Andy Kay

**MSLA State Champions and Metro Conference Champions**

The Rams Boys Lacrosse team cruised to a 15-6 win over SLUH en route to its ninth State Championship in 10 years. Leading the way were captains **Willy Carpenter '24**, **Tyler Tschudy '24**, and **Henry Oliver '25**. Highlights of the season included wins over Indiana power Cathedral Catholic and Virginia power Saint Stephen's and Saint Agnes School, as well as an undefeated run versus in-state competition. The future of the program looks bright. The Rams will return eight starters and many players who saw significant field time in the 2024 season. Post-season awards once again featured many Rams. Included on the All-Metro Conference list were midfielders Carpenter, **Graham Faust '26**, **Peter O'Leary '26**, and **Ian Spakowski '26**, as well as defenders Oliver and Tschudy, along with attacker **Steele Crissman '26**, and specialist O'Leary. All-State honors went to Carpenter, Oliver, Crissman, Spakowski, and Faust. Lastly, Carpenter and Oliver were named two of only five All-American spots.





01



02

01. Congrats to the Boys Tennis team for their Class 2 State title.
02. Boys Lacrosse clinches their ninth State title in ten years.
03. Girls Lacrosse finished second at State after a strong season.
04. Girls Soccer produced a season of growth and looks to build in the future.



03



04

## Girls Lacrosse

Head Coach: Kate Haffenreffer

Another Run for the State Title

The Girls Lacrosse team finished their season with an impressive record of 17-4 and a 2nd Place finish at State. Team captains **Mikaela Mikulec '24** and **Madison Sineff '24** worked hard to motivate and inspire their team throughout the season, creating an atmosphere of teamwork and collaboration. This highly talented team consistently led the statewide counts: **Ava Goldson '24** in points and assists, **Caroline Koman '25** in goals, **Ella Etherington '24** in caused turnovers, and **Amelia Mackin '26** in ground balls (and was 3rd in draw controls). All-Metro honors include Sineff, Koman, Mackin, and **Josie Ciaramita '27** for First Team, and Mikulec, Etherington, and **Hattie Sloane '25** for Second Team. **Brooke Bernstein '25** earned Honorable Mention. Goldson was named All-Metro Conference Player of the Year. Goldson, Koman, Mackin, and Ciaramita were named First Team All-State. Goldson and Koman earned USA Lacrosse All-American, and Mikulec and Sineff earned USA Lacrosse All-Academic. Thank you to manager **Alana Doherty '24**, and best wishes for a bright future to the team's seniors: **Chloe Davis '24**, Etherington, Goldson, **Ellie Lochhead '24**, Mikulec, Sineff, and **Zoe Zlatic '24**, all of whom will be missed. Congratulations to the team on a great season and to Sloane for competing with the Australian National Team in the U20 World Championships in Hong Kong this summer.

## Girls Soccer

Head Coach: Megan Caulfield

Major growth through challenging season

The MICDS Girls Soccer Team wrapped up a challenging yet exciting season. The Rams showed major growth as the season progressed, demonstrating determination, strong work ethic, and support for one another. The Rams were led by captains **Sophie Donnelly '24**, **Alex Walker '24**, and **CeCe Harris '25**. Alongside Walker and Donnelly, the Rams graduated seniors **Ella Brauer '24**, **Abby Gray '24**, **Addison Koontz '24**, **Ariana Macia '24**, **Hala Nazzal '24**, and **Kamryn Reed '24**, whose leadership and dedication to the team will be greatly missed. The Rams look to build on this season with the leadership of Harris, goalkeeper **Claire Benoist '27**, and a strong group of returning players. Benoist was selected for the All-Region Team. Harris, Benoist, Walker, and **Kathleen Hammer '27** earned All-Conference recognition.



## Boys Track & Field

Head Coach: Jim Lohr

### Record-Breaking Season

The MICDS Boys Track season was a very exciting one, which culminated with several State Championships and a trail of school records broken along the way. The Boys Team was able to finish fifth overall, missing the podium by one point. Captain **Tristan Williams '24** had an outstanding season, finishing his final season with two individual State Championships with the 400m dash and the 200m. Williams was also named to the All-Metro Team. The MICDS boys 4x200m relay team was able to secure its third state championship in this event for the third consecutive season. The team of captain **Jeremiah Clay '24**, Williams, **Anik Jukanti '25**, and **Henry Rohan '26** got the baton around in 1:27.35 for number three all-time in program history. Rohan qualified for the 100m final, earning All-State honors and finishing in 5th place overall. He made the final in the 200m and was All-State in his third event for the meet, finishing in 8th. Clay was also a State Qualifier in the 100m. The captains for this season were Clay, **Liam McCarthy '24**, **Amir Muhammad '24**, **Eli Thomas '24**, and Williams. McCarthy was the recipient of the Charles Storey Gillis Award as the best example of competitive spirit. Williams was given the program's top award as the winner of the Gregory Foster Award as the team's example of leadership through competitive performance.

## Girls Track & Field

Head Coach: Jim Lohr

### All-State Performances at Championship

The Girls Track Team had a great season as they were able to earn a plaque at their District Championship with a second-place team finish. At the State Championship, the girls had several All-State performances. **Grace Coppel '25** lowered the girls' long-standing 800m record, first at the sectional championship and then again with a 5th-place finish at the State Championship. Her All-State finish in Track and Field makes Coppel a three-sport All-State athlete this year, as she had previously earned honors in Cross Country

as well as Swimming. **Justyce Sanders '27** had an outstanding first season with the Rams, qualifying for her first State Championship in both the 200m and the 400m. Sanders was able to capture her first All-State finish in the 400m, finishing 4th. **Nicole Green '25** was a double State qualifier in both horizontal jumps this season and has qualified for the State Championship in each of her three seasons at MICDS. She was able to earn All-State honors in the triple jump, earning a 6th-place finish. **Ali Thelen '25** qualified for the State Championship in the pole vault and finished 10th. The girls also qualified a 4x800m relay team. The crew of captain **Janet He '24**, **Sophia Godwin '25**, **Ellemieke Ferguson '27**, and **Maitland Michelson '27** ended the season with a good showing at the State Championship but did not make the podium. The captains for this season were He and **Abby Wycoff '24**. Wycoff won the Harriet Green Award as the team's most inspirational athlete and leader.

## Baseball

Head Coach: Michael Kraatz

### A Return Trip to the State Tournament

The 2024 Rams finished another successful campaign with an 18-8 record and a return trip to the state tournament in Ozark, Missouri. The team finished the season with a 4th place State ranking and is forever grateful to the 2024 seniors for raising the standard and paving a pathway to future success. The Rams say goodbye for now to **Henry Clay '24**, **Andrew Clifford '24**, **Henry Cordes '24**, **Walker Graves '24**, **Colin Hutton '24**, and **Alex Kellner '24**. Three of them have chosen to continue their playing careers. Hutton will attend Sewanee, The University of the South. Clifford will take the mound next fall at Denison University. Cordes will continue his playing career at Purdue University. There was no shortage of individual accomplishments for this squad. The Metro Conference honored Clay, **Tyler Enyard '25**, and **LJ Triplett '26** with Second Team honors. First Team recognition was awarded to Clifford and **Cam Cooper '25**. In addition, Cordes was named Conference Player of the Year, marking the second year in a row a Ram was awarded at least a share of that award. Looking to 2025, the vast majority of the State team will return, and the Rams look forward to the addition of several underclassmen.

01. Boys Track & Field secured both individual and team State titles.

02. Girls Track brings home a second place finish at State with several individual All-State performances.

03. The Baseball team returned to the State tournament after another successful season.

## Boys Golf

Head Coach: Changa Bey

Second Place in Metro League Tournament

2024 was an upswing year for the Boys Golf Team. After having a productive spring break trip to Champions Circle in Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas, the boys team came charging out of the gate with a third-place finish at the Bantle Tournament hosted by SLUH. The team competed strongly all season and finished with a 6-2 Metro League record and a second-place finish in the Metro League Tournament with three golfers making All-Metro: **Abhi Patel '24**, **Ben Gelven '25**, and **Chase Segal '27**. Junior standout Gelven qualified for the State Championship with a top-five finish in the District tournament and First Team All-Metro League honors. Patel also had a breakout season by making the Second Team All-Metro League. With promising play from young golfers and a strong core returning next year, the team looks to continue to build on their success for next season.

04. Boys Golf earned second at the Metro League Tournament and had an upswing year.

05. The Cycling team clocked strong individual performances by many riders all season.

06. The Water Polo team worked together to improve skills and strategies.



04



06

## Cycling

Head Coach: Chris Ludbrook

Strong Performances All Season

MICDS cycling came out swinging this spring, kicking off the season with a handful of strong performances in the opening weekend of racing in April. **Connor Paine '24** led the team through the season and opened with a 4th place Cat 5 finish at World Wide Technology Raceway. **Kolce Mileski '27** was hot on his heels with a 5th-place finish. **Ash Falk '26** emerged this season as a Junior rider who is tough to contend with, coming in 2nd in the Junior's category, and **Dalton Costick '26** took 3rd in the same race. The next day, the team was back in action at Tilles Park with Mileski pulling down a 3rd place finish and **Joe Intagliata '25** right behind him in 4th. The good times continued with Falk and Costick winning their age group races and **Sophia Ashley-Martin '26** missing a win in the Women's 3/4/5 race by less than a wheel at the line. The team also competed at Carondelet Park for Tuesday Night Worlds and at Marais Temps Clair Conservation Area for Wednesday Night Time Trials. For summer, the team continued to train in preparation for the fall Cyclocross season and Merlin's Magic Ride, the Pedal the Cause team of **Sawyer Merlin '25**.



05

65

# Athletics Puts a Spring in Its Step

## Spring Fling 2024



The “Spring Fling,” a week-long campaign to help build excitement and attendance for MICDS Upper School contests, kicked off the spring season with theme days, raffle drawings, and a dedicated athletics assembly. “The idea for Spring Fling came from a lot of our peers,” said **Mikaela Mikulec '24**. She and **Ameer Hajji '24** were the Student Council Athletics Committee Co-heads and worked all year to build a robust culture of support for athletics in the Upper School. “After two weeks of spring break and all of our spring teams kicking off their seasons, we felt like it was only right to generate some energy around our athletics,” Hajji said.

Establishing that foundation of support is important for the success of the School community and the athletic programs. “Hopefully, events like these get everyone pumped up and wanting to come to games,” said Mikulec.

Hajji agreed. “Supporting our teams as they kick off their seasons is key to generating the hype and passion that will hopefully carry on through deep playoff runs.”

The co-heads hope the new tradition will continue to grow and foster even more support and enthusiasm. “I think people have been excited at the prospect of having something in the spring and also see the potential for it to become something bigger in the future,” said Mikulec. “For Spring Fling being a new tradition, we got pretty positive feedback,” continued Hajji. “We are hoping it becomes a new tradition that occurs every year!” Mikulec received similar feedback from students. “People have been wondering if we could mimic something like this for the winter season,” she said. “My hope is that Spring Fling and Paint it Pink can be grown in the next years to create a ‘Homecoming’ for every season.”



**“My hope is that Spring Fling and Paint it Pink can be grown in the next years to create a ‘Homecoming’ for every season.”**

**MIKAELA MIKULEC '24**



**“After two weeks of spring break and all of our spring teams kicking off their seasons, we felt like it was only right to generate some energy around our athletics.”**

**AMEER HAJJI '24**



# Reunion 2024 By The Numbers

A wonderful celebration of our community!



MICDS Reunion Weekend 2024 celebrated the classes ending in 4 and 9, welcoming them back to campus May 2-4 for a weekend of School- and class-sponsored events. Alumni enjoyed numerous festive opportunities to rekindle connections with each other and their Mary Institute, Saint Louis Country Day School, and MICDS roots. Whether it was five years or 75 years since they had been back to campus, they reconnected with this special place that means so much to so many.





# REUNIONS TAKE TEAMWORK!

Together, all classes do great things.



**650**  
ATTENDEES



**24**  
REUNION  
CLASSES  
REPRESENTED

**8** DECADES CELEBRATED  
ON CAMPUS



REUNION CLASS GIVING TOTAL: **\$633,182**

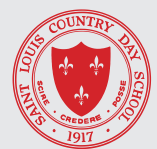


**5** SCHOOL-SPONSORED  
EVENTS

**65**  
REUNION VOLUNTEERS




*Thank you!*



# Teacher Appreciation Week Overflows with Gratitude for our Faculty & Staff

MICDS celebrated its extremely talented educators during Teacher Appreciation Week! Employees were honored in a number of ways. The MICDS Parents Association was in full gratitude mode as they orchestrated delicious treats, gifts, and acts of kindness as tokens of their appreciation toward faculty across campus.

"They all did a superb job, and the faculty felt appreciated and loved," said Lindsey Glass P'25, Parents Association Vice President of School Community Relations. "We received huge amounts of positive comments!"

## Lower School

In the Beasley Lower School, "nacho average faculty and staff" were feted with themed t-shirts and sunglasses and delicious donuts and nachos. Faculty and staff were given keychains with QR codes to a custom thank you video full of Beasley students thanking their teachers, and the faculty lounge got new tables and a coffee station.

"Our teachers are truly the driving force behind the amazing growth our students make each year," shared **Amy Scheer, Head of Lower School**. "They do incredible work day in and day out, and I am grateful for the expertise and joy that they bring to the student experience."

## Middle School

In the Middle School, the parent co-chairs of Faculty Appreciation began the year with a survey asking the faculty, "What would make you feel appreciated?" The co-chairs organized donations from fellow parents, stocking the faculty lounge



with snacks and treats. "Daily treats were sponsored and provided by the individual classes as well as Jen Schuckman for Faculty Appreciation Week," said Joanna Eckhoff Tschudy '89 P'22, '24, '29.

"As we celebrate teachers this week, it is impossible to imagine a more kind, more genuine, more spirited, more talented faculty to work alongside," said **Jen Schuckman, Head of Middle School**. "You are truly exceptional and I am grateful that we get to spend our days together. Thank you!"

## Upper School

The Upper School Faculty Appreciation Committee chose a "You Mean the World To Us" theme for the week. Mexican Monday consisted of mini cactus plants and Tostitos/salsa, charcuterie cones were provided for Italian Tuesday, American Wednesday looked like a convenience food mart, Panda Express was catered for lunch on Asian Thursday, and a European breakfast with pastries from St. Louis Bread Co. was provided

on Friday. "The Upper School Faculty and Staff are incredibly appreciated for the energy and support they provide to our community!" said Jennifer Koster P'25.

Echoing this sentiment, **Head of Upper School Scott Small** said, "Our Upper School faculty works tirelessly to support and appropriately care for our students. Their charge as educators is daunting but rewarding, and I am extraordinarily grateful for their work ethic, for their deep commitment to their students, and for their professionalism."







## Alumni & Development

During Teacher Appreciation Week, families and alumni had the opportunity to express their gratitude through donations to the MICDS Fund— Faculty Excellence in honor of our wonderful educators. Here are just a few of the notes on why many parents and alumni made tribute gifts to MICDS on behalf of our brilliant teachers:

“My daughter, facing graduation soon, has been here since Senior Kindergarten. I am so thankful to the school for helping her grow as a person academically, socially, and athletically. We will all treasure this experience and the opportunities it provided for her!” —MICDS PARENT

“Ms. Sue Orlando, Lower School PE Teacher, was my first PE instructor and now my boys’; she’s the best!” —MICDS PARENT & ALUM

“Mr. Al Begrowicz, Upper School Math Teacher, is a phenomenal teacher, and I am so grateful that my daughter had the opportunity to learn from such a caring, kind, and enthusiastic person. He has had a deep impact on her and has fueled her love of mathematics. He has been a highlight of her MICDS academic experience, and she was so lucky to have him...for two years! Thank you, Mr. B!” —MICDS PARENT

“Mr. Ryan Bueckendorf, Upper School English Teacher, is the most effective writing teacher my daughter has had. He challenged her to be purposeful in word choice, analyze literature more deeply, and express complicated ideas with more clear and sophisticated structure and language. Thank you!” —MICDS PARENT

“Ms. Stephanie Matteson, US Science Teacher, has provided great instruction and become a great inspiration for my daughter. Her instruction is interesting and challenging and sparks curiosity. She authentically cares about her students and their needs and makes herself available for support when needed. She is already supporting my daughter in developing a year-long research project for next year. Further, she has become an inspiration for my daughter to pursue the sciences and the medical field in the future. Thank you, Ms. Matteson!” —MICDS PARENT

“Thank you, Upper School History Teacher Ms. Kristin Roberts, for your exceptional teaching in AP Government. Your dedication has inspired, engaged, broadened, and encouraged my son’s understanding of the subject.” —MICDS PARENT

*What a wonderful 2024 Teacher Appreciation Week at MICDS, which overflowed with gratitude!*



Why  
I give

# From Grateful Parent to Loyal Donor

## Why Wayne Francis Continues to Support MICDS



When looking for a school for their oldest daughter, Wayne Francis and his late wife Eunice knew they wanted the benefits of a private school and the whole-child experience that came with it. They chose MICDS for **Simonne '06** and quickly became part of the fabric of the community, eventually bringing their other two children, **Jenelle '09** and **Aaron '13**, to MICDS. Over thirteen years as a parent at the school, Wayne became a loyal MICDS Fund donor and volunteer and served on the Board of Trustees from 2010 to 2016. Wayne, a Production Engineer at Boeing, also leveraged Boeing's corporate matching gift program to

double his contributions to the School. He remains a loyal donor to MICDS more than a decade later.

We chatted with Wayne to learn more about his commitment to MICDS and what motivated his continued support long after his children graduated.

### WHY MICDS?

When we were looking for a middle school opportunity for our oldest, Simonne, we found MICDS. She has always been our precedence child with daycare, school, and the like. We had heard great things about the School, toured, and enrolled. She had a great experience her first year, and seeing that, we followed through with Jenelle and then Aaron. MICDS had a good mix of academics, experiences, athletics, and socialization—all things kids need to grow. They were all in band, played sports, and really took advantage of all the activities the School had to offer. They had the whole experience.

### WHY IS PHILANTHROPY IMPORTANT TO YOU?

MICDS is not inexpensive by any standard, and, in my profession, you get what you

**“Institutions like MICDS have to always be aware of the costs associated with maintaining their standard. It’s especially important to be in a strong financial position to compensate faculty and staff appropriately. We believe it’s important to always give back to the institutions that your children benefit from.”**

WAYNE FRANCIS

**“As times evolve,  
it’s essential to prepare kids  
for life in an ever-changing  
world. It’s not just about  
bricks and mortar but also  
programs. You can’t have  
one without the other.”**

WAYNE FRANCIS

pay for. Institutions like MICDS have to always be aware of the costs associated with maintaining their standard. It’s especially important to be in a strong financial position to compensate faculty and staff appropriately. We believe it’s important to always give back to the institutions that your children benefit from. It’s all about giving back and raising the bar for others to do the same.

#### **WHAT MATTERS MOST TO YOU ABOUT MICDS?**

One of the things I liked about being a board member was understanding the educational and business side of the operation, the facilities, and the importance of growth and expansion. You have to grow and review changes as required as an institution to keep yourself competitive. As times evolve, it’s essential to prepare kids for life in an ever-changing world. It’s not just about bricks and mortar but also programs. You can’t have one without the other. Our kids enjoyed the opportunities available here. The brain is like a sponge that has to be wetted for optimum absorption. The opportunities that challenge you make you better able to adapt to change. That whole-child

academic, athletic, and social nurturing makes it easier to deal with things that come at you in life—good and bad.

#### **WHAT IMPORTANT MOMENT INFLUENCED YOUR DECISION TO GIVE?**

Parent-teacher conferences. I maintained a strong relationship with my kids’ teachers, fostering a valuable partnership. Eunice and I both went to private schools and knew what worked for us. Understanding the financial model of a private school, we willingly made a financial commitment. Our focus was always on nurturing our children’s growth, providing them with the best resources from an early age, and MICDS played a significant role in their evolution.

#### **WHY GIVE TO THE MICDS FUND?**

I let the school decide the greatest area of need. It’s the right thing to do and it sets an example for others. There’s an old saying that it takes a village. It’s the teachers and coaches. You can’t go wrong with the team effort establishing collaborative success. And, as an employee of Boeing who offers the dual benefit of a matching gift, it makes a greater impact.

## **We appreciate Wayne’s continued commitment to MICDS...and yours!**

Matching gifts are essential to corporate philanthropy, supporting donors’ wishes to give to causes they believe in and demonstrating a commitment to the community by providing these additional funds.

Over the past five years, MICDS has received an average of:

**\$48,000**  
per year via corporate  
matching gift programs

totaling more than  
**\$235,000**

Are you curious whether your employer has a matching gift program? Visit [micds.org/giving/matching-gifts](https://micds.org/giving/matching-gifts).

#### **WHY SHOULD OTHERS GIVE?**

The same benefits, opportunities, and successes that your students are getting from the School should be something that others who come after should also enjoy and uphold. It’s the same reason you contribute to your church, synagogue, political candidate, or local shelter. Education comes with a cost, and tuition doesn’t cover it all. It pays to have a good teaching staff and facilities, ultimately getting what you pay for. A lot

goes into this experience that exceeds other institutions, and you help pay for this with your contributions. MICDS is a great springboard for whatever you want to do. The School challenges students to think, speak, and present well and benefit from the experiences. These are all the things a parent wants for their kids. Here, you can take any path with the furnished tools in your toolbox.



# Letter from the MICDS Board Chair

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This past fall, MICDS once again welcomed back its creative, kind, and caring teachers and a vibrant, diverse student body to a campus both deeply rooted in tradition and pulsing with the energy of renewal and growth. One only has to stand at Olson Hall and look west, toward Ron Holtman Stadium, to see that our one-hundred acres look markedly different than even this past spring, when we celebrated the Class of 2024 and sent them on their way. The Michael W. and Quirsis V. Riney Family Tennis Center is quickly coming to life in the heart of our campus's current physical transformation, and, when completed, it will offer a state-of-the-art facility to our community.

Beyond the physical changes, I am pleased to report that MICDS as an institution remains strong and healthy. Faculty and staff turnover is remarkably low while our enrollment is once again at capacity, and we are always excited to welcome new families who want to learn more about and become part of our community. Additionally, the School's finances are managed responsibly, efficiently, and professionally with appropriate board oversight, resulting in a fiscally sound organization that is able to consistently offer robust support to its students. We also look forward to sharing our new strategic plan with the community later this year. This plan will serve as a strategic guide that will enable us to maintain and build on what makes MICDS so special while also ensuring that our students are best prepared for an ever-changing world.

We understand that all of this would not be possible without the generosity of our community—our alumni, parents, grandparents, faculty, administrators, staff, and friends. Your gifts are vital for the continued success of MICDS and ensure that our School continues as a leading academic institution in the region and country. Gifts to the MICDS Fund contribute directly to the operating budget, and therefore have an immediate and positive impact on every single student here. Their experiences, resources, and opportunities provide deeper learning and engagement, much of which would not be possible without your generosity.

Here in these pages, you'll find our Honor Roll of Donors, which includes the names of every community member who made a gift of \$100 or more to the MICDS Fund in the 2023-2024 academic year, as well as individuals who made gifts to the 25th and 50th Reunion Class Gift Program, Special Projects, Memorials, Tributes, and Bequests. We are grateful to each and every one of you!

On behalf of the MICDS Board of Trustees, please accept my gratitude for generously supporting MICDS during the past year. I am inspired by the fact that so many care so deeply about our mission and the life-changing work our School undertakes every single day.

Jason Brauer '94

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Brauer", written in a cursive style.

Chair, MICDS Board of Trustees



**The following list celebrates certain donors who supported the MICDS Fund with a gift of \$100 or more in the fiscal year July 1, 2023–June 30, 2024.**

**FOUNDER'S CIRCLE**

\$50,000 +

Suzanne Snowden '95 and Blackford Brauer '95  
Camilla Thompson '64 and Stephen Brauer '63  
Jennifer and James Koman

**MICDS LEADERSHIP CIRCLE**

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Elizabeth Hall '58 and James McDonnell '54  
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Jane Spoehrer Tschudy '56  
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**PILLAR CIRCLE**

\$5,000 - \$9,999

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James Walter '96  
Xiaotong Zhou and Peiqiang Wang  
Josephine '59 and Richard Weil  
David Weiss '81 and Bobby Sanderson  
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**HONOR CIRCLE**

\$2,500 - \$4,999

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Chonda and Fidel Nwamu  
Allison Brightman '75 and John Patella  
Alden and Henry Pflager '80  
Hannah and Robert Preston '99  
Ruth and Jay Rainey  
Heidi St. Peter and Winthrop Reed  
Andrea and Charles Royce  
Gail Weiss and Christopher Sagovac '80  
Merrica and Jonathan Schell  
Elizabeth and Stephen Schott  
Laura and Douglas Schukar '82  
Lyle and William Seddon  
Annie and David Sloane  
Annelle and Harlee Sorkin  
Katherine and Nelson Spencer  
Melissa and Christopher Swank  
Veronica and Daniel Theodoro '89  
Blair Thompson  
Thomas Tipton '77  
Lynn and Paul Trelstad  
Ellen Armstrong '56 and John Wallace '52  
Funda and Walter Whitaker  
Hilary Babcock and Andrew White  
Lindsay and Kevin Wickham

\*Deceased

# MICDS Board of Trustees

## 2023-2024

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Charmaine Ansari

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Qiming You and Zhuoqun Zhang  
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\$1,000 - \$2,499

Anonymous (5)  
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Keith Bridwell '71  
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Letah Hickman Carruthers '78  
Sandra Doughton '59 and  
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Feng Ling and Xiang Chen  
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Amy and Brian Collard '93  
Emily and Dan '08 Cooper  
Susan Shoenberg Cronholm '65  
Farrell Galt '93 and John Crowley  
Marita and John Daniel  
Jamie and Michael Diamond  
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Tracey Temanson and James Donnelly  
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Barbara and Thomas Feiner  
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Leslie and Bradley Foss  
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Virginia and Christopher Gaebe  
Stacy and Frederick Galt '90  
Marianne Schultz '64 and  
Martin Galt '60  
Benjamin Geis  
Margaret Williams '64 and  
Philip George  
Paul Goldberg '76  
Stacey Lohr '89 and Robert Graves  
Suzy and Richard Grote '63

Lena and Bjorn Haas  
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John Haffenreffer  
Rebecca Howe '74 and Arthur Hailand  
Elizabeth Huben and Richard Hall '89  
Margaret and Timothy Hanser '85  
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Earle Harbison  
Eugene Harris '82  
Merrill Hermann '13  
L. Shepley Hermann '71  
Christy and Thomas Hickey '91  
Janine Heitland '84 and Thomas Hofer  
Emily and Warren Holmes '04  
Janet Jones '76 and Tom Horlacher  
Louise and Richard Jensen  
Bettie Schroth Johnson '52  
Sally Curby Johnston '59  
Nancy Ylvisaker and Wesley Jones '74  
Laura Kloos Justiss '66  
Lynn and Brian Kalcic  
Carol and John Krieger  
Sheyda Namazie-Kummer and  
Terrance Kummer  
Richard Lammert '99  
Casey Krinski and Shane LaRue  
Thomas Latta '56  
Hadley Baur Laughlin '92  
Janet and Aubrey Lester  
Xiaohua Wu and Jiang Li  
Krystal and Greg Lottes  
Elizabeth and Philip Loughlin '85  
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Katherine and Jason Lurk  
Paula and Edward Macias  
Saba Nisar and Gibran Mahmud  
Shalini Paruthi and Raman Malhotra  
Muddasani Reddy and  
Parthasarathi Marapareddigari  
Tina and Dennis Markwardt  
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Victoria and William McAlister  
Rosalie Truong and James McCarter  
Ellen Hiatt and Barnet McKee '71  
Michelle and David McMillan  
Melissa and Robert Merlin  
Jill Spitzfaden '95 and John Meyer  
Lois and Richard Meyer '52  
Heather Dunaway '84 and  
Matthew Mikula  
Vera and Daniel Miller '99  
Jorj and George Morgan '64  
Anne Scherck Morrison '59 and  
Alan Morrison  
Barbara and Patrick Murphy  
Elizabeth Elliott Niedringhaus '87  
David O'Hara '14  
Angie and Bradford O'Neil  
David Orthwein '77  
Yugandhara and Amit Pawale  
Marilyn Kelley '07 and Charles Perkins  
Lisa Hess and Theodore Pettus '59  
Tiffany and Kielen Powell  
Anne Streett '83 and Mark Pyper  
Jennifer and Kent Rapp '76  
Mary Vollmer Rassieur '54  
Whitney Gulick '97 and  
Timothy Reboulet  
Michelle and Gregory Reynolds  
Timothy Roepke  
Leslie and Edward Rohan '90  
Nancy and John Ross  
Almira Baldwin '54 and John Sant '50  
Marina and David Schmidt '00  
Lunsford Schock '13  
Robert Schott '74  
Kim and Dwight Seward '83  
Anna and Robert Shapiro '52  
Lisa and Michael Small

Katherine Orthwein '65 and James Snowden  
 Wendi and Shannon Sock  
 Sarah Walsh and Joseph Sonderman  
 Yan Wen and Renfei Song  
 Crystal and H. Nelson Spencer  
 Judith and R. Philip Stupp  
 Susan Conant '72 and Kelly Sullivan  
 Naomi and Micah Tepper '92  
 Christine Kloecker '84 and Christopher Thompson '84  
 Margarita and John Thurston  
 Gloria Tracy  
 Tricia and Jason Uetrecht  
 Milica and Justin Vogt  
 Jane and William Wallace '78  
 Danfeng Wei  
 Hope Jones '71 and David Welles  
 Kathryn Lungstras '56 and John Welsh  
 Meghan and Kenneth Winegrad  
 Sally Schaum '66 and Michael Witte '62  
 Bonnie Barton Summers Wolfarth '57  
 Sherry and Gary Wolff '68  
 Danyang Lin and Jack Wu  
 Hiral and Vijay Yalamanchili  
 Yan Zhou  
 Yihong Fei and Dong Zhou  
 Amy and Michael Zlatic

**CHALLENGER**  
 \$500 - \$999

Anonymous (2)  
 Krati and Piyush Agarwal  
 Rosemichel and Michael Ahrenhoersterbaeumer  
 Katherine Altvater '77  
 So Hee Kim and Teg Won An  
 Paul Anagnostopoulos '70  
 Gerald Andriole '07  
 Patricia Feiner '62 and Edward Arkin  
 Kristen and Robert Armstrong '90  
 Jodi and Maty Aronson  
 Mary and Matthew Badler '99  
 Sundari Balan  
 Lawrence Baldwin '88  
 Iona and Richard Baldwin '57  
 Laura and Peter Benoist  
 Eric Bierling  
 Jacqueline Kam-Blackard and William Blackard  
 Susan Forney '59 and Stephen\* Boyd '51  
 Ingrid and Stephen Brice '68  
 Ann Lortz Brightman '57  
 Teresa and Richard Buckley '68  
 Kasie and Robert Burkhardt '07  
 Christina and Thomas Cadwell '97  
 Hua Zhong and Xindi Cai  
 Pallavi and Manish Chandak  
 Erica Li and Fangxiang Chen  
 Brondy Leung and Marty Cheng  
 Pele and Frank Childress '79  
 Bethany and Thomas Cordes  
 Magdalena and Lukas Curylo  
 Danette and Joshua Davis  
 Sunitha and Seshu Devrapally  
 Rich Dimock  
 Christopher Dorr '14  
 Heidi and Christopher Durr '87  
 Faye Eggerding '62  
 Leah and Jonathan Eggers  
 Susan Spoehrer Elliott '54  
 Lenita Morrill '70 and Mads Emanuelson  
 Peggy and John Engler  
 Susan and Julius Frager '59

Rebecca Grammer '03 and David Freund '04  
 Linda Cox-Garleanu and Nicolae Garleanu  
 Catherine Harrison '69 and James Gidcumb  
 Edes Gilbert  
 John Gillis '57  
 Cliff Gilmore  
 Jennifer and Carlos Gomez  
 Jill and William Gould  
 Gale and Dustin Griffin '61  
 Kathleen and Christopher Haffenreffer '99  
 Naina Aijaz and Syed Haider  
 Marilyn Schneider Hamer '48  
 Jill and David Hauck  
 Happy Hazelton '91 and Craig Daily  
 Alexis and A. Charles Hiemenz '02  
 Nancy and John Hillhouse  
 Marian and Maurice Hirsch '58  
 Amy and Andrew Hogenson  
 Amy and David Hollo '06  
 Caroline Horner  
 Cheryl and Ronnie Howard  
 Catherine Kenny '77 and Nelson Howe '71  
 Wenrong Zeng and Cheng Huang  
 Gloria D'Oench James '49  
 Yen and Jason Jan  
 Samantha and Stephen Jenkins  
 John Johnson  
 Benton and Rodney Jones  
 Kathy and Gopinatha Joshi  
 Amanda Kahn '00  
 Shannon Lopata '92 and Peter Kastor  
 Shelley and Edward Keller '79  
 Elizabeth and Jeffrey Kinney  
 Elizabeth Brunner '97 and William Kline '97  
 Angela and Robert Klutho  
 Kathleen Kohlbray '76 and James Mooney  
 Peggy and Andrew Krainik  
 Carey and Christopher Krieger  
 Kendall Krummenacher '02  
 Holly Leicht '88  
 Ruoheng Zhang and Weikai Li  
 Allison Light  
 Marjorie Williams '68 and Frank Lyon  
 Talbot Leland '54 and John MacCarthy '50  
 Ivy and Josh Mandell  
 Alexa and Bruno Maranhao  
 Kelly Carrico '06 and Doug Martin  
 Judith and John McCarter  
 Lesley Knowles McIntire '66  
 Robert Metzger '68  
 Candice and Jonathan Michaelson  
 Nancy Simpson '64 and J. Ben Miller '58  
 Nicole and John Moore  
 Mercia and Rufus Moore  
 Maggie and Samuel Moore  
 Jennifer and Matthew Morris  
 Ellen Morse  
 John Moulton '73  
 Catherine and Birch Mullins '61  
 Katherine Williams '90 and Bryan Nicholson  
 Thomas O'Hara '15  
 Alicia and Jason Parker  
 Leah and Mark Paskar '92  
 Kristina Henderson and Horace Perry '67  
 Julia and John Peters '01  
 Trent Barnes Phelps '62

Katherine McDonnell '90 and Antonio Pipoli  
 Sarah and James Plaskett  
 Virginia and Robert Pommer '84  
 Amber and Daniel Pook  
 Farheen and Furqan Raja  
 Emily and Derek '80 Rapp  
 Julie Grote '65 and Richard Rogers  
 Virginia Russell '61 and John Rowe  
 Jill and Charlie Sanders  
 Hsuan-wei Juan and Aaron Schlafly  
 Caroline and Steven Schmidt '63  
 Sharon and Michael Schwarzen  
 Lindsey and Matthew Segal  
 Carla Geha and Fadi Shamsham  
 Alfred Shapleigh '62  
 Susan and Mark Sherman '82  
 Michelle and Sanford Sineff '88  
 Evelyn and Timothy Smith  
 Reggie Starks  
 Sharon and Seth Strobe  
 Rachel and Mike Swiston  
 Erin and Adam Taves  
 JoAnne and James Taylor  
 Sarah Thompson '96 and Boyd Pickup  
 Marilyn Tohill  
 Steven Turner '69  
 Judy Verdine  
 Carol Wall and Rob Ciampoli  
 Christine and Bradford Werner '86  
 Nancy and Luke Wild  
 Annalena and Jonathan Winer '88  
 Kelly and Neill Wright  
 Yaqiao Kang and Haojia Wu  
 Whitney Walker '01 and Jarrett Young '01  
 Hongyun Liu and Kingsley Young  
 Ritu Chouhan '04 and Markus Zei  
 Maryam Ziaee

**RED AND GREEN**  
 \$250 - \$499

Anonymous (10)  
 Alyssa and Olufunmike Adeyemi '93  
 Ronnie and Harry Agress '64  
 Saiama Waqar and Haseeb Ahmad  
 Melanie King and Jeffrey Altvater  
 Martha and Frederick Altvater '75  
 Carole and Thomas Anderson  
 Olivia and Arun Aranha  
 Sharon and Thomas Aylward  
 Julie and Justin Aylward '98  
 William Babcock  
 Kate and David Babington '96  
 Polly and Christopher Bade '95  
 Katherine Watt '02 and Richard Banahan  
 Lanyn and William Benoist '01  
 Eleanor Peters '93 and Leif Bergquist  
 Shadab Pathan and Kashif Bhutto  
 Carol Willis Blair '60  
 Jacqueline Israel '64 and Peter Blakeslee  
 Theresa and Joseph Blomker '06  
 Ann Hinchey '78 and Kenneth Bohm  
 Amy and Greg Boschert  
 Emily and Jordan Breck '09  
 Tanja and Jeffrey Brinker '75  
 Elise Curlee '78 and Mark Burfield  
 Georgia Cady '76 and Ned Wasniewski  
 Cami Watkins and Siroth Charnond  
 Rinku Chauhan  
 Katherine and John Cheezem  
 Nancy Harrigan Child '58  
 Laura Hollo '09 and Richard Clements  
 Summer Beasley and Matthew Coff

Parker Condie '57  
 Karen Condie  
 Sally Maxwell and John Connolly  
 Natalja and Gerald Cooper  
 Christina and Jeffrey Coverdell  
 Judith and Gilee Cozad  
 Elizabeth Jones '67 and Stephen Crawford '66  
 Joan and David Culver '59  
 Michelle and Christopher Currie  
 Suzanne and Jeffrey Dallas '79  
 Susan and Greg Damon  
 Trudie and Keith Davies  
 Patricia Duke '64 and Richard Dear  
 Nikki Doughy  
 Laurie and Thomas Drake '60  
 Charles Drew '71  
 Elizabeth Sims '78 and James Duff  
 Suzanne and David Elliott '63  
 Rosalie Engler '96 and Sue Ann Stanton  
 Barrett Erker '90 and Taber Smith  
 Megan Cooper and Todd Fehniger  
 Maria and Michael Fein  
 Shaheen and Matthew Ferguson  
 Daniel Fisher '01  
 Laura Leith '91 and Donald Frank  
 Mark Freeland '90  
 Kristi and Eric Freeland '96  
 Bonnie and A. Freeland  
 Lauren Thomas '02 and John Fries '99  
 Nisha Thomas and Daniel George  
 Gregory Gettle '60  
 Claudia Ochoa-Espejo and Christopher Giaimo  
 Lindsey and Brian Glass  
 Patricia and Thomas Goldberg '71  
 Ryan Hanley '02 and Jacob Goldstein  
 Dana Weston Graves '00  
 James Green '02  
 Stacy Haberstroh  
 Timothy Halls  
 Kathryn and Michael Haw  
 Sally Gleason '89 and Johan Henriksen  
 Jennifer and Oliver Hensley '81  
 Lindsay and Oliver Hickel '63  
 Holly Holtz '68  
 Cindy and Robert Johnson  
 Lana Mueller Jordan '58  
 Courtney and Mark Kagan  
 Susan and Robert Karn '60  
 Elizabeth Green '69 and William Kling  
 Steven Kofkoff '03  
 Nancy and Kurt Krueger '74  
 Elizabeth Thomas '99 and Ryan Lakovitch  
 Susan and Warren Lammert '52  
 Mary Hermann '85 and John Lemkemeier  
 Laura and Christopher Leonard  
 Monica Lieser  
 Jean Light  
 Stephanie Chen and Jason Lin  
 Cristin Cunningham Mack '93  
 Jane Shapleigh Mackey '65  
 Mary Louise Mrazek and Claude Maechling '56  
 Samir Malik '04  
 Susan and Wes Marino  
 Kristin and Timothy Matisziw  
 Carrie Pechloff '00 and Daniel Mauch  
 George Mauzé '55  
 Mary and Geoffrey McClelland '58  
 Marion and Thomas McConnell  
 Kim and William McCormick '09  
 Mona Kulkarni '99 and Tim McGillicuddy  
 Enid Altvater '83 and Chris McIntosh

\*Deceased



# MICDS COMMUNITY IMPACT

## 2023-2024

2,297

Contributions to MICDS this year

797 (48%)

Donors increased their support this year

51%

of all gifts received this year were under \$250

169

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

# \$14,893,155

TOTAL SUPPORT FOR THE SCHOOL IN FISCAL YEAR 2024

*It all adds up!*

*We are so grateful for our generous Ram community!*

NEW ZEALAND

# 8,125

Number of miles the furthest gift traveled (Rich '58 and Pam Nelson)



319 ALUMNI RELATIONS AND MICDS FUND VOLUNTEERS HELPED TO ACCOMPLISH GREAT THINGS!

TOP 3 PARENT CLASSES WITH HIGHEST MICDS FUND PARTICIPATION

2035

2034 + 2031 (a tie!)

2036

100%

86%

82%



DIVISION WITH THE HIGHEST PARENT PARTICIPATION

## Lower School

*Way to go Beasley parents!*

OVERALL MICDS FUND PARENT PARTICIPATION 66%

OVERALL MICDS FUND ALUMNI PARTICIPATION 8%

100% OF OUR STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND PROGRAMS BENEFIT FROM YOUR SUPPORT OF THE MICDS FUND!

Richard Mellow '07  
Elizabeth Miller  
Kate Borders Moore '54  
Irene Moore '84  
Peggy Morgan  
Daphné Morgan  
Jessica and Fred Niemeier  
Morgan Niven '20  
Lisa Wright '76 and James Nouss  
Emily and Adam Novik  
Mandi and James O'Leary  
Susan Orlando  
Getha Jagannathan and Arvind Palanisamy  
Thruston Pettus '59  
Roy Pfautch  
David Plotkin '91  
Anshu Sood and Varun Puri  
Lucille Ravenscroft '62 and J. Michael Ribaud  
Laing and M. Weldon Rogers '80  
Sandra and James Rothschild '60  
Jane and Marcel Saghir  
Annette McRoberts '79 and William Sant '76  
Dorothy Britt '84 and Sean Scanlan  
Cary White '73 and John Schaperkott  
Stephanie and Philip Schroeder  
Tatjana and Robert Schwendinger  
Sara Scott '96 and Kevin Seabaugh  
Kristin Buhl '83 and John Sheehan  
Elizabeth Markwardt '97 and Matthew Sherman  
Lindsey Herzog '07 and Colin Shipley  
Shaista Ali and Sameer Siddiqui  
Rebecca Hlaca-Sondrol and Brian Sondrol  
Elizabeth and Kevin Speckhals  
Aletta and Darrin Speegle  
Kathleen Israel Starnes '64  
Sandra Humphreys Stemmler '54  
Ann and Stuart Stock '64  
Yang Yu and Dan Su  
Renee and Jerry Swartz  
Rajeev Tailor '92  
Kathleen and Harry Tamm '63  
Hana Tepper '95 and Brian Taylor  
Kerrie and John Thompson  
Alicia James Tlapek '93  
William Tucker '59  
Lauren Waterbury '11 and Landon Turley  
Laurie and Ray Van de Riet  
Julie and Joseph Vetter  
John Walbran  
Kelly and Patrick Walsh  
Caroline Sivewright '04 and Glenn Warren  
Sue and Robert Welch  
Ann von Weise Whyte '62  
Kim and Steve Willbrand  
Bonnie and David Williams '63  
Helen Howell '68 and David Wisland  
Lucy Wohltman '81  
Barbara McAfee Wohltman '48  
Carolynn and Stephen Wolff  
Meghan and David Woltz  
Lisa Wood '79  
Amy and Thomas Wright '83  
Heather and Ralph Wuebker  
Julie and William '80 Wurdack  
Stanley Yang '94  
Fatima Ahmad and Uwais Zaid  
Rene and David Zar

### RAM \$100 - \$249

Anonymous (23)  
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Balqees Akhtar and Malik Ahmed  
Patricia and George Albin '71  
Kayla and Carter Alexander  
Louise DuVivier '75 and William Alsing  
Barbara and Jack Ameis  
Sally Neuwoehner '63 and Kenneth Anderson  
Nicholas Andrew '82  
Kellyne and Michael Annis  
Kathryn and Theodore Armstrong  
Carol Armstrong  
Carolyn Ellermann '57 and Norman Arneson  
Anoo Sennaraj and Sennaraj Balasubramanian  
Dilek and Osman Balci  
Callie and Timothy Bambenek  
Sarah James '86 and John Banks  
Ju Bao  
Chris and Robert Barrett '57  
Willard Bartlett '55  
Martha and Carson Baur '89  
Alison Bedell  
Robin Begley  
Candice Schatgen '78 and Patrick Bellinger  
Carolyn and Robert Bender '77  
Marilyn Reisel '76 and Keith Bennett  
Marty and F. Gilbert\* Bickel '62  
Deborah Blanchard  
Judy and S. Richard Brand '57  
Marie Campagna '64 and A. John Brauer  
Diane and Michael Broberg  
Tisha and Branden Brooks  
Erle Lionberger Broughton '77  
Christina Franc '87 and Steven Brown  
Susan Kenny '87 and Russell Browning  
Amy and David Bunge  
Gloria and Michael Burns '70  
Molly Caldwell-McMillan  
Margaret George '96 and Brendan Carmichael  
Emile Carnal '08  
Steven Carrico  
Susan and James Carty  
Joanna and Brett Carty  
Amy and John Castagno  
William Cella '15  
Tiffany and Randy Chan  
Victoria Shinkle '64 and Summer Charles '62  
Stephanie Spatz Chilcott '69  
Jayashree Rajukkannu and Saravanan Chinthanaiselvan  
Katherine and Charles Claggett '66  
Lisa Etwiler and Randall Clary  
Ashley Amos '94 and John Clennan  
Maria and Nicholas Clifford '84  
Laura and Brian Cocco  
Carol Clarkson Coffin '54  
Anne Cohen '17  
Jennifer and Thomas Collins '71  
Krystal White and Eric Compton  
Kathy Fulton and William Coppel  
Linda Kruse Corbett '64  
Julie and Justin Cordonnier '83  
Catherine Mullin '03 and Matthew Cort '00  
Elizabeth Moore '08 and Christopher Coulter '05



Ratna and Shawn Craig  
 Laura and Aaron Craig  
 Leslie and Stewart Crais  
 Karma and William Crowell '55  
 Ayumi and Robert Cullen  
 Priya Rajasekaran and  
 Prahalathan Kumarasamy  
 Charles Cunningham  
 Natasha and Jeffrey Davis  
 Florence Bourgeois and  
 Andrew Davis '93  
 Heather and Darian Day  
 Gail Engler Day '68  
 Christy Bishop '75 and David DeJohn  
 Iris and Paul Denk  
 Nicholas Deppen '80  
 Beth and Park Desloge '09  
 Miriam Maechling '83 and  
 Breese Dickinson  
 Helen Vollmar Diepenbrock '64  
 Carol Kent '58 and Walter Diggs '54  
 Ann Jiang and Tao Ding  
 Edith and Jerry Doud  
 Amy McFarland '85 and Douglas Dove  
 Andrew Dowd '01  
 Margaret Baldwin '77 and John Dozier  
 Rekha Dravina  
 Hugh Drescher '76  
 Katherine Drewry '95 and  
 Andrew Potthast  
 Jamie Stern '81 and Robert Driver  
 Ellen and Henry Dubinsky  
 Melanie and Ryan Duffy  
 Laura George Dunaway '95  
 Gale Rutherford '66 and  
 Wallace Dunlap  
 Margaret DesPain '09 and  
 Kent Dunson  
 Trina Ghosh '09 and Gregory Ebersole  
 Aaron Elliott  
 Barbara English  
 Sarah and Stuart Erwin '80  
 Kimberly and Christopher Estes  
 Charae and Centron Felder  
 Katie Clark '08 and  
 William Feuerbacher  
 Jean D'Oench Field '54  
 Rebecca and William Fields  
 Robert Fischer '96  
 Elizabeth Flanigan '09 and Tyler Fisher  
 Pamela and Sherman Ford  
 Margaret and Blair Fortner  
 Kelly and Ben Foster  
 Barbie Freund  
 Rajyalakshmi and Bhaskara Gadi  
 Linda Ganss  
 Elizabeth Engler '97 and  
 Robert Gast '98  
 Xiaorong Liu and Jianjun Ge  
 Abigail Weisbrod '01 and  
 Philip George '00  
 Julie and Timothy George '84  
 Celine and Ryan George '09  
 Karen Breckenridge '81 and  
 William Gernstein  
 Tracy and Yeshai Gibli  
 Carol Giles  
 Jennifer and Elliott Gion  
 Patricia Glaser '66  
 Laurie and Gordon Goetsch '78  
 Amy and Mark Goldberg '81  
 Rebecca Gollub '10  
 Wendy Diamond and Matthew  
 Goodman '94  
 Mary Weidle Gordon '79  
 Christopher Graham '06  
 Tiffany and David Grant

Joseph Grasso '79  
 Valerie Gross '76  
 Heather Ewald and Lyndon Gross  
 Clare Burns '05 and  
 Andrew Grumney '05  
 Charles Guenther  
 Jean Gutchewsky  
 Kimberly and Dan Gutchewsky  
 Ivonne Negron and  
 Fernando Gutierrez  
 Abby Willis and Arthur Hailand '10  
 Susan Rouse '61 and Stephen Hall  
 Donna Hall  
 Matthew Hampton '85  
 Amy Hannah  
 Judy and William Hansen  
 Kay Harbison  
 Kelley and Tripp Hardin '79  
 Rosemary Hardy  
 Stephanie Matteson and  
 Benjamin Harris  
 Helen and Justin Harris  
 Kristen Ledbetter and Daniel Harris  
 Kelly McClelland '95 and Stuart Harris  
 Jaclyn Heitland  
 Marilyn and Richard Helmholz '58  
 Margaret and A. Charles Hiemenz  
 Debbie and Edward Hill  
 Alison Hillhouse '95 and Greg Cain  
 Mark Hoeman '15  
 Carol Hofer  
 Ellen Day '64 and Paul Hoff  
 John Hoffman '11  
 Irene Schock Holmes '73  
 Sadie and James '09 Holthaus  
 Carlota Hermann '67 and  
 Richard Holton  
 Mary Tompkins '64 and Neil Houghton  
 Virginia Hanses '83 and  
 John Howell '83  
 John Howell '12  
 Leverett Hubbard\*  
 Lacy and Joel Hubbard  
 Jean Robb '81 and Steven Hubert  
 Mary Anne and Stephen Hughes '84  
 Sheila Morrin '59 and  
 Michael Humphreys '56  
 Susan Shepherd Ittner '78  
 Elizabeth Jackson '58  
 Page Sharp Jackson '56  
 Jennifer Belmont '99 and  
 Brent Jennings  
 Stephanie and Casey Jewett  
 Robyn Jones  
 Catherine and Mark Jordan  
 Cynthia Kabbe  
 Linda and Kenneth Kaimann '61  
 Nancy and David Kalal '68  
 Caryn Fine and Robert Kanterman  
 Christine and James Karslake  
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 Rachel and Jeffrey Keech  
 Kristin Garrett '02 and Jesse Keller  
 Lisa and Daniel Kenkel  
 Carol and Burton Kennedy '67  
 Jintong Tang and Shaji Khan  
 Deirdre and James Kjorlien '70  
 Karen Klaus-Ridgeway  
 Carol Swartout '75 and Ward Klein  
 Sho Kang and Hoo Sang Ko  
 Laura and Spencer Koch  
 Jennifer and Chris Koster  
 Lauren Kramer '09  
 Danielle and Kelly Kyriakos '84  
 Donna and Danny Lacy  
 Yamini Laks '99  
 Maureen Ross-Lang and David Lang

\*Deceased

# MICDS Development Committee 2023-2024

## Committee Chair

David Steward '95

## Committee Members

Elizabeth Dennig Coulter '75  
 Susannah Danforth  
 Leah Eggers  
 Lisa Guirl  
 James McDonald '98  
 Jill Spitzfaden Meyer '95  
 Katharine Mikulec

Nelida Navarrine  
 Stuart Noel '98  
 Shalini Paruthi  
 Julie Ralph  
 Lindsey Herzog Shipley '07  
 David Yuan

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\*Deceased

# MICDS Parents Association

We are proud to include every parent and guardian as a member of the Parents Association. In the 2023-2024 academic year, the MICDS Parents Association offered a plethora of engagement opportunities for our more than 1,800 parents and guardians to meet and connect, fostering close relationships and participating in School activities.



96 Admission tour guides welcomed 380+ prospective families to campus

18 faculty & staff appreciation events



400 cowbells + 1,500 beads provided by Sports Boosters

12

Parent education events

7

Passport Series cultural engagement events



10 arts receptions provided by Arts Boosters



400+ lbs of MICDS spirit wear recycled into MICDS community

## 20+ SCHOOL TRADITIONS SUPPORTED BY THE PA

96

total parent engagement opportunities

12

members of PA Executive Board

51

PA Committee Chairs + 30 Class Chairs and Vice Chairs

COUNTLESS EVENT VOLUNTEERS

Thank you for being a part of the MICDS parent community!



## MICDS Parents Association Executive Board 2023-2024

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Annie Sloane

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Jen Hogan

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We extend our heartfelt thanks to the alumni, parents, students, grandparents and friends who dedicated their time to help MICDS fundraising initiatives during the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Volunteers are essential to advancing the MICDS mission and we are immensely grateful for their support.

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The following list celebrates certain donors who supported special projects at MICDS with a gift of \$100 or more in the fiscal year July 1, 2023–June 30, 2024.

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**Thank you to our generous sponsors of the 30th annual Holtman Memorial Cup Golf Tournament held on September 22, 2023.**

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Holtman Golf 2023 Winning team (l-r) Justin Bryant '07, Stuart Beath '05, John Sedgwick '05, Matt Mach '06



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# Memorials & Tributes

The following list recognizes those donors who supported MICDS in honor of or in memory of a friend or loved one in the fiscal year, July 1, 2023–June 30, 2024.

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Cindy and Robert Johnson

**Jody Auletta**  
Nikki Doughty

**Matthew Bazoian '09**  
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Nancy Buford Ream '56  
Bonnie Barton Summers Wolfarth '57

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Leah Putnam '74 and  
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Evelyn McCandless '74 and  
Jeffrey Hopkins  
Jane Spivy '74 and Bruce Keough  
Cynthia Graham '74 and Steven Landis

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Holly Hermann '74 and  
David '72 Gulick  
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Lisa Wright '76 and James Nouss  
Susan and Joseph Rechter '69  
Almira Baldwin '54 and John Sant '50

**Noel Volkman Cooke '64**  
Marie Campagna '64 and  
A. John Brauer  
Anne Stupp '64 and  
Charles McAlpin '65  
Barbara Macdonald Stamper '64

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Anonymous  
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**Isabelle Coovert**  
Karen Klaus-Ridgeway

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Charles Allen '73

**Susan Russe Daniel-Dreyfus '58**  
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James McDonnell '54

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Elizabeth Gamble  
Helen and Kenneth Simon '79  
Janis Good and Brian Witherspoon

**Sandra Crawford Dillard**  
Ann Luedinghaus Case '56\*  
Laurie Garesche '80 and  
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Constance Lohr  
Talbot Leland '54 and  
John MacCarthy '50  
Marni Dillard '85 and  
Robert Martyn '85  
Mary Perry and Michael McCay  
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Henry Payne  
Lynn and Benjamin Rassieur

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Carolyn Ellermann '57 and  
Norman Arneson  
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Linda Ferguson '70 and  
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Parker Condie '57  
Karen Condie

Carol Kent '58 and Walter Diggs '54  
Marjorie and Terry Franc '54  
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Susan Rouse '61 and Stephen Hall  
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Jane Shapleigh Mackey '65  
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Susan and Joseph Rechter '69  
Jody and John Ross  
Martha and William Rowe  
Almira Baldwin '54 and John Sant '50  
Steven Shepley '76  
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**Derick Driemeyer '52**  
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Ellen Morse, Robert Morse  
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Marie Campagna '64 and  
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Catherine and Paul Carlson '84  
Parker Condie '57  
Nancy Curby '84  
Carolyn Borders Danforth '52  
Josephine Noel Dietz '56  
Carol Kent '58 and Walter Diggs '54  
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Margaret and Timothy Hanser '85  
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IWF Missouri  
Page Sharp Jackson '56  
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Laura Kepes  
Sally Spoehrer Lemkemeier '58  
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Carol and James Lister  
Kathryn Elliott '84 and George Love  
Talbot Leland '54 and  
John MacCarthy '50  
Anne Stupp '64 and  
Charles McAlpin '65

Ann Cochran McCandless '51  
Elizabeth Hall '58 and  
James McDonnell '54  
Anne and John McDonnell '56  
Katharine and Anthony Mikulec  
Chrissy and Mike Nardini  
Kara and Robert Newmark  
Elizabeth Elliott Niedringhaus '87  
Linda and Wallace Niedringhaus '62  
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Jennifer Pirrie  
Lynn and Benjamin Rassieur  
Mary Vollmer Rassieur '54  
Caro Schneithorst '83 and  
Lawrence Reed '71  
Andrea and Charles Royce  
Almira Baldwin '54 and John Sant '50  
Cary White '73 and  
John Schaperkottter  
Steven Shepley '76  
Sally and Warren Simpson  
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Bonnie Barton Summers Wolfarth '57  
Laurie and Ray Van de Riet  
Ital Veron '49  
Jill VonGruben  
John Walbran  
Ellen Armstrong '56 and  
John Wallace '52  
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Carol Giles

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Charles Cella '13  
Laura and Brian Coco  
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Charles Curtis '11  
Carolyn Danforth '15  
Samuel Erwin '17  
Jennifer and John Gillis '85  
Claire Herzog '11  
Kelly and Thomas Hummel  
Charlotte Dougherty and  
Christopher Hunt  
Olivia Hunt '16  
Thomas Laughlin '11  
Geneva Lee '16  
Ravon Lingard '14  
Beth and Nicholas Menneke  
Sallie Mesker '11  
Meera Patel and James Penilla  
Kirby Reynolds '09  
Margaret Rianhard '17  
Caitlin Condie '11 and  
Luke Sienkiewicz  
Taylor Smith '11  
Leonard Thomlison '11  
Matthew Trowbridge '16  
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John Wehrle '19

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Steven Kofkoff '03

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Jennifer and Robert Hensley '81  
Mary Louise Mrazek and  
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Alexis and A. Charles Hiemenz '02  
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Margaret Brown '88 and David Schmid

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**Robert Kohn '11**  
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Sallie Mesker '11

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**Blair Smith Lawlor '56**  
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Alice and David Galt '67  
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**Ryan Seed '95**  
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**Elizabeth Green Sims '53**  
Elizabeth Sims '78 and James Duff

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Jane Shapleigh Mackey '65  
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John Schaperkötter  
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Paul Schmid  
Ellen Armstrong '56 and  
John Wallace '52

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Emily Freeman '89 and Patrick Huber

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**9th Grade Teachers**  
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**Scarlett Ahrenhoersterbaeumer '32**  
Rosemichel and Michael  
Ahrenhoersterbaeumer

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Kayla and Carter Alexander

**Cosette Alexander '37**  
Kayla and Carter Alexander

**Lucas Allgeyer '25**  
Anonymous  
Jessica Adams and Jay Hardenbrook

**Maxwell Allgeyer '26**  
Anonymous

**Maria Anagnostopoulos**  
Paul Anagnostopoulos '70

**David Armstrong**  
Hilary Babcock and Andrew White

**Trevor Arulsamy '25**  
Melanie Ongo and Dominic Arulsamy

**Callie Bambenek**  
Stephanie Hoff and Mark Dickherber  
Leah and Jonathan Eggers  
Funda and Walter Whitaker

**John Barksdale '82**  
Clarence Barksdale '50

**Baseball Program**  
Amy and Christian Sikorski

**Edward Baur '64**  
Abigail Wyckoff '24

**Lauren Bedell '20**  
Alison Bedell

**Mason Bedell '23**  
Alison Bedell

**Alan Begrowicz**  
Pallavi and Manish Chandak  
Huiyi Chen and Wenjun Li  
Katharine and Anthony Mikulec  
Funda and Walter Whitaker  
Abigail Wyckoff '24

**Heru Bey '27**  
Angelique and Changa Bey

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Margaret Lessel '16

**Madison Blanchard '15**  
Deborah Blanchard

**Paige Blanchard '18**  
Deborah Blanchard

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Stacey Lohr '89 and Robert Graves

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Christopher Brennan '94

**Diane Broberg**  
Linda Cox-Garleanu and  
Nicolae Garleanu  
Kimberly and Dan Gutchewsky

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Lindsey and Eric Brunt '02

**Reese Brunt '35**  
Lindsey and Eric Brunt '02

\*Deceased

**Emily Barksdale Bryant '86**  
Clarence Barksdale '50

**Ryan Bueckendorf**  
Susan and Wes Marino

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Chris and McAfee Burke '01

**Ryder Burke '33**  
Chris and McAfee Burke '01

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Julie and Francis Burns

**Maxwell Campbell**  
Abigail Wyckoff '24

**Matthew Carmody '26**  
Kayleen and James Carmody

**Aya Carrico '35**  
Steven Carrico

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Clay Calvert '83

**CDS Class of 1984**  
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**Lily Childs**  
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Barbara Macdonald Stamper '64

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Daniel Mauch

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Joseph Strege '11

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Max Platin '13

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Floretta and Gregg Tolson

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Jennifer and Chris Koster

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Anonymous

**Class of 2027**  
Anonymous

**Class of 2028**  
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Christopher Giaimo

**Class of 2030**  
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**Class of 2032**  
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Stephanie Matteson and  
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Heather and Darian Day

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**Rylee Day '28**  
Heather and Darian Day

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Jamie and Michael Diamond

**Carson Diamond '29**  
Jamie and Michael Diamond

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Stephanie Hoff and Mark Dickherber

**Zoe Dickherber '26**  
Stephanie Hoff and Mark Dickherber

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Andrew Dowd '01

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Monica and Brian Drylewicz

**Caitlin Drylewicz '33**  
Monica and Brian Drylewicz

**Harry Elfenbein '29**  
Dianne and Gerald Elfenbein

**Bruce Elvin '28**  
Yanling Wang and Michael Elvin

**Rosalie Ewing Engler '66**

Rosalie Engler '96 and  
Sue Ann Stanton

**Ezra Ewald '27**

Heather Ewald and Lyndon Gross

**Carla Federman**

Christina Franc '87 and  
Steven Brown  
Carey and Christopher Krieger  
Allison Light  
Lynn Simowitz '84 and David Phillips

**Amy and John Ferris**

Timothy Halls

**Alysha Ford '20**

Pamela and Sherman Ford

**Hale Foster '25**

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**Harrison Foster '26**

Kelly and Ben Foster

**Rodney Freeman Jr '26**

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Deborah and Jack Thomas '70

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Xiaorong Liu and Jianjun Ge

**Samson Gibli '26**

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**Jennifer Gillis**

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**Harper Graves '22**

Stacey Lohr '89 and Robert Graves

**Walker Graves '24**

Stacey Lohr '89 and Robert Graves

**Wilson Graves '18**

Stacey Lohr '89 and Robert Graves

**Michael Gutchewsky '26**

Jean Gutchewsky

**Gertrude Habel '27**

Anonymous

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Naina Aijaz and Syed Haider

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Sharon and Michael Schwarzen

**Julia Hansen '01**

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Judy and William Hansen

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Stephanie Matteson and  
Benjamin Harris

**Dexter Harris '34**

Stephanie Matteson and  
Benjamin Harris

**Helen Harris '25**

Helen and Justin Harris

**Lillian Harris '28**

Helen and Justin Harris

**Sebastian Harris '26**

Margaret McClelland

**Virginia Haw '28**

Kathryn and Michael Haw

**Janet He '24**

Anonymous

**Johan Henriksen**

Sally Gleason Henriksen '89

**Birthday of Carlota Hermann  
Holton '67**

Margaret Holtman

**Carolyn Hood**

Elizabeth Engler '97 and  
Robert Gast '98  
Jayme Zimmer

**Virginia Hanses Howell '83**

John Howell '12

**Brenda Huang '32**

Wenrong Zeng and Cheng Huang

**Patrick Huber**

Christina Franc '87 and  
Steven Brown  
Elizabeth Engler '97 and  
Robert Gast '98

**Joseph Imbs '03**

Laura and Brian Coco

**Brandon Jewett '31**

Leslie Strand

**Axel Jones '26**

Benton and Rodney Jones

**Brody Jones '29**

Benton and Rodney Jones

**Louise Jones**

Sarah Keen

**Samuel Kastor '19**

Shannon Lopata '92 and  
Peter Kastor

**Thomas Kastor '28**

Shannon Lopata '92 and  
Peter Kastor

**David Keech '30**

Rachel and Jeffrey Keech

**Sadie Keech '27**

Rachel and Jeffrey Keech

**Rosario Kelley '30**

Christina Rios-Kelley and  
Mark Kelley

**Abigail Klinckhardt**

Yang Yu and Dan Su

**Matthew Koster**

Benjamin Geis

**Michael Kraatz**

Teresa and William Hutton

**William Kreikemeier '29**

Caroline Horner

**Keith Krieg**

Laura and Brian Coco

**Matthew Krieg '03**

Laura and Brian Coco

**Charles Krieger '27**

Carey and Christopher Krieger

**Eliza Krieger '32**

Carey and Christopher Krieger

**Henry Krieger '36**

Carey and Christopher Krieger

**Mia Krieger '24**

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Russell Browning

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Laura and Christopher Leonard

**James Leonard '31**

Laura and Christopher Leonard

**Julia Leonard '30**

Laura and Christopher Leonard

**Nicholas Leonard '33**

Laura and Christopher Leonard

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Ruoheng Zhang and Weikai Li

**Justin Little**

Pallavi and Manish Chandak

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Laura and Brian Coco

**Joan Llufrío**

Laura and Brian Coco

**Carol Bodenheimer Loeb '59**

Ellen and Henry Dubinsky  
Barbie Freund  
Constance and Eugene Kahn

**Joseph Loeb '07**

Laura and Brian Coco

**Jim Lohr**

Theresa and Joseph Blomker '06

**Ava Maher '30**

Meghan and Robert Maher

**Tommaso Maiocco '19**

Laura and Brian Coco

**Sawyer Mandell '29**

Ivy and Josh Mandell

**Sikander Manocha '36**

Jasreet Hundal and Pawan Manocha

**Chloe Martin '24**

Keisha Carroll

**Stephanie Matteson**

Susan and Wes Marino

**Liam McCarthy '24**

Jennifer Moore

**Connor McKinney '06**

Laura and Brian Coco

**Anastasia McNeill-Estes '24**

Kimberly and Christopher Estes

**Nicholas Menneke**

Stacey Lohr '89 and Robert Graves

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Sally Garhart '74 and Sandy  
Eneguess

**MI Class of 1984**

Heather Dunaway '84 and  
Matthew Mikula

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Tanya and Nick Roth

**MICDS Faculty and Staff and The  
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Elizabeth Moore '08 and  
Christopher Coulter '05

**Edward Miller '27**

Caroline Miller  
Suzanne and Richard Miller

**Heidi Millman '31**

Sydney and Peter Millman

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**Robert Morris '17**  
Laura and Brian Coco

**William Morris '20**  
Laura and Brian Coco

**Dominic Muccigrosso '32**  
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**Grant Nicholson '24**  
Katherine Williams '90 and  
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**Elizabeth Elliott Niedringhaus '87**  
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**Victoria Noble '28**  
Christine and Bradford Werner '86

**Camilla Nourie '18**  
Cynthia Kabbe

**Cecilia Nourie '21**  
Cynthia Kabbe

**Zara Nourie '23**  
Cynthia Kabbe

**Henry Oliver '25**  
Rosemary Oliver

**Susan Orlando**  
Elizabeth Markwardt '97 and  
Matthew Sherman

**Sarah Llufrío Ortmann '05**  
Laura and Brian Coco

**Alexander Owen '34**  
Samantha and Stephen Owen

**Elizabeth Owen '36**  
Samantha and Stephen Owen

**Max Padratzick '27**  
Heather and Jay Padratzick

**Owen Padratzick '31**  
Heather and Jay Padratzick

**Collin Palmer '12**  
Laura and Brian Coco

**Reece Parkinson '10**  
Terry Parkinson

**Robyn Parkinson '13**  
Terry Parkinson

**Birthday of Cynthia Shoenberg  
Peters '67**  
Margaret Holtman

**Cynthia Shoenberg Peters '67**  
Amanda Peters '96 and Christopher  
Brennan '94

**Hays Peters '37**  
Julia and John Peters '01

**Raymond Peters '67**  
Amanda Peters '96 and  
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Armeen and Scott Williams

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Jean-Jacques Poucel

**Jules Xavier Poucel '30**  
Marita Kheim and  
Jean-Jacques Poucel

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Tiffany and Kielen Powell

**Elijah Powell '28**  
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**Jack Rooney '33**  
Jennifer Wessels and Kevin Scharff

**Tanya Roth**  
Linda Cox-Garleanu and  
Nicolae Garleanu

**Maahi Saini '27**  
Bhavana Choudhary and  
Virender Saini

**Derek Sanderson '09**  
Laura and Brian Coco

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Trish and Muki Schlomka

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Sennaraj Balasubramanian

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Tina and Dennis Markwardt

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Christopher Brennan '94  
Louise Jones

**Connor Steindorf '27**  
Sara Steindorf

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Lindsey Herzog '07 and Colin Shipley

**The 60th Reunions of MI Class of  
1964 and CDS Class of 1964**  
Anne Stupp '64 and  
Charles McAlpin '65

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Nytilia and Quinton Young

**Paul Zahller**  
Saima and Usman Qayyum  
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**Addie Zha '34**  
Fang Wang and Jikun Zha

**Joseph Zimring '07**  
Laura and Brian Coco

**Zoe Zlatic '24**  
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**Michael Zorensky '07**  
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\*Deceased

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Patricia Baur Istwan '62\*  
T. Frank James III '56  
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Kathleen M. Kohlby '76  
Edna B. Landzettel\*  
John C. '55 and Bonnie B. Latzer  
Mrs. Hadley Baur Laughlin '92  
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Ina Mae Levy 1937\*  
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Allison Light  
Ann\* and Peter\* Lindsay 1936  
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Mrs. John Macrae Jr. 1931\*  
Mrs. Mark G. Magnuson Jr. 1938\*  
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Charles G. Riepe\*  
Dorothy Wray Roberts 1917\*  
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Mrs. Margaret J. Rowan 1937\*  
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Mrs. Stephen W. Rule '51\*  
Mr. Jeffrey G. Rush '92  
Peter B. Rutledge '88  
Jason '88 and Heidi Saghir  
Christopher P. Sagovac '80 and  
Gail E. Weiss  
Mr. David G. Sanders and  
Ms. Lisa L. Lyle  
Mr.\* and Mrs.\* Gordon Scherck Jr. '49  
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Mr. Henry J. Scherck\*  
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Mrs. Mary Jane Farrell 1937\* and  
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Mr. Stanley Spencer\*  
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John K. Wallace Sr. 1922\*  
Dr. Harlan P. Wallingford '45\*  
David S. Weiss '81 and  
Bobby D. Sanderson  
Mr.\* and Mrs.\* Ted C. Wetterau  
Mrs. Howard U. Wilson 1935\*  
Miss Ruth A. Wilson 1928\*  
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Michael R. and Amy M. Zlatic

\*Deceased

# Class Notes

NEWS FOR MARY INSTITUTE  
AND SAINT LOUIS COUNTRY DAY  
SCHOOL ALUMNAE AND ALUMNI

The following pages reflect  
notes submitted through

**August 9, 2024**

Submit your news for the next issue to:  
[classnotes@micds.org](mailto:classnotes@micds.org)



## *Births and Adoptions*

WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING CHILDREN TO OUR MICDS FAMILY.

**01. Mimi Abbott Cox '12** and Brandon Cox,  
James Christopher Cox, *June 17, 2024*

## *Weddings*

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING ALUMNI ON THEIR RECENT NUPTIALS.

**02. Joseph B. "Jay" Kloecker, Jr. '84** and  
Murali Krishna Badanapuram, *September 20, 2023*



01



02

## *Alumni/ae Deaths*

THROUGH AUGUST 9, 2024

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

Lansden "Denny" McCandless Jr. '45, March 16, 2015

deLancey Moser Converse '48, February 16, 2024

Michael Manning Weatherly '50, August 15, 2024

Mary Virginia Nelson '54, June 1, 2024

Nicholas Clifford '57, June 22, 2024

Bertram Culver '58, June 23, 2024

Landon "Lanny" Jones Jr. '62, August 17, 2024

Ernest T. "Sonny" Rouse III '63, August 17, 2024

Constance Williams Van der Eb '64, February 1, 2017

Barbara Blair Drey '64, August 19, 2024

Robert Trottmann III '68, January 30, 2024

James Langwith "Lang" Manion Jr. '72, August 26, 2024

Brendan Prescott Miller '07, May 6, 2024

## *Faculty Deaths*

William Habetler, Former CDS music and band teacher,

February 14, 2024

James Llufrío, Former MI and MICDS Latin teacher,

college counselor, and coach, June 8, 2024

### 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!

## 1956 MI

**PAGE SHARP JACKSON**

pagejackson1@gmail.com

The women in the class of 1956 offer our sympathy to our classmate **Carol Culver Bitting** on the death of her brother, **Terry Culver '58**.

**Jody Noel Dietz** writes: I enjoyed having four generations together in July in Michigan now that I am a great grandmother of two little boys, grandsons of my son **Terry Erwin '80**. Page and I had a great visit with **Judy Gissler Adair** and Jerry in Naples, Florida. We also saw classmates **Mary Morey Bradley** and **Susie Fischer Yoder**. In May, several of us enjoyed seeing **Priscilla Hocker Claman**, who came to St. Louis for her grandson's graduation from Washington University.

**Jane Spoehrer Tschudy** writes that she loves living at the Gatesworth with **Page Jackson**.

**Mary Morey Bradley** writes that she still loves living in Naples, Florida, and subscribes to the MLB channel to watch Cardinals baseball. She watches with **Ellen Armstrong Wallace** so they can root on the phone together. Her children are all fine, and she's very happy.

**Nancy Noland Kurten** shares: "In May, our first great-grandchild, Reed, was born in Wisconsin to our granddaughter and her husband, Lauren and Erick Siegenthaler."

**Carolyn Frank Henges** reports that she was in Tanzania on a fantastic safari with her children and grandchildren. There were 11 of them in total. It was the trip of dreams for sure. They experienced so much and had such a great time together.

**Page Sharp Jackson** reports: "When I am not at bridge, canasta, or mah jongg, you can find me happily living at The Gatesworth or traveling. I plan to travel with an old friend from Jefferson City to the Maritime Provinces and Quebec City, and we'll visit another friend in Burlington, Vermont. I'll spend my birthday in October in Denver with my daughter and grandchildren, then Christmas in Minneapolis with my son and his family."

**Minette Grunik Bethke** reports that she is a front-porch gardener and enjoys training for the Indy 100 National Electric Shopping Cart Race at Dierbergs. She loves to speed up and down the aisles.

**Nancy Green Maune '56** reports she went to a doll convention in Kansas City and then visited St. Louis to see family and friends. Nancy Noland Kurten and Nick provided room and board, and she always has a fun time

We are excited to invite you  
to the inaugural

## MICDS Holiday Marketplace

*hosted by the MICDS Alumni Board*

Find gifts for everyone



Browse the MICDS Campus Store



Photos with Charger, the MICDS mascot



Gift wrap by student volunteers



Holiday refreshments



Support MICDS alumni- and parent-owned businesses

*We look forward to kicking off this  
special time of year with you.*

# MICDS

## HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE



**Wednesday, November 20, 2024**

**4:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.**

**OLSON HALL  
MICDS CAMPUS**

with the Kurtens. Nancy's daughter, **Caroline Polk '81**, was also in town, and they enjoyed a trip to the Zoo and a dinner with **Fred Hanser '80**, the son of **Robyn Roessler Hanser '56**. **Beth Green Kling '69**, Nancy's niece, joined Caroline and Nancy for a Woman's Exchange lunch. Several ladies from the Class of '56 had a fun lunch at Dewey's—it is wonderful catching up with them.

## 1958 CDS

### DANIEL FEINBERG

dbfeinberg@sbcglobal.net

**Dan Feinberg** and **Lou Goldring** attended the MICDS annual awards for faculty and staff in May. They presented four deserving faculty members with the Class of '58 Extra Effort Awards.

**Frank Elliott** says, "I am at a loss for words. I hope everyone had a good summer and is looking forward to fall."

**Dick Helmholtz** taught a course at Washington University's Law School last fall. That allowed him to see some old friends—though he wishes it had been more.

**Bud Hirsch** continues his photography journey with a Prague-to-Budapest trip in 2022, Morocco in 2023, and Puglia this year. Many of his images have been invited to juried exhibitions at galleries in this area.

**Bill Kelley** and Judy now have seven grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild, Ellery. Bill says she's a cute, red-headed, rambunctious little girl.

**Geoff McClelland** has nothing much to say, as everything is the same. He and Molly are both healthy.

**John Quigley** writes, "Not being smart enough to know when to retire, I am still teaching and working in international law, lately legal work over the war in Gaza."

**Charlie Valier** had a busy February. He gave a lecture filmed on Zoom in February called *George Caleb Bingham: How his ejection from the Missouri legislature shaped Bingham's art*. He also offered an in-person talk at the Saint Louis Art Museum, titled *George Caleb Bingham: How his Election Series paintings illuminate antebellum Missouri politics*. Washington University's Life-long Learning program sponsored both.

## 1959 MI

### SHEILA MORRIN HUMPHREYS

shumphreys@berkeley.edu

We send our sincere condolences to **Sue Forney Boyd** on the death of her husband, **Steve Boyd '51**. A magnificent obituary of Steve appeared in the *Washington Post*.

From **Amy Upthegrove Wheeler**: "News of the three Upthegrove sisters, MI alumnae all. In late July, the ashes of **Elizabeth (Betsy) Upthegrove Cheek '57** were interred in Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Boston in a lovely ceremony. Betsy died about a year ago. Her ashes lie next to those of one of her sons, who lived only 24 hours, and a tree that happened to be planted in 1939, the year she was born. Of those attending were her two sisters **Linn Upthegrove Wells '64** and me. Then, Linn and I flew to Michigan, where Linn and her family have a summer home. We visited there several times growing up. In fact, one of Betsy's and my favorite 'pretends' was going to Michigan. Now I'm back in Winchester, Virginia, getting ready to visit **Anne Scherck Morrison**, go to a Yankee/Nats baseball game, and have lunch with Anne and Sue Forney Boyd."

**Sandy Doughton Chapin**: "We are still in our 'villa' (hyperbolic misnomer) in our old-people place. The denizens are lovely, the food is good, and the duplicate bridge is intense. It is rewarding but time-consuming to serve on the Foundation Board, which raises scholarship money for employees and their children. They have given me free rein with the area around our villa, so I plant, transplant, prune, weed, and propagate. I do play golf, but only nine holes this summer because it is so HOT."

**Meredith Ittner**: "I have moved to Healdsburg in Sonoma County, California, as of July 15, and have had to rest up since then. I have not yet unpacked. Everyone says to take your time; it took up to six months for many. So I am getting used to community life and Healdsburg sun."

**Carol Wenthe Palmer** left a message from San Diego, where she was having fun visiting her son and his family. She texted that she is doing quite well at home in Texas and is happy with no major issues. She loves her choral singing, spending time with her cute dog, and her volunteer work at a local Assistance League thrift shop. The volunteers are ages 55-90 and "doing a fabulous job raising money for our philanthropic projects. Love my choral singing, miss my many days playing golf, but all is well."

**Lucie Palmer Garnett** is spending the summer at her family home in Rye Beach, New Hampshire, with various family and friends coming and going. She will stay there until September. Lucie still works for the Opera Theatre of St. Louis. The highlight this season, she reports, was *Galileo Galilei* by Philip Glass. Lucie has taken a sabbatical from email this summer—a great idea!

**Cindy Wattenberg Berg** reports she is having a busy, wonderful summer at Crystal Lake. Her son, Spencer, came to visit, and she is having a great time with childhood friends who return to Michigan each summer. She has been attending lectures and concerts.

**Carol Bodenheimer Loeb**: "Things are good here. I have lots of travel coming up, the most exciting of which is my two-and-a-half-week safari to Rwanda and Kenya with the current CEO and past CEO of the Zoo leading the trip. After that, I will be in Hawaii for two weeks, followed by monthly short trips to Sarasota. Still teaching, although, with the new ACT design, I believe this might be my last year teaching on campus at MICDS."

**Jane Simmons Bickford** is still traveling everywhere. She will venture to Istanbul and the "Stans" this fall. Last spring, she took a trip to Portugal with her daughter, Elizabeth, and

visited Italy with her grandson, Tolo. Jane's son, Louis, frequently travels to Ukraine, where he consults on possible memorials for those lost during the current war. Jane plans to spend the winter and spring in New Orleans.

**Mary Swarts Singer** spent a week at Harbor Beach, Michigan, with her sister, **Elizabeth Swarts Wood '55**, in August. Mary has been appointed to a committee of the Clean Water Commission in Vero Beach. Their mission is to clean the pollution in the Indian River. Mary's children and grandchildren joined her in Harbor Beach for the July 4 weekend.

**Margi Cardwell Higonet** is back in Cambridge, Massachusetts, at the time of this writing. She has been very occupied with complex home repairs there and says, "My recompense is that I permitted myself to reread (and view the movie versions of) *Pride and Prejudice*, *North and South*, *Daniel Deronda* and *Middlemarch*." Margi is reviewing page proofs for an essay she wrote on "global" angles in comparative literature."

**Quinta Dunn Scott** was sorry to miss the reunion. Quinta's important book, *The Mississippi: A Visual Biography*, was published in 2009 and will be placed on tour boats such as Viking and American Cruise Line, which travel the Mississippi. Her latest book on the Ozark forests is under consideration by the University of Oklahoma Press. Quinta's 20-year-old granddaughter, Sosi, has been doing an internship in Armenia.

**Carol Jacobs Montag**: "Nothing new from Chicago which is clogged with tourists coming in for the many summer music festivals, and this after enduring the second year of the NASCAR race that runs through the heart of Chicago. One more year of that! I headed to East Hampton for Labor Day weekend with my son, Nick, and his family. We celebrated my oldest grandson's 9th birthday. Sending my love to all of our classmates."

**Sally Curby Johnston** wrote to us about a special trip with her 10-year-old grandson, Foster, to North Carolina for four days. "He's quite the golfer, participating in the PGA Junior

Program here. He and I played three 18-hole rounds. He hit from my tees, and we shot just about the same. He was wonderful company."

**Anne Scherck Morrison** wrote about our recent reunion: "Although very few of us attended, we made up for our low numbers with the pleasure we took in seeing each other, as well as friends from other classes. A highlight was Sheila's cocktail party, where we caught up with many CDS '59 guys. Also terrific was the guided tour of the Zoo, followed by lunch hosted by Carol Loeb. I would have loved to have seen more of our classmates and hope we can arrange an informal gathering before our 70th reunion."



**Sheila Morrin Humphreys**: A cool benefit of collecting Class Notes is the pleasure of phone conversations with some of you. The reunion was great. Three of us enjoyed the luncheon Thursday (Anne, Carol, and I), sitting with CDS '59 classmates. That evening, we went to a cocktail party at our son Ben's house with our very congenial CDS classmates (joined by Sally and Josephine), expertly organized by **Kent Faerber '59** and **Butch Welsch '59**, among others. Both **Josephine Weil** and **Lucie Palmer Garnett** contributed lovely bouquets of peonies. On Friday, Carol Loeb hosted a super private tour of the fantastic St. Louis Zoo and luncheon.

I am writing from our small house in mid-coast Maine. It's such a delightfully different schedule from Berkeley. I try to swim in the bay daily, work in the garden, and kayak. In June, my fascinating five-year volunteer job as co-chair of the History of Women since 1870 at UC Berkeley project concluded with the archiving of our content on the California Digital Library. Here is the Table of Contents with links to all the essays: <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/2td1m68j>

As Anne has suggested, perhaps we can gather before another five years have elapsed; I hope so!

## 1959 CDS

**ARTHUR LUEKING**

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What a wonderful 65th reunion we had! Over the course of three days in May, 18 members of the CDS Class of '59, accompanied by several wives, assembled to celebrate our 65th reunion. The festivities began with the Golden Rams luncheon at St. Louis Country Club, followed by a get-together with members of the MI '59 class hosted by the son of **Sheila Morrin Humphreys '59** (thank you, Ben).

The next evening, we went to Busch Stadium for a Cardinal game against the White Sox (we won), generously hosted by **Bill DeWitt** and **Fred Hanser** in the Redbird Roost. Thank you for the VIP treatment!

On Saturday, some of us took tours of the school, which has (obviously) changed significantly over the 65 years since we graduated. Danforth Chapel is gone, replaced by a remarkable STEM building. A magnificent swimming pool has been added to the south side of the gym, requiring the relocation of the pond. After the tours, we enjoyed a box lunch in the Presentation Room in Olson Hall, where three of our classmates spoke on subjects in areas of their expertise:

**Nat Griffin**, a retired city planner, provided insights into the condition of the City of St. Louis and the metropolitan area as it was at the turn of the 20th century and how it is today. His observations were quite thought-provoking, but his conclusions were not hopeful unless significant changes are made in the political and commercial leadership.

**Ivar Nelson**, who resides in the wilds of northern Idaho, has taken an interest in the history of the Civilian Conservation Corps and its effect not only on our National Parks and Forests system but also on our readiness to prosecute the Second World War.

**Sonny Harrison** recounted his experience as the only American officer attached to an element of the Vietnamese Navy. The book *A Filthy Way to Die* contains a retelling of his story.

We concluded with a traditional South St. Louis dinner at Rigazzi's restaurant on The Hill.

In addition to the classmates above, we were joined at various events by **Julius Frager**, who divides his time between St. Louis and Boca Grande; **Mike Latta** (St. Louis and Park City); **Bill Tucker** (New York City and Amagansett); **RK Barton** (Bellaire, Michigan; Panama City, Panama; and Festus, Missouri); **Ted Pettus** (New York City and Sag Harbor); **Jim Schneithorst** (St. Louis and John's Island); **Henry Massie** (Berkeley, California); and **Carl Rohne** (Tucson, Arizona).

Locals without second residences in attendance were **Norman James**, **Luke Fouke**, and yours truly.

And a very special mention of **Kent Faerber** and **Butch Welsch** because they, along with Butch's wife Carol, did the majority of the "heavy lifting" that made our reunion such a success. They deserve a giant thank you!

Given that we are all ripening, it was suggested that we not wait five years for our next reunion but that we assemble again in three. What do you think? It might give those who missed this reunion (and you know who you are) a second chance at the fun.

Since the reunion, a number of things have happened that deserve mention: **Bill Spencer's** wife, Sue, won gold medals in both singles and doubles tennis at the Washington State Senior Games. She had to beat much younger women and will represent the state in the Nationals.

Not recognizing that "mid-life" is long past, **RK** added a Corvette C7 to join his "yacht" in his inventory of toys. I envy his ability to get in and out of it with ease. You know what I mean.



The Class of 1961 sends in this photo from Ellen Schmitz Livingston's birthday party: back (l-r): Sudie Black Shinkle and Livingston. Front (l-r) Patti Marre Reinecke, Charlotte Mastin Ellis, Leigh Friedman Pratter, and Carolyn Corvey Cranston.

Our inveterate traveler, Norman, took The Rocky Mountaineer from Vancouver through the Canadian Rockies to Calgary, where he attended the famous Calgary Stampede. He regaled the lunch crowd with tales of his experiences, which leads me to remind you all that we meet at Lester's Restaurant every Monday at 11:30. Everyone is encouraged to attend lunch or the monthly Zoom meeting on the first Friday of each month.

## 1961 MI

### CHARLOTTE MASTIN ELLIS

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From **Ellen Schmitz Livingston**: "I was pleased to celebrate my 80th birthday in April with many of our in-town classmates at a party at the St. Louis Woman's Club. Now that I have returned to St. Louis, it is wonderful to renew these friendships. We had a lively but not too wild party with my '61 MI classmates and my extended family, friends, and neighbors. I had a blast!"

From **Charlotte Mastin Ellis**: "In April, several in-town members of our class attended Ellen Schmitz Livingston's lovely 80th birthday party at the St. Louis Women's Club. **Sudie Black Shinkle**, **Patti Marre Reinecke**, **Leigh Friedman Pratter**, **Carolyn Corvey Cranston**, and I were in attendance. Ellen's sister, **Lucy Schmitz Morros '60**, and some of her classmates from the Class of 1960 also attended. Ellen has moved back to St. Louis fairly recently and is enjoying renewing old friendships."

In May, most of the same women, plus **Ginny Russell Rowe**, met at Sugo's for lunch to surprise **Betty Nussbaum Kerman**, who was meeting her cousin there on her way from Florida to Colorado.

**Elizabeth "Dibby" Smith** had a book published in 2022 that she had been working on for a long time: *Building Santa Maria Novella: materials, tradition, and invention in late medieval Florence*. In the book, she traces the design and construction of the church, the seat of the Dominican Order, during the years between 1270 and 1350. It is richly illustrated. Congratulations, Dibby. Dibby is a professor emerita of art history at Pennsylvania State University.

## 1964 MI

**ANNE STUPP MCALPIN**

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**JANE COX**

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By all accounts, our 60th reunion was splendid, and we've all decided we sizzled! To all who came, we "locals" thank you; to those who couldn't come but called to say why they wouldn't be here, we say thank you for staying in touch, and we hope to see you next time; to the rest of you—get with it!—we missed you.

The festivities began on Thursday, May 2, at the School-sponsored luncheon for the "4 and 9 classes" who graduated 50 or more years ago. Upon arrival, alums from all these classes received a senior pictorial *Diary*, produced by **Cliff Saxton '64**. If you would like one, please contact Jane or me. Thursday evening was the 1964 Hen Party hosted by **Betsy Payne Biggs**, **Kimmy Thompson Brauer**, and **Marianne Schultz Galt** at Kimmy's "in-town" house. The party was marvelous. Mother Nature provided a light show—thunder, rain, and lightning—but no one got wet. It was a fabulous evening because many of us had not seen each other in a long time. For example, **Judy Hennessey Sommerschild** joined our class in Junior Kindergarten and stayed through seventh grade when her parents moved to Florida. Judy hadn't seen her old CWE classmate, **Kitty Shelton Bollinger**, for many years. **Ginny Alfring Kalbach** and **Linda Kruse Corbett** were present. **Vicki Shinkle Charles** came, and we all had the loveliest time catching up where we left off. Our special guest was the School's Director of Alumni Relations, Louise Jones, who did so much to help our reunion be the success it was. As memory serves, she left that night wearing a tiara in honor of her support and attention.

Friday was free in the daytime, but in the evening, the School hosted a reunion dinner in the MAC. Several hundred alums and plus ones, as well as some present and former faculty, attended the dinner. The Archives were on display, and the Class of '64 was well-represented.

Saturday began with our 1964 Memorial Service in the Chapel. About two dozen of us attended. **Barbara Baur Dunlap** read the names of those classmates who have departed. **Penny Williams George** and **Becky Jones Fouke**, two locals who went to boarding school but came home after college and have supported the class and the School as alumnae, led us in the Prayer for the Graduates and the *Alma Mater*. There were tears on several faces, and we were all very aware of our departed friends and classmates. Following the service, the Israel twins, **Jacky Israel Blakeslee** and **Kathy Israel Starnes**, hosted a lovely luncheon at The Woman's Exchange Tearoom. May Day was to follow but was semi-washed out and ended up being just for parents and seniors.

The next event was our wonderful reunion dinner at Hunter Farms, given by **Marie Campagna Brauer** and John (in absentia) and Kimmy and **Steve Brauer '63**. Marie and John had a senior and a post-May Day dinner as well as the beginning of John's spring week with his Focus Marines Foundation, but Kimmy and Steve held down the fort and enhanced the evening by inviting CDS '64 and plus-ones for cocktails before their own class party.

Sunday featured **Blockie McAlpin '65** and **Anne Stupp McAlpin's** Bon Voyage Brunch. After that, we were all back to real life.

Takeaways: A special thank you to all our hostesses. A real shoutout to our class cheerleader, who spurred us on to make this reunion happen, Kimmy Brauer, and to our class president, Barbara Baur Dunlap! Barbara

and Charlie were so busy all spring helping Tee and Shellie, but she still managed to keep us organized and be at the reunions where she was needed.

Since the reunion, we learned that **Barbie Macdonald Stamper** has gotten a new hip.

A number of our classmates who were in Mrs. Acker's third-grade section received notes written to Mr. Giessow and pictures of a visit to the old science lab he offered us in January 1955. It's interesting that Mr. Giessow kept these throughout his time at the School and for years after leaving. Clearly, he recognized the value of the Class of '64 early on. The sending of these letters to the individuals who created them brought us sad news. A niece of **Connie Williams Van Der Eb** called to say that the family is very sorry they hadn't notified us that Connie had died in 2017. She had come to a number of reunions, and it's sad to think that we will now add another page to the album created for our Memorial Service. It was difficult losing **Noel Volkman Cooke** at Christmastime. If anyone wants a copy of our Memorial Album, please contact Jane or Anne.

**Jane Cox** reports that **Patsy Clark Ball's** husband, **Eldon Ball '64**, fell ill shortly after our reunion and has since been recovering after a series of surgeries. Jane recapped our reunion by saying, "As usual, I enjoyed all the wonderful parties. Reconnecting with classmates was easy, as though we were picking up from a few days ago, not 10 years."

**Ginny Kalbach** said the most important part of the reunion was just seeing and reconnecting with all our classmates; even if she could only be here for one full day, she felt it was worth it.

Finally, we have sent you a new list of class addresses. If you know of a classmate not getting emails from the School, please let us know.



Front row (l-r): George Morgan, Frank Wolff, Jay Mason, Cliff Saxton, Harry Agress, and Jay Marshall. Second row: Ted Bakewell, David Deibel, Jim Crawford, and Ned Scharff. Back row: Mark Mittleman, Jean Mason, Tom Watters, and Tom Currier. Not pictured: Eldon Ball.

## 1964 CDS

**JAY MARSHALL**  
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We're delighted to report that 15 classmates showed up for the 60th reunion of Country Day Class of 1964, which concluded with a dinner at St. Louis Country Club. Other reunion weekend events included the Thursday "Golden Ram" lunch, a tour of the St. Louis Zoo, a golf outing, and participation in various School-sponsored events on the MICDS campus.



Three generations of sisters: Katie Price Testo '03, Peggy Dubinsky Price '65, Susan Dubinsky Terris '55, and Wendy Price '99, with Siena and Claire Testo.

## 1965 MI

Our 60th Reunion will take place May 1-4, 2025. Lots of plans are in the works. Details to come. If you would like to join the planning committee, contact **Connie Bascom McPheeters**. Meanwhile, mark your calendars and plan to join the celebration!



MI '65 Classmates at lunch: Leigh Limberg Mason, Peggy Dubinsky Price, Jane Ruwitch Mitchell, Julie Grote Rogers, and Jan Shapleigh Mackey.

1967<sub>MI</sub>**CAROLINE BOSWELL**

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**Lotsie Hermann Holton** reports that her granddaughter, **Lotsie Holton '28**, is in ninth grade at MICDS and is the fifth generation to attend the school. She is shown here with her father, **Rick Holton '93**.

1967<sub>CDS</sub>**JAMES MORGAN**

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**Bob Ellis** writes: “Still living the country life in Carmel Valley, 10 miles inland from Monterey, California. Have 3 grandchildren (Carter, Ethan, and Audrey) in San Diego. Connie and I make frequent trips down south to visit grandchildren and watch them play sports. We also make annual trips to Bend, Oregon, for fly fishing and hiking.”

**Ted Noland** indicates, “My family went on a cruise in Alaska, including my son, **Tee '95**, with his five, and daughter, **Laura Noland Tarrasch '98**, with her four. We finished off the summer with a trip to the North Carolina mountains, followed by Athens, Georgia, for my son's second wedding. Then, back to North Carolina, but this time to the beach for another wedding. We are looking forward to returning to Vero Beach in October. Our

grandson, Turner Tarrasch, has been awarded a scholarship to the University of Richmond to play lacrosse. He has worked very hard to achieve this, and we are quite proud of him.”

Finally, **Jim Morgan** is still hounding his classmates for information and is looking forward to our 60th reunion, which is just three years away. I'm still living north of Prescott, Arizona, and enjoy the quiet, little traffic, and few people. Pam and I play golf regularly, except when injured (mostly me), but we enjoy the beauty of God's creation in our little world. God bless you all.

1968<sub>MI</sub>**KAREN SMITH HEMPSTEAD**

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**CAROL FERRING SHEPLEY**

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Hello, 1968ers! We have interesting updates and exciting news from several classmates, so let's get to it!

**Julie Arnold** reports that she is finally a grandmother! Her grandson was born in September 2023. She happily racks up airline miles by visiting him in Connecticut whenever



Nice catch, Bob Ellis '67!

possible. She is still busy training and showing her poodles. Once a week, she volunteers at the Jamestown New Horizons Therapeutic Riding program, and at a different barn, she gets to ride a friend's old horse.

**Bonnie Black Taylor** says this year has been fuller than others in the recent past with trips to Ireland with Lydia, rafting on the Colorado with son Nick, and traveling to Egypt with sister **Sudie Black Shinkle '61**. She welcomed Parker James Taylor, second child of son Jack, who lives in San Diego with his wife, Jenny, and son, Brynn. Lydia and Bonnie continue to split their time between St. Louis and Taos. Bonnie sits on Design Standards committees in both communities. She continues to enjoy reading, writing, and painting with watercolors.

**Holly Bobe Erker** and **Charlie '68** love their life on Marco Island. Last summer, they spent time in Arcadia, Michigan, on their way to Minocqua. Holly and Charlie celebrated their 53rd (!) anniversary in May. They are involved with the Marco Bay Yacht Club and enjoy taking their Whaler out on the gulf. They volunteer at Rock Steady Boxing for Parkinson's at the local YMCA. Holly works with burrowing owls on the island and is a Critter Courier for the Von Arc Wildlife Hospital in Naples, transporting injured animals from Marco.

**Jodie Brodhead Moore** reports that her work as the chair of the Discernment Committee for St. Andrew's Episcopal Church culminated in the successful call of Rev. Sara Irwin as the new Rector. Jodie also will be finishing her four-year term as the Western Regional Chair of the Distinguished Daughters of PA in September. Her work as a trustee of the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary will continue as she becomes the chair of the committee that oversees a new initiative. Rev. Tom Johnson, the man with whom Jodie shared so much of her professional, personal, emotional, and spiritual life, died in April of complications from a massive stroke. A week later, her son's father, Dwight Moore, died. What makes Jodie most grateful is her wonderful family: Tory, his wife Theresa, and her grandchildren, Elizabeth



(8) and George (3 1/2). She spent a beautiful July in Pointe-Aux-Barques, Michigan, with her cousin, Hilary Hartung, where they shared special Michigan moments with **Carol Ferring Shepley** and **Jake '68**, their daughters **Mimi '13** and **Lucy Shepley DeHaven '05**, Lucy's husband, **Scott '03**, and their two children, Maisie and Colin.

**Betsy Fordyce** writes: "I've had my best summer in Montana since I moved back to St. Louis. I do Zen practice, hike, swim, do yoga, see friends, and read." Since she no longer owns a home in Montana, Betsy stays at four different friends' places, taking care of animals while they travel. "Three months in the mountains shifts my perspective. Zen practice reminds me to live in the moment, allows me to decide what's important to me, provides a refuge from our crazy world, and calms my nervous system."

**Helen French Graves** says, "Antarctica was truly amazing! Penguins, seals, and humpback whales swimming right under the Zodiac added to the majesty of the icebergs and glaciers." Helen snorkeled every day. She witnessed sleek, swimming penguins speeding past and nearly met a curious Waddell seal face-to-face! Closer to home, Helen accompanied her granddaughter on a college visit tour this summer.

**Ann Grossman Boon** is celebrating the birth of her sixth grandchild, a second boy. Now, Ann and Jim have three in Denver and three in New York City, so their "exotic" travel is primarily limited to those two destinations. Ann's life in San Diego is uneventful but full of riding her horse, walking the dog, and working intently on her watercolors. "I am almost retired, taking on limited assignments when called upon."

**Lou Horan Noland** reminisces that she thinks often of our wonderful days at MI. "It was such a different world, and we had no clue how lucky we were!" She and **Ted '67** spend winters in Vero Beach. After returning to St. Louis in late May, Lou spent time with her four sisters on their yearly trip, this time in Sonoma. In July, Lou and Ted took their crew, **Tee '95**

and **Laura '98**, and their families to Alaska, celebrating Ted's 75th while cruising. In the fall, they head to Highlands, North Carolina, to enjoy cooler weather, play golf, and see friends from Vero. Tee will be remarrying in Athens, Georgia, in late September where once again the family will be together.

**Jannie Jones Ramatici** reports that she is good—doing lots of traveling. She spends time at their house in Kauai, where she is very involved with the effort to preserve the open space in the north shore of this Hawaiian Island. She is spending September in Italy. In 2023, her daughter Sophie had a baby girl, Harper Rose. "Now I have two grandkids, a boy and a girl! Being a grandmother is even better than I ever imagined."

**Victoria Schofield Willis** is spending the summer holiday in Suffolk with her daughters, one partner, and two grandchildren. Her son, his wife, and baby Kit are staying in Los Angeles. Her son, Anthony Willis, composed the score for the movie *Saltburn*. Check it out! The whole family will convene in D.C. in mid-September for Kit's christening.

Like many classmates, grandchildren and travel have dominated **Carol Ferring Shepley's** life this year. To celebrate granddaughter Addie St. Phillip's graduation from high school, Carol, her three daughters, and Addie spent a week in Paris. This summer, she and **Jake '68** hosted daughters **Mimi '13** and **Lucy '05**, along with Lucy's husband, three-year-old son, and five-year-old daughter in Michigan at Pointe Aux Barques. In September, all three daughters and families gather at Long Island beach house of **Callie '96**. In October, they are taking a cruise on the Danube with long-time friends Maitland and **Dick Lammert '69**. "Jake and I are approaching 75—yikes. Neither of us is retired, and we are so grateful to be enjoying our family and friends and visiting our bucket-list places."

**Karen Smith Hempstead** and her husband, Ed, are often happily busy with their 10 grandchildren, ages 8-14, living in three cities. "Most of our travel this year consisted of trips

to Dallas and San Luis Obispo, California, to see Karen's girls and their families. Our two grandchildren from Dallas, Henry (10) and Ellie (8), visited us for five days in June, and Douglass (14) came for a week in July. Ed's daughters live here in the Lou, and we are blessed to see them and their families often."

**Becky Wells Mattison** shares, "I'm mobile despite a serious ankle break at Christmas that laid me up for six weeks. As soon as I had the "all clear" to start putting weight on it, I tripped and broke my wrist. Eight months later, I still limp but function well enough to take care of the dogs, a cat, and chickens, cooking, and shopping. I ride my ATV to plow snow and cut the fields. Husband Peter continues his cancer treatments and has regained enough strength to play with his machines."

**Nancy Fisse Davis** shares: "Last fall I went on a women's pilgrimage to the sacred sites in Malta. We sang in the Hypogeum (underground temple) with our guide and singer/songwriter, Jennifer Berezan. Our adopted daughter, Carol, found her birth mother and two siblings in São Paulo, Brazil, and had an amazing, heartwarming visit with them this spring."



Nancy Fisse Davis '68 is still happily gardening and tending her horses on the Olympic Peninsula.

We extend our sincere condolences to Jodie and Hilary—Jodie, for the loss of your soulmate, Tom, and Hilary, for the loss of your cherished sister, **Noel '64**.



Seated (l-r): Jake Shepley, Gary Wolff, and Bob Oertli. Standing (l-r): Fred Thatcher, Chuck Jones, George Whitelaw, Rick Ewing, Steve Estep, and Bob Cole. Not Pictured: Tom Bitting and John Stupp.

## 1968 CDS

The CDS Class of '68 had a lunch meeting at Fallon's and 11 members of our class attended. A good time was had by all.

## 1969 MI

### JILL GOESSLING DOWD

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Enjoy the following pictures and news from the Class of '69:

**Jennifer Limberg Royal** writes, "The reunion was great fun, although I missed seeing some classmates who did not attend the alumni lunch. My big change is that I live in Boulder, Colorado, near my daughter, but I travel regularly back to California, my old stomping grounds. I am making new friends, learning new

things, exploring Colorado, and trying not to gather any moss under me. I am feeling grateful and content. Who could ask for more?"

**Alice Beckers Muckerman:** My news is a snippet, but a great experience! Early in May, I visited Paris with my daughter, **Hadley Muckerman Reynolds '99**, and her almost-13-year-old son—the "other Ricky" in my life! We spent five days doing all the touristy stuff but feeding ourselves to the max. Ricky also went to a cooking school to learn how to make macaroons, saw Napoleon's tomb, and even visited four art museums."

**Stephanie Spatz Chilcott:** "Not much to report except perhaps that the wildfire season has begun in California, and our ranch house that we are building was lucky enough to survive one of the first ones! Our 120-acre property was scorched, but due to the efficiency of the firefighters, no structures were damaged."

**Meg Jolley** reports: "Still enjoying living in Los Angeles. I retired from Pomona a few years back and am now training teachers of the Alexander Technique and teaching Alexander lessons privately. I'm balancing my flexible work schedule with dogs, gardening, and visiting our kids. David and I are healthy. Looking forward to our daughter's wedding and a big family gathering in La Jolla to celebrate and remember our parents. Since Mom passed away in January of this year, I'll miss my frequent St. Louis visits!"

**Christy Hawes Bond:** "Don and I are both healthy and happy these days in Sebastian, Florida. We are traveling again—national parks in Utah and Colorado in May and Christmas Markets along the Danube in December. My nephew in Cambridge, Massachusetts, is now the proud new owner of our candy apple-red '68 Mustang convertible!"



- 01. Beth, Cathy, Alice, and Tandy enjoying our 55 Reunion luncheon.
- 02. Tandy, Alice, Jennifer, Cathy, and Beth.
- 03. And another mini-reunion with Stacy, Christine, and Tandy.
- 04. Yet another gathering of our wonderful class in honor of Christy's visit to St. Louis. In attendance: Cathy, Phoebe, Diane, Christy, Hostess-with-the-mostess, Beth, Jill, Becky, Tandy and Christine.
- 05. And photographer, Alice, with our hostess and Pot-de-Creme chef, Beth.

## 1969 CDS

## ED HALL

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The class of 1969 celebrated its 55th reunion in May. Those in attendance included **John Chappell**, **Peter Griffin**, **Ed Hall**, **Dick Lammert**, and **Richard Reichle**. A nice reunion lunch was served at St. Louis Country Club, and we attended the all-school reunion buffet at MICDS. Kudos to John and Richard, who traveled from their homes in Lawrence, Kansas, and Minneapolis, Minnesota, to attend. Thanks to Peter Griffin for coordinating the class's pictorial exhibit from the CDS archives.

In other class news, **Terry Bry** "spent 2 weeks in northern Manitoba and the Northwest Territories catching trophy pike."

**Joe Rechter** reports, "Sue and I welcomed our third grandchild, Samuel Joseph O'Neill, on April 23, 2024, in Greenwich, Connecticut. Sammy's parents are **Lizzie Rechter O'Neill '06** and **Ted**. Needless to say, we are thrilled to welcome him to our family."

1970 MI 

## TINA RUTLEDGE VERALDI

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Many in our class have continued to dedicate their time and effort toward improving the surrounding communities. **Sally Schlafly Cohn** writes, "For the past 2 1/2 years, I've been working on revitalizing Fairground Park in North St. Louis. Nine committed neighbors and friends founded the 501c3, "Fairground Park For All," in January 2024 to bring Fairground Park up to the standard of Forest Park and Tower Grove Park. People are eager to help, so we feel optimistic that the park will see some big changes in the near future."

**Maud Essen** has made great progress on renovating her home, which meets high energy efficiency standards. In front, there's a beautiful iron balustrade hand-made by **Roberta Elliott** in her business, The Velvet Hammer.

**Leslie Limberg's** community efforts have succeeded, and the Farmer's Market in New Melle, Missouri, is thriving.

**Nathalie Pettus** has continued her hard work and creativity at Overlook Farm in Clarksville, Missouri. The land, buildings, inns, and event spaces set up a very special atmosphere, to mention just some qualities.

**Annie Conant Schlafly** has inspired many people through the ongoing development of the International Mentoring Program.

**Ellen Roberts Langtree** celebrated her daughter's wedding in Vermont, and **Mary Holmes Carpenter** was closely involved with her niece's wedding in St. Louis.

With sincere thankfulness, the group has successfully recovered from many surgeries, which will not be specifically mentioned here. Our class has taken personal and professional paths in many different directions. Please keep our next reunion in mind and on the calendar! It's our rescheduled event, now the 55th reunion, during the first weekend in May 2025.



Members of the MI Class of 1970 gather to reconnect. Back row (l-r): Sally Schlafly Cohn, Annie Conant Schlafly, Tina Rutledge Veraldi, Leslie Limberg, Lela Shepley-Gamble, Mary Kistner, and Genie Cannon Guilliams. Front row (l-r): Barbie Howell Reisner, Sunie Lasky, and Ellen Shapleigh Sedgwick.

# 1971<sub>MI</sub>

**LAURIE JACOBSON PROVOST**

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I'm watching the summer Olympics as I write this, and it occurs to me that our class shares one major quality with the athletes: we go the distance. We're not quitters. We are still hiking in exotic lands (That's the "royal" we. You won't catch me hiking rough terrain), painting, writing, traveling, doctoring, biking, camping, farming, grandparenting, working for causes, and just plain working. Team '71 has carved out an impressive and original path while managing to maintain friendships that began close to 60 years ago.



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- 01. Judy Griesedieck hiked for hours to make it to this magical spot in Patagonia.
- 02. Judy Griesedieck wants to be friends.
- 03. Susan Cabral shows off Blue's first ribbon.
- 04. Kathy Peake and Molly Nivens on their float trip with Molly's cello along for the ride.
- 05. Wendy Echols toasts the class of '71 from her barge in Florida.
- 06. Susan and Randy Cabral with still growing grandson, Peyton.

**Susan Krone Cabral:** “We’re having a great year. My dog, Blue, and I are busy with agility classes. At a Fun Run in June, Blue earned her first ribbon! Our oldest grandson, Peyton (17), flew in from Florida for 10 days at the end of June. Towering over Randy and me now, he spent lots of quality outdoor time with Grampa. I spent a few months creating a PowerPoint tracing our St. Louis roots to present at a biennial Ewing Family Association gathering in St. Louis this fall. Looking forward to seeing some classmates.”

**Cammi Fette Mock** is healthy and happy out in the country, where she and Logan travel, hunt, and fish with their setter, Grace. Her kids are doing well, which just about makes life perfect.

**Judy Griesedieck:** “The heat was sometimes oppressive this summer here in Minnesota, but a jump in a lake is a perfect solution. Mike and I had an amazing trip to Patagonia in April, where we hiked up some challenging mountains and went horseback riding. I still freelance as a photographer and work at the University of Minnesota Bee Lab, caring for honeybee colonies with the Bee Squad. We also teach this care to inmates at several Minnesota correctional facilities.”

**Ann Hardy Aschauer** and Marty enjoyed a healthy summer hiking, biking, and kayaking. “Marty added pickleball to his activities, but I’m sticking with writing and recording. (My fiction trilogy, *Awakening*, is now available on audio!) I’ve also taken up painting again, working on the cover for my next book.” Annie and Marty spend a good deal of the winter visiting children and grandchildren but still summer in Manistee, Michigan, where the kids come to them.

**Wendy Richards Echols:** “I spend weekends on our houseboat/barge off Peanut Island in West Palm Beach—just me, our pup, and Gene, who operates Palm Beach Yacht Sales. I still work at Coldwell Banker Premier Properties in St. Augustine Beach. Love living the Florida lifestyle.”

**Laurie Wolff Miller:** “I spent May on a biennial bike trip with friends. This year, we toured Mallorca, which was spectacular! We visited wineries, a salt farm, and a small olive oil press. Then a quick stop in Barcelona to visit Gaudi creations before heading to London to meet up with **Bartow Lammert Malloy**, **Lissy Hawes Pollnow**, **Babs Claggett Wagner** and **Tim ’70**, and **Sally Braxton Schnuck** and Terry for a six-day barge trip on the Thames. Fifty-three years after graduation, we had many reasons to laugh (and cry) together while adrift!”

**Biz Ellison Marks:** “Spent a week in the Arizona mountains. Back home, grandson Jerry and his four-year-old son, Atti, drove from north Texas to spend a week with my daughter, Chris, and me. We had a blast at the beach at South Padre Island or the pool. Atti has boundless energy. I read stories to him every day! I stay busy riding my bike in the evenings when it’s cooler. I’m still in partial remission but tire easily. That’s part of the disease. So thankful for all the healing prayers from everyone.”

**Sally Schnuck:** “All is well both in St. Louis and Boca Grande, where we spend part of the winter. In May, Terry and I spent a great two weeks traveling around Belgium and England. In August, we headed to northern Michigan.”

**Tori King:** “All is well in my part of Colorado. My two mares had babies, one of which was a surprise. I continue to work, removing skin cancers, doing wound care for vets, and performing some cosmetic surgery. I am building the electronic medical record for Orlando Health and Common Spirit Health. I work from home, which is how I work for a Florida organization and a U.S.-wide organization. I’m hoping to stave off dementia by constantly stretching my brain. I have no plans to retire yet!”

**Molly Coe Niven** guided **Kathy Fordyce Peake** and her husband, **Philip Wickes**, on a four-day float off the North Fork of the Flathead River in July. And yes, that’s Molly’s cello tied on her raft! While in Montana, Molly joined a friend on an eight-day backpacking hike in the Bob Marshall Wilderness while Kathy returned home to Dripping Springs, Texas.

**K.K. DuVivier** missed the float trip because it conflicted with the Annual Institute for the Foundation for Natural Resources and Energy Law in Santa Fe. As the University of Denver’s trustee, she presented for this group in May about renewable energy development on Native lands. She also recorded an NPR Science Friday program featuring solar energy, climate modeling, and fossilized dinosaur poop (coprolites). “I’m still in Boulder and continue to teach full-time at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law.”

**Lele Woolsey Springs** and **Audie Woolsey** shared a week together, without husbands, in Lele’s new condo in Baltimore. “Lots of giggles, lots of ‘do you remember,’ and just catching up,” reports Audie. “Lele’s one twin son, Tyler, and wife Justine welcomed their first child in September in Memphis. Tyler’s twin, Andrew, tied the knot in Palm Springs, California, in November. So, lots of joy for Lele and Lanny. All is well with Jack and me, although a tad less exciting on our little ranch in SC. I continue to play pickleball four times a week.”

**Debbie Smith Fitzgerald:** “Art and I went to Tortuga Bay in March, and a ‘summer tour’ in Canada followed by a visit to see friends on the Cape. This time, we visited Quebec City—a first for me—and then drove around the coast by the Bay of St. Lawrence to Gaspé and on to Art’s family in Nova Scotia. We visited friends in Halifax before returning to St. Louis. I

see classmates at home and treasure these relationships. How lucky we are to have such longtime friends.”

**Laurie Jacobson Provost:** “Jon and I celebrated our 25th anniversary in March. We do lots of babysitting with our grands: 10, five, and one-and-a-half. Indy car races in Portland, annual vacation in Mexico, the Stones in San Jose, backstage with Bob Marley’s family,

dinners with Norman Greenbaum, breakfast with the Fonz—what a fun year. Reviews for our CBD pet product, Spray, Mix ’N Go!, have been amazing, and we’re thrilled to help improve the lives of dogs and cats.”

And so, even though the Olympic games wound down and summer faded, it’s gold for Team ’71. We look forward to new adventures and another season in the sun. Until next time, take care of yourselves.

1975 MI 

**LISA DENNIG COULTER**

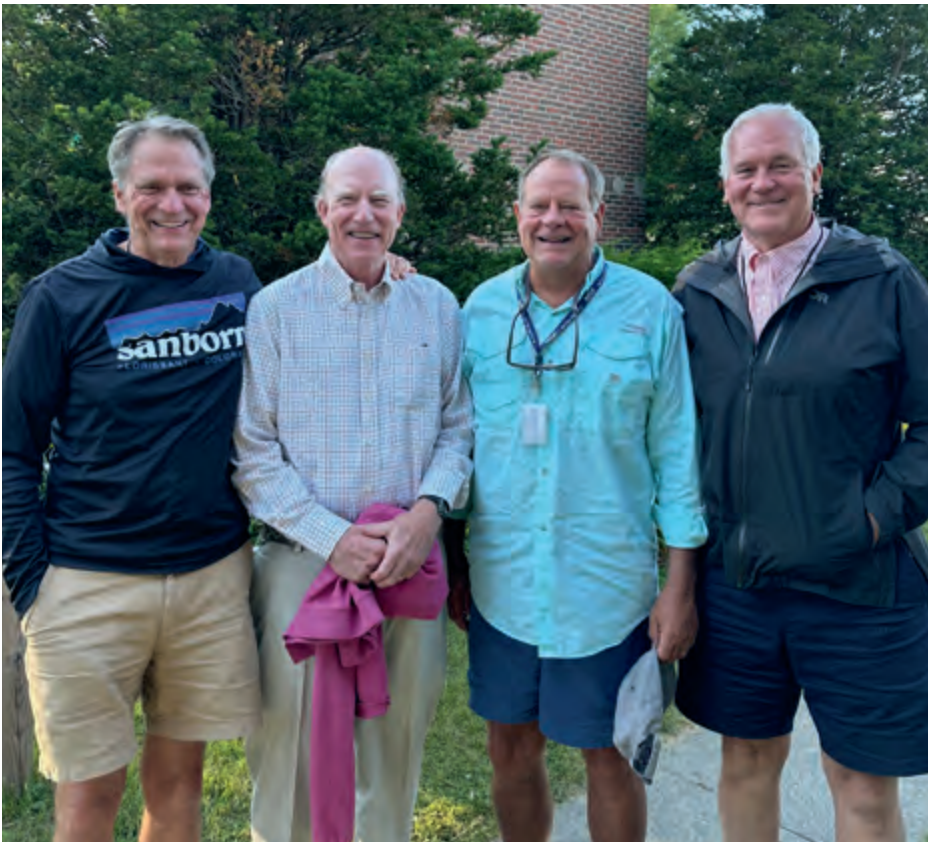
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**KAT SCHNEIDER-CLARK**

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A year ago, **Celeste Dubuque Sprung** and her husband, Ed, moved to a cottage on Conway Lane that has been in her family since 1964. She has enjoyed new projects there, including creating new gardens and renovating the kitchen. She recently became a Provisional Member of the Ladue Garden Club and continues to volunteer at the Litzsinger Road Ecology Center and the Missouri Botanical Garden for The St. Louis Herb Society.

1974 CDS



Members of the Classes of ’73 and ’74 rendezvous in Chautauqua, New York for the opening session of the 150-year anniversary of Chautauqua Institution. (l-r) Tom Eschenroeder ’74, Bill Polk ’74, Kurt Krueger ’74, and Cap Eschenroeder ’73. “The learning continues as this foursome, and their patient wives, partook in a week of lectures, resulting in many engaging discussions. We had some laughs, too,” reports Eschenroeder.



(l-r) Melanie Ellis Streed '76, Kathy Kolbry '76, Carla Buckman Lipe '76, and Andrea Mills Van Cleve '76.

## 1976<sub>MI</sub>

### DIDI MCKEE NOELKER

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**Darlene Wiggins Sierocuk** and her husband, Tom, have returned to Jacksonville, Florida, after six years in the Sarasota/Tampa area. While living on the west coast of Florida, they enjoyed the extensive cultural activities, building a home in a boating community and sailing. They have settled into their tenth (and hopefully final) home on the fourth fairway of Windsor Park Golf Course on Jacksonville's east side. They spend much time with friends at the Jacksonville Golf and Country Club.

**Pam Edwards Bunn** and her husband, Lee, thoroughly enjoy life in southwest Florida, especially outdoor activities and serving as a boutique "hotel" for special friends and family members during the winter season. "We are very involved in our church here in Naples in

men's and women's ministries and visit Austin, Texas, often to see all 10 of our children, spouses, and grandchildren. I am still working part-time for Benjamin F. Edwards in St. Louis, and I am in my seventh year of writing my daily blog, [astherainandsnow.com](http://astherainandsnow.com). I continue to serve on the board of BSF International. Last summer, we had the privilege of serving refugees from various countries in Bulgaria with a group from our church, then hiked the lovely Swiss Alps."

**Renee Reisel Bennett** has a new grandson, Everett. Her son, William, and his wife also live in St. Louis. Renee and Keith can see him more frequently than their daughter, Lara Bennett Hacala '04, and her family in Maryland. Everett will be one in September. Renee and Keith had a fabulous nine-week trip in the Mediterranean and Switzerland. Now that her hip replacements feel good, she can do more traveling and walking.

**Didi McKee Noelker** retired from teaching at the end of the 2023 school year. This past year, she was busy subbing back at Villa in

addition to MICDS. Retirement has allowed her to spend more time with her grandchildren in St. Louis and Tulsa and travel a bit with her husband, Tim. Trips have included visiting her aunt and uncle in the Boston area, a week in the Caribbean in June, and a weekend in Washington, DC. She has also taken up pickleball.

## 1987<sub>CDS</sub>

### ROBERT KARN

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### BRIAN ROCHE

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From **John Gregory**: This past year, I welcomed my first grandchild into the world: Georgia Paige Gregory. It's hard to believe we in the class of '87 are now old enough to be grandparents, but apparently we are.

## 1989<sub>CDS</sub>

The MI and CDS Classes of 1989 were sad to lose two classmates this year: **Jim Beshler** and **Chris Teutenberg**. A number of classmates from the MI and CDS class of 1989 gathered this past May in Tower Grove Park to celebrate the life of fellow classmate Jim Beshler.

## 2006<sub>MICDS</sub>

**Emily Zhu Haynie** writes, "I am thrilled to announce the release of my first book! *Behind Clinic Doors* is a memoir filled with hilarious, heartbreaking, and shocking stories from my training and career as a physician assistant. From the patient who takes a photo during her pelvic exam to the patient who calls at 4:00 a.m. because 'my medication made me kill someone,' I've seen and heard a lot! *Behind Clinic Doors* is available in paperback and eBook on Amazon and Lulu."





01. Jim Beshar '89.

02. Several of Jim Beshar's CDS classmates gathered to celebrate his life.

03. Jim Beshar's Mary I friends remember him fondly.

04. Micholle Walker Mordock '89 and Emily Freeman Huber '89 remember their friend, Jim Beshar.



# MICDS in Mile High City

On June 19, over thirty members of our alumni community convened at the historic Wynkoop Brewery in Denver to visit with one another and Head of School Jay Rainey. Attendees enjoyed hearing about the latest happenings on campus, shared memories and updates on each other's lives and careers, and raised their glasses to their alma mater. It was a fun-filled evening!



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01. Tucker Franciscus '87 and  
Carla Weber Hassell '72



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02. (back) Corthay Schock  
Zakrzewski '12, Taylor Smith '11,  
Bridget Condie '16, Ellie Condie  
Engelhardt '12 (front) Claire  
Herzog '11, Katherine Moore '12,  
Michael Vivirito '11

03. Sally Lewis Kennedy '66,  
Jay Rainey, Noel Messing Hefty '66,  
Conrad Geiger, K.K. DuVivier '71

04. Helen Zell '10, Neil Kulkarni '93,  
Kathryn Kramer, Wilson Graves '18



04



05

05. Betsy Goodman McPherson '92,  
Katherine Moore '12, Ellie Condie  
Engelhardt '12

06. Betsy Goodman McPherson '92,  
McClain Gulick Robertson '92,  
Betsy Metcalfe '94, Brannon  
McPherson, John Burroughs '95

07. John Burroughs '95, Elizabeth  
Moore Coulter '08, Rachel Strong  
Stack '93

08. CB Gebhard '62, Jay Rainey,  
Tucker Franciscus '87



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# MICDS Visits Washington D.C.

Twenty five Mary Institute, Saint Louis Country Day School and MICDS alumni representing five decades showed their school spirit and attended an alumni gathering in Washington, D.C. on Tuesday, June 18 at The Admiral in Dupont Circle. These out-of-town receptions strengthen our alumni community by bringing together old friends and allowing for new connections to be made. Thank you for joining us!

- 01. Bob Pommer '84 and Zachary Gates '12
- 02. David Bohigian '88 and John Wood '88
- 03. Andy Pettit and Kate Pflager Pettit '11
- 04. Adam Perlmutter '99, Gerald Andriole '07, Andy Gail '08
- 05. Annie Cohen '17, Zachary Gates '12, Lauren Esrock '03
- 06. Andy Pettit, Stephen Hayes '06, Nura Mariscal del Moral, James Tiller '11 and Kate Pflager Pettit '11
- 07. Annie Cohen '17, Zachary Gates '12, Nelson Roos '96, John Vaught LaBeaume '92, Adam Perlmutter '99, Gerald Andriole '07, Wendy Brafman '87
- 08. Kate Pflager Pettit '11, Andy Gail '08, Sarah Whitt



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# Reunion MAY 2 - MAY 4, 2024 Weekend

MICDS Reunion Weekend 2024 celebrated the classes ending in 4 and 9, welcoming them back to campus May 2-4 for a weekend of School- and class-sponsored events. Alumni enjoyed numerous festive opportunities to rekindle connections with each other and their Mary Institute, St. Louis Country Day School, and MICDS roots. Whether it was five years or 75 years since they had been back to campus, they reconnected with this special place that means so much to so many.





1964  
60th  
REUNION



1969  
55th  
REUNION



1974  
50th  
REUNION



# Reunion

MAY 2 - MAY 4, 2024

# Weekend

1979  
45th  
REUNION



1984  
40th  
REUNION



# Welcome back!

1989  
35th  
REUNION



2004  
20th  
REUNION



2009  
15th  
REUNION

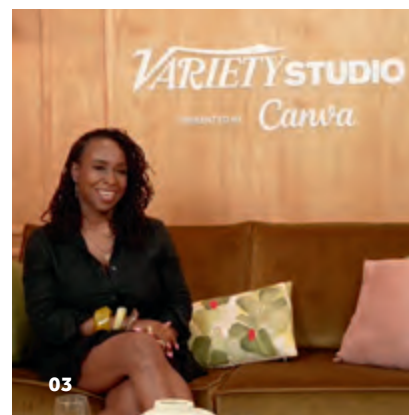


1999  
25th  
REUNION



2014  
10th  
REUNION





**01. Jim Lee '82** won the Will Eisner award in July 2024 at the annual Comic-Con conference. The Eisner Awards recognize creative achievement in American comic books. They are regarded as the most prestigious and significant awards in the comic industry, often referred to as the industry's equivalent to the Academy Awards.

**02. Megan Willams Grant '93** was named President and Chief Executive Officer, Americas, for Louis Vuitton. She most recently helmed L'Oreal USA's luxe division.

**03. Ndidi Oteh '00** is the North American Lead for Accenture Song and was interviewed by *Variety* magazine about creativity's role in her work. "Creativity is always about courage," said Oteh.

**04. Perri Hutchinson '08** partnered with her long-time friend and JBS alum Alyssa Mizell to found Brown Skin Bride, which specializes in party products that celebrate Black and brown women.

**05. Mike Rizzo '10** joined the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital after completing a fellowship program there. He graduated from Harvard University magna cum laude with both a Bachelor of Arts in Molecular and Cellular Biology and a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and returned to St. Louis to attend medical school at Washington University. He completed his residency in orthopaedic surgery at the University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital and was the administrative chief resident, providing care in an area with a high volume of trauma

patients. His research efforts are largely focused on integrating new computer technologies to enhance orthopaedic surgical care and education. His dedication has been recognized with the Coulter Grant, awarded for the development of an augmented reality application.

**06. Zion Thomas '19** played the lead part of "Louis" in the short film *Vision*. The project started in 2019, was put on hold for Covid, then started filming again in 2023. *Vision* was recently featured as part of the St. Louis Filmmakers Showcase.





**07. Filip Aleksic '20** earned At-Large Academic All-Ivy Honors. He plays water polo at Brown University and is among 24 Ivy League standouts to earn 2023-24 At-Large Academic All-Ivy status as a top student-athlete in a non-Ivy League sponsored sport.



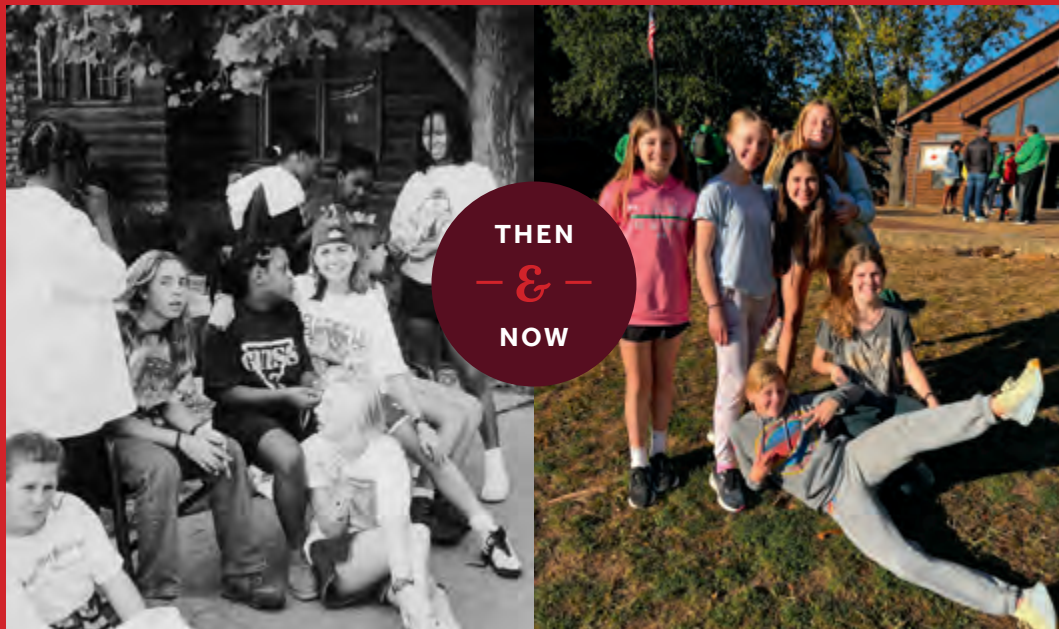
**08. Bogdan Hamilton '22** competed in the Paris Olympics. He was selected to the Canadian Olympic team and participated in the Men's Team Foil competition on August 4. (Bogdan is pictured in the center bottom. Photo credit: Canadian Fencing Federation.)

Correction: In the Summer 2024 issue of *MICDS Magazine*, a photo of Hanna Wurdack '21 was inadvertently replaced with another by our printer. Please accept our apologies, and this correct photo with Wurdack's quote.



“Being an athlete has taught me the importance of sacrifice and being a part of something bigger than yourself. It has also taught me countless lessons about grit and determination by challenging me to manage sports and school simultaneously. It has enabled me to prioritize exercise and have healthy habits that will serve me for the rest of my life.”

*Hanna Wurdack '21, Bowdoin*



**Annual trips to Camp Wyman are always a treat for students. They embrace the time away from school to problem-solve and support each other while traversing climbing towers and low ropes courses and navigating other team-building activities. While the cabins in the background haven't changed (our first photo is from the 1995 yearbook, the second from this past school year), the challenges our students face have. The technology-free overnight in the woods encourages new friendships and tighter bonds while exercising leadership and communication skills. Camp Wyman remains a wonderful tradition with fond memories for MICDS students.**