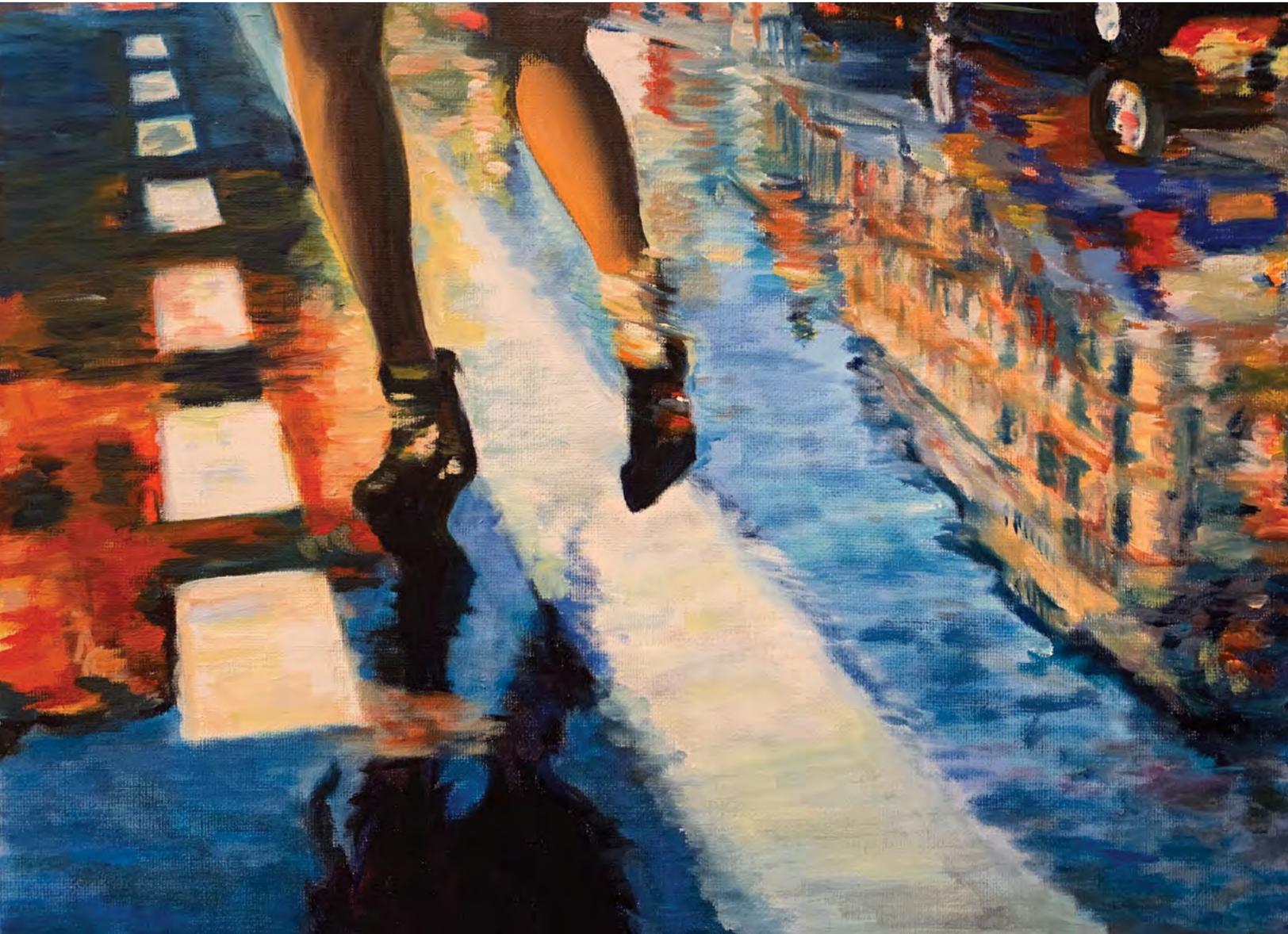


THE
SUN

Spring 2019

DIAL

The Magazine of The Ethel Walker School



AN ARTISTIC TRADITION

ART AND COLLABORATION IN FARAWAY PLACES

VISITING WRITER SEMINAR

THE SUNDIAL

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Sophia Zarmsky '19 and Katie Cosgrove '25 work on a charcoal drawing together during "Drawing With Movement," a class offered during the two days of Lacuna 2019. During Lacuna, students attended workshops conducted by faculty where they explored a sense of self through various techniques including collage, music, and movement among many other forms of expression.



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Greetings!

Poet Mary Oliver poses this question: “Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?” This is the question we pose indirectly to all of our students year after year. Not merely as in “What are you planning to study?” or “Where are you going to college?” or even “What do you intend to be?” Instead, we need to ask “How will you choose to realize this gift of raw life, rare and unfettered?”

As head of school, I realize that the answer for me is in part the beauty inherent in making connections and building relationships. Just after I was appointed, but before I had begun in my new role, I attended a lovely reception at a graduate’s home and thought to ask my team about the size of Walker’s alumnae community. Learning that the total was about 4,000, it struck me that this was a significant but finite number and perhaps, just perhaps, there was a chance of meeting most, if not all, of the graduates of Walker’s over the next ten years. (Of course, being no spring chicken, I need to work fast and hope I stay the course!)

This year I have spent a good deal of time travelling across the country from coast-to-coast and north-to-south, to cities including New York, Seattle, Milwaukee, Chicago, Savannah, Minneapolis and Charleston to name just some of the places we visited in March. It has been moving to hear stories from newly-graduated young women as well as those from the most venerable among our alumnae, graduates from the 1930s and 40s. What they all had in common was a sense of higher purpose in life, joy in being among their peers from Walker’s and a deep resolve.

It is the last of these sentiments that most interests me. In a world fraught with uncertainty and shared universal anxiety, these women of all ages were quietly resilient and optimistic. Their demeanor and conversation conveyed in no uncertain terms the sentiment expressed in the words of Martin Luther, “*Hier stehe Ich, Ich kann nicht anders.*” (“Here I stand, I can do no other.”)

Surely this is at the heart of all we teach and learn at our School.

Each day at Walker’s starts with the promise of learning. We share delight in the accomplishments of our students and of our alumnae. This is a community that cherishes learning in all avenues. As you enjoy this edition of the *SunDial*, you will see explored and celebrated the iterative nature of learning and the pursuit of new ideas and capabilities in the profiles of our featured alumnae artists. Their work, touching countless lives, inspires us to continue to remove barriers to learning and to excelling. These artist-creators can do no other.

Within this *SunDial* is Walker’s *2018 Annual Report of Philanthropy* and I salute each donor who has joined me on my journey as head of school. With you, each student, faculty and staff member is inspired to excel.

As I consider our collective future, I imagine a world guided by women like you, our graduates, who use their voice and stand tall in their resolve to be who they were meant to be.

Cheers,



Dr. Meera Viswanathan (aka Ms. Vis)
HEAD OF SCHOOL

Each day at Walker’s starts with the promise of learning. We share delight in the accomplishments of our students and of our alumnae.

New Trustees

Shayna Cohen Luciani '93, P'20, '21

Shayna lives locally, is a current parent, and joins our board as an ex-officio trustee in her role as president of The Ethel Walker School Parent Association. She co-owns Servpro franchises in CT and NJ with her husband, and with her sisters (including Amy Paul P'16, '18, co-chair of the Horizons board) owns 4 Sisters LLC, a property management company. Shayna has a B.A. from Drew University where she played both soccer and lacrosse. She has since coached both of these sports at the college level, for travel teams, and for the EWS Middle School teams. Shayna's daughters Claudia '21 and Julia '20 are currently a sophomore and a junior, respectively.



Mary Bebel Schinke '81

Mary is an attorney and lives in Southern Connecticut. She has been practicing law since 1991. Her Connecticut and New York-based practice focuses on estate planning. Previously, Mary practiced with White and Case and Linklaters in the areas of cross-border leveraged leasing, banking tax, employee benefits, and advising nonprofits. Mary has been a warden of St. John's Church, Washington, CT; a director of the Minor Memorial Library, Roxbury, CT; and a trustee of the Connecticut Community Foundation. She has a B.A. in Psychology from Yale University, a certificate in British Studies from Richmond College, London, and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. Mary serves on the board of Regional Hospice and Palliative Care as well the board of the Washington, Connecticut Chapter of the Garden Club of America.



Myrthia Moore '79

Myrthia lives in Miami and is the owner of Charter Financial and Insurance Group, Inc. She is a founding fellow of the Harvard Institute for Coaching, as well as managing director of her husband J. Steven Manolis' art gallery, Manolis Projects Art Gallery in Miami. After graduating from Walker's, Myrthia earned a Master's in Marriage and Family Therapy from the University of Miami and a B.A. in Economics from Harvard University. She spent a semester abroad at the Université de Paris, Sorbonne. She is currently enrolled in a remote digital marketing course with Duke University. Myrthia is fluent in Spanish and speaks French with near fluency as well.



Linda Strohmeier P'21

Linda lives in Tuxedo Park, NY and is the founding board chair and president of Prosperity Catalyst, an organization that launches women-led businesses in distressed regions in order to equalize economic empowerment. She is also the board director of Vision Trust International, a nonprofit that supports children in need. She also served as the community service coordinator at Tuxedo Park School in NY. Prior to that, she worked as a vice president for Goldman Sachs where she proposed and implemented their global wellness division, and was a Wellness Program director for Prudential Financial. She has a B.A. from the University of Maryland College Park. Linda chairs Walker's Equestrian Committee. Her daughter, Ava '21, is a sophomore.



Sahba Sadegh-Vaziri '82

Sahba lives in New York City and is the president of Susa Associates, LLC, a company that concentrates on investments in renewable energy, and a finance consultant for Ocean Renewable Power Company, LLC. An Iranian-American who fled her homeland during the Islamic Revolution, Sahba is fluent in Farsi, Kurdish, French and Italian and has a keen understanding of geopolitical issues concerning Iran and Kurdistan. Sahba has a B.A. in Electrical Engineering and an MBA from MIT.



Charlotte Weidlein Lenzner '05

Charlotte lives in New York City where she is vice president of client development and strategy at Charity Network, where her work focuses on strengthening strategic relationships with non-profit and brand partners and she oversees several key partnerships in the arts, entertainment and luxury verticals. Previously, she was a member of the Single Owner Sales Department at Sotheby's. Charlotte holds a B.A. in History of Art and Visual Culture from Bates College and serves as a rotating board member for the Cleveland H. Dodge Foundation. She attended Walker's for both middle and high school and joined our Alumnae Board in 2016.



A NOTE FROM

Kit O'Brien Rohn '82

CHAIR, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Art has always been a part of who I am. It's in my memory from as far back as I can remember. Today, it's an escape from the rigors of daily life and a chance to connect with people and places that fill my life with joy. Over the holidays, my daughter and I spent time together painting. Time stood still as each of us was caught up in our own vision for what the strokes would become. The shared experience of creating with someone you love is magical, transcending time and space.

Some of my fondest memories of Walker's was time spent in the art studio. It was a clean, well-lit space where we created beautiful things. It was a celebrated space where we challenged ourselves beyond any measure our adolescent minds could conjure and it was a place where anything was possible if only we could imagine it. Art class was never a lesson but rather an experience wrapped in color and light, space and texture. In college, I was a fine arts major where I took on each class and assignment with a hunger for creation that has stayed with me throughout the years. Art is a passion in me that will last a lifetime.

When I think about the arts at Walker's — what it was, what it is and what it can be — I harken back to our studio of bright light and possibility. I envision a place where girls can find their inner artists and create visual and performing art pieces that allow them to express themselves in ways that transcend words. Many of us can still feel that first brush stroke or turn of the potter's wheel and the apprehension that comes with not knowing where the project would go but knowing that something that moved us would result. I want our girls to feel the same joy.

This sense of creation extends far beyond the art studios and into our classrooms. While the raw materials of creation have changed as we swap paper and pen for tablet and stylus, the opportunity for play, discovery and experimentation remain a foundational element in how we approach girls' education at Walker's. As we've undertaken our strategic planning process, special attention has been paid to our desire to further enhance our visual and performing arts programs. Art allows us to give physical expression to how we see the world in all its flaws and fascinations and it also allows us a world view through various lenses. I envision a school where our students are not limited by physical space with a program that allows them endless ways to express their view of the world.

The collective artistic talent in our alumnae community is larger than any physical space could hold. Like the amazing women in these pages, so many of you have embraced the arts in your lives. Join me in celebrating them — and all of you — as together we continue to explore what the journey of creation has to offer.



Kit O'Brien Rohn '82
CHAIR, BOARD OF TRUSTEES



“While the raw materials of creation have changed as we swap paper and pen for tablet and stylus, the opportunity for play, discovery and experimentation remain a foundational element in how we approach girls' education at Walker's.”



Photos of the week

Each week students submit their best photos to photography teacher Ben Barker to be considered for our “Photo of the Week.” Here are some examples of student photos from Fall 2018. To see more of our students’ photography work, please visit www.ethelwalker.org/studentphotooftheweek.



<< Hooray Sunray to Ruoyi Jin '19! She has been published in the book *Celebrating Art*, sponsored by Celebrating Art and Blick Art Materials. Ruoyi’s beautiful “Still Life” pastel drawing was included in the full-color, hardbound book along with work from the best students artists in North America. Only 25% of applying students were invited to be published. Congratulations!

Photo credits —
Top left: Jaden Kassa '20
Top right: Kyleigh Holt '20
Center: Jenessa Lu '21



An Artistic Tradition

Since our founding in 1911, the arts have played an important role in the life of The Ethel Walker School. In this feature, we profile three Walker's women who have kept the arts at the center of their lives from their days in our studios to today. Enjoy their stories as they take you along on their artistic journeys.



Jean Nestares '81

JEAN NESTARES PHOTOS BY DANNY BERTHE

AN ARTIST OF THE WORLD: JEAN NESTARES' ART COMES FROM HER OFF-THE-BEATEN-PATH ADVENTURES

Jean Nestares '81 may have travelled the world's most glorious cities — Paris, Ibiza, Milan, Madrid, Caracas, Mexico City, and Chicago — finding inspiration for her many artistic expressions, but she traces her early creative “awakening” to her time at Walker's.

As an international student from Spain, Nestares arrived on campus open to the endless possibilities this new country and environment would bring. Spain was a dictatorship at the time, and coming to Walker's brought her freedom on many levels. That freedom to think, speak and test new ideas and interests happened both in and out of the classroom. She says that openness and the ability to try new avenues are unique characteristics of a Walker's education and help young women to find their real calling.

For Nestares, the calling she discovered at Walker's was being an artist. Today, she makes her living across many creative mediums — painting, writing, illustrating and, especially, photography.

In fact, her love for photography traces its origins to Walker's photography lab, where she spent many productive hours learning and practicing black-and-white 35-millimeter film processes. Guided by her teachers, Mr. Davis and Mrs. Nelson, Nestares says she learned to push the boundaries of development and printing techniques — a signature style that continues to define her work even today.

“Many people think that creativity is a lightning bolt, but I think it comes in whispers. The artist has to listen carefully then go explore and interpret the whispers, accepting the fact that they might lead you nowhere.”

JEAN NESTARES '81

Returning to Spain

Although Nestares' time at Walker's was transformative, it quickly came to a halt after just two years. Her father, also an artist, became gravely ill and she had to rush back to Spain to be by his side. There, as he battled cancer, the father-daughter duo spent his remaining days on artistic collaborations, including two books and a short film.

Back in Spain, Nestares decided to pick up where she left off at Walker's and perfect her photography skills. She

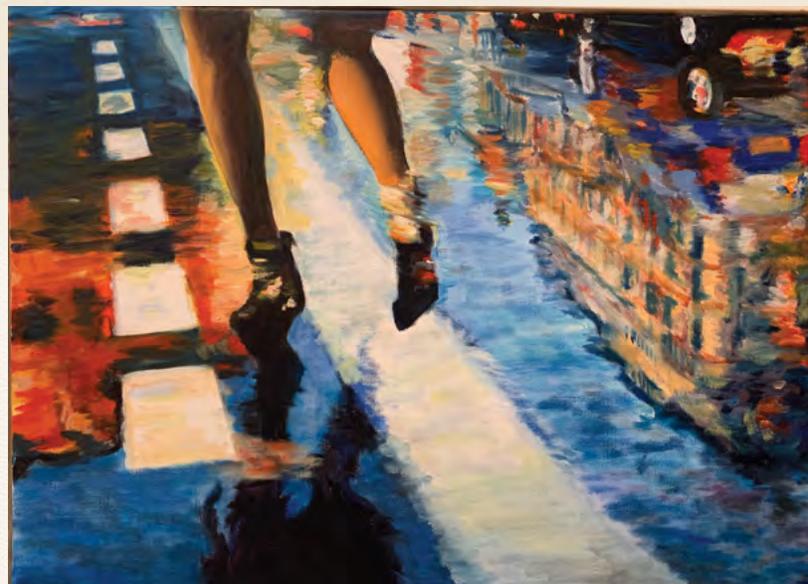
was accepted into a prestigious studio in Madrid that held rigorous technique standards for images and prints. The experience paid off: Nestares won the first Kodak National Prize in Spain and the first prize in a national competition organized by Spain's Ministry of Culture.

With her awards in hand, Nestares decided to return to the U.S. — to the place that was instrumental in her early years and stood as a stepping stone in the next part of her career. She completed her degree in cinematography from New York University and, in her adventurous spirit, headed to Caracas, Venezuela, to work in television.

On inspiration in the world

For Nestares, globetrotting to countries and cultures near and far does more than collect stamps in her passport. These experiences find their way into her work in many forms. “The lights and colors of different countries have influenced my palette,” she says. “Every place I travel to enriches the way I perceive my photographic inspirations.”

In her “Dream Chaser” series, for example, a body of work consisting of 24 photographs, she created the sensation of a double dimension by superimposing images on fabric and paper. Getting those shots, however, was an adventure in itself. She shot the series going through a forest in a



The cover image is by artist Jean Nestares '81. Jean writes, “The painting is an oil on canvas I made in 2009 for an exhibition in New York called ‘From Paris to Berlin’ and other places in movement. It was sold in that exhibition at Ceres Gallery to an executive that worked for NBC.”



jeep at dusk with a big light projector and a model fastened to the hood of the car. “It worked wonderfully,” she says, though admitting that the model “swore never to work again with crazy photographers!”

These “crazy” ideas she has for her work come from listening and observing all the time. “Many people think that creativity is a lightning bolt, but I think it comes in whispers,” she says. “The artist has to listen carefully then go explore and interpret the whispers, accepting the fact that they might lead you nowhere.”

The magic of art in a digital world

Nestares believes that this sense of exploration and wonder that feeds art are also what keeps it relevant in the digital age. Working with her hands provides an important physical connection and depth that keep her going. She hopes that young artists can also feel the relevance of their creativity in an increasingly technological world.

Her advice to budding artists is to trust themselves, since art is powerful and often renders the artistic naked to the world. Learning to be in this vulnerable position is challenging at first but also incredibly powerful. “Begin with one pencil, develop forms of practice, feel free and listen to the crazy voices in your head,” she says. “Understand that art is in you, and your final product is not just an object to look at. It is a part of you — of your soul — that you choose to share with the world.” ■

For more information, visit www.jeannestares.com

Jean duPont Blair '58

IN THE HEART OF NEW ORLEANS — JEAN BLAIR'S GLASS, PRINT AND METAL SCULPTURE STUDIO BRINGS THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER

The artistic path can sometimes be paved in the most unexpected ways. For Jean Blair, it appeared with a chance Walker's encounter.

Blair had many creative interests in her life — from needlepointing to landscaping — but when her children were young, she lacked the extra time to pursue them freely. Once her three children headed off to school, she decided to see what her New Orleans community had to offer.

One day, she stopped by nearby Tulane University to check out the photography studio, hoping she could work as a teaching assistant in a continuing education course. As she headed in, she caught a glimpse of an art student in front of a furnace creating a glass hand. In that moment, everything changed.

She was quickly drawn into the scene, which brought her back to a trip she took to Murano, Italy, a place renowned globally for its glassmaking and famed Venetian glass. She remembered being captivated by the art even then, and chatted about the craft with the Tulane student who was working away in front of the furnace, tossing and turning the agile material in a careful balancing act. The young man turned out to be the son of fellow Walker's alumna, Elizabeth "Liz" Nash Muench '55 — a twist that could only have signaled the promise of what was to come.

Blair signed herself up for a glass-blowing class to test it out, and quickly was hooked. She spent the next 15 years as a dedicated adult student and volunteer assistant at Tulane, and was later asked by a board member to help start a glassmaking studio in the city to give students an opportunity to continue their interests as artists in the community. The project was a major new endeavor — one Blair was excited to get started on.

The New Orleans School of Glassmaking and Printmaking Studio opens downtown

With that, Blair and a group of eager graduate students set out to turn a 35,000-foot dilapidated warehouse building into a thriving modern studio. Today, the New Orleans School of Glassmaking and Printmaking Studio is the largest facility of its kind in the South and has been an instrumental part of the city's arts scene for the last 40 years. The unique space hosts exhibits and classes, and provides work areas for glass, print and metal sculpture artisans across the community.

Blair feels fortunate to have this studio and wants it to be a part of the New Orleans community. In this digital age, the



In March 2019, Jean duPont Blair '58 led members of the American College of Cardiology in the creation of anatomically accurate glass hearts to honor the memory of Dr. John Ochsner, a pioneering heart surgeon from New Orleans. During her career as a photographer, Jean photographed Dr. Ochsner's heart surgeries. The glass hearts include valves that turn the works of art into musical instruments.

studio offers enticing courses to underprivileged high school students to give them the opportunity to experience the technical arts — everything from glassblowing, torchworking, metal sculpture, welding, printmaking, ceramics and even architecture. It has built such a reputation for itself, that it has been featured twice on NBC's "Today Show," and in a full-page article in *The New York Times*.

In addition to reaching out locally, Blair also has brought her international contacts and experience with some of the world's most renowned artists to New Orleans. "At several prominent glass and print studios both in the U.S. and in Europe, I worked with people who have continued to be my colleagues in designing and building equipment," she says.

Honoring a life and making music

During her career, Jean also worked as a photographer for *Harper's Bazaar* and *Time Life* magazines and was able to find work photographing heart surgeries for Dr. John Ochsner, a pioneering heart surgeon who maintained an active practice in New Orleans for 66 years. In March 2019, the American College of Cardiology's 68th Annual Scientific Session & Expo took place in New Orleans and it was the largest gathering of cardiologists in the world. During the conference, attendees participated in an event at Jean's studio dedicated to the late Dr. Ochsner where they made anatomically accurate hearts out of glass including valves that turn the works of art into musical instruments.

A new exhibit features the WWII homing pigeons

Later this year, the studio will be hosting a very special, year-long exhibit, “The War of the Birds,” to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the landing of “D-Day” on the beaches of Normandy on June 6, 1944. The exhibit will feature the “historic, heroic” carrier homing pigeons, which transported notes on their legs to guide supply-carrying gliders from Great Britain to safe landing points in Normandy. Blair is already busily working away on crafting each pigeon. The studio’s large front window will be taken over for the exhibit with the glass carrier pigeons and their enemies, the peregrine falcons.

The exhibit connects to Blair’s home city of New Orleans in more ways than one. The studio space is just around the block from the National World War II Museum, which is a collaborator on the project. Also, the “Higgins boats” that landed on the shores of Normandy on “D-Day,” the storming of the heavily occupied coast that marked the beginning of the end of the war,



Jean duPont Blair '58

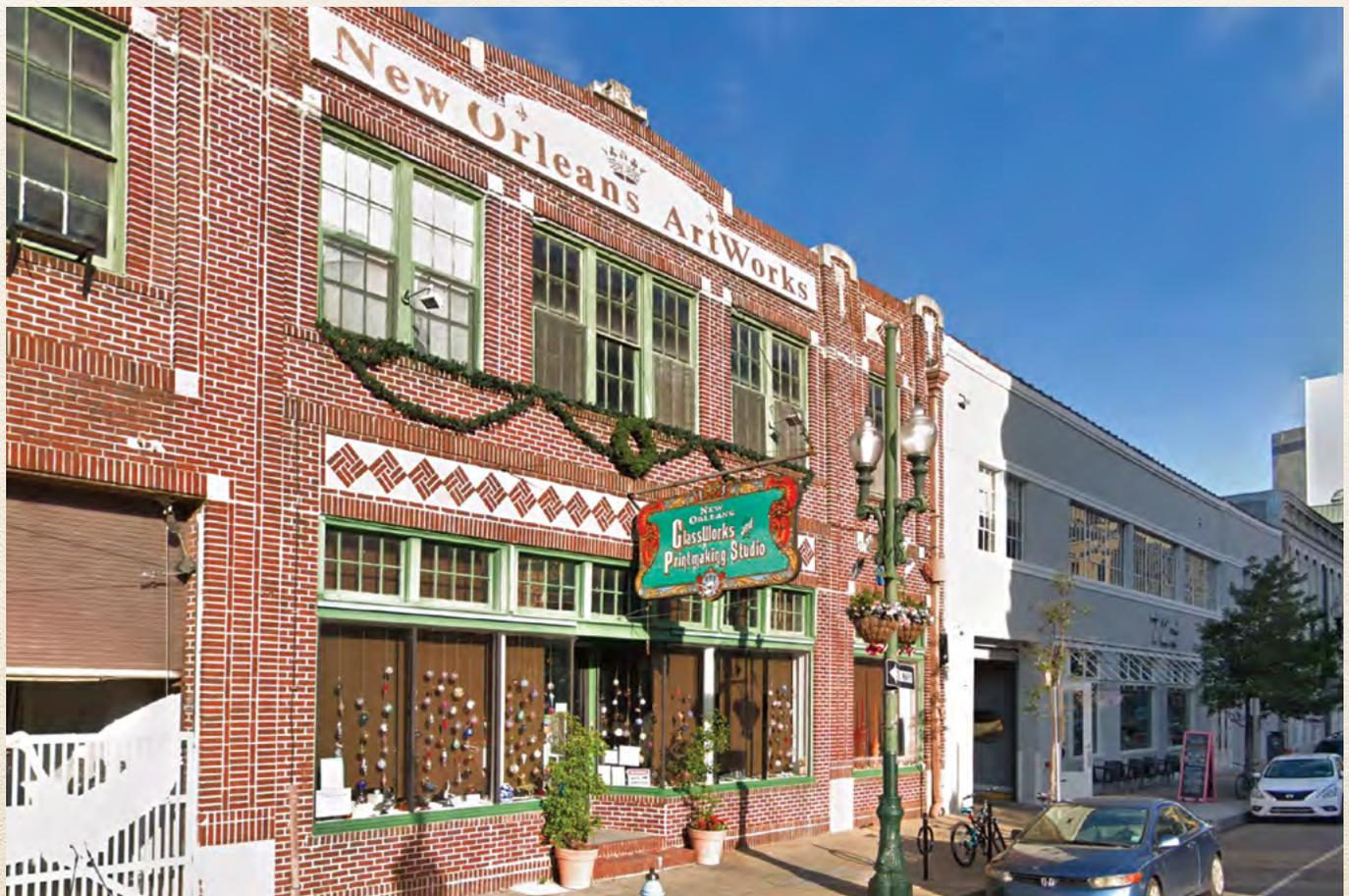
were built in New Orleans by Andrew Higgins, first designed simply as swamp boats and later adapted for landing on France’s war-zone beaches.

The heart of the community for years to come

Blair hopes the exhibit will attract visitors of all ages throughout the year — a principle she has incorporated into the studio’s mission since its beginnings. This time, she is providing an interactive activity that invites students to write a note and attach it to a real, live homing pigeon. Pigeoneers from across the country will be bringing their special birds

to her New Orleans studio and attaching a chip to each pigeon, allowing students to track their chosen pigeon with GPS.

It is ideas like the pigeon tracking — combining both Blair’s creativity and her dedication to making the New Orleans School of Glassmaking and Printmaking Studio a welcoming place for all — that has built this once falling-down factory into an essential part of the city she calls home. ■



BEHIND THE SCENES WITH
AWARD-WINNING FILMMAKER

Dolly Hall '78

Movie producer **Dolly Hall '78** rarely steps foot in front of the camera, but she says her days as an equestrian at Walker's sparked her love for performance. Today, she seeks out the best performers to tell some of the most compelling stories of our times through her production company, dollface inc.

A visitor's gift

Dolly grew up with Hollywood in her blood (her mother, Diana Lynn, was an actress in the '40s and '50s), but she took her own circuitous route into the business. After moving to New York City from UNC Chapel Hill, the young theater graduate took a job as a receptionist at a production company. She was going through a time of transition, and, as she says, "needed a job." The front-desk position, however, gave her non-stop access to everyone coming in and out of the company — people working hands-on in every

aspect of movie making. One of those encounters would change the course of her life forever.

The production company had just optioned a screenplay to produce a feature film, and the writer/director was visiting the office. As he waited for his scheduled appointment, he sat on the edge of Hall's desk discussing the nitty gritty of filmmaking — from rewrites to pre-production. Hall was enthralled by every stage of the process. Before the conversation was even over, he had asked Hall to be his assistant on the forthcoming movie. Hall couldn't believe her luck.

Almost immediately, she called her boss, asked for some time away to pursue work on the upcoming production and was soon headed for shooting in the Hamptons. That chance encounter sent Hall in a direction from which she's never looked back.



“That first movie was life-changing. I was smitten,” she says.

On set, she soaked up as much as she could, sitting in on casting sessions, listening to the director’s discussions, and shadowing the assistant director team — all of which, she says, was her own personal film school.

Making movies that matter

Hall went from that first set to work on five movies back-to-back, progressively gaining experience and knowledge in the complexities of making a film. She was slowly gaining confidence in her own abilities, and just a few years later, she stepped out on her own. Today, Hall runs her own production company, dollface, inc., which focuses on movies and now television shows that “provoke some thought and that have a strong voice.”

Her films have won numerous awards and have been shown at leading film festivals, such as Sundance and Cannes. What motivates her is the power of film to give voice to issues, topics and people that are often under-heard and represented on screen — and many of those are women’s stories.

“I’ve worked with lots of women and their voices were so unique,” she says. In the 1990s, she made queer films when no one else was doing it. She was drawn to one in particular, “The Incredibly True Adventure of Two Girls in Love,” a story of falling in love with the popular girl at school. She says she was interested in a story where the characters just happened to be gay. “I was the straight girl on the set, but I could relate to it — the story of falling in love, and thinking it was forever,” says Hall of the pioneering portrayal.

Being on set is where Hall feels most alive. As a producer, she says her only role is to “create an environment where the magic happens.” The role suits her, because she’s admittedly a good problem solver. Those skills come in handy when she has to think of the million pieces



Dolly Hall '78 with Director Michael Walker and Director of Photography Scott Miller on the set of “The Maid’s Room,” a psychological thriller that explores the complex relationships between truth and justice, hubris and power, wealth and fear.

I was the straight girl on the set [The Incredibly True Adventure of Two Girls in Love], but I could relate to it — the story of falling in love, and thinking it was forever.



Dolly Hall '78

that go into making the movie and often in backwards order.

With all of those pieces, Hall is hands-on every step of the way. She sees the movie through its early stages, meeting with writers and directors, all the way to pitching and selling the movie to film festivals and distributors.

Making movies that matter is not big-business filmmaking, she admits. “It’s a philanthropic endeavor. It is not financially stable. It’s more of a patron saint of the arts effort.”

Paying it forward

Hall has big plans in the coming years. She’s signed a deal for eight television shows and is looking forward to taking on this new challenge.

And, although she has worked with the likes of Mira Sorvino and Parker Posey, what she is really focused on these days is mentoring. She feels compelled to pay it forward when young people approach her with questions, ideas and even scripts. It’s an obligation that likely stems from her many mentors along the way, and especially that one very special

one all those years ago who sat on the edge of her desk and out of a turn of fate that seems almost scripted, led her to be one of the most daring producers of films in the business today. ■

Art and Collaboration in Faraway Places

BY DOCEY BALDWIN LEWIS '67



“THE INNER VOICE THAT ASKED THE 13-YEAR-OLD ME, ‘WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GROW UP?’ STILL ASKS THAT QUESTION, FIFTY-FIVE YEARS LATER. THOUGH I HAVE ENJOYED A FULFILLING DESIGN CAREER, THE ARTIST, ENTREPRENEUR, SAGE, GUIDE AND SEEKER IN ME REMAIN RESTLESS.”

DOCEY BALDWIN LEWIS '67



The full yarn is too long to tell here. I unravel instead the last month, a peek into how art and collaboration make up the fabric of my life. My creative base is a spacious textile studio in an historic brick building above Sara’s, the favorite café, bar and microbrewery in New Harmony, Indiana, population 715. Fifteen years ago, after back-to-back consulting assignments in forty plus countries, I was drawn to a less complicated life in the village of my ancestors. In 1825 my third great grandfather, Robert Owen, a Scottish mill owner, atheist and philanthropic reformer, purchased New Harmony from Lutheran Separatists for his Utopian experiment. Though Owen miscalculated human nature in trying to create a “Community of Equality,” the town

survived and was considered the “Athens of the West” for the many scholars and scientists it attracted. Fast forward nearly 200 years and the town now attracts creatives.

Nearly every fall for the past twenty years I have returned to Nepal where my son Owen and I have a long-running partnership with Lhakpa Sherpa, a talented papermaker and entrepreneur. He runs a handweaving mill and several specialty workshops that produce handmade wallcoverings and decorative panels for interiors, in particular for 3form. I have designed and sourced for 3form in a dozen countries, but they have taken a special interest in Nepal where their Full Circle Foundation gives back to artisan communities through initiatives in education,



(At top) A private monastery in Phaplu, Nepal is the site of a restoration and cultural preservation project, as well as a market garden run by Docey and her business partner, Lhakpa Sherpa and supported by 3form’s Full Circle Foundation. (Above) Docey welcomes students to Design Bank 505, her studio in New Harmony, Indiana. (Left) In Maroantsetra, Madagascar, Docey trains SEPALI artisans how to dye their wild silk panels in a project run by Conservation Through Poverty Alleviation. (CPALI.org)

microsavings, market gardens, vocational training, cultural preservation and tourism. In September, I prepared the Full Circle report before we traveled so we can distribute funds while we are there. What began as a design assignment twelve years ago has turned into a community development project* which we now share with a much broader audience.

We had a long-standing date, also in September, to make a presentation to two dozen New Harmonistas, ten of whom have signed up for our 2019 agro tourism expedition, now in its second year. We showed slides and answered questions about a trip that involves visiting our Kathmandu workshops, touring local World Heritage sites, and traveling to Solukhumbu in the Lower Everest Region. They will experience authentic Sherpa vernacular architecture in the newly built Kyirmu Lodges and visit our organic farms, artisanal cheese project, student papermakers, and monastery restorations. Eventually we hope to link a New Harmony Artists-in-Residence program to a sister program in Solukhumbu.

Sandwiched between report writing and pitching community tourism, I traveled to Whitman College in Walla Walla, WA to lecture on sustainable design and to mentor students who are exploring art careers that might combine economics, anthropology, environmental studies or writing. The visit was organized around a show at the Sheehan Gallery entitled Requiem for a Rain Forest. A Malagasy photographer, a UK photographer, a South African artist and I collaborated with Catherine Craig, founder of Conservation Through Poverty Alleviation, International (CPALI), and Malagasy artisans to highlight both their environmental plight and their creative resilience. I have made three visits to the remote village of Maroantsetra, Madagascar to train

What began as a design assignment twelve years ago has turned into a community development project which we now share with a much broader audience.

artisans in dyeing and weaving. Together we create amazing textile art. Last year the project's participation in international exhibitions caught the attention of Donna Karan. She purchased a year's production of art pieces for her Urban Zen stores and recently placed another



SEPALI artisans learn tablet weaving during a workshop in Madagascar in June 2018.



Docey and New York designer Lori Weitzner at one of the EAP workshops in Nepal.



Docey with Donna Karan at Karan's studio above her New York lifestyle store, Urban Zen.

large order that must be delivered by October 23. After returning from Walla Walla, I assembled a presentation of CPALI's new line of handmade textiles for Maison d'Exceptions, a juried section at Premier Vision, the global trade fair for high fashion materials in Paris.

Developing new products and markets involves daily problem solving. We hand-carried a new window shade sample back to Nepal to troubleshoot the undesirable curl that has developed in the weave. It is an issue we must solve before proceeding with a new partnership in San Francisco. We also have a new distributor of wallcoverings in Texas, and we will need to inspect yarn shipments to make sure the colors for production match our original specs. The devil is always in the details.

After thirty-five hours of travel, we landed in Kathmandu ten days ago to host New York designer/author Lori Weitzner on her first visit to Nepal. We are collaborating with her on wallcoverings, stationery and jewelry. After she left, I began working on a collection of art panels fashioned from mill waste for a 2019 show at the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art. This morning the factory truck drove pieces of an Eames Demetrios sculpture up to Solukhumbu for an installation, one of three, that are part of an "art trek" that begins next week with Tiny World Tours. We will spend several days in Kathmandu meeting contemporary art gallery owners and artists, then drive to Solukhumbu for the Kyirnu Lodges experience, Mani Rimdu festival and trek. Eames, grandson of Charles and Ray Eames of the iconic Eames Chair, will be joining us with his filmmaker wife to inaugurate the new sites.

Would I have been as prepared for a life combining business and the arts without a Walker's education? I can thank Mrs. Quarles for my ability to calculate prices and textile specs, Miss B for guiding my hand as it sketches, Miss Hunt for putting commas in the right places, and Mme LeFavre for the French I needed in Haiti, Senegal and Madagascar. For global awareness, thank you, Miss Brasher and for Latin names of species, gratias tibi, Miss Sindall. Walker's focus on academic excellence, balanced with the arts, social service, sports, spiritual inquiry, teamwork, and most importantly, friendships, gave me confidence to pursue my talents.

The New Harmony's Arts in Harmony Festival motto is "Art will save your soul." But is art enough? Laurence Freeman's inscription on the wall at the corner of Main and Granary Streets cautions, "A culture that does not teach prayer soon runs mad with desire." Prayer is a loaded word for this Buddhist-lite, lapsed Episcopalian. Substitute the words: awe, gratitude, and compassion. While our little blue spinning finite globe in an ever-expanding and infinite universe may be too complex to comprehend, we must share it with all fellow creatures without driving them and ourselves to extinction. Art shines a light on that path and collaboration is the mortar that makes the path endure. ■

** The Magpies also contributed to the Nepal project.*

See the Sundial, Winter 2011, p. 30 and Fall 2018, p.71



Wild silk panels in Walla Walla, Washington at Whitman College's Sheehan Gallery exhibit, Requiem for a Rainforest, part of a collaborative exhibit with SEPALI artisans from Madagascar.

EXPLORE DOCEY'S WEBSITE ALONG WITH THE OTHERS IN THE STORY:

Docey Baldwin Lewis - Design Bank 505

www.designbank505.com/

3form www.3-form.com/fullcircle

Lori Weitzner www.loriweitzner.com/

Eames Demetrios <http://www.eamesdemetrios.com/>

Tiny World Tours [www.tinyworldtours.com/
upcoming/2018/walking-nepal-autumn](http://www.tinyworldtours.com/upcoming/2018/walking-nepal-autumn)



Corina Alvarezdelugo works on a piece of art for the Mariposa Foundation campus during a community partnership trip to the Dominican Republic.

Corina Alvarezdelugo Artist and Educator

BY KIM HARRIS THACKER P'24

Corina Alvarezdelugo grew up in Venezuela in a home where art was considered a hobby, not a profession. It wasn't until she had gone to law school and was a mother of three, living in the United States, that she learned that she could study art at the university level.

Today, "Ms. Corina," as she is known by Walker's students, is a professional artist as well as an art teacher and the gallery director at The Ethel Walker School. Her work, which is inspired by her life experiences, is found in galleries and private collections around the world.

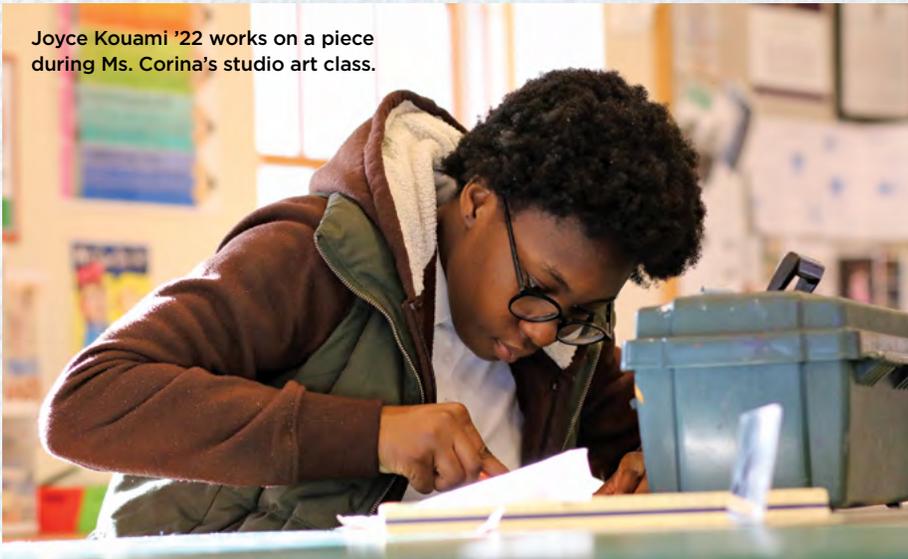
"Because I came to art first as a professional and then as an educator, I feel like I can really guide my students," she says. "I tell them about being a professional artist, including the ups and downs, but I don't try to convince them to become artists. I try to guide them to the best way they can use their talents."

One Walker's student who benefits from Ms. Corina's guidance is **Joyce Kouami '22** from Orange, New Jersey.



First grade students in Ms. Corina's *Horizons at The Ethel Walker School* art class show off their work.

Joyce Kouami '22 works on a piece during Ms. Corina's studio art class.



“

Ms. Corina has taught me that sometimes art — and even life — can take a different path than we intended, and that's not always a negative thing.

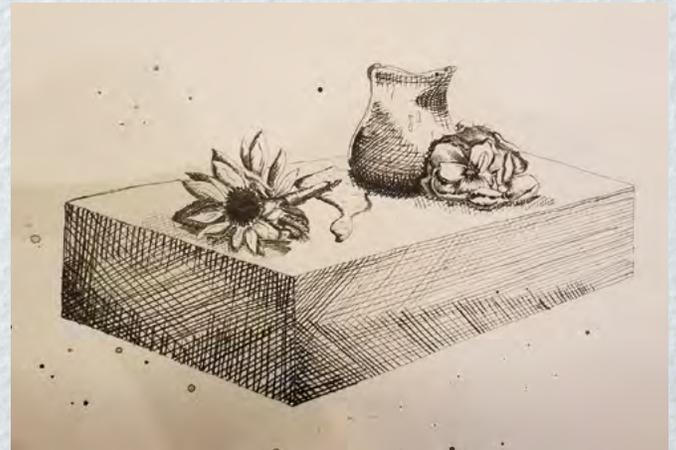
JOYCE KOUAMI '22

”

PIECES BY JOYCE KOUAMI



Always Cactus, Never Cacti



Creation Explosion

“I'm a perfectionist,” Kouami says, “so when Ms. Corina asks me to sketch out what I want a final project to look like, I put a lot of time into the sketch. I used to become furious with myself when a project would take a different path than the one I'd planned. But Ms. Corina has taught me that sometimes art — and even life — can take a different path than we intended, and that's not always a negative thing.”

Another of Ms. Corina's students, **Tianyi Huang '21** from Shenzhen, China, says that while she has always enjoyed drawing, her skills have improved under Ms. Corina's instruction.

“I now know how to make things proportionate and the right shape, and how to create volume using shadows,” Huang says.

“Before I took Ms. Corina's class, I drew for fun,” says **Mackenzie Zeytoonjian '21**, a day student from Farmington. “But now I am definitely interested in pursuing visual art as a career. I have become more inspired to do what I love because of the acceptance I feel in art class.”



Ms. Corina works with Hester Li '19 during one of her classes.

PIECES BY TIANYI HUANG '21



that town (2)



that town (1)

Tianyi Huang '21 works on a pastel drawing during a master class by pastelist Karen Israel. Ms. Israel was on campus presenting special workshops and master classes leading up to an opening of her work in the Constance Lavino Bell Library.

“

I now know how to make things proportionate and the right shape, and how to create volume using shadows.

TIANYI HUANG '21

”



Regardless of the career choices Ms. Corina's students will make, all of them currently benefit from her instruction in the principles of art appreciation.

“In anything you do in life — whether it's your career or something else — if you want to succeed, you have to learn how to see and how to fill yourself with wonder,” Ms. Corina says.

It's that sense of wonder that she hopes to generate through her artwork. Each of her mixed-media designs is made using a variety of materials, such as recycled paper, wax and natural inks. This artful amalgamation is characteristic of her attitude toward education, too. She enjoys collaborating with other teachers and is particularly keen to ensure that the arts play a role in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education.

“It's the combination of having both art and science together that makes knowledge sink in better and helps students to see things with a different eye,” she says.

In 2017, she and Walker's Middle School science and math teacher Julie Greshin helped students participate in the i2i (Inspiration to Innovation) Challenge, sponsored by the Talcott Mountain Science Center and the New Britain Museum of American Art. Every year, this challenge invites students to marry science and art in a unique visual display. Winners from last year's event included Walker's students **Lilia Gooch '24**, **Grace Sappington '24** and **Chloe Fares '24**. Ms. Corina plans to help students this year, too.

Last year, during Spring Break, Ms. Corina traveled to the Dominican Republic with several Walker's students and faculty members to offer their services to the Mariposa Foundation. Ms. Corina shared her talents with the organization by creating colorful signs for the foundation's chicken coop and permaculture garden.

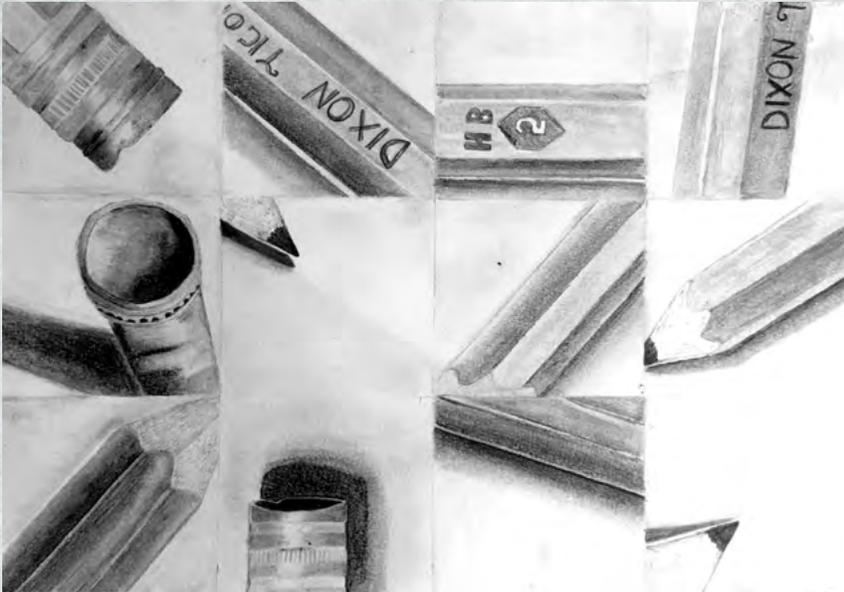
A truly special program in which Ms. Corina has been involved is the *Horizons at The Ethel Walker School* program. Last summer, she helped first-graders from Hartford develop their fine motor skills as well as learn complex art skills. Ultimately, the

children were able to present their artwork to each other in a peer critique session.

As Ms. Corina says, "It's never too early to teach art appreciation." ■

Learn more about Ms. Corina on her website (justcorina.com), on Facebook ([Corina S. Alvarezdelugo](https://www.facebook.com/Corina.S.Alvarezdelugo)), on Twitter ([@corinadotdash](https://twitter.com/corinadotdash), [#corinadotdash](https://twitter.com/corinadotdash)) and on Instagram ([@justcorina_studio](https://www.instagram.com/justcorina_studio), [#justcorina](https://www.instagram.com/justcorina), [#CorinaStudio](https://www.instagram.com/CorinaStudio), [#corinasalvarezdelugo](https://www.instagram.com/corinasalvarezdelugo)).

PIECES BY MACKENZIE ZEYTOOJIAN '21



Hexagon



Self Portrait

“

I have become more inspired to do what I love because of the acceptance I feel in art class.

MACKENZIE ZEYTOOJIAN '21

”



Mackenzie Zeytoojian '21 works on a project during Ms. Corina's drawing class.



J. Steven Manolis and Trustee Myrthia N. Moore '79 at Steven's studio, Manolis Projects Art Gallery, in Miami, FL.

An Eye for the Colorful: An Alumna and an Artist Make their Mark on The Ethel Walker School

BY KIM HARRIS THACKER P'24

When a new student arrives at The Ethel Walker School, she can expect to be assigned to one of the School's two spirit clubs: the Suns or the Dials. Suns generally show their school spirit by wearing yellow or other warm colors; Dials wear purple and other cool hues. Despite a good-natured rivalry between the clubs, members are united in their desire to create a tight-knit community at Walker's. This emphasis on unity is captured symbolically in several large paintings that Miami-based artist J. Steven Manolis recently donated to Walker's.

Manolis, who began his career at Salomon Brothers in 1973 and became its youngest general partner in 1980, worked in investment banking including at his own firm until 2014 when he retired to paint full time. He first learned of The Ethel Walker School through his wife, alumna — and Dial — **Myrthia N. Moore '79**. Walker's Board Chair **Kit O'Brien Rohn '82**, Director of Advancement Gretchen Orschiedt and Director of Alumnae Relations Marion Paterson P'17, '19 visited with Moore in Miami on their way back from Walker's Panama event last spring. Moore was enthusiastic to reconnect with Walker's after so many years.

Fast forward to the Fall of 2018 when Head of School Meera Viswanathan connected with Manolis and Moore, who live and work in Miami — Manolis as a professional artist and the owner of Manolis Projects Art Gallery and Moore as the owner of

Charter Financial and Insurance Group, Inc., as the managing director of her husband's art gallery, and as a relationship coach. Viswanathan explained her vision for the School and its students to the busy couple, and both Manolis and Moore felt that this vision aligned perfectly with their own values regarding women's education.

"We're not people who typically follow other people, but we really drank the Meera Kool-Aid," Moore jokes. "We completely agree with her vision."

As well as convincing Manolis and Moore to renew their interest in Walker's, Viswanathan asked Moore to join the School's Board of Trustees. Moore was happy to do so, and a short time later, she and her husband made a trip north to visit the Simsbury campus. For Moore, the trip brought back many memories.

"When I was at Walker's, I learned how to learn," she says. "My parents always supported me in everything I did, and I found that continued support at Walker's, too. For example, I was interested in studying the writing styles of several authors, and one of my English teachers encouraged, supported and advised me as I set up an independent study of the authors. I was always encouraged to seek out learning opportunities and to listen to all sides of a story."

Upon touring Walker's, the couple observed locations that they felt would benefit from artwork. In gratitude for the School's

“
Painting purple and yellow together was a challenge, because they're on opposite ends of the color spectrum; but he wanted to show that Suns and Dials are in unity and that the School is unified in a common goal.”

MYRTHIA N. MOORE 79

role in his wife's education, Manolis decided to donate seven original paintings to the School.

"He painted these pieces specifically for Walker's," Moore says. "Painting purple and yellow together was a challenge, because they're on opposite ends of the color spectrum; but he wanted to show that Suns and Dials are in unity and that the School is unified in a common goal."

"I did five works that are representative of Suns and Dials," Manolis explains. "There's one Sun, one Dial, and three Suns and Dials shown together. On each painting, I communicated at the bottom, 'Suns and Dials, Ethel Walker Forever.' I painted two vertical lines inside a circle, which stands for 1911, when the School was established, and next to that — and I took some artistic license with

this — I painted an infinity sign made from two circles, which I think is visually more attractive than the usual infinity sign."

Manolis' paintings are rife with symbolism. In addition to the circles and vertical lines that represent the date of Walker's establishment, each painting bears a horizontal line that branches out into more lines. This represents the growth and the maturity that comes at different phases of a person's life — their "track of life."

"With my paintings, I have implicit messaging," Manolis says. "But once you decode my symbols, it's pretty tangible."



A painting by artist J. Steven Manolis displayed in the Head's office.

I use a lot of concentrics, which stand for a social focus and non-discrimination. That's my most important message."

Moore has spent a considerable amount of time studying religious symbology, among other topics in which she has an interest. She explains that the symbols in Manolis' paintings are power symbols that communicate strength and confidence to those who view them.

"Steve's paintings explore different layers and dimensions, and he intertwines them in a way that is like string theory: Multiple dimensions exist at once," Moore says.

One of the dimensions of Manolis' work is its beauty.

"I love beauty. I think the natural state is one of beauty," Manolis says. "But beauty is the last thing you want to paint in today's world, if you want to get on a trend."

Trendiness isn't Manolis' goal; yet there are many art critics and buyers who appreciate his love of beauty. It's this love of beauty that led Manolis to create his artist's statement — "I paint meaning with beauty, emotion and energy!"

Color, too, is characteristic of all of Manolis' paintings. A 5-foot by 8-foot painting that hangs on the wall in the Head of School's outer office is utterly covered in concentric circles and brilliant lines, all rendered in a combination of warm and cool colors.

"There is so much that is said through the colors and symbols in these paintings," says Viswanathan. "The colors represent Suns and Dials; the symbols speak of education, family, unity, personal growth and history."

The largest of the School's new paintings — a 9- by 24-foot work from the artist's 'Redworld' series — hangs in Abra's Dining Hall.

"Many of the students eat in the dining hall three times a day," Manolis says. "I wanted my 'Redworld' painting there, because I wanted it to have the maximum positive, inspirational effect that it could have on the students."

The "Redworld" series came about as the result of a poem of the same name that Manolis wrote in early 2015.

"It expresses my philosophy on life: full-on, all-in," he says. "After I wrote it, I decided I wanted to paint a series of paintings that illustrate — that communicate through color — that philosophy, too. And I wanted to paint what I felt, not what I saw."

This notion, to paint what one feels rather than what one sees, defines Abstract Expressionism, which is Manolis' chosen style of painting.

After retiring from the business world at the age of 42, Manolis, who was born, ironically enough, in Vermillion, South Dakota, became a student of well-known abstract painter Wolf Khan, including conducting one-on-one lessons with this world-leading colorist artist. Manolis studied with Khan for 30 years; but where Khan painted in pastels and oils, Manolis chose to paint with watercolors and acrylics.

"He works in layers," Moore explains. "With acrylics, layers can be very transparent, and every color can have a different weight, depending on how much water is added to the paint."

After layering as many as 50 layers of paint on a canvas, Manolis finishes each of his pieces with a brush, engaging in drip, brush, splatter and throwing techniques.

"He's an action painter who ends up with a lot of paint on himself," Moore says. "Watching him paint is like watching a dance. He's interacting with the painting, intellectually and physically. Intellectually, through the weight of the paint and water and where he places everything; physically, through the randomness of each throw. He makes sure the painting is balanced and has movement, but he wants to also achieve beauty. Really, his paintings inspire communication at many levels."

Communication is at the foundation of Manolis' art, and it's his goal to communicate positive messages, through his artwork, to the students of The Ethel Walker School. When Manolis and Moore visited the School, he told the students that they are the leaders of tomorrow, and that they should follow their passion and make a commitment to themselves and to their vision. In other words, everything they do should be "Redworld" style: Full-on and all-in. ■

REDWORLD

BY J. STEVEN MANOLIS

A coveted place in your mind
That expands to become your
physical universe

FULL-ON; ALL-IN!

No woulda/coulda/shoulda
Intense and prideful FOCUS
Go for it!

Don't be afraid of failure...
Experiment and learn from
Your mistakes!

Don't make the same mistake twice!
Feel the glow of accomplishment
Have passion, Passion, PASSION

In life, for life!

EXPERIENCE ULTIMATE PASSION!

In all its earthly dimensions

Feel the exuberance of full happiness

Loyalty, dedication, kindness, altruism

Share it with others

Live and exalt in the HALO!

A most contagious HALO

that REDWORLD!

Respect and have tolerance for all,

All the time!

Be an advocate and role model

Take ownership

Of your life

In its fullest

REDWORLD decree:

Serene bliss, jubilant jubilation!

REDWORLD karma

I feel it, I paint it!

I try to live it too!

You should too!

FULL-ON; ALL-IN!

Redworld





Christy Johnson P'21, Gretchen Johnson GP'21, and Sarah Gates Colley '75



Pamela Stafford '81, Myrthia Moore '79 and Rocio Pellerano '82



Nina de la Sierra Murphy '83 and Board Chair Kit O'Brien Rohn '82



Carolyn Espasas Murphy '89 and her mother, Mary Jo Espasas P'89

ALUMNA AND ARTIST HOST WALKER'S BENEFIT EVENT AT MIAMI STUDIO

On December 7, 2018, Myrthia Moore '79 and her husband, artist J. Steven Manolis, hosted an art show and reception to benefit The Ethel Walker School. The gathering, which was held at Manolis' Miami art studio, Manolis Project Art Gallery, was part of the Art Basel and Art Miami international art fairs in Miami Beach. Guests to the Manolis Projects reception came from all over the world and included artists, art collectors and alumni of The Ethel Walker School. Special guest speakers were Head of School Meera Viswanathan and world-renowned art critic Bruce Helander.

"We were so happy to host this event, which had a tremendous turnout of Walker's alumni from Florida, Latin America and all over," says Manolis. "It was a good time to see old friends and meet new acquaintances."

In keeping with the generosity that Manolis and Moore have shown to Walker's, the couple offered to donate 20% of all art sales to the School.



Artist J. Steven Manolis makes comments during Walker's Art Basel event at Steven's studio in Miami Beach, FL. Looking on is special guest Bruce Helander, former provost and vice president of academic affairs at the Rhode Island School of Design. Helander provided art commentary about some of the work during the event.

New Faculty and Staff

Suzanne Buenaventura DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL ENROLLMENT

Prior to joining Walker's, Suzanne enjoyed a thirteen-year career at Avon Old Farms School. She brings a proven level of experience and enviable record of achievement in student recruitment. As a well-travelled admission professional in Asia and Southeast Asia, Europe, South and Central America, and the Caribbean, Suzanne is poised to continue her professional relationships with families, schools and consultants. "Single sex education, uniquely, allows for development of the whole person. I look forward to expanding that opportunity for young women all over the globe, and to further enriching the Walker's community by increasing diversity of perspectives, experiences, and countries represented," explains Suzanne. Eager to undertake a senior level role in international and domestic student recruitment, she is also acting as a student advisor and international parent liaison. In addition to being a firm believer in single sex education as an admission professional, all four of her children attended single sex independent high schools.



Kati Eggert AQUATICS DIRECTOR/SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR

Kati comes to us from Westover School where she was the swim coach and assistant athletic director. She joined Westover in 2011 where she was instrumental in maintaining the School's social media websites, leading the swim team to the School's first Connecticut Independent School Athletic Conference (CISAC) championship in 2017. She also coached field hockey and softball, and worked in the dorm. Prior to her tenure at Westover, she was a three-sport varsity athlete at Drew University which included field hockey, softball and swimming. While at Drew she earned All Academic Conference recognition, served as captain to the swim team and medaled in multiple Landmark Conference Championships. She earned her B.A. in Art and Secondary Education from Drew and her Master of Science in Sports Management from Southern New Hampshire University.



Leila Cancellieri LIBRARY ASSISTANT

Leila joins Walker's on a part-time basis from the Manchester Public Library where she works part time and was formerly a librarian in the children's area. Leila holds a Masters in Library Science from Southern Connecticut State University and a Bachelor of Science from the University of Connecticut.



Bertha Entsil CAMPUS STORE MANAGER

Bertha Entsil is a new Connecticut resident coming most recently from California and Ghana, West Africa. While a college student in California, Bertha worked as an orientation leader, a mentor, and a desk assistant. Her proudest moment during her time there was becoming a resident advisor assisting 40 students throughout the school year. Currently Bertha attends Central Connecticut State University where she is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Biology with a minor in Psychology.



Jade Dennett ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE COUNSELING

Jade comes to Walker's from Skidmore College where she served as the assistant director of admissions for three years. In addition to representing Skidmore at school visits and college fairs in the southwest and mid-Atlantic, Jade served on several admission committees, including the Filene music scholarship, the London experience program, diversity and athletics. Her assigned application reading load at Skidmore included Walker's so she was drawn to our school, in part, because of the academic strength and personal qualities she saw in our applicants. Jade graduated from Colgate University with a major in sociology and a minor in Writing and Rhetoric. A four-year field hockey player for their Division I program, Jade also served as an intern in the Athletic Communications Department, and worked as an admission ambassador in the Colgate Admissions Office.



Noël Grisanti LATIN TEACHER

A magna cum laude graduate of Amherst College with a B.A. in Classics, Noël comes to Walker's from Phillips Exeter Academy where she was a Latin teaching intern. While at Exeter, Noël advised the Exonians Against Sexual Assault group, coached basketball and served as resident dorm faculty. She has a long-standing commitment to volunteering and worked in India teaching English, preschool and in an afternoon program. While in college she was the co-director for Peer Advocates for Sexual Respect where she directed a team of 16 peer educators in organizing on-campus programming regarding sexual respect and healthy relationships.



Brigitte Leschhorn ENGLISH TEACHER

Brigitte taught Upper School English for eight years at Mary Institute and St. Louis Country Day School. During her tenure, she designed curricula that purposely incorporated diverse narratives with robust reading, writing and media literacy to develop critical and knowledgeable global citizens. She also advised students, mentored teachers and worked on creating a more equitable school culture. Brigitte earned a B.A. in English Literature from Washington University in St. Louis and her M.F.A. in Creative Writing from the University of Missouri. She is a published writer.



Daniele Ness MATH TEACHER AND ROBOTICS PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Daniele moved to Simsbury with her husband and three daughters from Maryland where she was teaching middle and upper school math. Daniele has a passion for math and has eight years of teaching experience in Texas and Maryland. She earned her B.S. in Civil Engineering from The University of Texas and worked as an engineer prior to becoming a math teacher. As a civil engineer, she was a consultant for a structural engineering firm designing foundations and rectifying foundation failures in commercial businesses and residences. She also was an engineer for the city of Houston, where she was responsible for coordinating utility relocations for highway expansions. She is excited about combining her love of math and her interest in engineering here at Walker's.



Margaret "Pia" Pagano SPANISH TEACHER

Pia joins us from the Simsbury School District where she was the supervisor of the World Languages program and she also taught Spanish and French. She has a B.A. from the University of St. Joseph, a Master's in Bilingual Education from the University of Connecticut and a Master's in Education Administration from Central Connecticut State University. Pia currently holds a Professional Educators Certificate.



Amy Paul P'16, '18 ADMISSION ASSOCIATE

Amy received her Bachelor of Arts from Syracuse University and her Juris Doctor from Boston University. She worked as an attorney in a general practice in Hartford for several years before taking a position as a full-time parent caring for her three children. She is committed to volunteering in her community, and serves as co-board chair of *Horizons at The Ethel Walker School*, is involved in local politics, and serves on a mental health board. Amy was the president of The Ethel Walker School Parent Association and served on the School's board of trustees when her daughters, Georgia '16 and Holly '18, were students at Walker's. Her work in the admission office has been a seamless transition due to her deep affection for Walker's and her involvement over the years. Amy lives in Avon with her family.



Rebecca Rojano SPANISH TEACHER

Rebecca joined Walker's from The Master's School in West Simsbury where she was a middle and high school Spanish teacher. While at Master's, Rebecca designed curriculum, taught a wide range of classes, was the faculty leader for student government and coordinated the Human Trafficking Awareness Club. Previously, Rebecca taught Spanish at the Enrico Fermi High School in Enfield, CT. A magna cum laude graduate of Keene State College with a dual degree in Secondary Education and Spanish, Rebecca studied abroad in Spain; Managua, Nicaragua; and Atenas, Costa Rica.



Laila Samy COLLEGE COUNSELING/ACADEMIC SUPPORT COORDINATOR AND SQUASH COACH

Laila joins us from Wesleyan University where she graduated with a B.A. in Psychology with a minor in Data Analysis. While a student at Wesleyan, Laila was a four-year member of the squash team. While at Wesleyan, Laila worked as a teaching assistant in the Data Science department and coordinated the tutors for the Wesleyan University Middle School Tutoring Partnership. As a squash player, she was the number one player on the team and graduated as the #4 ranked player in the United States in college squash. She was awarded the Betty Richey Award which is given to the women's college squash player who best exemplifies the ideals of squash, a strong sense of fairness and excellence in play and leadership. Laila was named as a first-team All-American three times, and was the New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) Player of the Year. Originally from Cairo, Egypt, Laila attended Westminster School in Simsbury.



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of Patagonia, Champion, Boathouse
and Under Armour apparel.

Visit www.ethelwalker.org/store
for online ordering and campus
store hours.

Karl Schwoerke MATH TEACHER

Karl comes to Walker's from the Wooster School in Danbury, CT where he taught Geometry, Algebra II and high level statistics in addition to coaching. Prior, he taught every level of math and economics at the Chase Collegiate School in Waterbury, CT. Karl is a dedicated coach of soccer, basketball and ultimate frisbee and his teams have won many championships. Karl holds a B.A. from Hartwick College.



Dr. David Thacker ENGLISH TEACHER AND DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Dave comes to Walker's from Florida State University where he completed his Ph.D. in Creative Writing and taught English. He enjoyed teaching for the past 11 years at the university level but is thrilled to be at Walker's where he can spend more time focusing on teaching and getting to know his students. A published poet, Dave earned a B.S. in English, summa cum laude from Weber State University, and an M.F.A. in Creative Writing from The University of Idaho. Dave is passionate about community partnerships and is directing our community partnerships program.



Faculty and Staff News and Appointments

Arts Faculty member **Corina Alvarezdeluo** was invited to participate in a juried exhibition, "Harvest Hauntings," at the Arts Center in Vernon, CT. She also was invited to exhibit her work, along with new media artist Balam Soto, in "AMERICANA 1, Rethinking who and what it means to be American" at the Windsor (CT) Art Center in the fall. Corina and Balam presented a panel discussion on "I am America: Bridging Cultures with Art" in early November.

Director of Social Justice and Inclusion **Elisa Cardona** has been named to the Connecticut Association of Independent Schools (CAIS) Commission on Diversity (CODIS). CODIS "exists to inspire a wide spectrum of individuals in the effort to make our school communities rich in the experience of human differences." Last spring, Elisa attended the Kingswood Oxford Leadership Institute for Educators of Color.

Athletic Director **John Monagan** joined the host committee for the Aurora Women and Girls Foundation's 100 Men Campaign. The Aurora Women and Girls Foundation was "formed to serve as a catalyst for change in the lives of women and girls in Greater Hartford, with the intended effect of unlocking the potential of the families and surrounding communities." The organization engages in research, education and grant-making.

Isabel Ceballos, Spanish faculty member and executive director of Horizons at The Ethel Walker School, is a member of the Aurora Women and Girls Foundation Board of Directors.



Horizons at The Ethel Walker School Executive Director and Aurora Board Member Isabel Ceballos, Aurora Executive Director Jennifer Steadman and Walker's Athletic Director John Monagan at the Aurora Women and Girls Foundation's 100 Men Campaign.

Lee-Ann Harris P'13 Awarded the Anastasia Payne Rooke '48 Chair in Science, Math, and Technology

In recognition of her distinguished performance in the classroom and for her contributions to the life of the School, Math Faculty and Middle School Director **Lee-Ann Harris P'13** was awarded the Anastasia Payne Rooke '48 Chair in Science, Math, and Technology.

Harris was recognized for her excellence in teaching, selfless collaboration, leadership and commitment to girls' education in mathematics. "Lee-Ann is an excellent math teacher," said a colleague. "Her students appreciate her clear expectations and creative approaches to learning math. She has served as a steady and dependable director of the Middle School. Lee-Ann's contributions to the School are often behind the scenes: assistant coaching, wrangling Suns and Dials, running an amazing Centennial celebration. We are lucky to have her."

The Chair is awarded for a three-year term and was established at The Ethel Walker School in 1998 by Will and Stacie Rooke under the auspices of the Withington Foundation. It serves as a tangible representation of the School's recognition of the importance of providing the highest quality education for young women in science, math, and technology and to acknowledge in a profound way Stacie Rooke's passionate regard for the value of a Walker's education for young women.

"Lee-Ann is an excellent math teacher," said a colleague. "Her students appreciate her clear expectations and creative approaches to learning math."



Anastasia Payne Rooke '48 Chair in Science, Math, and Technology Lee-Ann Harris P'13



Web Presence Manager **Tyler Varsell** created this digital collage illustration for *The New York Times* "Climate Fwd:" January 2 newsletter for an article about lowering one's personal contribution to global warming by consuming less. View more of Tyler's work at www.tylervarsell.com.

Summer Professional Development for Faculty and Staff

Last summer, our faculty and staff were able to expand their professional knowledge and benefit from professional development opportunities supported in part by gifts to our endowed funds.

- Computer Science Teacher **Leslie Goff** attended a spatial reasoning class at WHERE.
- Assistant Athletic Director **Mimi Duran P'18** earned a USA Field Hockey Level II certification.
- Art Teacher **Corina Alvarezdelugo** attended a conference on encaustic art which is a technique using heated beeswax and color pigments to create paintings.
- Director of Counseling and Wellness **Joan Skelley** attended the Mindful Schools: Managing Difficult Emotions Through Meditation conference.
- Institutional advancement staff, including Gift Processor **Princess Hyatt**, Director of Alumnae Relations **Marion Paterson** and Grants and Foundations Officer **Kim Pereira** attended the annual CASE conference for independent schools.
- World Languages Department Chair **Chris Semk** attended the national Teaching Proficiency Through Reading and Storytelling language conference.

In August, Walker's welcomed educators from throughout the state and region for **Edcamp Connecticut**, a day of teacher-driven professional development. Educators and school leaders from across the state joined one another in diverse conversations about teaching, learning, and ways that teachers can best serve today's students. In 2011, Walker's was the first school in the state to embrace the edcamp movement, which has since grown to include nearly 2,000 events worldwide. Walker's Dean of Academic Technology and Innovation **Sarah Edson** is a member of the organizing committee.

Educators from across Connecticut work with each other during the eighth annual event at Walker's.



In November 2018, Advancement Services Manager **Genie Lomba P'13, '16, '18** traveled to the islands of Santiago and Maio in Cabo Verde to install playgrounds number six and seven with members of the Cabo Verdeans United (CVU), a non-profit organization committed to the development of the children of Cabo Verde, Africa through the promotion of play and education. The group works in partnership with local governments and communities to complete the playground projects. Genie, who is president and co-founder of CVU, was joined by her husband,

John, and their daughter, **Jacinta '13**, on the trip. Daughters **Sara '16**, and **Sofia '18** also support the organization's activities through annual fundraising efforts and previous playground builds.

Since CVU's inception in 2001, CVU has raised funds to purchase, install, and inaugurate a playground in seven of the nine inhabited islands of Cabo Verde as part of its "Project Sandbox" initiative. To learn more about CVU or to support this cause, please visit www.caboverdeansunited.org.

John and Genie Lomba P'13, '16, '18 (left and center) are joined by their daughter, Jacinta '13 (second from left) and board members of Cabo Verdeans United on a playground build in Cabo Verde in November 2018.



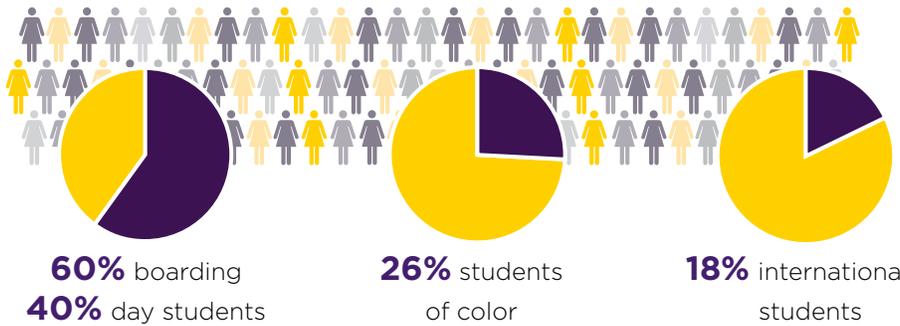
Quick Facts 2018-2019

(AS OF OPENING DAY 2018)

STUDENT BODY

$$201 \text{ Upper School} + 36 \text{ Middle School} = 237 \text{ Total enrollment}$$

Grades 9-12, plus postgraduate in the Upper School, Boarding and Day
Grades 6-8 in the Middle School, Day



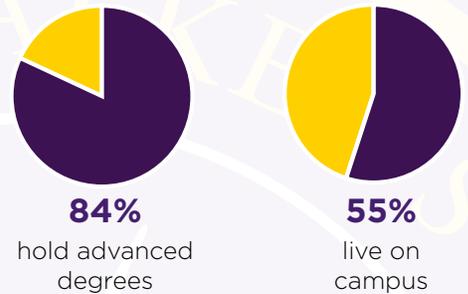
7:1
student:faculty ratio

12
average class size

ADVANCED COURSE OFFERINGS:

- Biology
- Physics
- Calculus 1
- Calculus 2
- Computer Science
- English 12: Literature and Medicine
- Advanced Topics in U.S. History
- Economics
- Human Geography
- Plautus and Terence: Roman Comedy
- Catullus, Ovid and Virgil: The Lasting Influence of Mythology in Art and Literature
- Virgil's Aeneid
- Cicero
- Spanish
- Mandarin: Independent Study
- Psychology

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Teaching Faculty



ATHLETICS

Walker's is a member of The Founders League — 13 interscholastic sports teams

Centennial Center — 62,000 sq. ft.; offers 8-lane swimming pool, 4 squash courts, 3 volleyball courts, 2 basketball courts, 2 dance studios, fitness room, health and wellness center, and social spaces

More than 3.5 acres of turf fields

Nationally-recognized equestrian program with newly renovated facility on campus

EQUESTRIAN PROGRAM

- 45 Horses in the barn
- 23 School-owned horses
- 36 Riders/Season (avg.)
- Compete in an average of 18 shows per season
- 275 ribbons won during a school year (avg.)
- 13 Upper School riders on the IEA Team
- 5 Middle School riders on the IEA Team
- Compete in an average of 18 shows per season including The Winter Equestrian Festival in Wellington, FL

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

Ceramics • Drawing • Painting • Graphic Publication
Photography a capella groups • Bell Choir • Orchestra
Gospel Choir • Rock Band • Choir • Dance Workshop
Dance Ensemble • Winter Play • Spring Musical

CLUBS

More than 25 clubs including: Amnesty International, Justice League, African Drumming and Multicultural Society



CT WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME CELEBRATES WOMEN IN THE ARTS

Students, administrators and alumnae celebrated women in the arts at the Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame's annual dinner. Seated: Emma Simon '89, Head of School Meera Viswanathan, Isabella Manganello '19, Annie Sherbacow '19, Nancy Wheeler, Senior Vice President, Executive Director Investor Relations at MetroHartford Alliance, and Mariela D'Alessandro '19. Standing: Associate Head of School Amy Wheeler, Arts Department Chair Cheri Soule, Rebecca Castellani '09, Liss Couch-Edwards '07 and Director of Alumnae Relations Marion Paterson P'17, '19.

Poetry Assembly 2018: Translation, Movement, Change

The English and Arts Departments joined forces to showcase an inspiring conversation between poetry and dance. The poems presented were written by women during the time when Ethel Walker was founding our School, an era that was one of turmoil for women, much like our current moment. In addition to the poetry and dance pairings, poems were also read in other languages, including Chinese, Hungarian, Arabic and Japanese, then translated into English. Translation — from one language to another, from one medium to another, or from one era to another — can be a vehicle for more full expression and a liberating power.



Fiona Mucaj '21 and Emma Paterson '19



Ruoyi Jin '19 and Hazel Wang '19



Talia Gordon-Wexler '23 and Mackenzie Donelson '25



Nerissa Griffiths '19 and Kristen St. Louis '21

Noted Shakespeare Scholar Visits Campus

“Walker’s students were so very fortunate to spend the day with Shakespeare Scholar, Ben Crystal and his assistant, producer/actor Andrew Codispoti. They showed us the exciting and wonderful ways we might be reading and performing our most beloved four-hundred-year-old texts. Ben has acted in innumerable Shakespeare plays all over the world and specializes in the original pronunciation of the lines. He has brought thousands of young people to the joys of this work and has written a terrific guide to reading Shakespeare. Ben’s sessions on *Twelfth Night*, *Hamlet*, *The Tempest* and *Romeo and Juliet*, showed many of our students what is so special about what they are reading in English class. With warmth, humor, drama and flair, Ben and Andrew reminded us of why we still perform and watch the plays and read the sonnets, why they matter so much now, and what they have to tell us about who we truly are. To hold ‘the mirror up to nature’ is the goal of all good theater; what a treat for us to learn how to do just that!”
 - English Department Chair Catherine Reed

Ben Crystal is an English actor, author, producer, and explorer of original practices in Shakespeare rehearsal and production. He was the co-writer of *Shakespeare’s Words* (Penguin 2002) and *The Shakespeare Miscellany* (Penguin 2005) with his father, David Crystal. His first solo book, *Shakespeare on Toast – Getting a Taste for the Bard* (Icon 2008), was shortlisted for the 2010 Educational Writer of the Year Award.

To learn more, visit www.bencrystal.com.



Ben Crystal works with members of the seventh grade English class.



Ben Crystal works alongside Chloe Miller '19 during Dr. David Thacker's Shakespeare class where the group discussed *Hamlet*.

Hooray Sunray ...

...to **Kristen St. Louis '21** who was selected as one of three finalists in the Powerful Voices category in the 2018 Yes! National Student Writing Competition for her piece “Wipe Your Tears.” The following excerpt from Kristin’s submission was selected to appear in the Literary Gems section of the *Yes! Magazine* website: “So, muneca, cry. Cry for the limitations the world will throw at you each and every day. Sob for the hardships you will face. But muneca, once you have cleared your tears away, lift your head up and look at the horizon. A new day dawns, and when it does, your future will be brighter than the sun.”



Kristen St. Louis '21



Reagan Kerecz '20

Junior Jock Athlete

Every spring, the Walker's athletic community has the chance to pass down the title of "Junior Jock" to a sophomore (or rising junior) that loves her teams, plays hard and has athletics as an important part of her life. The 2018 Junior Jock is **Reagan Kerecz '20**, a member of the varsity soccer, basketball and softball teams. At a presentation during morning meeting, **Mia Farnella '18** presented Reagan with a helmet as a symbol of the honor. The helmet has the signatures of several generations of Walker's girls who earned the Junior Jock title.



Middle School Opens Create Space

In the spring of 2018, a need was identified in the Middle School for the girls to have a dedicated space to explore their own interests outside of the classroom as well as work on school projects. The goal was to create a space in the Middle School to encourage and support a make, create and build culture while also fostering collaboration and communication amongst peers. With some planning and vision, office space was redesigned and outfitted with open work surfaces and stocked with myriad raw materials ranging from circuits to looms.

Diwali Celebration

The World Religions class held a Diwali celebration on November 7 including a delicious meal in Abra's. Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights, is celebrated every autumn in the northern hemisphere and symbolizes the spiritual victory of light over darkness, good over evil and knowledge over ignorance.

Students enjoy a special meal in Abra's in celebration of Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights.



A plateau de fromages was offered to the community in celebration of National French Week.

Bon Appetit!

The French Club club worked with Abra's staff to present a French-inspired menu in celebration of National French Week (November 1-7). The menu included bœuf bourguignon, cauliflower gratin, salade niçoise, ratatouille, and onion soup. The French Club, led by Quincy Maynard '19 and Liv Charman '19, put together a plateau de fromages featuring seven different cheeses from France. The cheeses (even the bleu!) went fast...our girls know how to savor good cheese!

Nutritionist Meets with Student Athletes and Dancers

Local dietician and nutritionist Allison Giguere met with student athletes and dancers to talk about the importance of eating balanced meals and how it helps with performance in classes and athletics, and the importance of good nutrition for your overall health. She answered questions specifically pertaining to the options available in our dining hall, or the snack options available in vending machines or in Diddle's.



Nutritionist Allison Giguere



Family Weekend: None but Golden Hours

BY KIM HARRIS THACKER P'24

Blustering winds and the heavy rain of the season's first nor'easter did nothing to dampen the spirits of those who participated in Walker's 2018 Family Weekend. In the words of Head of School Dr. Meera Viswanathan, or Ms. Vis as she is known to the students, "Family Weekend gives the families of Walker's

students a snapshot of what the students do at school." Snapshot indeed, as in a matter of two days, families attended all of their student's classes and met for individual conferences with teachers. "Connecting with the parents and seeing the students interacting with their parents is the best thing about Family

Weekend," said Middle School Director Lee-Ann Harris P'13, who also teaches math. During chapel on Saturday, Harris was honored with the Anastasia Payne Rooke '48 Chair which is awarded to an outstanding faculty member in the areas of science, math and technology.

Colleen Magnus P'20, mother of



Quinn, said, “This is a really warm place, but it’s also challenging, which I like. I was an English teacher, and I’ve been so impressed with the quality of teaching here. The academics are serious, but I love that Quinn can also relax.”

Relaxation and fun times were abundant during Family Weekend. Darrell Carrington, who has taught math at Walker’s for 37 years, said, “Parents Weekend is like the Super Bowl to me.

I look forward to it every year.” And really, what could a person look forward to more than a special Halloween Ride that featured a hammerhead shark on horseback or a clubs Bazaar where shoppers purchased edible dirt made by budding gardeners?

It’s true that the weekend’s poor weather prevented the scheduled Tailgate Party and field hockey games, but it worked out well in the end: The volleyball

teams enjoyed an extra-large crowd for their games in the Centennial Center gym.

All in all, the School’s Latin motto, “Nullas Horas Nisi Aureas” — “None but Golden Hours” — perfectly summarizes Family Weekend, which, despite the storm, was absolutely golden.

Family Weekend Keynote Address

REMARKS BY DR. MELISSA BERNARDO
SCIENCE FACULTY

It's amazing how much these girls have accomplished and grown in a little over a month. You see, here at Walker's, we foster growth. And for girls, that's really important, because not all environments provide women with protected space for growth. But on this campus, there are so many premier opportunities. I hope you saw these everywhere. It's in the Horizon's application, and the Cicerone training. It's in the advanced chemistry class, and melding of poetry and dance. It's in the vast number of leadership positions from club heads to team captains. Opportunities for growth are provided through championship games, and robotics competitions. And the value of these opportunities is evident in the way these girls talk, the way they cheer, the way they argue. It's evident in the way they laugh, learn and lead.

Now at this point in the weekend I'm sure you're tired of hearing about how incredible these girls are, so I'll talk about myself for a minute.

As a biologist I constantly measure success in how things grow. In graduate school I was concerned about the growth of very small wasp larvae, about the size of a grain of rice, that lived inside of a caterpillar. The wasps would stay there and feed until they burst from the caterpillar, alien style, and spin cocoons. The growth that I was measuring was very small — just a few milligrams — imagine six grains of salt. But to the wasp, that small amount was significant, allowing it to double its lifespan. Some of you might be thinking, "Dr. B, why are you telling us about your gruesome creepy research?" Well, because 1.) it's close to Halloween, and 2.) because I think it's a great example of how growth is relative because all growth is meaningful. No matter how small.

Growth isn't a fancy idea or a complicated concept that always lies just out of our reach. Instead it's a moment. The moment in class when a student finally derives the equation for projectile motion, or flawlessly recites a poem.

I have seen growth in the student who has participated more in class in a single day this week than in the previous six weeks total.



Dr. Melissa Bernardo, Science Faculty

"Growth isn't a fancy idea or a complicated concept that always lies just out of our reach. Instead it's a moment. The moment in class when a student finally derives the equation for projectile motion, or flawlessly recites a poem."

I have seen growth in the volleyball player who never thought she would serve overhand over the net and has — a dozen times — in a game.

I've seen growth in the courageous Old Girl Show performer, the dedicated proctor, and the passionate peer tutor.

And the reward? The reward is the senior speech that brings an audience to tears, the standing ovation at the Spring Musical, and the smile on that volleyball player's face when that first overhand serve sticks a point. The reward is the roommate who in September is a stranger and by May is a best friend. The reward is a first

publication of which we all know there will be many more.

Even though growth happens in the moment, the rewards are eternal.

And parents, if you're not impressed yet, these girls grew a rainforest! Not to humble brag on behalf of the tropical ecology class, but if you haven't had a chance to see it, go check it out in the Ferguson Lobby. It's awesome.

At Walker's we provide the opportunities, the girls provide all they have, and together we provide the world with the rewards. I hope over these past few days you had the chance to witness the growth in character, in friendships, in courage, and in confidence that I have the privilege to see every day. And I hope you've had a chance to grow here too. Because when we grow, our roots go a little bit deeper. And as a community, our roots are deep."



THIS YEAR, THE RAIN AND FOG DID LITTLE TO DAMPEN THE SPIRITS OF ALL WHO ENJOYED THE HIKE UP TALCOTT MOUNTAIN IN EARLY OCTOBER FOR **Mountain Day**, AN ANNUAL WALKER'S TRADITION. AFTER, FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENTS ENJOYED AN INDOOR PICNIC AND THE CAMARADERIE THAT RESULTS FROM ENJOYING TIME TOGETHER IN ENJOYABLE ACTIVITIES DESPITE THE WEATHER.





Students in Lindsay Hodgman's Visiting Writer Seminar listen to poet Natalie Diaz during their master class with the author.

On Love in Tragedy: Lessons from Natalie Diaz

BY CAROLINE SMITH '19

...she wrote about both love and pain simultaneously to show how humans are capable of experiencing the full scope of emotions, regardless of their situation.

It is not every day that you can meet a MacArthur genius, but on November 2nd the Visiting Writer Seminar class did just that. After studying Natalie Diaz's collection of poems, *When My Brother Was an Aztec*, for two months, we were ready to meet the author. We came to the master class prepared with questions and with open minds.

Sabrina Li '19 noted that, at the start of class, the room was mixed with a feeling of awe and ease because we had, at that point, recognized her brilliance. But we also felt like we had known her for a long time through reading her poetry.

Diaz graciously opened the time up for questions, and we began by asking her about the cover image of her collection.

After several questions about "The Last Mojave Indian Barbie," "Hand-Me-Down Halloween," and "Jimmy Eagle's Hot Cowboy Boots Blues," among others, **Lydia Rifkind '19**, asked Diaz a question that stopped her in her tracks: "Is there anything you want us to know about the book that we haven't asked you?"

This question prompted Diaz to explain how she wrote about both love and pain simultaneously to show how humans are capable of experiencing the full scope of emotions, regardless of their situation. **Shaniece Campbell '19** later reflected that Diaz, through this response, deconstructed "the idea that writers can only write about one singular theme."

This response struck a chord in the room because we had not yet been able to quite pin down how the two themes of love and pain intersected in poems like "Lorca's Red Dresses." However, when Diaz pointed out that even within tragedy, love and possibility can still prosper, it clicked for all of us.



During morning meeting, Visiting Writer Natalie Diaz taught the community how to sing in Mojave. Along with the words, she taught the group hand gestures to go along with the words. Diaz is working with elders to preserve the Mojave language.

Now with the information that Diaz viewed love and pain as separate themes that ran together to reveal something about the human experience, we began to view the collection a little differently. In light of this knowledge, we saw the collection as more of an attempt to express emotions and ask questions rather than to pin down answers that are not there.

Following the visit, Shaneice observed that what many people miss after reading just a few of her poems is that “while Diaz does have a brother who struggles with addiction, her identity is far more than the poems ‘My Brother at 3 A.M.’ and ‘How to Go to Dinner With a Brother On Drugs.’ Natalie Diaz is also the writer of love with her poem ‘I Watch Her Eat The Apple.’” In other words, “her story does not end with her brother’s addiction.”

After discovering the intersection between love and tragedy in Diaz’s poetry, we were excited to learn that in 2020 Diaz will publish a new collection, titled *Post-Colonial Love Poem*, which will shine a light on the love that is often overlooked at first glance in her poems. ■



In addition to making comments at the all-school meeting and presenting master classes to students, Diaz conducted a public reading of her work for members of the Simsbury community where she spent time providing autographed copies of her collection of poems, *When My Brother Was an Aztec*.



On May 10, award-winning poet, essayist, novelist and educator **Naomi Shihab Nye** visited campus as part of The Ethel Walker School Visiting Writer Seminar, a unique course that focuses on living writers who are making an impact on the world with their words.

Learn more in our upcoming Walker’s SunDial Summer Supplement 2019

NAOMI SHIHAB NYE

Award-winning Palestinian-American Poet, Writer, Anthologist, and Educator

www.ethelwalker.org/visitingwriterseminar



Members of the “Women’s Thriller/Suspense Author Panel” gathered at Debby’s House prior to the event at the Simsbury Public Library. Pictured from left: Lea Carpenter, Vera Gibbons ’85, Hank Phillippi Ryan, Wendy Walker ’85, Lynne Constantine and Aimee Molloy.



Lea Carpenter comments as Vera Gibbons ’85 (left) and Wendy Walker ’85 (right) look on at the suspense/thriller panel at the Simsbury Public Library.

Alumnae Author Panel at Simsbury Public Library

The Friends of the Simsbury Public Library were delighted to host five award-winning, critically-acclaimed and best-selling authors for a discussion of their suspense and thriller novels. **Wendy Walker ’85** spoke about her book, *Emma In the Night*, and Lea Carpenter, daughter of **Carroll B. (Morgan) Carpenter ’59, P’68**, about her novel *Red, White, Blue*. **Vera Gibbons ’85**, founder of www.nonpoliticalnews.com, was moderator. In addition to the gathering at Simsbury Library, Wendy and Vera visited with English classes to talk about their writing.



Idabelle Paterson ’17

Harvard Student Works on Reproduction of Dream Stela

Freshman **Idabelle Paterson ’17** was featured in a video on a project for the Harvard Semitic Museum. According to an article in the *Harvard Gazette*, “Between the paws of the six-story Great Sphinx in Giza, a slab of hieroglyphs tells the story of how King Thutmose IV dreamed of his destiny. The eight-foot Dream Stela was erected in 1401 B.C., 1,000 years after the Great Sphinx.” Age has left the bottom third of the text unreadable. Under the leadership of assistant curator Adam Aja, Idabelle and other Harvard students created a reproduction of the Dream Stela using a cast that dates to the 1840s.

Carolina Alvarez-Mathies ’06 Named a Leadership Fellow

Congratulations to **Carolina Alvarez-Mathies ’06** who was appointed to the fourteenth class of the The Central America Leadership Initiative (CALI) and a member of the Aspen Global Leadership Network. Four leaders have been appointed from each of Central America’s six countries; Carolina represents El Salvador. Through the Aspen Institute, members spend two years exploring leadership, core values, desired legacies and vision for the region, taking action by launching a leadership venture that will have a positive impact on society.



Carolina Alvarez-Mathies ’06

Walker's Women Making a Difference in Chicago

Abra Prentice Wilkin '60, Holly Legler Cortes '91 and Elizabeth Borland Blodgett '91 teamed up to organize a fundraiser through the Woman's Board of Northwestern Memorial Hospital (Chicago). According to press reports prior to the event, "[the] funds raised at the event support the Evergreen Invitational Grants Initiative, providing much-needed (and historically underfunded) programs to benefit low-income women, infants and girls. These grants have provided \$4.3 million to 82 initiatives that advance the patient-centered mission and improve health outcomes for women of all ages." Joining them at the event were other Walker's women including Vera Gibbons '85, Gaby Porta Beecher '91, and Donya Nagib Soriano '90.



Holly Legler Cortes '91, Vera Gibbons '85, Gaby Porta Beecher '91, Abra Prentice Wilkin '60, Donya Nagib Soriano '90, and Elizabeth Borland Blodgett '91 at A Night Under the Big Top in Chicago

Walker's Women in Science



Caitlin Moss '09, Tori Saferin '04 and Michelle Sexton '11

In the spring, Walker's Science Department hosted an "Walker's Women in Science" panel including Caitlin Moss '09, Tori Saferin '04 and Michelle Sexton '11. The women met with students and shared comments about their academic experience in college and their careers. Caitlin worked for two years as a research associate at the UMass Medical School where she studied the bacterium that causes tuberculosis. She fell in love with microbiology and infectious disease research and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in microbiology at Yale University. Tori pursued a life-long dream of becoming a dentist by attending Marist College where she graduated with a B.S. in Biomedical Sciences and participated in Marist's early action 4+4 program with Tufts University School of Dental Medicine (TUSDM). The program allowed her to apply and be accepted to TUSDM's class of 2012 during the summer between her sophomore and junior years. Tori did her general practice residency at Hartford Hospital and has since bought a practice in West Hartford where she is currently practicing. Michelle earned her B.A in Psychology and a doctorate in physical therapy from the University of Vermont and during her last year of graduate school completed a fellowship with the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (LEND) program. Michelle now works at Connecticut Children's Medical Center in outpatient physical therapy.

Alumna Presents Original Arrangements During Lunchtime Concert

Former Trustee Susan Knapp Thomas '80 was on campus in August for the annual Connecticut Valley Harp Intensive (CVHI), an in-residence camp for students studying the harp. Susan is the director and founder of CVHI. Susan presented a lunchtime concert which included her own arrangements of Griegs Lyric Pieces Volume I, in addition to movements from Bernard Andres' "Ganagobie," and Granjany's "March Militaire" from the Children's Hour Suite. Susan has distinguished herself as an orchestral freelance harpist and she also works as a harp instructor at The Hartt School in Hartford.



Susan Knapp Thomas '80

Walker's Out and About



There are many ways for alumnae to get together and reconnect with each other including:

REGIONAL CLUB EVENTS are gatherings organized by alumnae and are a great opportunity to socialize with fellow Walker's women. If you live within a 50 mile radius of New York City, San Francisco, Boston, Chicago, Washington, DC or within Connecticut and we have your current email address, you will receive updates and reminders via email.

HEAD'S RECEPTIONS are held in various cities throughout the world and provide an opportunity to meet our Head of School Meera Viswanathan. Alumnae, parents, grandparents, friends and prospective parents are typically invited to participate. Watch your email and home mailboxes for invitations to these events.

If you would like to add or update your email to our list for either of these types of events, or if you are interested in hosting an event in your city, please contact Director of Alumnae Relations Marion Paterson P'17, '19 at mpaterson@ethelwalker.org or +1 (860) 408-4257.

Visit www.ethelwalker.org/alumnae/regional-clubs for more information.

HEAD'S RECEPTION

October 18, 2018 — Chicago, Illinois Luncheon at the Chicago Arts Club

Helen Harvey Mills '54 hosted alumnae for lunch at the Chicago Arts Club with Head of School Meera Viswanathan and Director of Alumnae Relations Marion Paterson P'17, '19.



Elizabeth Borland Blodgett '91, Abra Prentice Wilkin '60, Lorna Sargeant Pfaelzer '56, Mary Fentress Grumhaus '57, Susan Barker DePree '63, Mary Jo Laffin Field '56, Helen Harvey Mills '54, Betsy Sivage Clark '67, and Head of School Meera Viswanathan

REGIONAL CLUB EVENT

October 24, 2018 — Boston, Massachusetts Shady Ladies Tour at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts

Walker's alumnae gathered at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston to learn about the "nasty women" of the museum — artists, patrons and subjects across the ages. The informative and entertaining tour was led by Andrew Lear, brother of **Eve Agush Costarelli '82**. The group was taken to many parts of the museum to explore history, different media and little known facts about the art and then they donned Walker's 'shades' to join in with the Shady Ladies theme!



Amanda Fisher '03, Jennifer Sieber '09, Valerie Jarvis '09, Veronica Leger '81, Sarah Duggan '89, Jamiah Tappin '00, Aimee Murdock Burke '89, Idabelle Paterson '17, Eve Agush Costarelli '82, Wendy Hodgkins DeLorey '83, P'20, and Lili Arienti Sloane '83

REGIONAL CLUB EVENT

October 28, 2018 — New York City Heart and Soul of Greenwich Village Tour

Alumnae gathered for a "Heart and Soul of Greenwich Village" Tour to spend a wonderful three hours together learning about the history and food culture of the village. The tour included eight delicious tastings at various locations!



Liz Ortecho '87, Charlotte Weidlein Lenzner '05, Amy Benusis '87, and Kelly Schmidt '87

REGIONAL CLUB EVENT

December 6, 2018 — New York City Cocktails and Networking

Alumnae gathered for drinks and networking at Parker & Quinn in early December. Takeaways from those gathered included the desire to get together again more often and to keep the Walker's networking humming. **Charlotte Weidlein Lenzner '05** and **Sarah Puckhaber '07** convened the group and are eager to hear from alums in New York to strengthen our regional presence.



Jenny Blumenthal '05, Holly Jackson '02, Charlotte Weidlein Lenzner '05, Jenny Walters '07, Perry Shusterman '07, and Sarah Puckhaber '07

HEAD'S RECEPTION

November 14, 2018 — New York City

Private Tour of the Frick Collection and Former Trustee Dinner

Walker's Women love arts events, and the fully-subscribed private tour of the Frick Collection galleries brought 30 alumnae together to enjoy access to the collection and learn through two docent-led tours. **Trustee Emerita Margot Campbell Bogert '60**, former chair of the Frick Board of Trustees, hosted the gathering which included informative lessons about the historical context of the dazzling collection, the fascinating collectors, and the historical Frick Collection building. It was a wonderful setting to renew acquaintances among alumnae from the classes of 1947-2014.



In attendance were Mimi Bruns Allen '63, Anne Callender Crawford '81, Linda Payson de Roulet '47, Bunny Benjamin Goodwin '58, Kenny King Howe '57 and Nat Howe, Susan Allport Howell '68, Christy Johnson P'21, Charlotte Weidlein Lenzner '05, Ann Lunn P'74, Anne Sprole Mauk '69, Katie O'Brien P'82, '84, Tina Orsi-Lirot '74, Angie Pell '57, Priscilla Tilt Pochna '59 and guests, Betsy Rauch Rainoff '53, Kit O'Brien Rohn '82, Sahba Sadegh-Vaziri '82, Emma Simon '89, Artemis Talvat '14, Lisa Tankoos '74, Nancy Lombardo Valente '91, Head of School Meera Viswanathan and Laura Whiteman '81, P'14.



A group of current and former trustees gathered at The Colony Club to enjoy dinner, reflections, and conversation with Head of School Meera Viswanathan. The evening was hosted by Roberta "Bobbie" Gerstell Bennett '53, Margot Campbell Bogert '60, Gail Chandler Gaston '70, with guests Anne Callender Crawford '81, Charlotte Weidlein Lenzner '05, Anne Sprole Mauk '69, Katie O'Brien P'82, '84, Angie Pell '57, Betsy Rauch Rainoff '53, Kit O'Brien Rohn '82, Mary Bebel Schinke '81, and Emma Simon '89.



Mimi Bruns Allen '63, Artemis Talvat '14, and Laura Whiteman '81, P'14 at the Frick

REGIONAL CLUB EVENT

December 7, 2018 — Miami, Florida
The Ethel Walker School @ Art Basel Miami 2018

Trustee Myrthia Moore '79, and her husband, Manolis Projects Studio/Gallery Founder J. Steven Manolis hosted The Ethel Walker School @ Art Basel Miami 2018 in Steven's 5,000 sq. foot working studio. More than 70 guests enjoyed an art-filled evening and heard remarks, including commentary on art, by Bruce Helander, former provost and vice president for academic affairs at the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD).

To read more about the Art Basel event, please visit page 22.



Mary Jo Espasas P'89, Sarah Gates Colley '75, Emma Simon '89, Carolyn Espasas Muchacho '89, Director of Alumnae Relations Marion Paterson P'17, '19, Myrthia Moore '79, Sarah Chapman Lyden '81, Rocio Pellerano '82, Kit O'Brien Rohn '82, Director of Advancement Gretchen Orschiedt, Nina de la Sierra Murphy '83, and Vanessa Valle '94



Introducing 2019 Commencement Speaker
Yolanda Eleta de Varela '81

Yolanda is a member of the International Board of Directors at Special Olympics. She has been a member of other social support organizations including Asociación Pro Niñez Panameña, Operación Sonrisa and the Ann Sullivan Center.

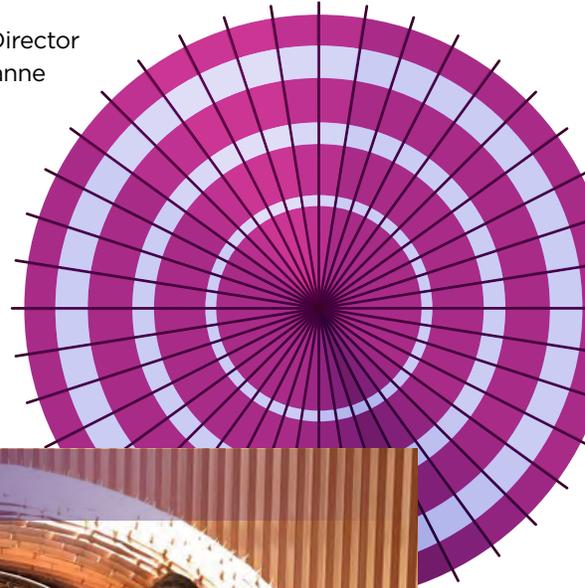
Yolanda is currently leading Mi Escuela Primero, a project with the mission to adapt the school infrastructure throughout Panama through private-public partnerships. Additionally, she has joined the Fundación Hazme Brillar, whose mission is to improve education and employment opportunities for young adults in Panama. Yolanda recently received the "Luz de la Comunidad" Award from the Association of Businesswomen and Professionals of Panama and has been awarded recognition as a "Volunteer of the Year"

by the United Nations, "Woman of the Year" by the Latin American *Glamour* magazine and the "Maria Ossa de Amador" Distinction by the Panamanian government.

Earlier this fall, Walker's was present in Asia and the Middle East including visits to Kyoto, Tokyo, Shanghai, Seoul, Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Jakarta, Bangkok, Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi, Singapore, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia

Along the way, **Board Chair Kit Rohn '82**, Associate Head of School Amy Wheeler, Director of Advancement Gretchen Orschiedt, and Director of International Enrollment Suzanne Buenaventura met with alumnae, parents of current students, prospective students and their families. It was a wonderful opportunity to build new connections with alumnae, meet prospective families and share news of all that is happening on our Simsbury campus.

Walker's is always eager for the chance to connect with our alumnae and families around the globe and strengthen Walker's presence in your region. Do you need to update your address or are you interested in regional activities? Would you like to help with admissions outreach? Reach out to Director of Alumnae Relations Marion Paterson P'17, '19 at mpaterson@ethelwalker.org or by phone at +1 (860) 408-4259.



SINGAPORE

Gretchen Orschiedt and Sachiko Motomura '93

In Singapore, **Sachiko Motomura '93** and Gretchen Orschiedt enjoyed meeting over dinner and couldn't miss a photo op with this digital art installation by South Korean media artist Lee Lee Nam. Sachiko works for JP Morgan in Singapore, and is eager to meet other Walker's alumnae who may be traveling to or living in Singapore. Also in Singapore, **Jane Srilaveevilas Jiaravanon '95** caught up over dinner with Gretchen Orschiedt. A Bangkok native, Jane has relocated to Singapore with her husband, where they are busy raising their son and daughter, and was pleased to learn of Walker's presence in the region.



TOKYO

Mahori Shigeta '10, met with Kit O'Brien Rohn '82 in September and with Suzanne Buenaventura in October. Mahori is employed by Proctor & Gamble in Tokyo in their product management program.

Mahori Shigeta '10 and Kit Rohn '82



KYOTO, JAPAN

Ai Morimoto '93, Kit O'Brien Rohn '82 and Aya Tozawa Nishibayashi '93 enjoyed a leisurely 4 hour lunch in Kyoto. There was much to catch up on as Ai and Aya were thrilled to see one another after 15 years. They now live just one hour apart, plan to keep in touch and are eager to connect with other alumnae in Japan to build our Walker's presence in the region.

HONG KONG

(Right) In October, Amy Wheeler and Suzanne Buenaventura attended a reception for prospective families, independent counselors and alumnae at the Ladies Recreation Club in Hong Kong graciously hosted by **Amy Lee Yee '73** and **Yollanda Chang Li '74**.

(Below) **Kit O'Brien Rohn '82**, **Ruthann Bowers '80**, and Gretchen Orschiedt enjoyed talking Walker's with a view of Hong Kong; Ruthann was a wonderful host providing a great evening walking tour of some favorite places.



(Above) **Cynthia Chow '81** and **Brenda Chow '83** treated **Kit O'Brien Rohn '82**, Rob Rohn (not in photo) and Gretchen Orschiedt for a memorable lunch in Hong Kong, as new connections were forged, and ideas were shared regarding education, preparation for a dynamic global career market and the excitement for an internationally-focused Walker's alumnae community.

Suzanne Buenaventura, Ruthanne Bowers '80, Audrey Zao '93, Amy Lee Yee '73, and Yollanda Chang Li '74 at a prospective family reception.

(Right) **Teresa Tam '81** hosted **Kit O'Brien Rohn '82** and Gretchen Orschiedt for lunch in Kowloon, having a chance to reconnect, and discuss the ways in which our School is being strengthened by an active and engaged alumnae community around the globe and the ways Walker's can be more present in Hong Kong and Asia.



Kit O'Brien Rohn '82, Teresa Tam '81, and Gretchen Orschiedt

CHINA



Amy and Suzanne enjoyed dinner with current families from Shenzhen and Guangzhou.

(Left) Li Zheng P '21, Min Zhu P'20, Suzanne Buenaventura, Amy Wheeler, Lingli Deng P'20, Lihua Chen P'21 and Jiqi "Jack" Huang P'21

George Zhou P'20 hosted a luncheon in Shanghai for parents of current students, welcoming **Kit O'Brien Rohn '82**, Rob Rohn, and Gretchen Orschiedt. The luncheon was a lovely and lively gathering with a warm welcome in the home city for a group of Walker's students.

(Right) Front: Jing Song P'19, Wei Li P'20, Fei Xu P'21, Gretchen Orschiedt, Kit O'Brien Rohn '82, Liya Jiang P'21 and Ming Lu P'21

Rear: Sheng Jin P'19, Dong Chen P'22, Jing Yuan (George) Zhou P'20, Yuyang Xia P'21, Ming Lu P'21 and Yinshi Cao P'22



JAKARTA, INDONESIA



Shinta Widjaja Kamdani '85 warmly welcomed her first Walker's visit with **Kit O'Brien Rohn '82** and Gretchen Orschiedt to her Sintesa Group Offices in Jakarta for a discussion on Walker's and the empowerment of girls and women. In addition to her business, she is involved with the World Wildlife Fund and has served on the board of Jakarta International School for years.



Paqita Widjaja-Afief '89 caught up with **Kit O'Brien Rohn '82** and Gretchen Orschiedt prior to her trip to Kalimantan where she was producing an event celebrating indigenous culture through dance. Paqita and her family are busy in the music production business and we were thrilled to catch her in Jakarta during our time there.

Admissions on the road



HONG KONG

Amy Wheeler and Suzanne Buenaventura met in Hong Kong with Catherine Leung, director of Notre Dame International, and her husband, Andrew Sundjaja, of Dunbar Educational Consultants.



THAILAND

Suzanne Buenaventura met for tea in Bangkok with a prospective student and passionate rider, Tatiana, who was joined by her mother **Kavida Aisiri '95** and her father, Oscar Blanco.



SAUDI ARABIA

Suzanne Buenaventura attended the Secondary School Fair at the Saudi Aramco Expatriate School in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia.

(Left) Suzanne Buenaventura; Kat Simison, Associate Director of International Recruitment for Miss Porter's School (Farmington, CT); Rachel Pusch, Director of Admissions and Marketing, Riverstone International School (Boise, ID); and Jackie Montero, Director of International Admission, St. Margaret's School (Tappahannock, VA)



VIETNAM

Suzanne Buenaventura met with Nancy Nolan of AEG (American Education Group) in Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam.



PHOTOS BY ADDIE FRIEDLANDER '18

For Addie Friedlander '18, Her Camera Brings Connection and a Higher Purpose

BY CARLIN CARR

A few years ago, Addie Friedlander '18 set out on a mission. Her goal was simple: learn to take the best photos she could on a shoestring budget. She did that — and more.

But first, she needed a camera of her own. Addie got to work and made it happen. Over school breaks, she labored on a farm, saving up her earnings, and, the summer before her junior year at Walker's, she had gathered enough cash to purchase her first camera: a Nikon all-around that would serve as a good starting point. The issue was that she didn't have any leftover earnings for lessons, so she had to teach herself how to work her new device.

Addie was determined. She spent hours watching how-to YouTube videos

and then found an agreeable subject: her rescue dog, Mojo. "My brother wouldn't model for my photos, so I had to train my dog," she says. "I taught her to 'freeze' and stay in position." While Mojo sat there posing, Addie clicked away, carefully seeing what worked, and what didn't.

Bringing her camera to campus

When she returned to Walker's as a junior, the budding photographer had worked hard all summer and was getting better at her craft. She was ready for more, and rallied her Walker's friends to help her out. During study halls and on weekends, Addie took classmates out into the fields and woods near campus for personal

photo shoots. Convincing them to play along was easy, especially in the time of Instagram. The flattering photos could be posted and shared.

Addie became more confident with the mechanics of the camera, but what she was really focused on was the intangible. "The real art of it," she says, "comes with finding the best frame for each subject and capturing that perfect moment that encapsulates their personality, all in one shot."

Addie says that she enjoys photography, because it allows her to meet new people or get to know friends in different ways. Before each shoot, she spends time with her subjects. "I try to capture their personality, so I have to observe and watch them," she says.

She takes most of her photos outside, partly because she loves the outdoors, partly for the natural light and mostly for economics. Given that she works simply — with just her camera and no money for other equipment — working outside doesn't require lights or reflectors; shooting in the great outdoors fits within her budget.

A new business with a rough start

Addie, who is always looking for the next challenge, had an epiphany about what she could do with her camera. She wanted to continue to take photos but also do something positive for the community. Charging for photo sessions, she thought, could help her support a good cause — and she knew of one right on Walker's campus. Now a senior, she gathered her trusty Nikon camera, a list of classmates who needed portraits for the yearbook, and her close friend Ellery, who acted as her "secretary" for the new business endeavor. Ellery was instrumental in setting up and tracking each individual shoot, timing and payment.

Some of these shoots were easier than others. In fact, one was life-threatening. Out in field with the sun dancing on the tall, waving grass — a perfect scene to best capture her friend's spirit — Addie began clicking away when she noticed something slither in the grass. Knowing her friend was deathly afraid of snakes, she kept on shooting, not mentioning what was lurking. A moment later, Addie felt a sting. She had been bitten, but still didn't say anything. Two days

later, her roommate emailed the nurse asking if a bloody nose and a rash could be from a snake bite. Unbeknownst to her at the time, Addie had been bitten by a Copperhead and needed to seek immediate medical attention.

Today, she can laugh at the situation, saying all that remains are two small scars — and gorgeous sunlit photos of her friend. That shoot, as well as nearly 20 others, earned Addie \$850. She donated all the proceeds to the *Horizons at The Ethel Walker School* program, which "creates the conditions, connections, and community that enable every girl who attends to gain the skills, confidence and motivation to overcome the opportunity gap and realize her potential." Walker's hosts the Horizons program for six weeks each summer and is the first all-girls Horizons program in the country. Addie felt passionate about supporting the growth of these young women, and still does. With this step, Addie's photos had become more than a hobby; they now had a purpose, a theme she hopes will continue to play out in her life.

For a good cause, a life mission

Addie headed to Clarkson last fall before moving on to Cornell, where she was given provisional admission, and her long-term goal is to enter the Army. She plans to enroll in ROTC at Cornell. She made the decision after hearing about it from a current Cornell student. Addie went home and did her usual get-to-know-a-new-subject research: watch a ton of YouTube videos on what Army training is like and the opportunities within the

“The real art of it comes with finding the best frame for each subject and capturing that perfect moment that encapsulates their personality, all in one shot.”



Addie Friedlander '18

military division. She found it fit with her personality and ambitions to both become a veterinarian and "to do something bigger than myself." That's a road Addie's already headed down, and given the determination and self-motivation she's already shown, she will be giving back to her community — and her country — for years to come. ■

To see more of Addie's work, please visit www.photographypigeon.com





Deborah Rush '77 and her daughter, Isabel '19



Elizabeth "Bessie" Armour '42 and her great granddaughter, Elizabeth "Lily" Ridgley '22



Wendy Hodgkins DeLorey '83 and her daughter, Brooke '20

Walker's Women *across the generations*

THIS SCHOOL YEAR WE HAVE
NINE CURRENT STUDENTS WHO
HAVE FAMILY MEMBERS WHO
ATTENDED WALKER'S!



Dr. Catherine "Katie" Kenney '84 and her daughter, Helen "Nellie" '25



Sarah-Jane McCarthy Markoe '80, her daughter, Lucia-Hope Markoe '21, and her mother, Lucy Rosenberry Jones '59



Sheila Dillman Fontanella '88 and her daughter, Kalista '22



Heather Faye Dawson '90 and her daughter, Ruby '25



Shayna Luciani '93 and her daughters, Julia '20 and Claudia '21

CT Arts Grant Supports Special Programming Combining Poetry and Dance



Ruth Lewis of Dimensional Dance explains the differences in ballet, both in movement and costumes, over time.

In September 2018, Walker's was awarded a \$10,000 Arts Integration Grant with the support of the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, Office of the Arts, which also receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. The grant was written by English Department Chair Catherine Reed in conjunction with Grants and Foundations Officer Kim Pereira. The grant, combined with a \$5,000 match in gifts from the Walker's community, enabled Reed to embark on an ambitious and exciting program to work with three Connecticut artists to combine poetry and dance in order to engage our students in the process of art making for social change. The unique experiences our students will have by participating in this program will illustrate what is possible with art and art making, including how the arts can inform social justice action. "We'd like all students to think of themselves as writers, dancers, choreographers, poets and spoken word artists," said Pereira.

Partnering with Walker's in the next year on this project are Judy Dworin of the Judy Dworin Dance Project, Ruth Lewis of Dimensional Dance and Leslie Johnson, writer and Pushcart Prize winner. All three artists have been successfully reaching audiences for decades and their collective body of work expressing many facets of women's lives — in writing and in dance — is very exciting.

"We began this project with an assembly in October 2018 where our English and Dance Departments joined forces to showcase the inspiring conversation between poetry and dance," said Reed. "The poems for the assembly were written by women about freedom, movement and change, and were mostly from the time when Ethel Walker founded our School."



Nerissa Griffiths '19 performs a dance to Maya Angelou's "A Caged Bird" recited by Kristen St. Louis '21 during Poetry Assembly 2018: Translation, Movement, Change.

In November 2018, Ruth Lewis brought Dimensional Dance to campus to show our students the link between dance and poetry with dance interpretations of Shakespeare's *Othello* and Maya Angelou's "Phenomenal Women." Lewis and a dancer from Dimensional Dance will return for three days this spring to conduct arts integrated workshops on choreography and poetry featuring the poetry of Maya Angelou and Li-Young Lee.

In February 2019, Judy Dworin visited campus for an all-day workshop with a variety of English classes and she conducted a talk back performance for the entire School during assembly. In the last of the artists workshops, Leslie Johnson will visit Walker's in mid-May for a series of writing workshops focused on her Pushcart Prize book collection and her upcoming book. All three artists will return to Walker's in September 2019 for unique performances for the entire student body.



Head of School Meera Viswanathan is joined by Student Body President Tricia Saint Forte '19 and Steelcase Education's Director of Marketplace Development Craig Wilson for the ribbon cutting of the new Steelcase Active Learning Center Classroom. Pictured from left are Kitty Huang '19, Grants and Foundations Officer Kim Pereira, Math Faculty Daniele Ness, Science Faculty Emma Mitchell, Head of School Meera Viswanathan, Student Body President Tricia Saint Forte '19, Steelcase Education's Director of Marketplace Development Craig Wilson, Math Faculty Leslie Goff, Board of Trustees Chair Kit O'Brien Rohn '82 and Brianna Duba '19.

Walker's Celebrates Ribbon Cutting for New Steelcase Active Learning Center

In the fall, Walker's celebrated the ribbon cutting of its new Steelcase Active Learning Center in Galbraith, a classroom environment for our new engineering curriculum that encourages engagement, collaboration and creativity using Steelcase furniture. While the classroom was designed for engineering, any subject area can be taught in the flexible classroom space.

In attendance were students, faculty, staff, administrators, trustees and Director of Market Development for Steelcase Education Craig Wilson. In his comments, Wilson read from the School's proposal that was written by Grants and Foundations Officer Kim Pereira highlighting areas of the document which spoke about small group work, problem solving, and using setbacks to find solutions. "It reminds me of the work of the engineers at Steelcase," said Wilson. He also referenced the research that

will take place in the classroom which will assess the impact of organized workspaces on productivity. "There is a true commitment on the part of the educators at Walker's to conduct the research to assess the impact the new space will have on the



Craig Wilson, director of marketplace development for Steelcase Education, talks with administrators, trustees and students during the ribbon cutting ceremony for Walker's new Steelcase Active Learning Center classroom. Walker's was only one of eight grade 6-12 schools in the country to receive the grant.

productivity in the classroom.”

Math department faculty member Leslie Goff, who co-taught Walker’s first engineering class with Science department faculty member Dr. Emma Mitchell in the spring, added her comments about the excitement of the gift. “At first, I thought that this was a gift of furniture. Now, I understand that this furniture will allow Walker’s teachers to be in a wider community of educators.” As a grant recipient, Walker’s faculty and staff will participate in Steelcase’s Active Learning Symposium where educators from other grant recipient communities come together and share their research, techniques and suggestions on using the new furniture in the classroom. Goff,

“

There is a true commitment on the part of the educators at Walker’s to conduct the research to assess the impact the new space will have on the productivity in the classroom.

CRAIG WILSON
DIRECTOR OF MARKETPLACE
DEVELOPMENT

”

who is teaching computer science in the classroom, continues, “Being among educators that are committed to learning more about pedagogy and the impact that surroundings have on the quality of the work taking place in the classroom is very exciting. We look forward to sharing our findings and learning from our new colleagues from throughout the country.”

Walker’s is among 16 educational institutions from across the nation chosen from 1,037 applicants to receive the 2018 Active Learning Center Grant from Steelcase Education. Walker’s was one of only eight schools nationally in grades six through 12 to earn the award. ■

Steelcase Symposium in Grand Rapids, Michigan

In early November, Steelcase Education hosted grant recipients from this and prior years for a two and a half day symposium at their headquarters in Grand Rapids, Michigan. **Grants and Foundations Officer Kim Pereira** and **Math and Engineering Teacher Daniele Ness** attended on behalf of Walker’s where they had the opportunity to meet and share ideas with other grant recipients and representatives from Steelcase Education. They also had the opportunity to hear from Jim Keane, president and chief

executive officer for Steelcase Inc., and to tour both the new Steelcase Global Business Center and West Michigan Center for Arts and Technology (WMCAT).

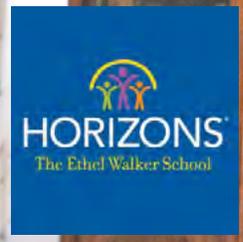
The Ethel Walker School was one of 16 recipients for the 2018 Steelcase Active Learning Center grant in 2018. Steelcase received 1,037 applications for this grant opportunity and selected eight K-12 schools and eight higher education institutions to receive Steelcase furniture for one active learning classroom, valued

at approximately \$67,000. At Walker’s, we have created a new active learning classroom in Galbraith with seating for 30 students. Classes taught in the new classroom include Engineering with Daniele Ness, Advanced Physics with Dr. Emma Mitchell and Middle School Latin with Noël Grisanti. The grant term is two years and we have committed to conduct research on active learning in collaboration with Steelcase during the grant period.



Kim Pereira (front row, third from left) and Daniele Ness (second row, first on left)

Another
Bright
Summer
on the
Horizon!



Mystery Reader Nicky Hart Dunn '96 visits with Horizons students during their daily mystery reader gathering in the Living Room of Beaver Brook.



Hanna Schweitzer '19 plays with Legos with Pre-K students. The *Horizons at The Ethel Walker School* program partnered with LEGO for a second year in 2018 on LEGO's "Hands-on, Minds On Approach to Inspiring Girls' Interest in STEAM" initiative.

Summer 2019 marks the *Horizons at The Ethel Walker School's* fifth summer and a milestone in the program's history with a fully-enrolled elementary school program with 100 students from a variety of Hartford schools including Jumoke Academy, Parkville Community Elementary, Sarah J. Rawson Elementary, and M.D. Fox Elementary. "It's unbelievable how fast we have grown and to finally have completed an elementary program. It is exciting and certainly worth celebrating!" says Isabel Ceballos, executive director of the program.

In preparation for the upcoming summer program, Horizons Saturday Academy Spring Session helps new students transition into the program while also getting a jumpstart academically. Saturday Academy classes are another great opportunity for the 32 Walker's student volunteers to work as teacher's aides alongside experienced teachers in planning and executing lesson plans. Walker's students build meaningful rapport with Horizons students and are viewed as mentors to the younger students.

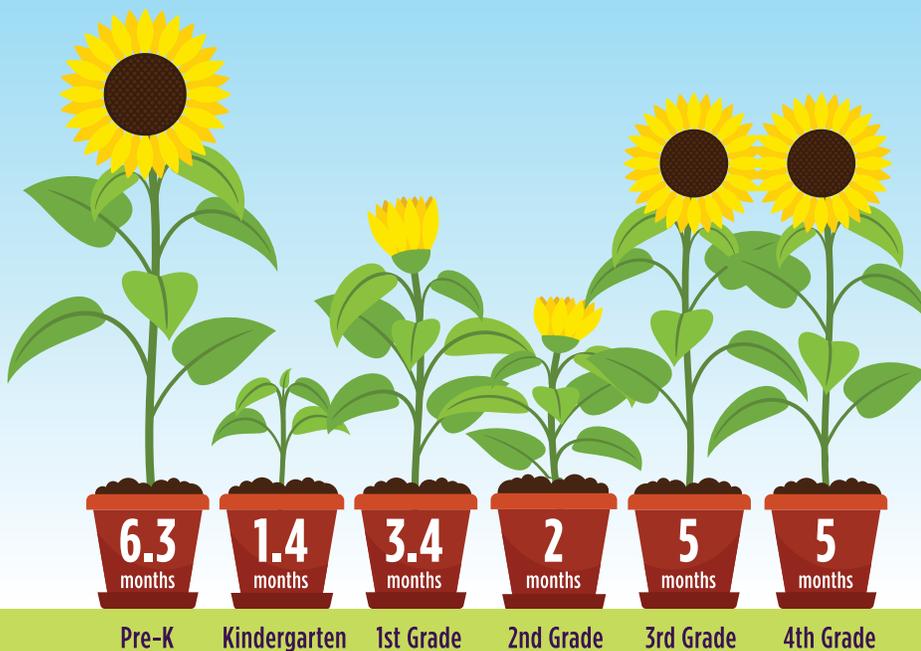
As the program and its enrollment continues to grow, so too do the program's community partnerships. Summer 2019 continues a strong partnership with The LEGO Group and The Farmington Valley YMCA. In addition, this summer the program begins a new partnership with The Children's Museum in West Hartford. Children's Museum staff will visit Walker's campus once a week with a variety of traveling exhibits that will enrich and enhance STEAM activities. The museum will work with Horizon's STEAM Specialist Dr. Emma Mitchell and lead teachers in each grade to align programming with the Horizon's curriculum. ■

Horizons at The Ethel Walker School is the nation's first all-girls Horizons student enrichment program. The program enrolls girls from public schools in Hartford and provides curriculum to help reduce and prevent summer learning loss.



Walker's Board Chair Kit Rohn '82, Horizons Lead STEAM Teacher Dr. Emma Mitchell and Horizons teacher Colleen Olsen talk with students leading an activity during the first state-wide *Horizons at The Ethel Walker School STEAM Exhibition* held July 27, 2018.

Growth Per Grade in Summer 2018 for *Horizons at The Ethel Walker School*



“The Pre-K data is particularly exciting because it was our first year with a pre-k class. There are only a handful of Horizons sites in the country serving pre-k students,” says Isabel Ceballos, executive director of *Horizons at The Ethel Walker School*.

On average our site gained 3 months of learning in the summer, when children from low-income households typically lose 2 to 3 months of learning during the summer months.”

Retention rate: 92% (85 students)

Attendance rate: 95% (85 students)

“I contribute our excellent retention rate to our school-year programming. Saturday Academies allow us to connect with both students and families during the year, strengthening each of our commitments to educational success.”

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ISABEL CEBALLOS

ATHLETICS SPRING 2018

Lacrosse

The varsity lacrosse team traversed a very difficult schedule to obtain postseason success in the spring. Under the guidance of first-year coach Colleen Olsen, the group struggled in early season matchups against Hotchkiss and Taft. The group grew together as a unit and eventually won the inaugural Western New England Class C Tournament in a championship game against Hamden Hall.



Coach: Colleen Olsen (back row, left). Captain: Mia Farnella '18

While the team graduated several players, including senior captain **Mia Farnella '18**, who joined the team at Johns Hopkins (DI) this fall, the team will return a strong group of lacrosse players who will look to bring back another championship in 2019.



Abby Grimaldi '20



Chloe Miller '19



Keeley Duran '18



Assistant Coach Alan Leathers and Head Coach Brendan O'Dwyer
Captains: Marion Carr '18, Daniela Ramirez '19 and Lara Schwörer '20

Tennis

The 2017-18 varsity tennis team had its most successful season in a number of years. Under the leadership of captains **Marion Carr '18**, **Daniela Ramirez '19**, and **Lara-Emelia Schwörer '20**, the team began the season with a four match win streak, racking up successive wins against Marianapolis, Hamden Hall, Watkinson, and Stoneleigh-Burnham. The confidence resulting from the team's hot start carried them to a 7-4 record on the season, culminating with an invitation to the NEPSAC Class C Tournament, where they ended up losing a close 4-3 match in the quarterfinals.



2018 VARSITY SOFTBALL TEAM
 Head Coach John Monagan (right) and
 Assistant Coach Tom Downs (left)
 Captains: Sara Fallon '19, Gabriela Garcia '19,
 and Liz Helmin '19

Softball

The softball team returned seven starters from the previous season, and hopes were high that the veteran presence on the team would lead to postseason success. The only force that proved that it could stop the team was Mother Nature, as three straight days of rain washed out the Western New England Tournament and didn't give the team a chance to capitalize on a great regular season by competing for a Western New England Championship.

All season, the team was led in example and in spirit by three veteran captains — juniors **Sara Fallon '19**, **Gabriela Garcia '19** and **Liz Helmin '19**. The three led in different but important ways, setting a great example for younger players and always putting themselves after the team. This led to great success during the year, as the team lost just three games — two of which were in the last inning. The group saw great success in the Founders League, defeating Loomis Chaffee, Taft, Kent, Miss Porter's, Kingswood Oxford, and Choate.

The spring of 2019 should be equally exciting, as the team brings back all but one player from last year's squad, and hopefully this spring the sun will shine bright as the team looks to compete for another championship.



Hannah Theriault '20

Golf

The Varsity Golf team played a number of close matches the 2018 season and ended with a final record of four wins and ten losses. The team represented Walker's well in both the Founders League Championships and the New England tournament.



Coach: Darrell Carrington
 Co-Captains: Valentina Pirro '18 and Kayla Foster '18

Walker's Raises More Than \$8,000 for Play4theCure



Walker's Play4theCure 2018 team

Twelve field hockey teams from public and independent schools across New England (grades 6-9) joined Walker's JV and Middle School teams in a tournament-style playday on Saturday, October 13 to raise more than \$8,000 at Walker's seventh annual Play4TheCure. Play4TheCure is a non-profit organization that dedicates its efforts to raising funds for the National Breast Cancer Foundation Inc. and The Foundation for Cancer Research through competitive sports.

This year, event organizers, including Head Varsity Coach Mimi Duran and her team and several varsity parents, worked to raise the funds through donated gifts, the sale of food, and other activities that took place throughout the event. Prizes included gift cards to local restaurants, apparel, baskets, concert tickets, among many more, such as the grand prize of a \$10,000 ski trip to Cerro Castor in Argentina for four donated by Michelle Troconis and Gaston Begue, parents of player Nicole Troconis '25.



Lexi Donshik '24



Madison Donelson '23

Coach Duran is pleased with the participation of all the athletes, coaches, referees and volunteers on what was a very cold and wet weekend,

“Athletes joining together for a cause shows another form of commitment, and I am happy that we can be a part of something even bigger.”

COACH MIMI DURAN



Walker's Current Outdoor Ring

Outdoor Show Ring Renovation Project

It's an exciting and opportune time for Walker's Equestrian Program

Since the recent hire of our renowned Director of Riding Linda Langmeier and Head Trainer Jo Seaver '99, we've made many changes and improvement to strengthen and enhance our equestrian program including the recent addition of fourteen new paddocks and a larger new turnout area directly across from the Frank O.H. Williams Barn. This year, one of our priorities includes the renovation of the Outdoor Ring to a contemporary, high-quality competitive standard.

The planned improvements include an irrigation system, premium footing, new fencing and a set of show class jumps that are attractive, durable and versatile for all jumping disciplines. This upgrade to the outdoor ring will greatly benefit all aspects of the riding program including improved safety for our girls and horses, an enhanced show preparation environment, increased capacity and versatility for lessons, and improved effectiveness for maintenance.

This newly renovated outdoor ring will complement our existing, beautiful facilities, including our new paddocks, and be an aesthetic draw for our current and future riders, while also providing opportunity for Walker's to once again host on-site outdoor riding competitions.

For more information on this exciting new project, please contact Gretchen Orschiedt at gorschiedt@ethelwalker.org or +1-860-408-4260.

A sampling of show class jumps



A contemporary outdoor riding ring with superior footing and show class jumps will elevate Walker's equestrian program to among the top on-site school facilities in the country ...

The opportunity to once again host outdoor riding competitions to highlights our girls' talent is exciting to consider. With support for this renovation, we can showcase a whole new area of our program.

LINDA LANGMEIER
DIRECTOR OF RIDING AND HEAD TRAINER

Old Salem Farm Classic

MAY 8-13, 15-20, 2018

At the Old Salem Farm Classic in Salem, NY, **Gigi Moynihan '21** was named Champion in the 3'3" Junior Hunters in Week 2 with her horse, Corrico. **Ava Strohmeyer '21** and Walker's Cartoon ribboned in the 12-14 Equitation and the Children's Hunters category. **Teddi Pritzker '21** and Vince, owned by Ashley Denmark, ribboned in the Large 3'3" Junior Hunters week 1 and **Lydia Rifkind '19** and MTM Magnum, owned by MTM Farm, ribboned in the Large 3'3" Junior Hunters in Week 1.

Teddi Pritzker '21 had multiple championships in the 3'3" Junior Hunters with both her horses, Willow CBF and Hello Handsome. With Willow, she was champion in Kentucky and at HITS Saugerties in Saugerties, NY. Willow CBF won the Junior Hunter Classic at both HITS and Equifest III in Wayne, Illinois. With Hello Handsome, Teddi was champion in the 3'3" Junior Hunters at Equifest II and reserve champion at Equifest III. With her pony Billabong, she was champion in the Large Ponies as well as reserve grand champion at Equifest II. Teddi's other pony, Find the Laughter, was reserve champion in the Large Ponies that same week. Over in the jumper ring, Teddi won a Children's Jumper class at Equifest III with her horse, Lotta 167.



Teddi Pritzker '21 at HITS Saugerties, NY

Lake Placid Horse Show and I Love New York Horse Show

JUNE 26-JULY 8, 2018

Walker's equestrians spent two weeks competing in the Lake Placid Horse Show and I Love New York Horse Show, two of the country's most prestigious equestrian events held June 26-July 8 in Lake Placid, New York. Despite an intense heat wave, Walker's equestrians rode incredibly well bringing home many awards and recognitions.

Becky Morris '19 riding Director of Riding/ Head Trainer Linda Langmeier's horse, Auburn



Liv Markwood '20



Gigi Moynihan '21



**Monmouth at the Team
AUGUST 12-19, 2018**

Gigi Moynihan '21 qualified for 3'3" National Horse Show (NHS) Finals, Maclay Regionals, USEF Medal Finals and United States Equestrian Team (USET) finals. At Monmouth at the Team in Gladstone, New Jersey, Gigi was 2nd in the 3' Derby on Golden Dream and had the highest score in the Handy round. She also placed 9th in the Welcome at Monmouth on her new mount Blixten and 7th in the Mini Prix.



Gigi Moynihan '21



Julia Luciani '20



Liv Markwood '20



Becky Morris '19

**Fairfield County Hunt Club Horse Show
AUGUST 16-19, 2018**

Julia Luciani '20 earned ribbons in the Fairfield Hunters at the Fairfield County Hunt Club Horse Show, and qualified for NEHC Finals.

USHJA Jumping Seat Medal Finals Qualifier

Liv Markwood '20 qualified for the USHJA Jumping Seat Medal Finals.

**New England Finals
OCTOBER 19, 2018**

Becky Morris '19 won Section C of the 15-17 Open Equitation on Director of Riding/Head Trainer Linda Langmeier's horse, Auburn, at the New England Finals.

Shown below, left to right:

Becky Morris '19 was the winner of the Children's Jumper Classic with Triomphe as well as Reserve Champion, and she received ribbons in the WIHS Equitation with Auburn.

Liv Markwood '20 placed third in the NCEA Medal and fourth in the 15-17 Equitation.

Gigi Moynihan '21 was seventh in the Low Junior Classic with Chacom and second in the National Hunter Derby with Corrico.

Ava Strohmeyer '21 earned ribbons in the Large 3'3" Junior Hunters, 12-14 Equitation and THIS Medal with Vince, owned by Ashley Denmark, as well as multiple ribbons in the Small 3'3" Junior Hunters with Cartoon.

Julia Luciani '20 and Ganesha had placings in the Large 3'3" Junior Hunters and the 15-17 Equitation.

Hope Cushman '18 and Fausto moved up to the Low AO Jumpers for the first time.

PHOTOS BY ADDIE FRIEDLANDER '18



Ava Strohmeyer '21



Julia Luciani '20



Hope Cushman '18



Front: Walker's IEA Middle School Team
Back: Walker's IEA Upper School Riding Team

Interscholastic Equestrian Association (IEA) Horse Show NOVEMBER 3, 2018

In the fall, Walker's hosted the Interscholastic Equestrian Association (IEA) Horse Show where the Upper School took home the championship title. The Middle School team was named the Reserve Championship team.

The Ethel Walker School Horse Show NOVEMBER 14, 2018

Walker's competitors had a strong showing, including a number of girls who took home championship status, at The Ethel Walker School Horse Show on November 14. Highlights included:

- **Becky Morris '19** was named champion in the Junior/Adult Equitation Championship.
- **Eva Mazzola '21** and her horse, VDL White Chocolate, won multiple classes including first in the NEHC Junior Medal; first in the CHJA Junior Medal; and first in the USHJA 3'3" Show/Jumping Medal.
- **Gigi Moynihan '21** won the USEF Talent Search Medal class.
- **Alexis Pancavage '24** was champion in the Walk Trot Equitation on Walker's Outstanding Rhythm (Boy) and **Sophie Sun '22** was reserve champion in that division at her very first horse show on Walker's Kessandra.
- **Michaela Dyson '21** was champion in the Walk Trot Canter Equitation division on Walker's Cosmo, and **Sarah You '22** was reserve champion on Walker's Manny.
- **Leah Glaser '20** was champion in the Cross-Rail Equitation division on Walker's Boy, and **Chloe Fares '24** was Reserve Champion on Walker's High Honors (Elliot).
- **Amy Xia '21** was Champion in the Child/Adult Equitation 2' and 2'6" division on Cindy Theran's Claire, with **Abby McRavey '20** on her horse, Teddy, and **Grace Sappington '24** on Walker's Elliot tying for the reserve championship.

The Pines Horse Show

DECEMBER 1, 2018

At The Pines Horse Show in Glastonbury, CT, **Julia Luciani '20** won the USEF Medal class on her horse, Ganesha, with **Ava Strohmeyer '21** placing second in the USEF Medal class on Vince.

On Saturday, December 1 Walker's hosted a Riding Clinic with Director of Riding/Head Trainer Linda Langmeier. The clinic sold out with a total of 28 riders who were divided into smaller groups with fences in height ranging from 2' to 3'6". **Eva Mazzola '21** and **Becky Morris '19** delivered demonstrations in two of the clinic sessions. Be sure to watch your mailbox and email for information on upcoming clinics.

Fox Crossing IEA Show

DECEMBER 9, 2018

Walker's Upper School and Middle School teams both placed second in the Fox Crossing Interscholastic Equestrian Association (IEA) Horse Show held December 9 in Morris, CT. Individual results include: **Julia Luciani '20** placed 1st in Open Fences; **Becky Morris '19** placed 2nd in Open Fences and 3rd in Open Flat; **Lily Ridgley '22** placed 1st in Intermediate Flat; **Hannah Theriault '20** placed 2nd in Intermediate Fences; **Amy Xia '21** placed 1st in Novice Fences; **Chloe Fares '24** placed 1st in Future's Beginner Flat; **Kate Samson '23** placed 4th in Future's Beginner Flat; **Quinn Van Cara '23** placed 2nd in Future's Novice Fences and 3rd in Future's Novice Flat.



Julia Luciani '20 and Becky Morris '19



Lily Ridgley '22, Bejay Mugo '22 and Amy Xia '21



Becky Morris '19 at the New England Finals

Becky Morris '19 was the Connecticut Hunter & Jumper Association (CHJA) Finals Masters Medal Champion aboard Director of Riding/Head Trainer Linda Langmeier's horse, Auburn, and reserve champion in Large Junior Hunters on Linda's Aiden.

In the Kentucky Summer Showcase, Becky was the winner of the United States Hunter/Jumper Association (USHJA) Jumper Seat Medal on Auburn, and also earned ribbons in Children's Jumpers with Triomphe. Becky's placings also qualified her for ASPCA Maclay Regionals, Dover Saddlery/United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) Medal Finals, USHJA Jumper Seat Medal Finals, and New England Horsemen's Council (NEHC) Finals. At the New England Finals, Becky won Section C of the 15-17 Open Equitation on Auburn.

Alumnae Equestrian — Fall 2018



SPORTSFIELD — PHOTO: BRANT GAMMA PHOTOGRAPHY



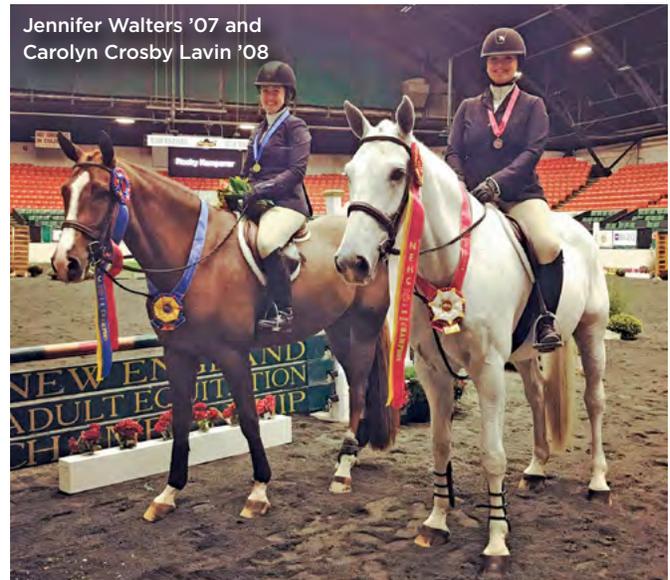
PINE TOP — PHOTO: HOOFLIX

Liz Aboody '10 rode Sportsfield Monsieur in the CIC* at the Carolina International and Ballyorney Mullach Abu in the Intermediate division at Pine Top Horse Trials.



Kristen (Wesoly) Woodworth '02

We're so happy to feature alumnae **Jessica Katz '99** and **Kristen (Wesoly) Woodworth '02** and their recent success at the Area 1 USEA Championships: Jessica on Fernhill Sylvus won the Area 1 Beginner Novice Rider while Kristen on Bonmahon Blue Moon finished second in the Area 1 Novice Horse.



Jennifer Walters '07 and Carolyn Crosby Lavin '08

Julia Welles '06 rode Nouvelle (owned by the Evita Group) to win the 3 Grand Prix in Lier, Belgium.



At New England Finals, **Jennifer Walters '07** rode Michael Fletcher's Come Monday to the 28-45 Adult Medal Final Championship and **Carolyn Crosby Lavin '08** riding Sarah Hyde's King Charlie to the Reserve Championship. Carolyn was coached in part by fellow alum, **Lia Chafee '08** at those finals.

A MESSAGE FROM

Jamiah N. Tappin '00 and Charlotte Weidlein Lenzner '05

ALUMNAE BOARD CO-CHAIRS

Dear Friends,

The Alumnae Board has been hard at work this year! We have an incredible group of committed and passionate women ranging from a 2018 graduate to two fantastic alumnae from the 1960s; we have local alumnae and international alumnae, all volunteering their time and expertise to serve on the Alumnae Board. One thing unites us — our love for Walker's!

While as a Board we are primarily focused on alumnae and student engagement, we also recently completed our first strategic plan and are especially proud of our new mission statement that we hope will resonate with you all:

The mission of The Ethel Walker School Alumnae Association shall be to provide the alumnae of the School with a variety of opportunities for constructive interaction with and support of the School, and in so doing, foster and sustain life-long relationships among alumnae, students, faculty, and all those persons making up The Ethel Walker School community.

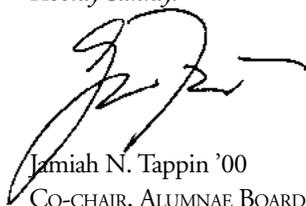
The Alumnae Association shall support a vision of an empowered Walker's community where student traditions, culture and character are preserved, protected and cherished; alumnae are active agents in supporting younger women to be successful through strategic connections and resources; and all share the right to and responsibility for sustaining girls' education.

It is the role of the Alumnae Board to facilitate this through the following core values:

- Sisterhood that is guided by friendships, support, and love
- Leadership that is diverse, powerful, and courageous
- Community that is accepting, inclusive and safe
- Hope in a strong and vibrant Walker's

The Alumnae Board is truly dedicated to this mission and will continue to support this vision with your help. If you are interested in volunteering for your class or the School, please let us know! Until then — we look forward to sharing more with you during Reunion Weekend. Remember all are welcome to attend the weekend and we hope to welcome you back to campus on May 17th–19th!

Hooray Sunray!



Jamiah N. Tappin '00
CO-CHAIR, ALUMNAE BOARD



Charlotte Weidlein Lenzner '05
CO-CHAIR, ALUMNAE BOARD



Jamiah N. Tappin '00



Charlotte Weidlein Lenzner '05

2018-2019 ALUMNAE BOARD

Charlotte Weidlein Lenzner '05
CO-CHAIR
NEW YORK

Jamiah N. Tappin '00
CO-CHAIR
MASSACHUSETTS

Eda "Ellie" Bell '12
NEW YORK

Awele "Nina" Chukwura '17
CONNECTICUT

Caryl Van Ranst Dearing '60
MASSACHUSETTS

Wendy Hodgkins DeLorey '83, P'20
MASSACHUSETTS

Sarah Elting Doering '65
CALIFORNIA

Nicole "Nicky" Hart Dunn '96
CONNECTICUT

Alicia Little Hodge '01
MARYLAND

Courtney Hornberger '01
CALIFORNIA

Connie Morales '92
NEW YORK

Susan "Susie" Jensen Rawles '82
VIRGINIA

Pamela "Pam" Safford '81
CONNECTICUT

Cynthia Vega '82
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Eliza Wetmore '18
CONNECTICUT

Shayna Whyte '95
CONNECTICUT

Gwendolyn Wood Wisely '96
NEW JERSEY



STAY IN TOUCH!
WWW.ETHELWALKER.ORG

Take Note

We know that the class notes are some of your favorite reading from our bi-annual alumnae magazine, the *Sundial*. Please enjoy these notes which will appear in print in our next issue. (February 2019)

We're excited to have a number of new volunteers as class correspondents. New correspondents are noted with a Sundial icon  near their names. Please be sure to keep in touch with them to share your news.

There are still classes needing correspondents. Please call Director of Alumnae Relations, Marion Paterson P'17, '19 at +1 (860) 408-4257 if you are interested. A big THANK YOU! to all class correspondents, continuing and new. Your work is invaluable in keeping our whole community connected!



The Ethel Walker School

1940
1941
1942
1943
1944
1945
1946

REUNION

Your class needs a correspondent! Contact alumnae@ethelwalker.org

1947

Joan Ferguson Ellis

The contact information for our class correspondents has been removed to protect their privacy but we want to hear from you! Please send your news to alumnae@ethelwalker.org.

Ruth Cummings Mead

The contact information for our class correspondents has been removed to protect their privacy but we want to hear from you! Please send your news to alumnae@ethelwalker.org.

1948
1949
1950
1951
1952

REUNION

Your class needs a correspondent! Contact alumnae@ethelwalker.org

1953

Susan "Susie" Kleinhans Gilbertson

The contact information for our class correspondents has been removed to protect their privacy but we want to hear from you! Please send your news to alumnae@ethelwalker.org.

Nancy "Missy" Kitchell Lickle reports that her husband, Dan, has had some minor health issues but is home and, with her by his side, will doubtlessly be feeling better. She was sorry to miss Reunion.

Suzanne "Suzy" Patterson is spending time in Dayton and is happy to be with Pamela "Pam" Price Houk. Suzy is fortunate to travel to Paris for part of the time as well.

Joan "Joannie" Grafmueller Grier says, "I hope all is well with you... I am taking speech lessons with the hopes of becoming a public speaker. I would like to speak on things that can help our culture... belong to a group of paid public speakers who give you unexpurgated critiques... In addition I am trying to develop a product which can be the 'antidote to Washington' called "A Hug"... It is a pre-natally soft blankie which is good for children... those with Alzheimer's... and the average citizen... Love to all. Joannie."

1954 REUNION

Betty Richards Tripp

The contact information for our class correspondents has been removed to protect their privacy but we want to hear from you! Please send your news to alumnae@ethelwalker.org.

For most of us, this is the year we turn 82 years old, something that was beyond my comprehension, and probably yours, at our graduation in 1954. It is reassuring to know that most of us continue to lead active, productive lives, albeit at a slower pace.

I spoke with Katherine "Kathie" Somerville Steele who was celebrating her birthday in St. Simons, GA with two of her children and their families. Although construction of her new house was delayed for six months due to last fall's hurricane, which severely damaged St. Simons Island, I can vouch that her charming house was well worth the delay.

A late update from Patsy Kelly McCornack concerns her anticipated move to River Mead in Portsmouth, NH where her building's completion is scheduled for occupancy in March 2019. "I have mixed emotions about this move — if I lived on the mainland there would be no hesitation. However, leaving Martha's Vineyard is SO hard! Every morning when I get up and look at my glorious view and then drive around this beautiful island, I often have attacks of angst! I know it is the right decision, but

leaving the island and my very busy life here is difficult.

"As far as family goes, all are healthy and doing well in their chosen fields. Nancy's husband, Dan, is now a left seat captain at American Airlines, so if you fly with them, ask for Dan! Nancy is in charge of setting up the education program at PC Connections and both of her sons are happily employed. Annie is doing an internship in marketing with the Ross Co. in NYC which she loves. She will be a senior at Syracuse next fall. She says she loves it so much she doesn't want to graduate, but that will probably change after her time in New York! This is my first summer in ages that I haven't had a grandchild living with me and having a summer job here. I am experiencing the 'empty nest' syndrome! Stu and family are ensconced in Portland, OR where he owns Yukon Trading, a sporting goods and clothing company. It keeps him hopping while Kym expertly holds down the fort and manages all the daily responsibilities. Their kids, ages 15 and 12, are avid athletes and happy with their schools. All were here for two weeks in August which, of course, is the highlight of my year. Also, in August, we had a Kelly reunion at my sister Seddon's house on Lake George — the first time in years all five siblings were together! I am still busy as ever. My newest venture is trying to learn how to pot, and jewelry making lessons are next. My door is always open on the Vineyard. Give me a call if you are in town!"

Anita Larsen Sullivan invited me to lunch at her golf club the day before the season officially opened. I could not help but notice Anita's name on many wall plaques as Club champion over the years. While Anita was concerned that her game might not be up to her game last year, she later disclosed that all went well at the opening. In May, Anita became a great grandmother when Benjamin was born in Boston. Is Anita our class' first great grandmother?

Karen Bisgard Alexander writes "At our stage of life, no news is usually good news, but I have the happy news that I saw **Betty Richards Tripp** in Boston on my way to three graduations (one in Yankee Stadium). Betty may say she is falling apart, but she is her timeless, amusing, involved self, thank goodness."

Class traveler, **Glenn Shannon Whipple** attributes their good health to "this good clean mountain air" which enables them to travel frequently. Some of their recent travels include, "Thanksgiving was spent in my hometown of Fort Worth with Oggie's oldest daughter and her husband coming in from their farm about 40 miles west. Christmas was spent, as has become a tradition, in Denver with my daughter and her husband and two teenage boys. Her oldest, Jack Glenn Redfield (doesn't that sound like a good author's name?) age 16, left at the end of January for a six-month school program in Madrid. Meanwhile, Ian, age 13, has been enjoying the full attention of his parents...hasn't missed big brother at all!

"Emily and I spent our 11th annual mother/daughter trip at the tennis tournament in Indian Wells in March and had a fabulous time. Stayed in a wonderful Spanish Colonial hotel near the venue where there was a shuttle leaving every thirty minutes to take you to and from

the tournament, plus we had excellent seats. Since both of us are tennis lovers, we really enjoyed ourselves!

"In April, we went with Oggie's oldest daughter and her husband to Charleston for a few days. I gorged on seafood.... especially soft-shelled crab, which was in season. Charleston is steeped in history and we had a lovely time just walking around the city looking at the old homes and smelling the spring flowers and having some superb meals.

"In May, we went to the Broadmoor in Colorado Springs to celebrate our 36th wedding anniversary...just the two of us this time (instead of the usual 11 in the summertime!). Had a beautiful suite with a balcony. It came in handy that weekend when an Indian wedding was taking place right below us on the terrace. Much pageantry (the groom came riding in on a white horse!), beautiful saris and a traditional wedding ceremony. We took videos from our balcony... beautiful to watch.

"Later on, in May, we went back to Fort Worth for my husband's semi-annual dermatology appointment and then down to Houston to visit my son and his family whom we had not seen in a year.

"In the summer we stay home because the weather is so great here. That's why the town swells from about 9,000 full-time residents to about 35,000; the weather and the horse racing at Ruidoso Downs draw a huge contingent from Texas. We are always glad to see them pump up the economy, but glad when the 'white plates' go home in September!"

Frannie Haffner Colburn spent the month of May in Scotland relishing the wonderful weather. While those at home in New England experienced many cold, rainy days, in Scotland the sun was out every day with rain limited to the day before she left

to return home to Manchester, MA.

From **Annie Higbie Eckrich** comes the news that, "my grandson Hans (Slim) Pessl graduated from Bozeman High School in Montana and started in February at Middlebury College where his dad, Erich Pessl, and his godfather, Will Porter, graduated. Will is **Katie Auchincloss Porter's** nephew. Small world." Annie has retired from real estate and is loving life. She will have two new knees as of August 8. "All is well in Indiana. I hope to be dancing at three weddings coming up in October, one being that of my eldest grandson, Johnny Norton (26). Greetings to all."

Helen Harvey Mills writes: "Family trip to Portland, OR — last before Eliot is off to college and Lucian continues at Urbana Champaign. We stayed in an Airbnb — fantastic tri-level house on a hill, up a windy road past two keypads. It has a frog pond, hot tub, acreage, beautiful living room below kitchen, fireplace, some heated floors, i.e., a perfect place for us to be together with daughter, Brett, who lives in Portland, home of Powell's bookstore, my favorite waterfall and near the mighty Pacific ocean. When home, Justin Spring, author of a super book (*The Gourmands' Way: Six Americans in Paris and the Birth of a New Gastronomy*), spoke at our Arts Club of Chicago to a huge, receptive crowd. I love the book!! Life after 80: YES YES YES!"

As for me, **Betty Richards Tripp**, I spent a wonderful month of March in beautiful St. Simons Island, Georgia where I rented a house, escaped three major snowstorms in Connecticut and had the chance to see **Katherine "Kathie" Somerville Steele** frequently. The saying that "There's no friend like an old friend" holds true. Back on the home front, summer arrived and



Betty Richards Tripp '54 and Kathie Somerville Steele '54 in St. Simons Island, Georgia.

I was reminded of a friend's quip that summer is the T season — ticks, traffic and tourists.

1955

Letitia "Tisha" McClure Potter: The contact information for our class correspondents has been removed to protect their privacy but we want to hear from you! Please send your news to alumnae@ethelwalker.org.

Greetings to all! A thank you to those who responded to my outreach emails and mail. Always a pleasure to find responses from our classmates. Please enjoy the following:

Elizabeth "Liz" Nash Muench was the first to respond: "Lovely being here in Vermont and have said goodbye to my darling grands from Maine who were here for a few days, all grown up and responsible and responsive adults. As for news, my two nieces, my daughter-in-law, from Maine, and I took a walking tour of the Maremma area of Tuscany to celebrate my 80th. It was glorious. A few extra days in Rome on both sides of the tour. No rain ever. As I have so often said, the tour should have been advertised as an eating tour with hiking on the side! It was portabella season — so need I say more? We had

Take Note



Cathy Mckee Donovan '68, Tom Muench and Liz Nash Muench '55 at Liz and Tom's North Hero, VT summer place on Lake Champlain.

the great pleasure of a drop-in visit from Marion Christoph, **Debby Williams MacKenzie's** oldest daughter, Elizabeth, was in Burlington for her freshman orientation at UVM. What a joy to share times with Deborah and Elizabeth. Tom and I shuffle around a bit slower these days, but at least we can get around!!!"

Tina O'Neil Lyons writes, "It is always fun to read about our old school and our class notes. Good Lord, so many years ago and what a different school it is now. I remember classes and studying, sports in the afternoon and little else. Now the students are involved in so many activities to support the surrounding community. Having raised three sons, each of whom went to boarding school for some or all of high school, Dan and I are well and still active. Our five grandkids are turning into adults, two out of college, two in college (UofAZ and SMU) and our only granddaughter started NYU in the fall. She aspires to be an actress and NYU accepted her in their theater arts program. We took a trip, by small ship, up the New England coast this summer, Boston to Maine and back. I got to see some of the country where I grew up. Our trips are close to home, no more Europe and beyond. The hassle is too much for us."

Jenny Stewart Chandler says, "Not much new around here. Bruce will celebrate his 90th birthday at the Huron Mt. Club in Bay City, MI with his children and cousins from everywhere (CA, London, Boston). He spent many happy years with family and friends and is looking forward to our annual pilgrimage, but the birthday get together will be a surprise. We are joining the revival of Backgammon at Onwentsia. There are contests (not for me) and practice sessions for anyone to join... including a bunch of eight to ten year-olds who are learning — amazing. Bruce and I played as youngsters but I'm more involved in bridge...can't play golf as I will be destroying my spine which is annoying inasmuch as I have two new hips and was hoping to hit the tour (ha, ha)."

From Nova Scotia, **Dicky Bartlett Peers** says that she is playing tennis, getting in some boating, and waiting for various family members to come north for a visit. "Snuck in a quick voyage to Bermuda, the Azores and Spain but do not like the long return flights. We will return to Sanibel in October."

Natalie Fesenmyer Emery reports that the big "rain" flooded daughter Heather's indoor (equestrian) ring and washed out half of the driveway. Remember

Natalie drives race cars and she reports, "I go to the track where I get to drive on the skid pad." She really misses instructing at the track. Natalie has also taken up ballet, attending four classes a week. She even danced in the spring recital. What she feels she really needs is a computer course. In the fall of 2017, I, **Tisha**, and my daughter, **Lissa Potter '85**, went to Little Washington, VA for a weekend spree and who lives nearby but Natalie. Consequently, we had a great lunch together and a wonderful catch-up. Natalie looks healthy and is full of energy. And she looks very "cool" in her speedy sports car. By now I hope the rain disaster has been remedied.

Terry Treman Williams sends her news: "Now that Joe and I are octogenarians, we have slowed down a bit and hung up our passports! We still get around with a few replaced parts! Two new hips for me and one new knee for Joe." I say, "Well done." Hope you enjoy the new parts as much as I do my hip. They love living in Charleston, SC's Historic District, but flee the summer heat with an escape to the mountains of Linville, NC. They are now great-grandparents of Little Henry whose grandmother is daughter **Margot Ross Rose '80**. Congratulations to all! How many of our class are great-grandparents? Terry's youngest granddaughter, Eliza Brewster, will be the 12th Treman to attend Cornell University in the Fall of 2018. Terry adds that she was not one of the Cornellians.

This year has been a quiet one for **Tania Goss Evans** as Tom is battling serious back problems, so "no travel to magical brain enhancing places on our horizon." She further reports that as the typical doting grandmother, "I spend much time with my two grandsons whom I absolutely adore." One is learning how to fly for his summer project

and the other is preparing to go to Colby this fall — his first choice — where he plans to enter the engineering program while attempting to make the US Ski Team for the next Olympics. You can try to do that these days! Tania is still on the board of the Jackson Hole Land Trust which is confronted with more and more difficult problems as more ranches sell to developers. "It's been a fascinating experience, but I'm not sure how much my art degree brings to that party. I'm also immersed in the renovation of a historic brick Meeting House in Grafton, VT, which definitely does play to my art background and which is a totally addictive fascination!!! Both keep me on the go, a good thing! All else is well and hope the same is true for you."

Lots of news from **Sally Mason Ellison** who volunteered as Camp Nurse for her church's girls camp. Sally goes on to say, "I am still playing golf once or twice a week. I was the captain of our team play this year which involved ten matches over a two month period in April and May. Then I took over as tournament chairman of our group after the prior one had to resign suddenly. My game is not improving with age, however. We attended our granddaughter's graduation from Colorado College in May. I had never seen the campus and was very impressed with the college. It reminds me of a small New England college set in the Rockies right under Pike's Peak. Another granddaughter graduated from high school and has already started at BYU. Next year will be our big high school graduation year with four graduating between May 31st and June 7th in locales spread from Boston to Carmel, CA. So far, our health remains good. Dave had to have a perforated appendix removed which became infected and involved a three-day hospital stay on IV antibiotics, and I had an ER visit with some chest

pressure and lightheadedness. Everything checked out fine and the symptoms were a mystery. It is nice to visit the ER where you used to work as the treatment is first class! I would love to hear what books our classmates are reading and enjoying. Right now, I am enjoying *The Language of Flowers*, and am contemplating reviewing *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* with our book club when my turn comes up in October. I think it will be beneficial to relive that part of our country's history as we are so close to repeating it right now."

Valerie "Val" Stoddard Loring has made a big move. "We moved to the Ocean View Retirement Community in Falmouth, ME in July 2017, where we look forward to more fully taking advantage of all it has to offer. The sale of our Holden, MA house was finalized July 31. Our address is 4 Scholar Road, Falmouth, ME, 04105. To celebrate my 80th and Steve's 85th birthdays, plus the college graduations of three grandsons, we took our family to Jackson Lake Lodge in Grand Teton National Park. It was a fabulous place to gather our three active families (six adults and nine grandchildren) from Yarmouth, ME, Worcester, MA, and Philadelphia, PA. I send love to all." Moving is a huge



Val Stoddard Loring '55 and her husband, Steve, at the Jackson Lake Lodge in Grand Teton National Park.

undertaking and I congratulate you and Steve.

As for me, **Letitia "Tisha" McClure Potter**, my husband, Philip, and I are also "hipsters" with hip replacements — mine in 2012, and going strong, and his in 2015. Hope all of you have had similar good results, a life changer. Last year, 2017, Philip and I made two terrific trips to Southern California planned by our third child, Jamie. We spent two nights in Santa Monica, marveled at the Huntington Library gardens and spent several nights in Santa Barbara at the Belmond El Encanto with travels around the area. It sickens us to think of the fire/mud disasters in the area — amazing to learn that the unusual garden, Lotusland, in Montecito, was spared. Yes, there is climate warming. Our trip was so delightful and interesting, we plan to repeat our visit this summer with some variations. Most of the time our life goes on at a regular pace with visits from children and grandchildren, from Washington, DC, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI and NYC, who are very supportive and fun. Our Corgi is a source of amusement and love. Still in the same house of 51 years — closets too full! I send wishes for health and serenity to all.

It is with sadness that we report the death of classmate **Patricia Mosle Friedman** on March 15, 2018, after an intense battle with cancer. She died peacefully, in her sleep, surrounded by her family's love.

I mention to the other members of 1955 that your everyday doings and musings may be of greater interest to your classmates than you imagine. Please share.

1956

Adrienne "A" Massie Hill

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2018 was a year that had a special ring to it for many of us! It's hard to think that any, or even just some, of us have reached the number 80. (And then, there are some of us who remind the rest of us that they are just reaching 79!)

Clarina Schwarzenbach

Firmenich sent the most appropriate note saying that in Switzerland people say "2 x 40 printemps (spring)" for the 80th birthday. Clarina went on to say that "I had the most amazing birthday, and still have stars in my eyes!!" Clarina's birthday is in April. "My boys arranged two dinners, the first with my five best friends and their husbands, and family the next evening with an amazing loving speech given by Antoine and Patrick! I was a very spoiled mother and my daughters-in-law were fabulous." All is well with her and Dusan Sidjanski, her companion of long standing; he, Dusan, at age 91, is still playing tennis and skis regularly in the winter months which they spend in Verbier in the Swiss Alps. Their new "toy" is Nougat, their Jack Russell terrier, whom they enjoy very much.

Peg Peck Blosser and husband, Denver, continue their traveling odyssey although Peg writes that "overseas is pretty well out of the question, considering the state of the world these days." Many agree. "Travels in 2018 included a Caribbean cruise in January with a golf outing in St. Kitts; more golf in Palm Desert and Palm Springs, CA, and a stay at the Homestead in VA for some golf and relaxing days." Peg says that it is one of their favorite places. Peg writes that their Doberman is trying to figure out if she lives at home or at

the kennel! "She is one delightful, fun dog who surely doesn't fit the reputation that some Dobies have!" Each year on the Fourth of July the Blossers host a picnic which includes hitting old golf balls into the lake behind their house, "a highlight of the day!" Peg, as always, thanks for your notes. Except for two cataract operations for Denver, the Blossers are well.

Lorna Sargent Pfaelzer wrote to say that in September she and her husband planned a trip to Venice with **Mary Fentress Grumhaus '57** and her husband, David. They have traveled together previously which was great fun. Lorna's recent recommended book is *Ritz and Escoffier, the Hotelier, the Chef, and the Rise of the Leisure Class* by Luke Barr, which she enjoyed very much.

In addition to having major birthdays, some of our classmates have recently moved. **Serena Stewart** moved just around the corner in the East 60's in NYC. Serena has continued her traveling, an annual trip to Sun Valley and various shorter trips in the New York area. Serena remains a committed volunteer at Hope Lodge where she has worked for many years.

Phoebe Haffner Andrew also moved from her home in The Highlands, a lovely area in the northern part of Seattle, to another part of Seattle, in town, called Broadmoor, where Mal and I first lived from 1966 until 1970. It seems that our 80th year coincides with graduations of grandchildren: Phoebe was in Sun Valley in early June for the graduation of a grandchild, a son of daughter Louise's, which was followed by two more in Seattle. "Then off to Germany with the youngest three. On to Lake Como with all the family to celebrate my 80th. I'm stopping for two days in Geneva to see **Clarina Schwarzenbach Firmenich**.

Take Note

Have enjoyed *All Passion Spent* by Vita Sackwell-West, not a new book, but fun at our age.”

When the horrendous fires began in southern California, I telephoned **Lee Mallowney Story** to make sure that she and her family were all right. The fires were considerably east of San Diego where Lee lives. Always an aficionado of the sea, Lee continues to keep a boat nearby which she enjoys.

Missy Turnbull Geddes wrote a note that many of us have thought about: “How are we? We are just grateful to have a healthy family and to still be upright ourselves! Enjoyed *Warlight* by Michael Ondaatje, *Magnie Murders* by Anthony Horowitz and ordered his new one entitled *The Word is Murder* and finally, *Last Hope Island* by Lynn Olson, which I have just finished.” I, too, have enjoyed that book as well as *Those Angry Young Men* and *Citizens of London*, also by Lynn Olson.

I had a very delightful, long conversation with **Tisha McClure Potter '55**, earlier in the spring. Tisha remains in close touch with our new head of school, Meera, and all the events that are happening there.

I've also spoken with **Dorothy Doubleday Massey** in Santa Fe where her bookstore continues to thrive.

Serena Stewart and I had a long chat on the phone. For a newly “moved” person, she sounded very calm.

Gail Sheppard Moloney, just home from a trip to the Northwest, sent along a note.

I, **Adrienne “A” Massie Hill**, and my husband, Mal, had a short holiday in Rumson, NJ, an annual event, where we visit longtime New York friends who spend the summer there. Part of

the enjoyment of being right next to the water, which we miss as we now live far inland, is seeing **Susie Kleinhans Gilbertson '53**. Susie said that she and four other classmates really enjoyed their 65th reunion which sounds tempting for us, perhaps. Serena is keen to go, and I, too, would be very interested.

Our family is well, thanks be. My husband, Mal, turned 92 in July, but doesn't look it or seem it! We moved to Atlanta fourteen years ago to live near our older son, Mal, and his family, which we are enjoying. The younger Hills live only two miles away in town, and in addition to attending every Grandparents' Day for their three children, we get together easily. Our younger son, Gordon, a bachelor lawyer in Denver, has become a frequent flyer to Atlanta so that all eight of us have an easy time planning family reunions. I continue to play two pianos with my delightful partner, Linda Bath, a music major graduate from Hollins University, and continue to sing in two choirs at the Cathedral of St. Philip: the Cathedral Choir, responsible for the Sunday morning services, and the Evensong, Schola, which is responsible for the Sunday afternoon services from September through May. The afternoon service is very reminiscent of our Sunday evening chapel services. I'm quite sure that Miss Sala is listening!

1957

Virginia “Ginny” Lambrecht
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Patricia Day Storm says, “My news is that my husband, Howard, and I are happily living in our house in Beverly Hills and left for our safari on August 31st! I still am riding my two horses but not showing any more. My husband is directing a play and still plays tennis at the age of 86. I am not playing tennis anymore because of a bad shoulder but try to keep up my exercises with a trainer. **Karen Peterson Earle** and I talk almost every day and I am in touch with **Joan Garver Anderson** and **Kenny King Howe**. Love to all my classmates!”

Jean “Jinny” Tilt Sammis reports: “This past year I finally succumbed to left hip replacement surgery. As there have been some residual issues, I am still in recovery stage from the April operation. However, I am able to play some golf, but no fun hiking on our trails up in Randolph, VT as my right hip will probably be replaced within the next six months. Oh, well, all new parts is good. We sold our Three Stallion Inn here in Randolph to the Brunswick School of Greenwich, CT, for their New England campus. It was time for us to retire from the inn business. We are still very busy with other projects up here, for one we own the Montague Golf course as well as real estate projects both here and in Greenwich. I am still singing with my church choir when the hips allow. Too much fun to stop. Six grandchildren keep us active in both Greenwich and in Sun Valley, ID. We are very lucky. Also, my sister and EWS alum, **Priscilla Tilt Pochna '59**, lives in NYC so we get to visit often. A wonderful read for any time — *Merle's Door, Lessons from a Freethinking Dog* by Ted Kerasote. Wonderful. Enjoy.”

Angelene “Angie” Pell says, “Knee reconstruction surgery this June slowed my summer down. Went to Glimmerglass Opera Festival in Cooperstown

in early July. What a gem that is. Then, went to Biltmore in Asheville to see the Chihuly in the gardens, which was spectacular at night, and then took in The Pony Club Champs at Tryon. Finally getting back to riding and look forward to hunting as well as teaching at Reynolds again. One granddaughter has returned to UVA this fall to finish her Masters in Public Policy. The other is running the front office of The Valentine museum here in Richmond. Come visit.”

From **Mimi Gibbs Piper**: “A couple of items: My husband, Jim, and I stopped in Richmond on our way to a family vacation on Bald Head Island, NC. We had dinner with **J. Randall “Randy” Furlong Street** and celebrated her recent Big 80th. She looks great and strong and healthy as she always has been. Bald Head is hard to get to but a wonderful place with wide beaches and no cars. We were very lucky with the weather. All eleven of us found plenty to do and shared making dinner each evening. It was such fun for me, the grandmother, to have all of my children, their wives and four of my five grandchildren. As one family lives in Denver, it is not often that the cousins get together. The other plus was a week with no TV and no newspapers to have a break from the crazy state of our politics. This was an early celebration of my 80th birthday. Hard to believe that we are so old and so many years have passed since we were just school girls! The other news is Jimmy and I are taking a trip, in February, with my brother and his wife to Panama and Costa Rica. We mentioned it to **Sandy Lipson Ryon** who signed up to go with us. The new man in her life loves bird watching which is my brother's favorite pastime. He and my husband have worked together for years on our nature center, so we should have a lot of fun together.”

1958

Barbara Welles Bartlett

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Elisabeth Bartlett Sturges

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1959 REUNION

Elena Miller Shoch

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1960

Phyllis Richard Fritts

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1961

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1962

Sage Dunlap Chase

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1963

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1964 REUNION

Cindy Higgins Roby

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Alice Simkins reports: "I received a new hip in October to match my previous one from ten years ago. After a long rehab I feel great! I'm still active in museum work in San Antonio and Houston. I was so sorry to learn of **Mary Platt Vencil's** death."

Happy news from **Tina Gardner Locke**:

"My daughter, Bailey, and her hubby, Taylor Flynn, have a new baby boy, Charlie, to join their four year old, Ellie. My youngest, Christie, and her hubby, Andrew Goodhand, had a beautiful little girl named Charlotte Elisabeth Goodhand. That brings my total of grandchildren up to 3, so far. I started late but am catching up quick. Loving every minute of it, although it might kill me. Haha! So, that's all I know. The other thing I know is that I am too old to chase four year olds around but I am doing my level best! I come home exhausted from babysitting but love, love, love it!"

Cynthia "Cindy" Higgins Roby sends this:

"Though they thoughtlessly live on the East Coast with their parents, I have four delightful grandchildren, a boy and three granddaughters. Thank goodness for FaceTime so we can 'chat' in person and I visit regularly. I am busy here in Sausalito, involved with several non-profits and work in the Sausalito Visitor Center once a week."

In June, **Linda Marvin Benjamin** reported: "So far enjoying the summer here on Long Island. No plans to travel anywhere except on our boat on the annual SCYC cruise."

Deborah Hall Coburn says:

"Happily, still live in my beautiful 1916 brown shingle bungalow in San Rafael. I've lived here for 31 years!"

Celeste "Candy" Royall

Niarchos writes: "I am happily retired and now have two beautiful grandchildren. We spend half the year in Florida. This year we went to Italy. It was a great trip with lots of Greek temples!"

Beverley "Bev" See White

reports that her dad died in March at 97. "He was a neat man and he will be sorely missed," she says. "I got to the age of 73 with no grandchildren and then had two in five months! Megan is still in Nairobi. ZanaAfrica, her non-profit making biodegradable sanitary pads and supporting young women's health issues, is flourishing. She and Mukuria had a baby girl, Tai, who is just a year old and cute as can be. Perrin and Alex are in San Francisco and had Finn, a little boy, seven months ago. I still live on Dataw Island, off of Beaufort, SC. Have been here almost thirteen years. I do go back and forth to Greenwich. I play tennis with **Anne Brainard Schmitt** and she has not missed a beat in the athletic department — a great golfer also. One of the great joys of my otherwise bland internet life is finding one of the frequent postings from **Patricia "Patsy" Ladd Carega's** gallery

in New Hampshire on Facebook. They exhibit art in all media by leading contemporary artists. "The gallery shows an eclectic collection of figurative and abstract work that focuses on originality and innovation."

Anne Brainard Schmitt says:

"**Susan Day Mechelli** and I were able to squeeze in a one night reunion in Kiawah at the end of April. I don't think we had seen each other in about six years, so it was non-stop catching up for twenty-four hours! Great fun! Also my 70's tennis team from Dataw Island qualified for the SC State Tennis Tournament on Hilton Head this spring. We made it all the way to the finals, losing to Myrtle Beach. Of course, we wanted to win the whole thing but second in the State isn't too shabby. I think Miss Scarles would indeed be proud!"

Dorothy "Dotty" Ferguson

Corbiere reports: "My news is all the same, just a year older and a year later. Still teaching at Meadowbrook — easy as school is a mile away and next year four grandchildren there! Henry (14), Payson (12), Mac and Emmie (9.5). I have branched out from math to include science and tech to take advantage of our great makerspace and expert leadership in STEAM. I am learning a lot and loving it, but I hope to retire before long! I ran the Boston



Dorothy "Dotty" Ferguson Corbiere '64 and family as she completed the Boston Marathon, 12th in her age group!

Take Note



Dorothy “Dotty” Ferguson Corbiere ’64’s grandchildren on the first day of school

Marathon this year and finished strong — and raised a lot of \$\$ in memory of my son to support what used to be Children’s AIDS Project but is now SPARK. Somehow **Linda Walker Fuerst** found my fundraising on Facebook. She is in New Hampshire.”

“We and the kids are all fine. I send cheers and best wishes to everyone and hope they are enjoying the ‘golden years,’” says **Nancy West Hannah** who has lived in Phoenix for nineteen years.

Elizabeth “Liz” Yinkey Moore reports: “I had a fun lunch with **Lynn Allegaert** at her gorgeous apartment in NYC. Hadn’t seen her in ages but it didn’t seem like it at all. She’s busy with many projects and I adored catching up.”

Our classmate, **Mary Platt Vencill**, died in Oakland, CA on Saturday, July 29, 2017 at the age of 71 following a brave battle with breast cancer. She was a wife, mother, and grandmother. In addition, she worked for Berkeley Policy Associates for 23 years and was an accomplished triathlete.

1965

Sarah Elting Doering

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From **Helen Frederick**: “Ever since my return from Antarctica, I’ve been immersed in a major gutting/remodel of my master bath. It’s finally finished and I’m getting ready to return to the interior Alaskan Arctic and then onto the Siberian Arctic. I love the colder climes, especially during the HOT Arizona summers! Then off to Svalbard next year! As you know, I adored Antarctica and especially South Georgia Island. The air was particularly fabulous, so clear, so crisp, so CLEAN. I’m looking forward to the comparison with the Arctic.”

Lacey Neuhaus Dorn reports: “Things are momentarily quiet here on the western front. Heat of 106 degrees at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday evening may define this south Texas summer for Tucker and me. Business has morphed into two realms: private art brokerage for collectors and estates, and an ongoing film production based on the friendship of George H. W. Bush and James A. Baker. Daughter Lacey explores the worlds of art, film, theatre and Texas politics. Hope this finds you well. Here’s to a reunion next year!!”

Sarah Elting Doering says: “We had a relatively quiet winter and spring after our fabulous trip to Antarctica and Patagonia. Can’t recommend it enough. We really felt we were on another planet. We made our annual trek to Northern

Ontario to our summer place with lots of family and friends nearby. Always great to get away and unplug from the daily barrage of news.”

1966

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1967

Dianne “Dia” Wasley Chigas

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1968 1969 REUNION

Gurukirn Paulus Khalsa 🙏

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1970

Gail Chandler Gaston

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From **Tina Van Itallie**: “I haven’t seen the *SunDial* for ages and was delighted to receive it at the house we are renting in Bethesda, MD. It was fascinating to read about the varied achievements and adventures of our classmates. I found every name in the news evoked good memories, and made me wonder about many of the others not represented. I would love to know how everyone is doing! In that spirit, I have been a working scientist for many years (after getting a Ph.D. at MIT) and at present am a staff scientist at the NIH. I have been collaborating with my husband, **Jim Anderson**, forever (forty

years). He is one of the NIH deputy directors, so I oversee the lab. We have a delightful daughter and son-in-law (both architects) and 3-year-old grandson who live in Brooklyn. I have been lucky to have a fascinating job, but am looking forward to retiring within a few years. The only classmate I see with any regularity is **Suzanne Little**, who is a psychologist in NYC and totally unchanged from our EWS days. I was dismissive at the time, but I am still grateful for how much we had to write at EWS and how much we read; so much traditional English literature! And we were lucky to have such an interesting group of young women to live with.”



Whitney de Roulet Bullock ’70 and husband, Clark, during their 40th wedding anniversary trip to France

1971

Cynthia Smith Evanisko

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Marie “Betsy” E. Ballenger

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Deborah A. Seaman

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1972

Joanna Betts Virkler

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1973

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1974 REUNION

Vanessa Guerrini-Maraldi Wilcox

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1975

Dr. Doris "Veda" Pendleton

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1976

Your class needs a correspondent! Contact alumnae@ethelwalker.org

Margaret "Douglas" Wise Hytla sends this update: "A very busy year. My daughter, Medora, got married in Maine in June to a very delightful man, Jeffrey Westcott, and they moved to Darien. Both will continue to commute to NYC. My son, John, got engaged over Thanksgiving on Cumberland Island, GA, to Scout Haffenreffer. What a special weekend. Astounding how time marches on."

Shelley Cole and spouse, Deb Monnier, spent two weeks in Europe, touring Amsterdam and visiting friends who moved to



Shelley Cole '76 and her Corgi, Pixel, competing in the costume contest at Oregon's annual Corgi Beach Day



Shelley Cole '76 and her spouse, Deb Monnier

Krakow, Poland. They also took their corgis, Pixel and Jade, to Oregon's annual Corgi Beach Day, an event which attracted nearly 700 corgis from all over the country. Pixel and Shelley competed in the costume contest (the theme was "Corgi Storm," so Shelley went as a fan and Pixel went as Mr. Hanky), as well as the first annual corgi races. Pixel was the fifth fastest corgi out of the 64 allotted entrants.

Staley Cayce Sednaoui has had some changes in her life. After 25+ years in New Jersey, she and her husband have sold their house in Princeton and picked up stakes. They are not sure where they are heading next, so they are temporarily living at their summer house on Fishers Island... population 250 in the winter. Quite an adventure! Professionally, her business is thriving, as she helps her clients with all aspects of nutrition (staleysednaoui.com). In January 2019 she's launching a 4-week online self-study course addressing self-sabotage around food and eating, bringing the one-on-one work she does with clients to an online format. (staleysednaoui.teachable.com)

1977

Juliet "Julie" Ward Flood

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1978

Katharine Swibold

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The Class of 1978 gathered in Simsbury to celebrate our 40th reunion in May, and what a time we had! Thank you to **Ashley Lickle O'Neil** for encouraging us all to return.

WHAT A REUNION!! Another great time together, Class of '78! A million thanks to **Ellen Fauver Reimer, Helen Hummer Feid, Heather King Taylor, Catherine "Cate" Whiting, Vaune Hatch, Linda Abizaid Wiener, Elizabeth "Libby" Swearngen Cerullo, Jennifer Hermann, Anne "Annie" Crandall Campbell, Maria Hampton Klimczak, Sue Griffin Yonkers, and Katharine Swibold** for making the effort to come to Simsbury for a GREAT time together! From dinner together on Friday night at the old Chart House (now Abigail's), going through our senior yearbook, to watching The Royal Wedding and celebrating it in style wearing our royal hats at the Ba-Na-Na (thanks Heather!), we LOVED being together! All our childhood



Class of 1978's soggy parade to Chapel on Reunion Saturday

Take Note



Class of 1978 at Reunion: Maria Hampton Klimczak, Ellen Fauver Reimer, Anne “Annie” Crandall Campbell, Susan “Sue” Griffin Yonkers, Catherine “Cate” Whiting, Helen Hummer Feid, Jennifer Hermann, Katharine Swibold, Linda Abizaid Wiener, Ashley Lickle O’Neil, Elizabeth “Libby” Swarengen Cerullo, Vaune Hatch, Heather King Taylor

misperceptions and invalid differences were a distant memory, and we loved sharing our life stories and sticking together! I’m giving all of you fair warning... MAY 2028 is a MUST! It will be our 50th, and you will regret not being there. Let’s win the highest attendance award again, please!” P.S. We’re talking about sponsoring a new reunion weekend award for the Best Reunion Ba-Na-Na Dancing ... we would have won it this year!

Also, over the course of the weekend, we enjoyed classmates’ art (created by **Elizabeth “Libby” Swarengen Cerullo, Vaune**

Hatch, and me), attended a Women of Color alumnae and student roundtable, and a conversation with LGBTQ alumnae and students. Students presented scenes from Hairspray as well as some of the community service work and science research they are doing. We had a soggy march to the Chapel where we heard Teresa Younger, Walker’s trustee and president and CEO of the Ms. Foundation, speak, saw the class of 2018 being inducted into the Alumnae Association, and sang the choral Benediction along with the student choir. It was amazing how that came back to me, like it was just yesterday!

The inspirational Dr. Meera Viswanathan, head of school, gave a state of the school address, and **Catherine “Cate” Whiting** and **Jennifer Hermann** made us proud in how they represented the class on a “Voices of Walker’s Women Today” panel sponsored by the Alumnae Board. Cocktails and yummy hors d’oeuvres were served at the Head’s House giving us another opportunity to catch up on each other’s lives, our families and work, successes and challenges, joys and disappointments, and to hear from the Alumnae Board leadership.

Our class didn’t win any awards at the Saturday dinner this year, but we sure did make our presence known at the Ba-Na-Na that night. **Heather King Taylor** brought a collection of fun hats for us to wear along with the kitschy boas, necklaces and glasses provided by Walker’s. Yours truly clearly left too early because I missed Ashley and others dancing on the tables! It was so special to have three classmates back for their first time since graduation in 1978: **Linda Abizaid Wiener, Elizabeth “Libby” Swarengen Cerullo, and Catherine “Cate” Whiting.**



Class of 1978 dinner at Abigail’s restaurant on Friday night of Reunion. Clockwise from left: Elizabeth “Libby” Swarengen Cerullo, Heather King Taylor, Vaune Hatch, Ashley Lickle O’Neil, Ellen Fauver Reimer, Helen Hummer Feid, Catherine “Cate” Whiting, and Linda Abizaid Wiener



Dinner and hats on Saturday night of Reunion! Left to right: Jennifer Hermann, Anne “Annie” Crandall Campbell, Ashley Lickle O’Neil, Ellen Fauver Reimer, Katharine Swibold, Vaune Hatch, Maria Hampton Klimczak, and Board of Trustees Chair Kit O’Brien Rohn ’82

Elizabeth “Libby” Swaengen Cerullo reports: “My initial motivation for returning to Simsbury for my first reunion since graduating was the opportunity to be a part of the alumnae art show. **HOWEVER**, reconnecting with classmates and listening/telling stories, playing African drums, watching the amazing student presentations, singing with the alumnae choir, and hearing Meera’s vision for the school were unexpected gifts. I learned so much that weekend that I regretted that I had not returned sooner for a reunion. Yes, women’s education is not antiquated. It IS cutting edge. And it’s never too late to learn, even from the Walker’s community. I’ll be back — art show or not.”

Linda Abizaid Wiener shares: “Hooray Sunray to the Class of 1978 Reunion Committee for a wonderful 40th reunion weekend! Thank you for your persistence in getting me back to Walker’s and for not giving up on me after all these years! It was so great to reconnect with all of you, share in your life stories (much has happened to us in 40 years!) and to see the amazing growth and changes at Walker’s. I regret that I had not attended a previous reunion, as any reservations about returning melted away as soon as I walked up the front steps of Beaver Brook. I was coming home! The campus is as beautiful as ever and the Walker’s community, past and present, was friendly and welcoming! I found the weekend to be rejuvenating, heartwarming, and just plain old fun! To all of you, who like me for whatever reason are hesitant to return, please know that your classmates and school are genuinely eager to see you again! It’s time to come home! See you at the next one...”

Catherine “Cate” Whiting also reports that she had a great time, was very glad she returned, and looks forward to the next one.

1979 REUNION

Karen Polcer Bdera

The contact information for our class correspondents has been removed to protect their privacy but we want to hear from you! Please send your news to alumnae@ethelwalker.org.

Karen Baldwin writes, “I moved to Charleston, SC a year ago to move in with the ‘love of my life’, that I dated thirty-four years ago and reconnected with three years ago, after ten years of being divorced! I am working on contemporary homes in a very traditional architectural city... loving the design process! My son, Zachary, who is 27 and lives in NYC, has a high-end women’s clothing store in Greenwich, CT called Copious Row. My daughter, Olivia, is 24 and lives between Hoboken, NJ and Malibu, CA. She works in documentary film and loves it. The first film she worked on went to the Sundance Film Festival! All in all, everything is great. I am trying to get back into my painting along with doing design work on the projects I am working on.”

From **Donna “Dar” Reimer Barrett**: “My daughter, Amanda, had her second child! A baby girl named Virginia Webster Walters. Virginia was born on May 26th, and weighed in at 8 pounds, 2 ounces! Amanda and her husband, Frank, also have a 3.5 year old son, Landon Souther Walters. They all live in Menlo Park, CA. My son Alex lives in



Donna “Dar” Reimer Barrett ’79

Washington, DC and works for a company by the name of Carlyle, a private equity company. I live in Greenwich, CT now and see many EWS classmates and alumnae including **Lela Schaus Philip, Lisa Danforth Hurst, Ellen Gerry Breed, Dina Cathay Millard, Kim Bourne Fisher ’77, Ashley Lickle O’Neil ’78, Ellen Fauver Reimer ’78** (my sister in-in-law) and many more.... I also keep in touch with **Karen O’Callaghan Horan** and **May Herkert Bogdanovics!**”

Nora Goodhue Barton Cascella writes, “Working at Regional Hospice and Palliative Care in Danbury, CT. Still living in Ridgefield, CT, although the nest is now completely empty. All five sons launched. Three daughters-in-law and six grandkids. Grateful for Facebook, as it seems the only way to keep in touch lately.”

Retirement news from **Liz Dawes Knight**: “A while back, I retired from a position as a research scientist and associate director for translation, outreach, training and education at the Injury Prevention Research Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.”

Gretchen Dill Levine sends lots of news: “My husband and I graduated from Emory University in the spring of 1983 and were married at Dwight Chapel on the Yale Campus in November. Marc is from New Haven. My parents were still living in Saudi Arabia at that time. After working for his dad in New Haven for a brief time we moved to Manchester, CT while Marc attended UConn Business School and I worked for The Travelers Insurance Co. in Hartford. Upon his graduation in 1988, he began his career at Hewlett Packard (Medical Products Group) in Andover, MA and I transferred to continue working for The Travelers in Boston. Our first daughter, Sarah, was born in Newburyport, MA in

June of 1989. I returned to work in Boston for a few more years until second daughter, Allison, was born also in Newburyport in May of 1993. At that point both the tech industry at large and the real estate market were tanking, and our career options were a bit limited... so, we did what I know how to do, move overseas, and took a position in Kobe, Japan with HP Medical. We had to wait until Allison was old enough to travel (in those days that was 8-12 weeks) and off we went! In January of 1995 we lived through the Great Hanshin Earthquake in Kobe and this event ultimately resulted in HP moving that office to Hong Kong. About two years in, a job came up for Marc in Singapore. I said I will move there if we can stay at least three years. So, of course, two years later, while on home leave in the US, a job came up for Marc in Palo Alto, CA at HP Corporate. So, in 1998, off we went to CA. We landed in a lovely community north east of San Francisco and lived in Granite Bay, CA for fifteen years. Our youngest daughter went K-12 there. Both graduated from Granite Bay High School and went on to college — Allison to CU Boulder, and Sarah to UCLA. Allison is currently a reporter and weekend anchor for the local ABC station in Chattanooga, TN. Sarah just graduated from UCLA Law and is studying for the bar which she took in July. She began working at Winston Straugm law firm in September. 2013 brought lots of changes! Marc left HP, on very good terms, we sold our home and moved to Scottsdale, AZ via New Zealand and Bora Bora to celebrate our 30th anniversary. We had so much fun telling all the newlyweds that we were homeless at that moment. After four years in the desert heat, Marc began entertaining recruiting offers and this job in Boston popped up. For a variety of reasons this one worked out. This move has been the longest, most exhausting physical moving

Take Note

process of my life. We are settling into our new home in Concord, MA. We hope to not move again!! ... until we are too old to live in this house which has a lot of stairs. 2018 brings our 35th wedding anniversary. In addition to moving ourselves and our two dogs, I have two horses. They are both grey Holsteiner hunter/jumpers. I am terribly out of shape and having a hard time getting to the barn (Saddle Rowe in Medway, MA), but hope that I can get back to a regular schedule of riding almost every day. Of course, the easy way to say all of this is that we started out in MA 1988-93 and took the long way around via Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, California, Arizona and are now back in MA. We have two beautiful daughters who are doing very well. We also have two dogs and two horses to sustain us in the absence of children. I am currently not working for any salary. I hope to connect with some alumnae of both EWS, Emory and Kappa Alpha Theta. Getting this house together and riding/caring for my horses and dogs is my full-time job right now. I am also interested in volunteering, hopefully for a local equine therapy group."

Sally Peck Tieger writes, "Hi everyone. Not sure I have ever submitted, but life, with all its



Sally Peck Tieger '79 with her sons, Max (26), Peter (20), and Gavin Kerr (24)

surprises and changes, made me want to say hello! Still living in CA (26 years now) but moved last June from Palo Alto south to Los Gatos. I'm newly married and so happy after ten years in the single world. My three boys, 26, 24 and 20, are wonderful even though two are still struggling to launch. Remember our 20's.... I prefer this age, older and wiser! I'm excited to visit **Sarah Brand Kelly** in July and hope to see **Dana Carter Lange** again when I drop my youngest off at Elon in August. Please contact me if you are ever passing through the Bay Area! I will try my best to make our 40th.... how can that be! Love to all...Sally!"

Exciting news from **Nancy Mack von Euler** who says, "Our daughter, Sarah, graduated from Davidson College in May. She's home under our roof again (Yay!!) and working for an ophthalmologist earning the clinical hours she needs to apply to go back to school to become a physician's assistant. I changed jobs in October and am now serving as the Executive Director of Horizons at New Canaan Country School. I'm loving the new gig and getting to know all the great people in the Horizons family. Looking forward to our 40th!"

From **Ashley Smith Washburn**: "I am currently in Tanzania,



Tanzania School (photo by Ashley Smith Washburn '79)

as usual, leading a cultural immersion trip to introduce students and adults of all ages to Tanzania culture, and to learn about all of our programs at Asante Sana For Education as well as a few safaris. This year we opened a second session of BEE Montessori Preschool (BEE — **Betsy '77, Ellie '09 and Emily van Gemeren '07**). Our preschoolers are amazing. We had our first Students Empowering Students member receive her master's at University of Aberdeen this past year and many students working towards their master's and bachelor's degrees as well as graduating from advanced and secondary schools. It has been an amazing year for all our students and the communities we work with in Tanzania. I would love to have anyone from EWS travel with us — www.asantesanaforeducation.com."

And a quick update from yours truly, **Karen Polcer Bdera**: I continue to volunteer, race walk, travel, read, and work on craft projects. Husband, Nick, continues to teach his exercise classes for older adults at Isabella Geriatric Center. We still enjoy our twice-yearly trips to Aruba, and this year I will also be venturing to South Africa with my aunt for a whirlwind tour of Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Johannesburg and Cape Town. Should be amazing! And, don't forget, our 40th reunion is in 2019! I really hope we have a terrific turnout!"



Sally Peck Tieger '79 and her husband, Herb Tieger



Nancy Mack von Euler '79 with her daughter, Sarah von Euler, and husband, Peter von Euler

1980

Ann O'Reilly

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Stephanie Smith Breed reports: "My daughter, Eliza, graduated from Boston University. She will continue her studies at Columbia University for her Master's in Public Health. My younger daughter, Julia, is a junior at Northeastern. She is currently part of a co-op at MIT in their microbiology lab."

Shannon Young Ray writes: "I have a new granddaughter! Madison Ann Ray. Her big brother, Breck III, is eleven months older. Also, I asked Breck for new carpet, but he must have misunderstood and is installing a putting green instead! Maybe I'll have carpet news for the next edition."



Breck III and Madison Ann Ray, grandchildren of Shannon Young Ray '80

1981

Veronica "Roni" Leger

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I'll start with my news. I was fortunate enough to be able to attend the EWS alumnae event



The Class of '81 by the pool in Panama: Gizella Anne Callender Crawford, Pam Safford, Veronica "Roni" Leger, Mary Bebel Schinke, Motria Procyk, Amy Storrow, Shelley Marks, and Yolanda Eleta de Varela



Pam Safford '81 and Veronica "Roni" Leger '81 wearing their Suns and Dials shirts in Panama



Dr. Shelley Marks '81 with her husband, Dr. Erik Gaensler, and son, Nicholas "Nick" Gaensler



The Class of '81 members Shelley Marks, Amy Storrow, Veronica "Roni" Leger, Gizella Anne Callender Crawford, and Pam Safford on their first night in Panama

in Panama last March. What a fantastic time! This was my second trip to Panama, and I was equally in awe. We did a little city and a little country — it was the perfect mix. The Class of '81 had a great turn out, naturally, but it was also so much fun to hang out with women from other classes and hear their stories. I'm including a few of my favorite pics from the trip.

Shelley Marks was on the East Coast in June for two weeks at her house in Wingersheek. While I was visiting, I snapped a picture of her family. Nick, who just finished his freshman year at Lick-

Take Note

Wilmerding, is the tallest in the family, and probably still growing. He is now the same age as when Shelley and I first met — hard to believe!

Yolanda Eleta de Varela writes: “My daughter, Sofia, got married last May to a wonderful Panamanian, Peter. They honeymooned in Australia and New Zealand, then moved to London for a year to get their master’s degrees. I am still working hard at helping to rebuild schools and to eliminate ‘ranch schools’ in indigenous areas of the country. We just inaugurated five new schools, and I had the satisfaction and joy of being there with the kids in awe. They used to sit in open ‘classrooms’ made from sticks and zinc ceilings, and dirt floors; their bathrooms were holes in the dirt, with all the health issues this brings. Fulo and the kids are doing great. Luisfer worked this summer in Google NY, and he is the happiest guy. Ximena and I will be traveling to Chicago for Special Olympics’ 50th anniversary, so this is very exciting. And, my youngest, Graciela, worked at her first summer job at KPMG Panama. Good discipline for all of them.”

Pam Safford writes: “I took a quick trip to NM to visit my

mom for her birthday — great trip with 100 degree days but still coolish nights. Dan and I headed to Scotland to celebrate our 30th anniversary by playing a few rounds of golf as well as attending the British Open for one day. I’ve never been to Scotland so it was great fun discovering what it’s all about. Days in New Canaan aren’t bad either, and if I’m lucky they include seeing **Laura Whiteman** on occasion, as well as **Roni** and others as they drift through town.”

Gizella Anne Callender Crawford writes: “I moved to a new health carrier last June, Neighborhood Health Plan — the fastest growing carrier in MA and owned by the largest private employer in MA. We are doing some innovative things for our clients and members, and I am excited to be part of growing the company. I was thrilled to be part of our class who went to Panama last March. **Yolanda “Yoli” Eleta de Varela ’81** and **Ximena Eleta de Sierra ’83** helped the School create an incredible trip for so many of us. We were so fortunate to have many special moments! Lucy finished up her freshman year at Endicott majoring in Exercise Science. Will’s landscaping/snow removal company is growing and they are focusing on stone work. He did a

gorgeous job removing my asphalt driveway and putting down pavers. Will never outgrew his love for trucks! And, he has decided to go back to school part time. Love having them both close by.”

Sue Kostick writes: “I am living in Boca Raton. I moved to be near my sister and her husband, and my parents. It was incredible to spend seven years being near the family again. Mom and Dad have both passed. I know many of you have gone through this, and it is hard concept to grasp — a world without Milton and Nancy Kostick. They gave me a lot of passion and humor, and I carry them with me daily. I am still working for Ernst & Young as a consultant implementing software for large companies. It lets me travel a ton. If you come to Florida, please look me up!”



Sue Kostick ’81

Betsy Schreier Davis writes: “I left my job at Princeton Day School last September and took a new job at the Jackson Hole Classical Academy in Jackson, WY. I moved here in September, but still have my home in NJ, and travel back and forth. My title is Registrar/Information Manager. While living here in WY, I have made it up to Yellowstone and Sun Valley, ID, and taken full advantage of living in the Tetons. This summer I spent a week at Basin Harbor Club (in Vergennes, VT) with my family, and then two

weeks backpacking in Iceland with NOLS.”

Elizabeth England writes “Tricks are good with the England/Scotts. We’re still in the West Village of NYC (come visit), still working (Why’s everyone ‘early retiring’ and going on fabulous vacations with endless return dates? What did we do wrong?) and journeying on weekends to a shack in northwest Connecticut for reconnection to the woods, mountains, lakes, and ticks. Visited Walker’s with a pal whose daughter is a rising senior and was BLOWN AWAY by all the newness. My little college essay coaching biz has expanded to include college counseling and I realize daily, a) how much I love the 16-19 age demo; b) how important a low-drama high school experience is, and c) how much fun I personally had with you all. I’m still ghostwriting leadership pieces for high-level execs, which keeps the brain sorta agile, and I’m trying to finish novel #3 and thinking maybe three’s the charm?! My daughter has graduated from Oberlin, is living at home and managing projects for a global health non-profit. Her goal is to ‘save the world’ and man-o-man is she determined to do so! My son’s a junior at Wesleyan, and he’s just about to summit Mt. Shasta. We’re all striving to summit, no?”

Alison Bruce Crichton-Stuart writes: “I am living in London and have a small private practice working as a psychoanalytic psychotherapist seeing mainly children and couples. I had to do various accreditation procedures for UK boards and whilst that was taking place I went back to school and so am doing another master’s working psychoanalytically with couples. My husband runs Agnews, an Old Master paintings gallery, which is why we came back to London. Our three children are all still in NY although the oldest, Flora, is



Yolanda Eleta de Varela ’81 and family at daughter Sofia’s wedding. Left to right: Graciela, Fulo, Sofia, Yolanda, Luisfer, and Ximena

coming to London in October to do a master's at The Courtauld. Eliza has one more year at Sarah Lawrence and the youngest is a senior in high school at Millbrook. He did his junior year in Rennes with the SYA program.”

Deb Loven-Gray writes: “I’m still in Washington, DC but spent the summer on Martha’s Vineyard. Jackson and Elsa are middle schoolers at the Lowell school in DC; eldest, Nick, a rising junior at St. Alban’s and my second son, Hudson, is now a boarder at Salisbury School. I told him to be sure to sign up for any dances at EWS! Husband, Josh, has joined a Miami based-law firm, so a move further south is in our future. Until then I continue my work as a fundraising consultant for the Alzheimer’s Drug Discovery Foundation in NYC. In four-legged news: We had a litter of Golden Retrievers last spring, and this year I indulged in a German Warmblood horse named ‘Blinky’ who is a real gentleman. So, with the three goldens and four kids we are currently a family of ten! Please do reach out if any of you are in Washington or on Martha’s Vineyard!”

Susan Turnier Mahin writes: “I am continuing my teaching career



Susan Turnier Mahin '81 with her two sons, Nick and Connor

in Fredericksburg, VA, in third grade and next year marks the milestone of 25 years. In order to keep my sanity, I also have a part-time job at a local winery in the tasting room pouring wine on the weekends. (The adult conversation is great and the perks are a big plus!) My sons, Nick and Connor, are grown and making their way in the world but still live close by, so I get to see them often. I’ve attached a recent picture of us all. I am really not that short — they are just tall!”

Sarah Crosskey Marvin writes: “Our big news is that our daughter, Emily, got married last summer. It was a wonderful celebration. We just celebrated our 35th anniversary! We still live in

NH, and my accounting business is busier than ever. How time flies and I look back fondly on my days at EWS. Have connected with **Meleda Wegner Lowry** and **Motria Procyk** over the past few years and am looking forward to our next big reunion!”

Merrill Collins Peterkin writes: “I continue to work as a licensed music therapist, building my own private practice focusing on the geriatric population (Alzheimer’s and dementia patients) and adolescents with processing delays and trauma. In addition, I’m pursuing a certification in grief counseling and, hopefully, will work with the Center for Hope. I live in Darien, CT with my husband, Patrick, who is a senior vice president at Horizon Kinetics in NY. Recently, we adopted a two-year-old beagle/treeing walker coonhound mix named ‘Walker T. Sherman’ (affectionately nicknamed ‘Bubbe’). He loves to chase rabbits, squirrels and chipmunks. I think his beagle bark sounds like a tenor! My stepson, William, is a business entrepreneurial/economics major at UVM. This summer, he did an internship with a start-up company providing services for UVM students in Burlington. He’ll graduate in May 2019.

Patrick and I live in a house built in 1926, one of the houses saved and rolled to the current location when I-95 was built in 1955. We love the house and have been giving it a necessary facelift with a fresh coat of white paint and shiny, newly-painted black shutters! Musically, I’ve been singing second soprano in the St. Luke’s choir here in Darien. Also, I’m currently putting together a small acoustic band with some friends, playing songs from some of my favorite artists — Bonnie Raitt, Tom Petty, Rolling Stones, the Grateful Dead, Bill Withers, Lucinda Williams, Ray LaMontagne, Radiohead, Steve Winwood, and Eric Clapton. Lastly, I went to Scotland with Patrick and my mother in August!”

I’m sharing a picture of my sister, **Marion Leger Murphy '80**, and me taken at the Ocean House in Watch Hill, RI during our combined birthday lunch. We are Irish twins, only eleven months and three weeks apart, so we are the same age for a week. She hates having her picture taken, so I had to sit on her!

That’s it for now from the Class of '81. Maybe my next trip should be to Scotland — it seems pretty popular, and I am part Scottish! XOXO Roni!



Deb Loven-Gray '81 with two of her four children, Jackson and Elsa



Sarah Crosskey Marvin '81 at daughter Emily's wedding with husband, Jon, and sons, Daniel and Will



Veronica “Roni” Leger '81 and Marion Leger Murphy '80

1982

Cynthia T. Vega

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1983

Anna Perkins de Cordova

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1984 REUNION

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1985

Elizabeth Potter Giddings

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Esther Pryor

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1986

Tahra Makinson-Sanders

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Jessica Woodhouse writes, "I just read our class page and realized that I sailed right past Cherie Sanborn Weed's house last week! I would actually have anchored at Seal Harbor had the wind not been from the West that day. Hi Cherie! Meanwhile... I am alive and well in Corning,

NY. Two amazing children, Sacha (11) and Zoe (7). They are both budding science geeks so our home is full of rocks, fossils, reptiles, and half-assembled robots. Weekends we are sailing and backpacking, mostly in the Adirondacks and on Lake Ontario. My five-year plan is to "teach THEM to sail so I can lie on the deck sipping margaritas and doing no work at all. I'm sure this will happen!!" And, I split my work time between writing novels and practicing law at a legal aid clinic — both very satisfying in quite different ways. I've stayed in touch with Katie Kenney Vogel '84 all these years, but I've sadly lost touch with Justine Davenport and Melissa Goodrich Arons. If either of you are reading this, or if anyone else wants to get in touch, please email me at: woodhouse.jessica@gmail.com."



Jessica Woodhouse's '86 children, Sacha (11) and Zoe (7).

1987

Lori Stewart 🍷

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1988

Carolyn "Carrie" Pouch

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1989 REUNION

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1990

Amanda Pitman

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1991

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1992

Whitley Ram Schoeny

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1993

Augusta Morrison Harrison

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1994 REUNION

Philippa Eschauzier Earl

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1995

Nicole Lewenson Shargel

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1996

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1997

Alicia Benedetto

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Karen Crowe

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1998

Brooke Berescik-Johns

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Rachael Rosselli writes: "I've been enjoying my new position as regional philanthropy officer for the American Red Cross and am thrilled to work for a true humanitarian organization. This summer, I'm looking forward to visiting Meredith Davison in Seattle and hiking and camping in as many New England state parks as possible. Recently, I joined the New England Aquarium Dive Club and continue to volunteer for The Greenway, an urban park system in downtown Boston. I got my boating license last fall and hope to put it to good use soon. Please contact me if you're in Boston, MA or Westerly, RI at rsrosselli@gmail.com."

Katherine "Kate" Estock says, "It's been several months of excitement in our household as we moved across Canada not once, but twice. First, we went west to Vancouver, where we fell in

love with the mountains and the Pacific Ocean. After six months, my husband unexpectedly received a great job offer back in Toronto. So we packed up all over again and came back east. We are finally settled (sort of). Ian is getting ready to start kindergarten, and Finley will be starting preschool — where did the time go??”

Ipsita Das writes: “I wasn’t able to make it to our official class reunion in 2018 but I was very glad to have a mini-reunion one weekend in July with fellow Walker’s alums **Brooke Berescik-Johns ’98, Vivienne Felix ’99, Meaghan McLean Boisfeuillet ’99, and Drusilla Carter ’96**. We all enjoyed getting away from the daily grind by relaxing at the spa at Mohegan Sun and we got to celebrate Ms. Carter’s birthday over some delicious Italian food at Ballo. As you can see in the photo, we even witnessed a giant wheel of parmesan being set on fire so they could mix in pasta and truffles for us to share (a.k.a., the ‘Big Cheese!’) We were, possibly, the only people at Mohegan that spent almost zero time gambling (so, no one hit the jackpot), but we had a great time and a lot of laughs — as is always the case when Walker’s girls get together!”



Meaghan McLean Boisfeuillet ’99, Drusilla Carter ’96, Vivienne Felix ’99, Brooke Berescik-Johns ’98 and Ipsita Das ’98 at Mohegan Sun celebrating Drusilla’s birthday

1999 REUNION

Vivienne Felix

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2000

Allison Quigley

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2001

Alicia Little Hodge

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2002

Holly Jackson

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Virginia Russell finished her first year at UC Berkeley pursuing her Ph.D. in Microbiology. She worked in various labs including the lab studying “CRISPR” technology, and is now invested in studying Cholera bacteria and the viruses that colonize them.



Julia Howles Johnson ’06 and husband, Henry, with their daughter, Eliza Kemper Johnson

2003

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2004 REUNION

Averill Wyman-Blackburn

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2005

Emma Bedford-Jack

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2006

Ebony Moses

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Alle Shane

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Congratulations to Lyndsay Forrest Faries who married Ryan Faries.

Congratulations, also, to Reema Dedania who married Christopher Taylor in September, and **Kate Santella** who got engaged to Geoff Roske.

Julia Howles Johnson writes, “My husband, Henry, and I are so excited to announce that we welcomed our first baby, Eliza Kemper Johnson, on July 30. She is happy and healthy and we are so in love! Last year, we restored an old farmhouse (built in 1788) in Pound Ridge, NY and have moved out here full time from NYC. We are loving life with our daughter and dog, Miles! We also had a chance to catch up with **Lyndsay Forrest Faries** and her husband, Ryan, while in Bermuda in April. It was such a treat to see them. I hope everyone is doing well.”

2007

Emily Casey

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Jeanette Pelizzon 🍷

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Emily Pintauro writes: “I have been living in Charlotte, NC, for the past five years working in digital marketing. I recently got my real estate license and will be making a career change into the residential real state market here in Charlotte in the next few months!” *[Emily just got engaged on a trip to Italy!]*

Take Note

Annie Richey writes: "I moved to North Carolina two years ago and I love it! (Southern hospitality is a real thing.) I work for a continuing care retirement community called Twin Lakes. I've been working in geriatrics for 9.5 years now! I start clinicals in August and will be a registered nurse by 2020!"

Samantha Staubitz writes: "I've been at my job as an EMT with Bristol Hospital for a year now and love every minute of it. I just purchased my first apartment and now am a Bristol resident. I hope to be going to paramedic school in the fall to pursue my passion in the medical field."

Chasity Reels writes: "I have recently been working at a childcare center as a teacher. Love, love my kids. I am still in college working towards my master's in psychology. My daughter's first birthday was June 7 and also I'm ENGAGED! SO EXCITED! I hope everyone is doing well."

More exciting baby news from **Jamie Shannon Hammond**, who also gave birth to a son, Lucas Hammond, born October 11, 2018 just one day past his due date. Jamie reports: "We're all doing great! My husband, Nate, and I purchased our first home in April, so it's been a big year. We're adjusting to life as a family of three and looking forward to the all the adventures to come!"



Lucas Hammond, son of Jamie Shannon Hammond '07

Emily van Gemen has been working for a small educational publishing company for five years, and loves her job. "My horses, Rodney and Minnow, take up most of my free time and what little time is left I make sure to spend outside! I've been living in Boston since I finished graduate school there, but will likely move back to Connecticut soon to be closer to my family."

Very happy news from **Kenya Dyer**, who gave birth on November 11, 2018 to Kairo Elijah Monteiro at 11:53 a.m. Kairo was 7 lbs., 15 oz. and 20 inches long. Kenya added, "I went overdue to 41 weeks and 2 days, and we've been dealing with newborn life since then!"



Kenya Dyer '07 and Kairo Elijah Monteiro born November 11, 2018

Jeanette Pelizzon currently works for a work and travel company called Remote Year. "Due to my job, I now live full time out of a suitcase and travel the world. This fall I will be in Southeast Asia before heading back to Latin America to wrap up the year. Looking forward to many more travels to come!"

2008

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Molly Stevens Allen writes: "This July I finished my 3-year residency in veterinary anesthesia and pain management at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and passed my American College of Veterinary Anesthesia and Analgesia specialty boards examination. I accepted a position at Lakeshore Veterinary Specialists, a referral veterinary hospital for dogs and cats, in Milwaukee, WI as their first anesthesiologist. My husband and I are living in the village of Wauwatosa outside of Milwaukee with our dog, Madison, and cats, Cameron and Charlie."

Lucca Troutman is now the music director at the Bay Area Music Project. (www.bayareamusicproject.org/bamp-teaching-artists.html)



Heather Carley '09 and fiancée, Marie

engaged!

Amanda Petruskevicius is back in school getting her master's degree in an Adult/Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner program at Villanova University, while continuing to work as a nurse on a surgical stepdown unit.

Brianna "Bri" Carillo and **Lucia Blanchard '65** met at Cornerstone Farm South, where Bri was the program director. What a small world! Bri is now working in the barn at EWS!

2009 REUNION

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Heather Carley is living in Florida with her cats and bulldog and working at Disney World. She is excited to share that she and her girlfriend, Marie, are now

2010

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Lucia Blanchard '65 and Brianna "Bri" Carillo '09 met at Cornerstone Farm South.



Jaclyn “Jackie” Reis Giunta ’11 with her husband, Michael Giunta, at their wedding on May 12, 2018

2011

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2012

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Kayla Monroe received her MBA in December 2017 and walked in her school’s formal graduation ceremony in May. Kayla is looking to secure a full-time position, which she says has been quite trying, but she hopes something will come through soon.

2013

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Alexandria “Allie” Leidt is currently living in Los Angeles and working towards her Master’s of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis at the University of Southern California (USC). This is the first year the program has been offered at USC, and Alexandria is only one of ten students and the youngest student in the program. She attends classes full time, three to four days a week, while also completing 20-25 hours a week working with children with autism in East Los Angeles and the surrounding areas. Despite this rigorous schedule, she is a top student in her class, and was recently awarded a scholarship for academic excellence as determined by the faculty to help fund her education. Additionally, she is in the process of beginning her thesis research which aims to address the concerns of clinical decision-making and systems analysis in regards to services for children and young adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).”

2014 REUNION

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Mei Wheaton ’14 and Liz Glover ’14 in DC before they moved to NYC

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Kristen T. Wrigley reports that she is living in New York City and working as an events manager for jewelry designer Kendra Scott.

Liz Glover writes that she is a recent graduate of The Catholic University of America, graduating cum laude with a B.A. in Communications. “I focused on production, and while in school, produced two documentaries. I also was a double minor in Spanish and Graphic Design and was the captain of the Women’s Varsity Track and Field team and a DIII Landmark Conference Scholar Athlete. This past year I worked for SiriusXM Radio in Washington, DC. Fun fact, I got the job on LinkedIn all

because I speak Spanish! From August — December I worked in music programming on the Spanish channels. (Yes, everything was 100% all in Spanish.) I was recording and editing artist’s interviews for air, including J. Balvin. I was also sent to NYC to produce a show with Pitbull and was in training to become ‘on air talent.’ From January to May, I switched positions and left all things Spanish to become the producer on The Pulse Morning Show, channel 15, with Ron Ross. I was producing the show, running the sound board, editing calls live for air, writing games, writing daily news reports, and also co-hosting the show. My radio name was I-Liz. I also created a new segment on the show called Motivational Mondays, and on a daily basis was talking to 6 million listeners at a time. Working in entertainment was exciting, but come May, I made a career change. I moved to the Upper East side in NYC with **Mei Wheaton ’14** to try something new. I currently work for iCrossing, an advertising agency owned by Hearst, so yes, I work in the beautiful Hearst tower! I work with both the marketing and new business teams but am in the process of trying to switch back to production.”

Meredith Pellon writes: “I relocated to Seattle in June after graduating from UArts. I really like it here so far! In August I worked for a choreographer named Allison Burke on a



Jessica Brighenti, Talia Basch, Claire Graham, Emma Gwyn, Ella Ross, Arley Kost and Chloe Silverman, Class of 2015

Take Note

three-week project. Earlier this summer I presented a solo in an informal showing at Velocity Dance Center, and I presented a different solo at On The Boards. Outside of rehearsals, I've started doing workstudy at Velocity Dance Center in exchange for discounted class and space. I've also started to choreograph new solo material for myself, and am now writing for SeattleDances, an online publication that has reviews of shows and other articles related to dance in Seattle. It has been exciting to continue the practice of writing about dance, and see more shows through that."

2015

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Chelsea "Chels" Strong completed a 10-week internship with Goldman Sachs over the summer which will lead to employment with them post graduation! Now she is studying in the Netherlands for a semester.



Gigi KIELTYKA '16

2016

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Kathleen Quinlan headed to Copenhagen for the fall 2018 semester.

Justine "Gigi" KIELTYKA says, "Last summer I spent six weeks abroad to explore and compare the health care systems of the US, Canada, the UK, and the Netherlands. I attended lectures, presentations, and tours regarding the history, sociology, and philosophy of health care differences in these countries. We visited several sites with a variety of healthcare settings. I hope to get a better sense of global healthcare as my interest is in medicine."

From **Lian Nicholson**: "**Lauren [Nicholson '14]** and I went to China for two weeks with a program called HiElites to teach English to children in Nanning, China. The whole program was a big deal with 600+ students attending. The students had to interview to get into the program, and the opening ceremony was televised. We also gave a presentation at an educational symposium to 200+ Chinese

parents."

Mackenzie "Kenzie" Hine writes, "Last summer I was an intern for the Massachusetts State Police in the Fire and Explosion Investigation Section. At Merrimack College, I am a Criminal Justice major with a double minor in Spanish and Communications."

Chun "Alice" Li writes, "Last summer I studied for the MCAT which I took on September 1, 2018. Hopefully I will only need to take it once! I am planning to apply to medical school in the next cycle, starting in June 2019. I will need to find a job, preferably around Boston, to stay in the U.S. for less travel during interview season. My major is Biochemistry and I will continue doing research in a chemical biology lab on campus. I am planning on writing a senior thesis next spring, so hopefully my project will go well. I miss Simsbury so much! (Even though I just came back in June for graduation!)"

Eleanor "Nellie" Speers writes: "I was recently admitted to the AmeriCorps NCCC program in the Pacific region, and will be spending this year based out of Sacramento! This is a team-based service program for ages 18-24 which engages with different organizations and communities across the Pacific. I am taking a gap year from Bryn Mawr to take part in this opportunity."

2017

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idabelle.paterson@gmail.com

2018

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carolinestrapp@gmail.com

Zakiya Evans was awarded a KPMG Future Leaders Scholarship and she participated in the KPMG Future Leaders Retreat in July at Stanford University. In order to be considered for the scholarship, applicants must have a 3.5 GPA or higher, have demonstrated exceptional academic and leadership abilities and exhibited strong community involvement.

In 2016, KPMG launched the KPMG Future Leaders Program in partnership with Dr. Condoleezza Rice which is focused on developing future generations of women leaders. According to program materials, "The KPMG Future Leaders Program foster a strong foundation for young women to succeed in college and ultimately in their long-term careers." The program is part of a partnership with the LPGA and participants are provided an introduction to golf as a business networking tool and a way to build a network in the professional careers. Each participant is paired with a mentor, a Next Generation woman leader, who attended KPMG's Women's Leadership Summit.

Zakiya received a \$10,000 per year scholarship for her four years of college. She is attending



Zakiya Evans '18

Births & Adoptions

- 2003 **Emily “Emma” Lawrence Walberg**
Madeline Walberg
November 15, 2018
- 2004 **Katherine R. Hypolite-MacMannis**
Walker Hypolite MacMannis
November 18, 2018
- 2006 **Julia Howles Johnson**
Eliza Kemper Johnson
July 30, 2018
- 2007 **Kenya A. Dyer**
Kairo Elijah Monteiro
November 11, 2018
- 2007 **Jamie Shannon Hammond**
Lucas Hammond
October 11, 2018

Marriages & Unions

- 1979 **Sarah “Sally” Peck**
To Herb Tieger
March 24, 2018
- 2006 **Reema Dedania**
To Christopher Taylor
September 8, 2018
- 2006 **Lyndsay Forrest**
To Ryan Faries
June 16, 2018
- 2010 **Marianne Pettit**
To Richard Watt
September 29, 2018
- 2011 **Jaclyn “Jackie” Reis**
To Michael Giunta
May 12, 2018

In Memoriam

Alumnae of The Ethel Walker School

- 1937 **Barbara Orvis de Zalduondo**
Daughter: Lucille de Zalduondo
Briance '71
Daughter: Jane de Zalduondo '67*
- 1939 **Dorothy Jane Mahaffey Carpenter Moore**
- 1942 **Sarah Heyburn Gallatin**
- 1944 **Gloria Luba Stokowski Rhodes**

- 1946 **Margot Wheelock Schlegel**
- 1947 **Virginia Gosden Jackson**
- 1948 **Margaret Clarkson Chapin**
Niece: Sally Chapin Levin '59
- 1950 **Margaret Betsch Creque**
Daughter: Juliette Creque Scobie '75
- 1952 **Susan Richardson Whitehead Jewett**
Aunt: Virginia Backus Caulkins '40*
- 1952 **Joanne Marston Lauder**
Granddaughter: Anastasia Porter '17
- 1952 **Betty Levine Pelletz**
Sister: Frances Levine Rubin '48*
- 1953 **Dorothy Snow Vilmar**
- 1955 **Patricia Mosle Friedman**
- 1955 **Betsy Hendryx Perrier**
- 1955 **Barbara Babb Read**
- 1980 **Jenny Johnson Gatehouse**
- 1998 **Emily E. Broidrick**
- 2011 **Alexandra E. Frey**

In Sympathy

Members of the wider Walker's community

Constance Goldsmith Addington,
Grandmother of Brooke DeLorey '20;
Mother of Wendy Hodgkins DeLorey '83
and Elinor Addington Jannotta '87;
Cousin of Sarah Wood Blumenstein '65,
Katherine Wood McIver '63, Mary
Fentress Grumhaus '57, Audrey Fentress
Gorter '50 and Mary Tullis Kinnear '47*;
Sister-in law of Anne Addington '55*

Clare Ann Byrd, Grandmother to Brianna
Goolsby '18

John Robert Carlin, Great-grandfather of
Chloe Miller '19

Patricia Staley Cayce, Mother of Staley Cayce
Sednaoui '76

Edmund Kirkland Cooper, Father of Dana
Cooper '79

Roger A. Coulombe, Former Chair, History
Department, EWS Faculty

Walter Francis DeLorey, Grandfather of Brooke
DeLorey '20 and Father-in-law of
Wendy Hodgkins DeLorey '83

Nancy B. Gaffney, Mother of Brooke Gaffney
Redmond '90

Robert M. Gardiner, Father of Margaret M.
Gardiner '67 and Susan N. Trespalacios '74

Margaret (Saillant) Guillet, Grandmother
of Elisabeth Helmin '19; Mother of
Michelle Helmin, EWS Staff

Thomas Edmond Halloran, Jr., Great-Uncle of
Olivia Dargis '22; Uncle of Dr. Suzanne
Piela, EWS Faculty

John Peter Lashnits, Father of Kristen W.
Lashnits '04 and Caitlin W. Lashnits '06,
husband of Janice W. Lashnits, Former
EWS Staff

Peter G. Mack, Brother of Nancy Mack
von Euler '79

Julian Harvey Mills, Son of Helen Harvey
Mills '54

Harold Augustus O'Callaghan, Jr., Father of
Karen O'Callaghan Horan '79

Edward J. O'Rourke, Father of Anne Marie
Ware, EWS Staff

Olga Pagano, Mother of Pia Pagano, EWS
Faculty

Anibal R. Porta, Father of Gabriela Porter
Beecher '91 and Micaela Porta '86

Stephen Phelps Potter, Father of Halley P.
Potter '91

Włodomyr Procyk, Father of Motria Procyk '81

Dameian Webster Ramsay, Father of Nafarrah
Ramsay '21

Shirley Penney Rathbun, Grandmother of
Etta Rathbun '23; Mother of Bryan
Rathbun, EWS Staff

Nathaniel Pryor Reed, Husband of Alita
Weaver Reed '60

Henry Charles Schreier Jr, Father of Betsy
Schreier Davis '81

Henry Dwight Sedgwick, Husband of Robin
Gorham Sedgwick '61

Joyce Hadley Williams, Mother of Whitney
Williams Jones '82

Alice Hargrave Wirtz, Mother of Alice Q.
Hargrave '80

**Deceased*

*Names reflect those received through
12/31/18.*

Robert “Stretch” Gardiner

1922-2018

WALKER'S TRUSTEE 1966-1978

At 6' 7" tall, **Robert MacPherson Gardiner** was known to his friends as “Stretch,” and The Ethel Walker School is fortunate to have been counted amongst those friends. The father of two Walker’s alumnae (**Margaret “Penny” Gardiner ’67** and **Susan Gardiner Trespalacios ’74**), Stretch served on Walker’s board of trustees for twelve years from 1966-1978, spanning both of their time as students. During these years, the board saw the construction of the Performing Arts Building (now known as “Ferg,” after then Head of School, Miss Ferguson), a deliberate increase in scholarship funding and scholarship students, the introduction of computer science education, and a steady restructuring and improvement of our investments, ably led by Stretch.



Elizabeth “Betsy” Rauch Rainoff ’53 recalls, “Stretch was an integral member of the Walker’s board. His height alone set him apart, but even more his infectious smile set the tone for a collegial board or executive committee meeting. He was a consensus maker, often the person who could concisely summarize all sides of a discussion and bring resolution to a complicated problem.” His ability to do so undoubtedly resulted from a lifetime of diverse experience. Born in Denver, CO in 1922 and raised on Auburn Farm in Thurmont, MD, he attended Trinity-Pawling School and then graduated from Princeton University in 1943. During World War II he was a U.S. Army officer in the 78th Infantry Division serving in France and Germany for which he was highly decorated with the Silver Star, Bronze Star, Purple Heart and Belgian Croix de Guerre.

Stretch began his distinguished Wall Street career at A.M. Kidder & Company, held several managing positions and was appointed chairman at Reynolds Securities. He merged Reynolds with Dean Witter where he became the chairman and CEO of the Financial Services Group and was instrumental in launching the Discover Card in 1986. After retirement, he continued to contribute his expertise and perspective as a senior advisor

to Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, as vice-chairman of the New York Stock Exchange and chairman of the Securities Industry Association. He was a significant force in shaping the world of investing, playing a leading role in the formation of NASDAQ, and authored *The Morgan Stanley Guide to Personal Investing*.

In addition to his volunteer role at Walker’s, Stretch was active on the board of directors of The Boy’s Club of New York, Trinity-Pawling School, Far Hills Country Day School, the Peck School and was a trustee of the Guggenheim Museum. Stretch stayed connected to Walker’s long after his time on the board and after his daughters graduated. From 1996-1999 he served on the our National Campaign Council, and remained a connector and a donor to the School

throughout his life. Rainoff recalls, “He used his expertise as a leader on Wall Street to chair the board’s investment committee as well as being a member of the finance committee. He was a fundraiser par excellence for the School. It was very hard to say ‘no’ to Stretch.”

Quoted in the New York Times in 1987, Stretch commented on his height, saying, “It definitely helps, because you get remembered better.” At Walker’s we will remember him for much more than his height. Rainoff concludes, “Stretch was more than willing to share his knowledge outside of board meetings; when faced as board president with a thorny question, I would place a call and he would always have the time to consider the issues and come to resolution.” Fellow board member Beverly Vander Poel Banker remembers him as “a great board member — fun to be with but serious when involved in important discussions. He will be missed by all who knew him.” Stretch passed away on November 3, 2018 at the age of 95. We will ring a bell for him in our Memorial Chapel on Wednesday, April 10, 2019.



ALL TOGETHER, NOW.

GIVING TO THE ANNUAL FUND FOR WALKER'S FEELS AS GOOD AS GETTING A HUG FROM YOUR BEST FRIENDS. AND YOUR INVESTMENT IN THE SCHOOL'S MISSION IS CRITICAL TO HELP PREPARE GIRLS TO LEAD TODAY AND FOR A LIFETIME.

This year we really need your help!

A generous donor who believes in the power to transform lives through girl's education has provided a \$100,000 challenge opportunity to increase our annual fund from \$1.32M raised last year, to \$1.6M this year.

The catch...if we do not raise \$1.6M by June 30th we need to return the gift! **Seriously.**

Your gift matters! We are well on our way to \$1.6M and your gift will get us to our goal. Please give today.

Your gift matters, because we're all in this together.

Online: www.ethelwalker.org/onlinegiving

By mail: Annual Fund for Walker's
The Ethel Walker School
230 Bushy Hill Road
Simsbury, CT 06070

By phone: +1 (860) 408-4259



Annual Fund
for Walker's

Greetings from The Ethel Walker School Parents Association (EWSPA) in Simsbury! The first half of the year has flown by and it is hard to believe that Opening Days were months ago and Spring is finally here. Snow and ice has allowed for a few late starts and even full Snow Days! I'm sure the sledding hill behind Galbraith got lots of use. The weather, however, did not dampen the Walker's spirit and the EWSPA has been busy providing special activities and treats for the girls.



In my new role as the president to the EWSPA, I am very excited to continue with our cherished traditions and to start some new ones. Our parent receptions during Family Weekend and the Holiday Ride were great successes with many returning and new faces. We hope to continue to enhance these traditions so that even more parents and family members will join us in the years to come.

In October, we had our first ever all-school Halloween event which was a grand slam as both Middle and Upper Schoolers joined in on the fun! Faculty played a huge part of this effort and we appreciate their willingness to fully partake in the lives of our girls. The evening began with dinner in Abras, followed by an all-school Trick-Or-Treat. Stops included faculty housing along Sand Hill Road, "Trunk-or-Treat" (parent volunteers decorated their cars and gave out candy in the lower parking lot), the dorms and even Meera's house!

More recently we provided study break snacks in the library during midterms and Valentine's Day treats. The girls are always so appreciative of these little surprises and it makes my day to see them light up and show sincere joy when they see strawberries and whipped cream and special Valentine's Day candy packaged with care for each girl.

We had a Surprise Dance Party after The New Girl Show which was a real hit last year too. The twist this year was a blacklight theme along with each girl being provided a white t-shirt to decorate with blacklight activated markers upon entering the dance.

The memories that the girls create during their time here will stay with them forever and I am so happy I can help to enhance their experience at Walker's. If you would like to help or be involved in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me!

All my best,

Shayna Cohen Luciani '93, P'20, '21
PRESIDENT, EWSPA 2018-2019
www.ethelwalker.org/parents/EWSPA

Ethel Walker School
EWSPA
Parents Association
2018-2019 BOARD

Shayna Luciani '93, P'20, '21
PRESIDENT

Natalie Corbett P'21
VICE PRESIDENT

Shari Nastri P'21
SECRETARY

Beth Strapp P'18, '21
TREASURER

Grace Petrarca P'19
CHAIR, UPPER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Colleen Magnus P'20
Carol Ross P'18, '19
CO-CHAIRS, ALL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Karen Donshik P'24
MIDDLE SCHOOL CHAIR AND LIAISON

Kim Zeytoonjian P'21
UPPER SCHOOL DAY PARENT LIAISON

Hazel Mugo P'21, '22
UPPER SCHOOL BOARDING PARENT LIAISON

Peter Mugo P'21, '22
INTERNATIONAL PARENT LIAISON

Grace Petrarca P'19
UPPER SCHOOL VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Julie Berard P'19
PRESIDENT EMERITUS

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

2019 Kelly Majka P'19 and
Anna Namnoum P'19

2020 Meg Castineiras P'20 and
Debbie Savino P'20

2021 Natalie Corbett P'21 and
Beth Strapp P'18, '21



Parents gathered at a reception hosted by the EWSPA in the Living Room during Family Weekend.



Parents enjoy time together during the Holiday Reception.



Students love treats from the EWSPA during study breaks for midterm assessments.



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Make a Gift... Realize a Match!

Gifts to the Annual Fund for Walker's open opportunities for learning. Each donor is a partner in the education of Walker's girls. And when you support Walker's by June 30, 2019 your gift goes even further, realizing matching funds for the School.

Here are two donor challenges you need to know about:



Annual Fund
for Walker's

**\$100,000
Challenge**

An anonymous donor has given a \$100,000 gift with the caveat that Walker's annual fund **grows to \$1.6M from \$1.32M** raised in 2018. We hit the goal, we keep the \$100,000.

All annual fund gifts count toward this challenge and the \$1.6M goal.



Annual Fund
for Walker's

**\$1,000,000
Challenge**

A generous donor has issued a \$1,000,000 challenge.

Each Annual Fund for Walker's gift of \$25,000 or greater will be matched up to \$1,000,000.

Make a gift today and double your impact!

Gifts received by June 30, 2019 qualify.

Support Walker's today!

www.ethelwalker.org/onlinegiving