

The Rectory News

THE MAGAZINE OF RECTORY SCHOOL FALL 2024





OUR MISSION

Rectory School's mission is to provide students, from early childhood through middle school, with an enriched and supportive academic, social, and ethical community that addresses individual learning styles, aptitudes, and needs while promoting personal self-worth and accountability.



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THE MAGAZINE OF RECTORY SCHOOL

Published for the students, alumni, families, and friends of Rectory School, Pomfret, Connecticut.

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ON THE COVER

Courtney Nystrom '26 practices the flute during middle school band. Cover photo by: Chip Riegel

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A SCENE FROM THE SPRING MUSICAL, *SHREK JR.*



ABBY V. '27 PAINTS A RE-IMAGINED FAMILY CREST IN ART CLASS.



SELECT STUDENTS
PERFORM AT RECTORY'S
HOLIDAY CHAPEL AT
POMFRET SCHOOL [LEFT
TO RIGHT] JERRY CAO '24,
LEON LI '26, GRACE ZHANG
'24, JAMES ZHOU '24, AND
ESTHER ZHANG '24.



CULTIVATING CREATIVITY: THE THRIVING ARTS PROGRAM AT RECTORY SCHOOL

By Donna Bessette, Director of Related Arts

It would be hard to find a student at Rectory School who has not tried something new in the arts or delved more deeply into an existing artistic passion. This is by design. >

RELATED ARTS AT RECTORY SCHOOL FOSTERS A LOVE OF SELF-EXPRESSION AND EXPOSES OUR STUDENTS TO THE MANY FACETS OF CREATIVITY.

If you ask any Rectory alum, they'll likely have a story about their experience with art or music during their time as a student, as these subjects have always been integral to our academic program and woven into each student's daily schedule. In recent years, however, we've broadened these offerings to better meet the creative interests of our increasingly diverse student body and to reflect the evolving role of the arts in 21st-century global culture.

At Rectory School, we believe that students don't know what they don't like until they've tried it (sort of like having a young child try vegetables several times before claiming they "don't like vegetables"). This is especially true given the formative ages of the students we teach. For this reason, we continue to require learning a band instrument in fifth and sixth grade through a supportive Beginning Band class that meets three to four times a week. Likewise, students are required to participate in the Rectory School chorus during the fall term of their fifth-grade year, giving them an opportunity to participate in the Prism Concert during their first Fall Family Weekend. It is amazing to see how many students continue singing in the chorus even after completing their required term. Throughout grades 5 through 7, students move through a rotation of music, art, and health and wellness classes, allowing them to try a variety of modalities and genres in the arts. By the time they get to the eighth grade, we hope they have found something they want to explore further. While we still require one term in each of the arts, a recent change to our program has been the opportunity to offer choices in the eighth-grade year. In the fine arts,

A BEAUTIFUL WINTER SUNSET PAINTS THE SKY ABOVE THE COLLINS ART BARN.



BRADEN P. '25 CREATES A VASE DURING THE BIGELOW HONORS PROGRAM ARTS CLASS.





our students can choose between ceramics, stained glass, printmaking, and woodshop—all new options at Rectory School. For those who still want a more general art experience, we continue to offer our Exploring Art course, which allows them to work in many different art mediums. We have expanded our course offerings to include ukulele, world drumming, and ocarina in the performing arts. By the time students get to the ninth grade, we hope that they may have discovered a passion they want to pursue more deeply, and for this reason, we allow students to choose a Related Arts course that they can continue throughout all three terms if they choose to. In the visual arts, we offer a photography class and an Introduction to Art class (which often provides secondary school credit to students pursuing art in high school). The Music Department offers an Introduction to Guitar class and an Introduction to Acting class, an option new at Rectory over the last few years. The addition of this acting class is another example of how we strive to meet the changing needs of our student body. After decades of putting on a spring musical production, it became clear that many students wanted to participate in a play but didn't want to sing. Out of this discovery, we created the acting class, and it has become a wonderful way for students to explore the world of theater outside of music. Each term, the students in the acting class produce a short one-act play for the community. We have found that this new course offering has reached a group of students who might not usually see themselves on the stage of the Tang.

The ability of Rectory School to offer such a wide range of fine and performing arts options is a testament to the quality of our teaching staff. The teachers in the Related Arts department continue to expand their artistic endeavors and hone their skills through professional development. It is not uncommon to hear of an art teacher taking a stained glass class or exhibiting their work at a gallery or art show. Likewise, our music teachers can be seen performing in various ensembles in the community and beyond. This speaks to their passion for the subjects they teach and sets an excellent example for their students of the importance of the arts in our lives beyond the structured classroom.

One of the greatest feelings as a teacher in the arts is when you realize your students don't "need" you to create their art. This has become crystal clear in the last few years as students have taken the lead in exploring their creative pursuits outside the classroom. The previous year, we've seen multiple student-organized talent shows, drawing out dancers, comedians, singers, instrumentalists, and even magicians. It is not uncommon to find a group of advanced instrumentalists across grade levels working on music ranging from classical to pop without the aid of a music teacher in the period after sports. Some of these pieces have been perfected to the level that enables them to be performed at a school concert or monthly Chapel performance. In the visual arts, we have seen students share the artistic pieces they have been working on in their dorm rooms—everything from elaborate masks (incorporated into our School productions) to paintings and drawings.

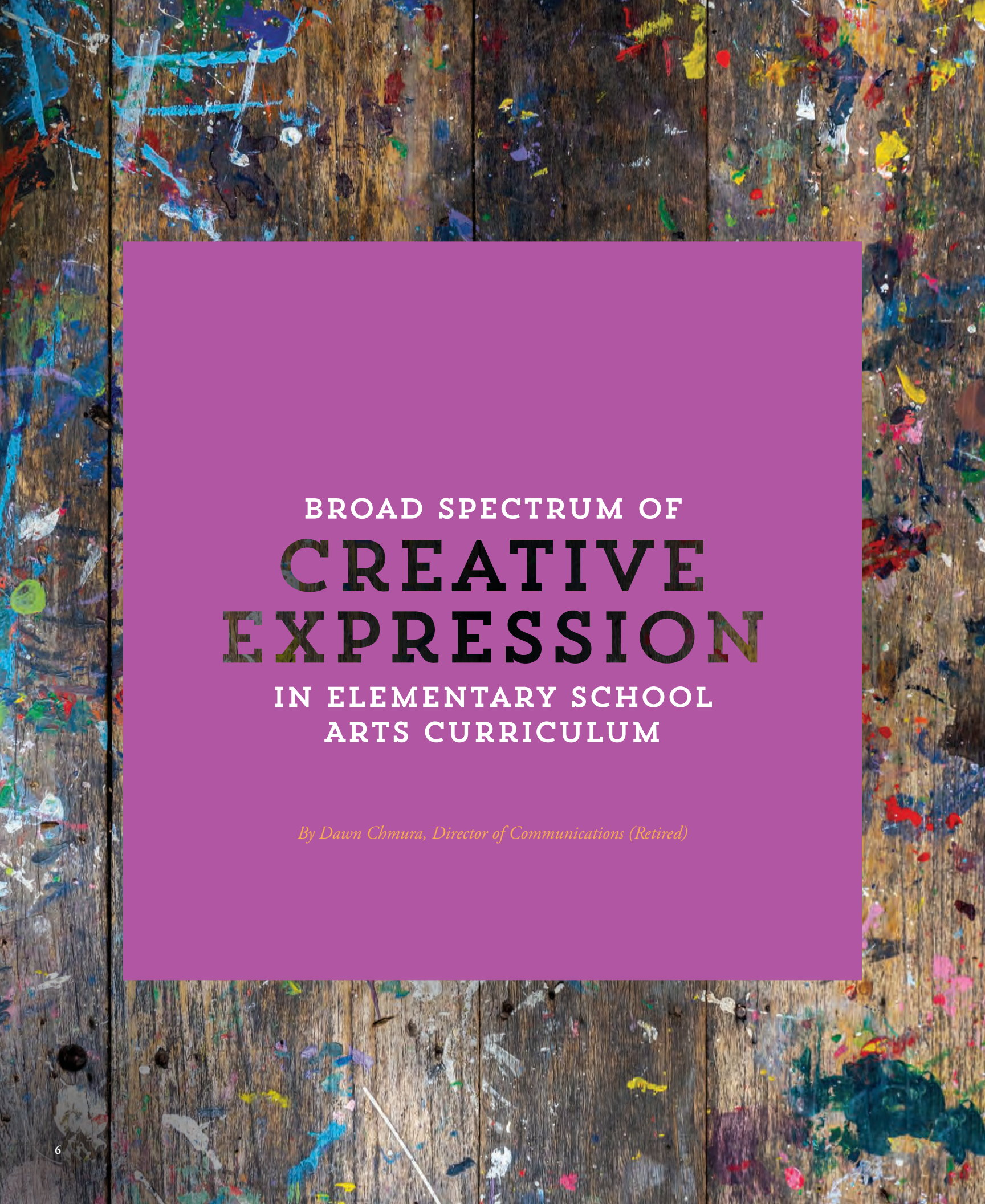
It is fair to say that the biggest challenge for our teachers is keeping up with the creative pursuits of our students—a challenge one would consider a "good problem to have." This growing communal appreciation for the arts has led to the revival of our *RecStory* publication, the addition of a new independent music practice time after sports, the weekly before-school rehearsals of the Jazz Band and RECapella group, and, of course, the expansion of facilities including our revamped woodshop, new practice rooms, and the addition of the Odeum rehearsal space and music classroom.

The arts are thriving at Rectory, but at the heart of any creative endeavor is the call to discover what more could be made and what more could be done and imagined. With such a spirit guiding us, I do not doubt that Rectory will continue expanding its arts offerings for many years. 🐾



**MEET OUR
DIRECTOR OF
RELATED ARTS
DONNA
BESSETTE**

Donna Bessette has been involved in the performing arts since childhood, performing in local choirs, bands, and theater groups in her hometown on Long Island. She is a vocalist and plays flute, piano, and guitar. She graduated from Connecticut College in 1990 with a double major in music performance and psychology. Then, she got a master's degree in Music Therapy from New York University. Her career as a Board Certified Music Therapist spanned over 15 years working with children and adolescents in hospitals, day treatment, and special education programs in California, New York City, and eventually Pomfret, CT. She transitioned as a music educator in 2007 when she began working at Rectory School, where she currently serves as the Director of the Related Arts Program. She also teaches general music in grades K-9 and is the Director of the Choral and Theater programs.



BROAD SPECTRUM OF
**CREATIVE
EXPRESSION**
IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ARTS CURRICULUM

By Dawn Chmura, Director of Communications (Retired)



In elementary education, Katherine Oakes and Donna Bessette shape a vibrant curriculum that embraces all forms of art. Their dedication and innovative teaching methods ensure that every student in the Elementary School learns the basics of art and music and discovers a deep-seated passion for creative expression.



ART CURRICULUM: NURTURING CREATIVE FLUENCY

Katherine Oakes, the visionary behind the Elementary School art curriculum, believes in introducing students to various artistic mediums and techniques from kindergarten through ninth grade. The curriculum spans foundational two-dimensional projects like crayons and colored pencils to more complex three-dimensional explorations using clay and mixed media.

“From K through nine, the kids get a little bit of everything,” Mrs. Oakes explains. The emphasis here is on creating art and gradually building technical skills. She further explains, “We’re trying to give students the gamut of materials so they become familiar, and then gradually build technical skills from year to year.” This structured progression ensures students develop fine motor skills and gain confidence in expressing themselves through art.

Creating a supportive environment is crucial to Mrs. Oakes, who believes that nurturing creativity starts with fostering a safe and encouraging atmosphere. “I want kids to be comfortable with the idea that art is not something that has to be torturous for them,” she asserts. By establishing this foundation, Mrs. Oakes empowers her students to explore their artistic voices freely, promoting self-expression and creativity from an early age.

MUSIC CURRICULUM: HARMONY OF SKILL AND SENSITIVITY

Complementing Mrs. Oakes’ approach, Donna Besette leads the music curriculum with passion and commitment. For Mrs. Besette, music education goes beyond teaching notes and rhythms—it’s about instilling a lifelong love for music through comprehensive experiences. “Every single music curriculum in Elementary always includes singing,” she notes, underscoring singing as a fundamental skill that spans all grades.





Mrs. Bessette integrates various modalities like movement and instrumental play to assess students' strengths and preferences. She ensures that instrument introduction aligns with developmental stages, gradually introducing more complex instruments like the recorder in fourth grade and band instruments in fifth grade. "We have a full array of instruments accessible to all kids," she emphasizes, promoting inclusivity and exploration.

Moreover, cultural context is central to Mrs. Bessette's teaching philosophy. "There's been a huge push in music ed to make sure we give full background research on what we're teaching them," she explains. Mrs. Bessette aims to broaden students' musical horizons and

foster a deep appreciation for cultural diversity by incorporating music from diverse genres and periods.

ENCOURAGING CREATIVE VOICES: BUILDING CONFIDENCE & EXPLORATION

Mrs. Oakes and Mrs. Bessette share a common goal: to create an environment where students feel safe to explore and express themselves creatively. Mrs. Oakes emphasizes the importance of confidence-building in art, stating, "When you create this environment, their voice naturally emerges from a stage of comfort and confidence building." This philosophy resonates deeply with Mrs. Bessette, who believes musical expression flourishes in

supportive settings. "First and foremost, they're not going to find their musical voice if they don't feel safe," she affirms.

Their holistic approach ensures that students develop technical skills and discover their unique artistic and musical identities. Mrs. Oakes guides her students through activities like self-portraits, where technical skills and self-reflection intertwine to foster individual expression. Similarly, Mrs. Bessette uses chorus sessions to teach songs and empower students to explore their musical abilities freely. "In everything I do," Mrs. Bessette emphasizes, "I try to include many modalities within music."

CULTIVATING LIFELONG PASSION

The collaborative efforts of Mrs. Oakes and Mrs. Bessette exemplify how educators can inspire students to discover and develop their creative voices. By fostering safe and encouraging environments, these educators empower young learners to explore, experiment, and ultimately find their unique artistic and musical identities. This approach cultivates technical skills and instills a lifelong passion for creative expression and musical exploration.

Through their dedication and innovative teaching methods, Mrs. Oakes and Mrs. Bessette ensure that every student receives a comprehensive and cohesive arts education that transcends the boundaries of traditional learning and encourages the limitless potential of creativity. 🐾





HARMONY BLOOMS WITH **BREWSTER ODEUM OPENING**

*By Robert Oakes,
Associate Director of Communications*

As springtime came to campus this April and the buds began to bloom, the Rectory community recognized another new beginning. Before a gathering of staff, faculty, families, and past and present students, Director of Related Arts Donna Besette and Director of Instrumental Music Sam Wiegel cut the ribbon on the recently completed Brewster Odeum, a state-of-the-art music rehearsal space that will serve our students for years to come. It was a joyous occasion, a moment that marked yet another milestone in the ongoing evolution of our music program and the continuing expansion of our campus facilities.



"In 2012, Rectory created a campus master plan," said Head of School Fred Williams. "Each year, we have made progress on that plan. This year, we were incredibly fortunate to cut the ribbon on the Brewster Odeum."

At the ceremony, Director of Development David Turner noted the importance of such expansion as he stood before the beautiful new building and welcomed the gathered guests. Still, he reminded all assembled what matters most of all.

"Last year at this time, we were down there doing a similar ribbon cutting for Centennial Hall," he said. "These new buildings are an important part of Rectory as we grow and expand and meet the new needs of all our students. But what makes Rectory a truly special place is what happens in every one of these buildings."

Mr. Williams expressed a similar sentiment as he took the podium, adding, "But it sure doesn't hurt to have some nice spaces. And we've got some really nice spaces. Each one offers unique contributions to Rectory, but this one is significant."

As the music program has grown in recent years, it has become increasingly apparent that it is outgrowing its existing infrastructure.

"We've been limited in the facilities we have to support the music program," said Mr. Williams. "Before, we just had the Tang stage.

And for our unbelievable orchestra, any time we needed to use the stage for something else, we had to break down the entire orchestra set-up due to whatever other event was occurring on the stage and then return all of the orchestra set-up. It made things quite challenging down there."

"The need that this satisfies is really important," said Development Services and Operations Manager John Xeller. "Music is a huge part of the Rectory experience for many students."

"Music is a differentiator at Rectory," Mr. Williams added. "We have some of the most talented and enthusiastic musicians. And we've also got students who've never done much with music before, but they come here and experience the opportunities and decide, 'I really like this.' They end their Rectory careers on the Tang stage playing the guitar, drums, or another instrument. So, the Odeum has been a critical addition to campus."

Mr. Williams recalled the ceremony as a true 'Rectory' moment. "Donna Bessette gathered young alumni, recruiting them to participate in this ribbon cutting. This is so Rectory because, as we say, Rectory is about family. Rectory is about community. We wanted these graduates to participate in this special event, and they all showed up. There was just such a wonderful feeling of coming together to successfully complete this project and share all it will offer the School."

Naturally, the ribbon-cutting ceremony was resoundingly musical. Instrumental Teacher Clancy Martin opened the event with a clarion call on his trumpet, blown from the rooftop patio. Past and present students sang the school anthem, accompanied by an ensemble of ninth-grade instrumentalists. During the walk-through that ended the proceedings, visitors were serenaded by student musicians placed throughout the Odeum and the newly renovated spaces in the Tang.

Said Mrs. Bessette as she addressed the crowd that day, "This is an exciting time in the history of the performing arts at Rectory School. We have grown in so many exciting ways because we've created a space and a respect for the arts here that has enabled kids to take chances and try new things at all grade levels. Because of that, we outgrew our building."

Mrs. Bessette then called for a show of hands. She asked who among the assembly of past and present students ever had to practice their instrument in the elevator, in a hallway, or the bathroom. In answer, many hands went up.

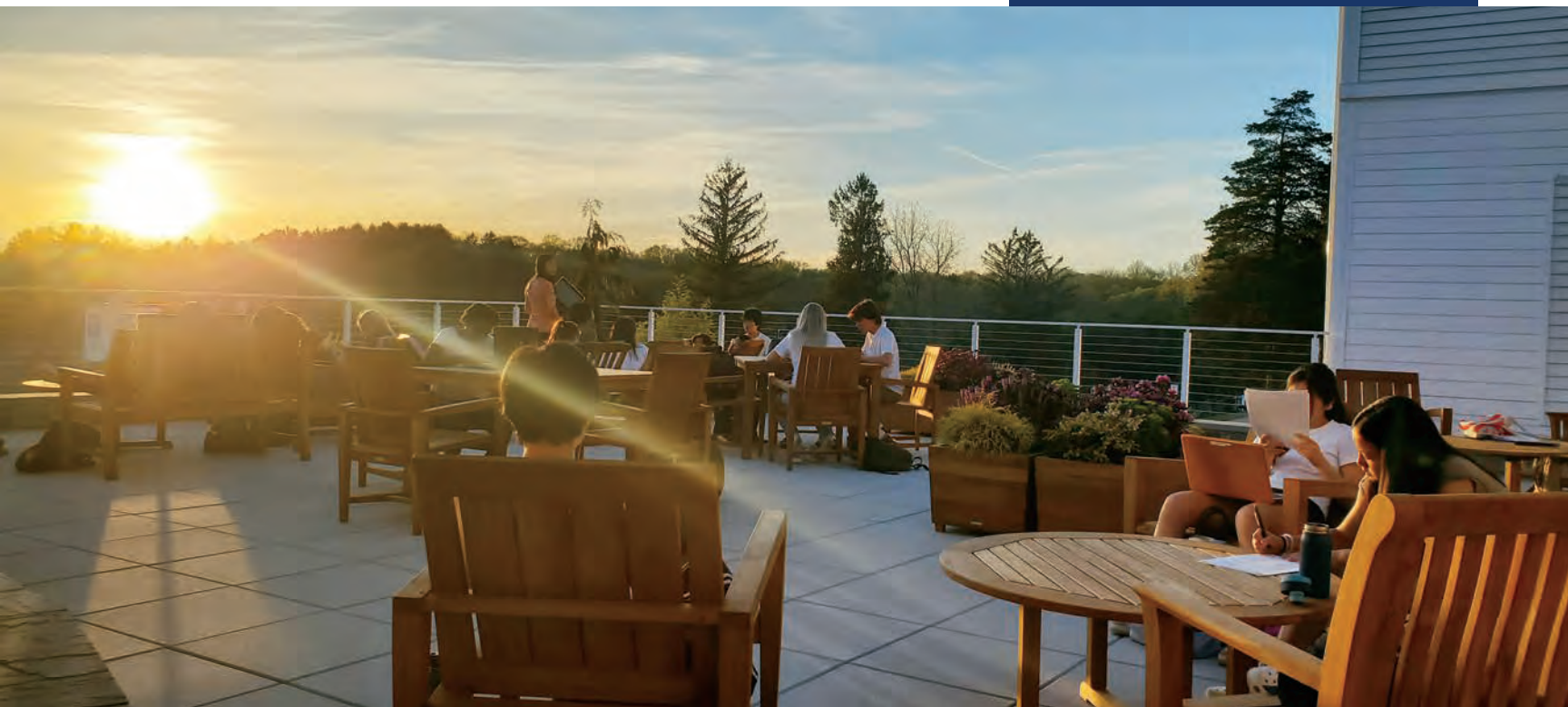
"This is what started to happen at Rectory School. We have so much talent and excitement for the arts that we ran out of places to make our music and to collaborate."

But thanks to Mr. Williams, all the donors, and anyone who was behind this project in whatever way possible, she said, "This new Odeum is going to be a place where our orchestra can practice every day instead of crowding our tiny stage. It will enable our theater program to grow in ways that we always hoped it could. We will now have a choral program that can practice properly in the auditorium instead of the Dining Hall. And for our music students who come here wanting to continue to practice their instruments and play and collaborate, we now have spaces where they can do that and where their instruments will be kept safe and secure. This opens up possibilities beyond what we can even imagine. So, on behalf of Mrs. Weigel and me, as well as all of the music students, past and present, we thank all of you who are part of this project, and we are so excited to share it with you."

Support for the project came from Margaret and Hugh Whipple '68, as well as other members of the Rectory community.

"We can't thank them enough," said Mr. Williams. "Rectory's facilities continue to take dramatic steps forward, and with each successful project, there are individuals who have been key supporters. In this case, it's the





Whipples, but there are so many others. None of this could come to fruition without the generous support of parents and alumni. Their contributions have been game-changers.”

Alums, noted Mr. Xeller, are continually impressed by all the recent growth at Rectory.

“They think it’s wonderful,” he said. “Every year, the alums who visit campus—even if they were only here 15 or 20 years ago—are blown away at how different it looks, how nice the facilities are, but at the same time, how it still feels like home. It’s still recognizable. And so, I think the Odeum is a great project in that it vastly improves a critical need for us and will allow students to practice and perform better, but at the same time, it stays true to what Rectory has been.”

Such commitment to the school’s roots is expressed in the Odeum’s design, which features a stonework facade that beautifully matches the Tang’s. It integrates so seamlessly into the adjacent structure that it looks like it sprang from the Tang.

“It doesn’t look like somebody just plopped this thing down there,” he said. “It looks like it was always there.”

“One of the comments I’ve already heard is that this looks both so new and so old, in that it fits in beautifully to this space, and it looks like it’s been here all along like it was meant to be here,” said Mr. Williams.

Mr. Williams credits the designers and builders: New England Design, Kevin Tubridy, John Everett, Carl Norton, Bruce Dexter, and John Darrigan, as well as Rectory’s Director of Facilities Justin Herdic, who provided in-house support.

While the new Odeum will undoubtedly benefit our young musicians, something special was included for all to enjoy: a patio on the roof.

“As you wind your way up the stairs on the side of the Tang, you get to the rooftop patio above the Odeum,” said Mr. Williams. “This is one of the most magical places on campus. We have nicely arrayed furniture, compliments of the class of 2023, who provided that furniture as their class gift. Then, you can sit and look out over the campus, over the athletic fields, over the Dining Hall, and across to the dormitories, and you can see all of the different activities that comprise a Rectory day. In the evening, the sun sets beautifully across the valley. In the morning, the sun rises in the east. It’s just a special, special spot.”

“This is an amazing building,” said Board Member Elizabeth Zimmermann ‘84 as she addressed the ceremony attendees. “This is the real heart of campus. It’s the connector between the academic side and the rest of the exciting activities that happen here. This building will give many more students access to the music program, which is one of our signature programs, and I’m so excited for that to happen.” 🐾



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-Fred Williams, Head of School



WOLFPACK ON THE FIELD

ATHLETICS AT RECTORY

By Courtney Callanan, Director of Athletics

Rectory School's athletics program is designed to inspire a lifelong commitment to physical fitness and health, encouraging students to embrace risk-taking and build self-confidence. While inter-school competition plays a significant role, the program prioritizes individual success, enjoyment, skill development, teamwork, and sportsmanship. From highly competitive varsity teams to levels focused on fundamental skill development, every student participates in the sports program during each of the three seasons, ensuring opportunities for success and growth at every skill level. The fall season kicks off with an array of sports that spark motivation and excitement, with highlights this year including the undefeated cross-country team and standout performances in girls' soccer. Winter sports emphasize character and resilience, with notable achievements such as the hockey team winning the Pavak Cup and strong performances by the varsity basketball teams. Spring sports bring a vibrant close to the school year, marked by competitive spirit and camaraderie, with impressive showings in lacrosse, baseball, tennis, track, and more. >>>

FALL SPORTS

THE BEGINNING OF FALL ATHLETICS INFUSES THE SCHOOL YEAR WITH A RENEWED SENSE OF MOTIVATION AND EXCITEMENT. This year, Rectory's roster of teams was primed and ready to compete across the season, featuring Girls' and Boys' Soccer, Cross Country, Girls' Volleyball, Flag Football, Equestrian, and Fall Adventures. Notable highlights include our undefeated Cross Country team, which clinched victory in the Quinebaug Valley Junior Conference, and our Girl's Soccer team, who showcased their skills in the Indian Mountain Tournament.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:
Karate, Varsity Girls Soccer,
Equestrian, Cross Country,
Varsity Volleyball



WINTER SPORTS

WINTER SPORTS AT RECTORY GO BEYOND THE PURSUIT OF VICTORIES; THEY ARE ABOUT BUILDING CHARACTER AND RESILIENCE, WHICH BENEFIT OUR STUDENTS BOTH ON AND OFF THE FIELD.

As the season transitions to indoor courts and ice rinks, our winter teams gear up for the excitement ahead. This year, our lineup included Hockey, Boys' and Girls' Basketball, Squash, Fencing, Swimming, Fitness, and Winter Warriors. We proudly celebrated our Hockey team, crowned Pavek Cup Champions for the first time. Additionally, our Boys' and Girls' Varsity Basketball teams performed admirably in their end-of-season tournaments.



CLOCKWISE FROM
TOP LEFT:
Varsity Girls
Basketball,
Fencing, Varsity
Hockey



SPRING SPORTS

SPRING SPORTS IGNITE A SPIRIT OF COMPETITION AND CAMARADERIE AMONG STUDENTS, MARKING AN ENERGETIC FINISH TO THE SCHOOL YEAR. Athletes take to the fields, courts, and tracks, refining their skills and proudly representing their School. This season, five of our teams competed in end-of-season tournaments. Our Girls' Lacrosse team secured third place in the Rumsey Tournament, while our Boys' Baseball team achieved a remarkable second place in the New England Junior Boarding School Tournament. Amelia Wu '24 made history as the first female participant in the Fessenden Boys' Tennis Tournament. Our Track and Boys' Lacrosse teams showcased their talents in their respective tournaments.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:
 Varsity Baseball, Girls
 Lacrosse, Softball, Varsity
 Tennis, Golf, Varsity
 Boys Lacrosse



CAMPUS RECAP



WOLF SCULPTURES

Rising from the regrettable loss last summer of the great beech tree that stood near the entrance to Tubridy Circle, these beautiful wolf sculptures were placed in their new home on the Rectory campus in March. The single howling wolf stands upon the trunk of that tree, while the young cubs gaze across from the bed of pachysandra on the other side. These beautiful pieces were carved from white pine by sculptor Cody Stosz of Kodiak Carving in Amherst, MA, using chainsaws of varied sizes. They now welcome one and all to the Rectory campus, a reminder of the enduring spirit that guides our School.



100
CELEBRATING RECTORY

CENTENNIAL BOOK IS PUBLISHED

In September, the Rectory Centennial Publication—*100 Years: Voices and Memories through the Decades*—went to press after years of careful curation and thoughtful editorial and design work by Lisa Levesque and Elizabeth Zimmermann. Soon after, the publication's creators proudly held their first finished copy.

NEW GOLF SIMULATOR

This year, thanks to our generous donors, Rectory golfers began to enjoy a state-of-the-art golf simulator on campus. This addition to our athletic facilities allows our athletes to improve their games when they can't access courses outside. In December, Mr. Bendall joined Jackson B. '27, Nicholas Z. '25, Tiger Z. '26, and Nina Z. '26 to break-in the new facility.



MR. FINNEGAN'S ENGLISH CLASS READS TO THE K-1 CLASS

During the holiday season, Mr. Finnegan's eighth-grade English class wrote holiday children's stories to present to the K-1 class. The group came up with original and authentic ideas and designed a slide book for the students to interact with. To top it off, the eighth-graders visited the K-1 class to present their work.



MLK DAY OF SERVICE

In the spirit of service embodied by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Rectory students and faculty fanned out across campus and throughout the local community in January to perform acts of service. Whether caring for animals, cleaning public places, clearing brush, washing fire trucks, decorating cupcakes, baking cookies, making crafts, collecting food for the hungry, playing music for the elderly, making blankets for the ill, or writing thank-you cards to veterans, students found many ways that day to put love into action. Rectory alum Corey Olds '83 addressed the Middle School students at the start of the day and later visited the Elementary School.



ACTING TROUPE REHEARSES ORDER UP

In November, Mrs. Bessette's ninth-grade acting class presented *Order Up!*, a play about three fast-food restaurant workers confronted by a slew of quirky customers. This troupe of six thespians met throughout the fall term and put the play together over the last five weeks. As there were more roles than students, all of the students played multiple parts. Said Mrs. Bessette, "We had fun with this aspect of the play, because we had to figure out how to make each character appear different when they entered the stage—changing something about their accent, costume, gestures, etc. This was a lot of fun!" She continued, "The students in the class worked really hard to put this together. Many of them had never been in a play before, so I was really proud of them. By the end of the process, they developed a good understanding of character development, set design, costuming, and other aspects of theater production!"



FIRST CLASSES IN THE NEW ODEUM

Mrs. Bessette and the eighth-grade ukulele ensemble were thrilled to be the first to experience music class in the newly completed Brewster Odeum in April. Even Mr. Williams joined in to receive a lesson from Sofia S. '25.



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CELEBRATES MR. WILLIAMS' RETIREMENT

In February, the Elementary School planned a special surprise for Mr. Williams. Said Director of Elementary Maria Carpenter, "When the Elementary children learned of Mr. Williams' upcoming retirement, we thought it might be fun if we made him his own book of drawings and suggestions called 'A Book of Ideas from Your Elementary Friends ... just in case you can't think of anything to do with your time once you retire.' Each Elementary child gave him an idea of something that he might like to do: fish in a canoe on a lake, go for a hike with Mrs. Williams, drive a taxi (since he was so good at opening car doors), go to Great Wolf Lodge and try the slides, etc. Then, we invited Mr. Williams to join us for our monthly ES Gathering, and he read the entries out loud to the children. It was a wonderful opportunity for us to be together and share a few laughs with the wonderful suggestions from the children."



NATHANIEL PHILBREK VISITS

It was wonderful to welcome renowned author Nathaniel Philbrick to Rectory's Tang Center in January and to hear him speak about his life and career and his book, *In the Heart of Sea*, an account of the ill-fated journey of the whaling ship *Essex*, the events of which inspired Herman Melville to write *Moby Dick*.



ALUM CLARA DOWDLE '23 VISITS

It's not unusual for Rectory alums to reach for the sky, but few do so as literally as Clara Dowdle '23. Clara, who visited the campus in February, began the process of earning her pilot's license this year, pursuing an interest that she acquired right here at Rectory in Mr. Long's physics class, as well as on a visit to the San Diego Air & Space Museum during the MELP she attended with Mr. Long and Ms. Bradley.

GEORGE GROOM DEDICATION CEREMONY

During Fall Family Weekend, the Rectory community gathered to dedicate the Dining Hall in honor of George Groom and the Servery in honor of John and Odessa Hunsucker. Both Mr. Williams and Mr. Seaward spoke about Mr. Groom's years of dedicated service to the school, and then Mr. Groom offered a blessing before all enjoyed an outdoor lunch.



WRITING ELECTIVE AND THE RETURN OF RECSTORY

This year, students in Mr. Oakes' writing elective, including seventh grader Samantha F., helped to bring back *RecStory*, the Art & Literary Magazine of Rectory School, after six years out of circulation. Many students submitted stories, songs, poems, and works of visual art this year to make volume 15 of this longstanding School publication the wonderful celebration of student creativity that it is.



SHREK MUSICAL

"I'm green! I'm mean! Get used to it!" Such incredible talent was on display during this year's spring musical, *Shrek Jr.*, and all involved clearly had a fantastic time as they shouted, "Let your freak flag fly!"



SOLAR ECLIPSE

The Rectory community gathered on the field beside the Pavilion in April to take in the cosmic spectacle unfolding overhead, the solar eclipse. Said Physics Teacher Priyam Mavani, who narrated the moment for all assembled that day, "Though we missed the totality zone, where the eclipse unveils its full glory, Rectory was truly blessed to witness 92% of the sun blocked by the moon. For a span of nearly two and a half hours, starting at 2:15 p.m., our campus became an arena as the moon delicately began to block the sun's brightness. As the clock approached 3:28 p.m., accompanied by a subtle drop in temperature and softer light all around, we achieved the peak of our eclipse experience. It wasn't until 4:30 p.m. that the moon exposed the sun's full brightness again, bidding farewell to unforgettable memories etched in our hearts and minds."

CELEBRATING THE PROMISE AND PURPOSE OF THE RECTORY SCHOOL CLASS OF 2024



EXCERPTED FROM FRED WILLIAMS' SPEECH AT RECTORY'S GRADUATION CEREMONY

Good morning, and welcome to Rectory School's one-hundred-and-third graduation ceremony. This is a significant number representing a storied history filled with distinguished graduates. Today, we gather with family and friends to celebrate the Rectory School Class of 2024 as this impressive group of young men and women conclude their Rectory academic careers and join the ranks of our Rectory alumni. Graduates, everyone in this room is here because of you and the significance of this day. We are honored and overjoyed to be a part of this last gathering as we reflect on your years on campus and the futures that await.

As we do so, I want to begin by thanking Reverend Cosman for her benediction. Since coming to Pomfret and Christ Church, she has been a wonderful friend and spiritual counsel to our School and our students. I also want to acknowledge Kevin Lewis, Chair of the Rectory School Board of Trustees. The Rectory Board is an invaluable group of talented, dedicated individuals who guide and oversee the well-being of our School impressively. Additionally, I want to welcome those friends and family members who have come to show support to our graduates. You will continue to be important mentors for the members of the Class of 2024 for decades to come, and it is an honor to have you with us here on this very special day.

It is also an honor to work with our Rectory faculty and staff, who have played the central role in guiding and inspiring the Class of 2024 across their Rectory years. There is no better job than working at Rectory School. These faculty get to spend the bulk of every day during the school year—Saturdays, Sundays, and evenings included—with the wonderful young people seated to my right. This is rewarding work, done gratefully and with pride in both the effort and the results. It is also done with privilege, recognizing the trust families afford us as we graduate young men and women of promise and purpose. Thank you, faculty, staff, and fellow administrators, for the unbelievable work you do.

Class of 2024, this is your day, and you are well on your way to these lives of promise and purpose. As your soon-to-be-read graduation bios attest, you have made great progress on the campus, your lives

have unfolded in the most enjoyable and impressive ways, and you have set ambitious goals for your future. A few trailers: Joseph predicts that once he gets that backhand volley perfected, he will dethrone the Ashville School's #1 tennis player, Shion will soon be embarking on a political career centered on a platform of joy and happiness, while Knox will continue his goal to visit every ER in the country providing invaluable patient feedback on this critical care. In fact, graduates, each of you has begun to define and construct a path toward future callings, and it will be exciting to watch the progress each of you makes across the ensuing years. As we look to these future endeavors, I encourage you to draw heavily from the realities and lessons of the present.

Class of 2024, while this graduation explicitly signals the successful completion of a prescribed course of study, implicitly, it represents a move towards increased independence and lessening imposed structure. In high school and beyond graduates, you will enjoy boundless access to technology, and Grub Hub will be an open option, not a clandestine evening foray. Your cubbies, lockers, and dorm rooms will not be checked for cleanliness in the same way, nor will teachers, advisors, and others monitor your progress and performance so closely to ensure your achievement and growth. While I expect you will greet this news with great support, it is important to remember that your successes and shortcomings now become more and more of your own doing. You have proven you are ready for this challenge, and we look forward to seeing what September at your new schools and the ensuing months and years ahead reveal.

It has been particularly evident of late that each of you has begun to use your education as intended: to contribute value and meaning to the world. Your Capstone Projects, expertly organized and overseen by Mrs. Haines and your team of teachers, required you to identify a topic of interest and understand the nuances of that issue and the pending implications for society if this issue is not addressed. Martin Luther King Jr. famously said, "You must be the change you wish to see in this world." Graduates, you have demonstrated your ability to be change agents for good by educating us on the pending threats and challenges associated with your Capstone

causes and in other acts and gestures across your Rectory years. And in the end, we really ask you to contribute to society in a positive, productive way and be kind. That, and a request to keep Rectory a part of your lives.

Class of 2024, next to spending time with our current students on campus, the Rectory faculty most relish hearing news of our alumni. You will soon be a part of that special group, which has a presence across the world and the decades. Just a few weeks ago, Mr. Turner and I were visiting with some alumni from the 2010s in New York City. Watching this group reminisce about their Rectory days was heartwarming as the lessons learned and relationships formed at our School factored so prominently in their current lives and careers.

This was also the case in Seoul, South Korea, last fall when Rectory Korean Alumni Association members gathered. Their careers and life experiences have traveled in dramatically unique directions, but the central connecting hub of Rectory remains stalwart and significant. Rectory connections were even present on MELP when the students on the New Mexico trip enjoyed a fajita fireside dinner with a member of the Class of '64. Fifty-nine years after his graduation, he easily folded back into Rectory life.

Your formal responsibilities to Rectory are now successfully completed, graduates, and you will soon depart with your diplomas in hand. You also depart with lifelong memories of your time here on this campus. Your paths moving forward will be varied, and your contributions will be unique. Still, you depart with a common responsibility—to better our world—and an unbreakable connection in Rectory School.

All in this room offer congratulations, guidance, and support as you embark on the most exciting and meaningful life journeys to come. You are ready, and the world awaits. 🐾

GRADUATION DAY AWARDS



1 THE MABEL B. BIGELOW MEMORIAL CUP
MENG BING "AUDREY" XIANG,
SHANGHAI, CHINA

Named in honor of the School's co-founder, this cup is awarded to a female member of the graduating class who displays outstanding excellence in character and who has shown great interest in and has contributed toward the welfare of the School.



2 THE FATHER BIGELOW MEMORIAL CUP
JIAHAO "JERRY" CAO,
SHANGHAI, CHINA

Presented to a male member of the graduating class who best exemplifies those human characteristics Father Bigelow sought to cultivate in all students. These characteristics are best articulated in John Bigelow's "Prayer for Rectory," which reads, "To work well, to play well; to think clearly, to speak the truth; to win without pride, to lose without rancor; to have courage, and to be kind. This is a goal for the greatest: It is a goal that the least may reach. To teach this is the whole purpose of schools. To know this is the whole meaning of life."



3 THE MR. AND MRS. JOHN CHARACTER CUP
TRENT CRAWFORD,
POMFRET CENTER, CT

Donated in 1952 in honor of Mr. and Mrs. John Bigelow, this cup is intended for a member of the graduating class who has made great progress in all areas of School life, and who has displayed the kindness, compassion, and spirit which is exemplified in the "Rectory child."



4 THE THOMAS B. HARRISON CUP
JIONGKUN "TAYLOR" WU,
SHANGHAI, CHINA

Presented for outstanding sportsmanship and consideration for others, not only on the playing field but in all areas of School life.



5 THE ALEXANDER C. VASILOFF MEMORIAL AWARD
ABIGAIL DAVIE, NEW YORK, NY

Presented to that Rectory student who best exemplifies those eclectic characteristics that Mr. Vasiloff lovingly brought to this community. They include an interest in history, science and mathematics, arts, and literature.

6 THE JOHN FRAZAR AUSTIN CUP
ALEXANDER BURNHAM,
POMFRET CENTER, CT

Given by John Frazar Austin, a member of the class of 1949, this cup is awarded annually to a student who best exemplifies the "fighting spirit" that will not permit him/her to quit, whether in sports, in studies, or striving for general improvement.

7 JOHN BLOODWORTH MOBLEY, JR. CLASS OF 1991 CUP
SHION HAYAKAWA,
HYOGO, JAPAN

Given by John's parents, the Mobley Cup is awarded to the proctor who, while wholeheartedly embracing all responsibilities associated with the proctor position, best represents the characteristics by which John is recalled here; specifically, tolerance toward, support of, and enthusiasm for his/her peers throughout his/her career at the School.

8 THE ADAM B. SILVER SCHOLAR-ATHLETE CUP
JIMIN "JENNIFER" KIM,
SEOUL, KOREA

Established in honor of Adam, class of 1982, by his parents, the Silver Cup is given to that student who has demonstrated not only spirit, energy, inquisitiveness, and vigor in the classroom, but determination and commitment on the athletic fields.

9 THE GOODRIDGE-BARBER ACADEMIC CUP
JIMIN "JENNIFER" KIM,
SEOUL, KOREA

Presented to Father Bigelow in 1927 by a gentleman who said he was tired of seeing the most handsome cups at graduation exercises everywhere go to the best athletes, rather than the best scholars. He was determined that Rectory would have a truly splendid-looking cup to present to its top student.

10 THE JOHN AND MILLIE GREEN CUP
KARLA DEL VALLE BERNARD,
CAROLINA, PUERTO RICO

Presented to the student who, in the opinion of the faculty, has brought an uplifting spirit and sense of joy to the School community.

11 THE CHARLES ROCKWELL CUP
HELEN YANG, SHENZHEN,
CHINA

Donated by Mr. Charles Rockwell, the father of three Rectory graduates—Charles, Jr., 1929; Henry, 1930; and Paul, 1935—the Rockwell Cup is awarded to "that person in the graduating class who has done the most for Rectory." 🐾



EMBRACING COMMUNITY: CELEBRATING DIVERSITY AND UNITY

Thank you! Thank you, Mr Williams, for the concise and warm introduction, and welcome, our close friends, delighted parents, beloved faculty members, and excited graduates. I want to congratulate the Class of 2024 first! We all made it! We have all experienced our unique journeys, landing here to celebrate our time at Rectory, joy, tears, happiness, and ourselves. And I suspect you are wondering why a young man from China with a British accent is giving the commencement speech at Rectory in Pomfret, Connecticut, United States. In that case, I will tell you that we embrace all cultures and celebrate diversity's beauty.

I enrolled at Rectory in the year of 2022. It was a remarkable year for all of us, a year of divisions and uncertainties. Worries and sorrows spread by the Russo-Ukrainian War, the Gaza-Israel's Operation Breaking Dawn, the increasing tension between the United States and China, and the conflicts in Chad, Yemen, and many other places where peace could exist. A wave of COVID-19 Delta and Omicron variants brought the world to a halt again. However, as I stepped onto the Rectory campus in the fall of 2022, I felt unity and community, where every classmate and teacher encouraged us to become the best version of ourselves. It was then that I understood what it means to be a community.

When I interviewed at Rectory, Mr. Campbell asked me, 'How would you define community?' I forgot my answer during the interview, but I have the answer now. Community is caring; community is the collective interests of all of us to thrive; community is the embracement of responsibility, respect, honesty, and compassion; community is Rectory. I have met students and teachers from fifty states and all over the world as cultures meshed and inspired us to bond as



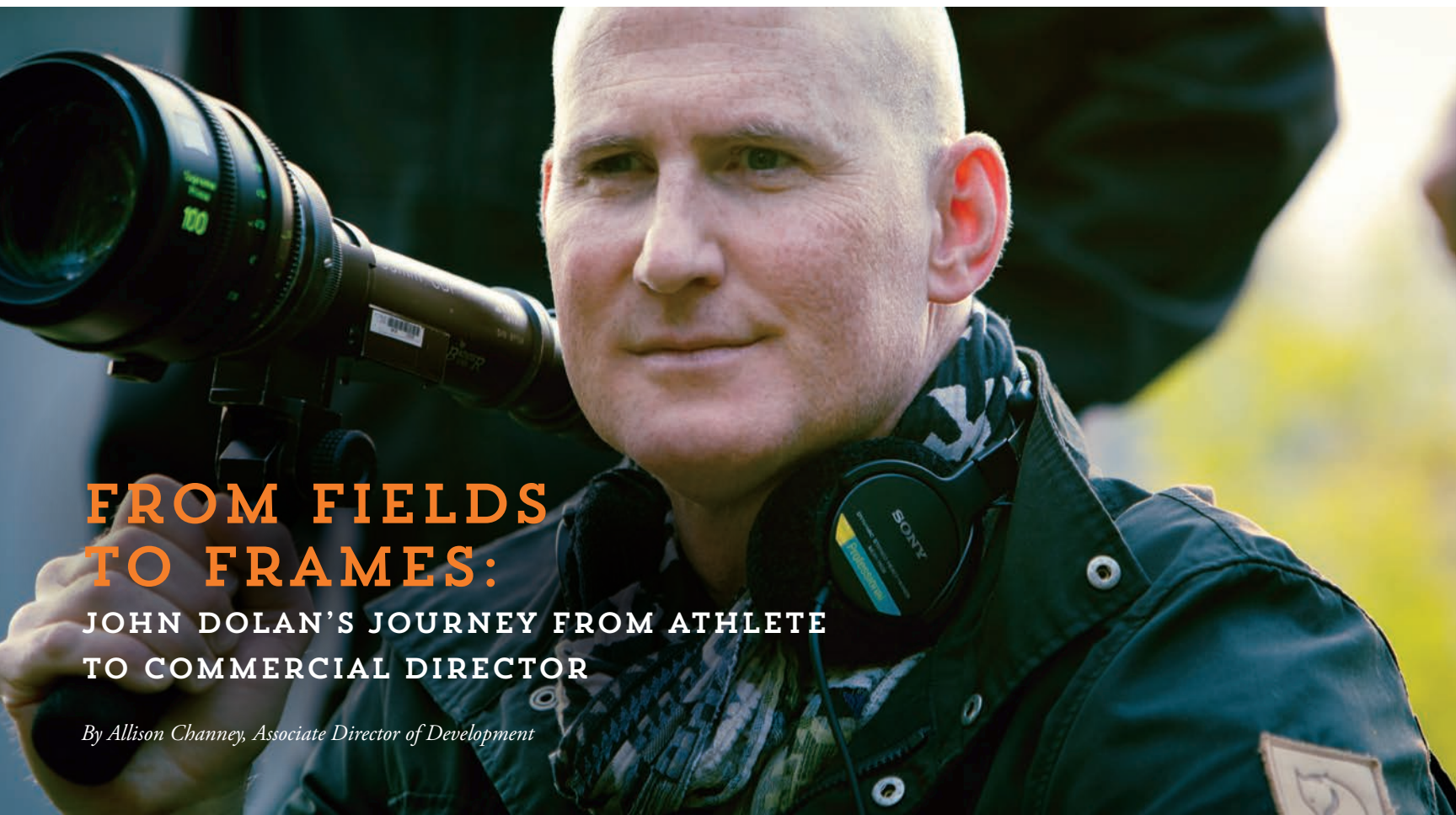
EXCERPTED
FROM JIAHAO
"JERRY" CAO
'24 SPEECH
AT RECTORY'S
GRADUATION
CEREMONY

we learned and grew in classrooms, on athletic fields, in the Tang music center, in the Art Barn, and in dorms. We became ourselves. We became the best version of ourselves by supporting and learning from one another.

Because of this, I have the support from all of you to be on a journey to find my voice in the Rectory community. Witnessing people advocating for themselves, others, and the whole community, I desperately want to express myself; as a member of Rectory, I wish to express my will to bond us together. Through every English discussion, every math and physics help from classmates and teachers, every encouragement on the athletic fields, and every applause after our performances, we all felt the power of our community. We are empowered to do the things we want to do, and these things support who we are. We would go on the Tang stage and shout out the best play from our latest match; we would run to the fields to cheer on our teammates; or simply, we would greet our friends with a gentle smile and cordial words. We celebrate, congratulate, and connect ourselves. Through these connections, I started to sense the voice of the community. I sense my voice in the community by supporting other voices and caring for others' journeys. I was moved by all of our actions to take care of each other. My journey of sensing my voice is guided by everyone who is here sitting, watching, hearing, and supporting me. And as our Chapel reminded us that "each one of us is wonderfully created, each one of us is special, and each person's journey is, indeed, sacred." Although our journeys may seem different in form, they share the common goal of kindness and love. So, Class of 2024, sail on and embrace our journeys of uncertainty and love, laughter, memories, and future. And finally, "may the wind be always at your back!" 🐾

CLASS OF 2024 MATRICULATION

Asheville School
Bancroft School
Blair Academy
Concord Academy
Culver Academy
Cushing Academy
Deerfield Academy
Dublin School
Fountain Valley School, CO
George School
Groton Academy
Harvey School
Hill School
Hotchkiss School
Kimball Union Academy
Lawrenceville School
Marianapolis Preparatory School
Masters School
McCallie School
Mercersburg Academy
Middlesex School
Millbrook School
Milton Academy
Miss Hall's School
Northfield Mount Hermon School
Peddie School
Pomfret School
Portsmouth Abbey School
St. Steven's School
Suffield Academy
Taft School
Tilton School
Vermont Academy
Wayland Academy
Western Reserve Academy
Westtown School
Williston Northampton School
Winsor School
Worcester Academy



FROM FIELDS TO FRAMES: JOHN DOLAN'S JOURNEY FROM ATHLETE TO COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR

By Allison Channey, Associate Director of Development

John Dolan '86 has enjoyed a long and successful career directing commercials. In his thirty-year tenure, John has worked with global brands such as North Face, ESPN, Volkswagen, and Visa, to name a few. When we caught up, it was easy to hear the excitement in his voice as he reminisced about his career. His most joyful moments, however, came when we talked about his journey and the people and places that helped get him to where he is today. John's story starts with a significant change from attending school in Minneapolis, Minnesota, to making a move to the countryside of Connecticut to attend Rectory School.

John was raised in Minnesota and received much of his early education there. During middle school, John struggled at the private day school he was attending, so his father and stepmother sought other options. With the help of an educational consultant, the Dolan family

started touring junior boarding schools before finding their perfect fit at Rectory School. John was to redo his eighth-grade year, which led to two wonderful years in Pomfret. When thinking about his time at Rectory, John reflected with warm memories of then-Head of School John Green, from whom Dolan received lessons that he would carry with him his whole life.

For Dolan, the structure and self-discipline Rectory provided guided his journey to becoming a renowned director: "It was a pivotal time for turning things around in my educational journey." While at Rectory, Dolan dove head first into his academics, where he began to excel under the guidance of his many mentors. While John played multiple sports at Rectory, he found himself drawn to lacrosse, a sport that was brand new to him at the time. "The first time I ever picked up a stick was at Rectory. One classmate in particular, Drew Fox, inspired me to

start playing." John continued to play through his college years; he even got to play against Drew at the collegiate level.

Even though most of his time at Rectory was focused on academics and sports, John also had his first exposure to the performing arts. He was a choir member and even played a role as Big Jule in *Guys in Dolls*. "Even though Rectory was mostly made up of athletes, you still had to try new things. Being in the school play ended up being so much fun, and I don't think I would have necessarily done it if it was not part of the curriculum." As we continued speaking about the art program at Rectory, John spoke highly of Mrs. Swish White and her incredible influence on his life, even though he did not realize the impact until many years later.

Following Rectory, John took a hiatus from performing arts during his high school years



at Kent School. There, John's focus remained squarely on academics and sports, especially lacrosse. This paid off big time as he attended the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill and played all four years on their lacrosse team. John took his first year at UNC as a discovery year and settled into life on a big campus. It was not until his sophomore year that he had, as he put it, "a real artistic awakening." He took a creative writing class that cracked open the doors. "It was specifically a poetry class taught by David Kellogg. I related to it on such a deep level; I just knew that the feeling I had in that classroom was different from any other class I had taken. It made me want more."

John declared English as his major as he pursued creative writing and poetry. Simultaneously, he found himself rekindling his joy for performing arts when he enrolled in a drama class that required theater attendance. John realized he loved going to the theater, not because it was an assignment, but because it awoke something inside him. While the shift from college athlete to creative writer/performer might have been difficult for some, for John, it came naturally. "It was fun because on the lacrosse team, I was the art guy, and with my artist friends, I was the "jockey" guy. It felt so natural to do both that I was able to continue both throughout college."

John went to the American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco during the summer before his senior year to further explore his interest as a performer. Following graduation, John moved to San Francisco full-time and immersed himself in the theater community, mainly doing improv with Theatresports and his own group named Impulse Theater. John continued to work on his writing, which eventually led to a short film that he wrote and also performed in. This short film would be the launching pad for his career as a director.

In 1996, John's closest circle of friends were working in advertising, and when they saw his short film, they encouraged him to throw his hat in the advertising ring. He was waiting tables in his twenties and knew he was ready to follow his passion. "It was at that point I realized that I was a better director than actor, so I embraced that." This moment began John's journey of directing TV commercials for over twenty-five years. He started working on his spec reel, which is a self-funded portfolio showcasing advertisements that had never aired. He did this with the help of some creatives at Goodby, Silverstein, and Partners—a celebrated ad agency in San Francisco—who had scripts they wanted

to get made. Using the brilliant scripts he was given, John was able to bring them to life with his knack for filmmaking and directing, helping to advance the careers of all involved.

John would spend the next four years working on his portfolio, and at the age of thirty, he finally finished his spec reel and was signed as a director at Anonymous Content, which would go on to be one of the biggest production companies in Hollywood, specializing in commercials, film, and television. So in 2000, John shot his first commercial for Sprite in New York City, and from there, the doors were blown wide open. After ten years at Anonymous Content, he moved on to Partizan, a French company, splitting his time between the European and US markets. A few years later, in a full circle moment, he went on to direct for Hey Wonderful, a boutique production company started by a gentleman he had started out his career with working at Anonymous Content twenty years prior.

During his decades as a director, John got the chance to travel to over twenty countries and six continents while shooting on location for various clients, such as BMW in South Africa and Peugeot in Slovenia. He talked about how each job was like building a city from scratch; you had to put a whole new crew together, scout locations, and make the client's message come to life. As we continued discussing the various aspects of his directing career, I asked John how life as an athlete played into his job, and he commented on how it taught him to be both a leader and a team player.

"A film crew is just a team, and as the director, you are the captain of the team. You know there's still wins and losses. Some days you get your butt kicked; others, you have the wind in your sails. It is almost a direct parallel to my life in sports. Sports prepared me for the rigor, intensity, and pressure of directing. I am better equipped to work with different complex personalities and try to inspire this big team to work together." He talked about how filmmaking is a collective medium and how teamwork came so naturally thanks in great part to the foundation he built on Rectory's athletic fields. He spoke again about his time in Pomfret and how it is where the fundamental things that went on to play a significant role in his life started. From his remarkable journey as an athlete to his self-discipline and work ethic, Rectory continues to play a big part in John's life, which he often thinks about.

"A FILM CREW IS JUST A TEAM, AND AS THE DIRECTOR, YOU ARE THE CAPTAIN OF THE TEAM. YOU KNOW THERE'S STILL WINS AND LOSSES. SOME DAYS YOU GET YOUR BUTT KICKED; OTHERS, YOU HAVE THE WIND IN YOUR SAILS. IT IS ALMOST A DIRECT PARALLEL TO MY LIFE IN SPORTS. SPORTS PREPARED ME FOR THE RIGOR, INTENSITY, AND PRESSURE OF DIRECTING. I AM BETTER EQUIPPED TO WORK WITH DIFFERENT COMPLEX PERSONALITIES AND TRY TO INSPIRE THIS BIG TEAM TO WORK TOGETHER."

While getting to see new places was one of the many benefits of directing, all good things must come to an end. Last year, John paused his commercial advertising career, moving with his family to New York City. Now, he is exploring new creative mediums, including painting, sculpture, and fine art photography. "It's a whole new world for me. I am very much a beginner in some of these disciplines, so it is a very exciting time." He encourages everyone to leave their comfort zones and explore new things. "I encourage athletes to stay open to other life experiences and those in the arts to explore sports. There are great benefits to both." At any age, I think all of us can take a page from his book. John's story is a testament to embracing new opportunities and balancing multiple interests. Now living in New York, we look forward to seeing more of John and watching his new artistic journey unfold. We are confident it will be far-reaching. 🐾



RECTORY HEAD SEARCH UPDATE

Since early March 2023, when Rectory retained Resource Group 175 as its consulting firm, the Head of School Search Committee, along with consultants Molly King and Bob Henderson, has made significant progress in selecting Fred Williams' successor, set to begin on July 1, 2025.

Ms. King and Mr. Henderson developed a strong position statement following a comprehensive discovery process that included meetings with the Board of Trustees and in-person interviews with administrators, faculty, staff, students, as well as some alumni and parents. The consultants also used their own and their firm's extensive independent and public school networks to reach out to individuals whom they believed would be strong candidates.

A quality group of applicants, hailing from places throughout the United States and representing diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds, expressed interest in and enthusiasm for the position and applied through RG 175. These candidates came to us from junior and secondary boarding and day schools, as well as from strong public schools.

Working closely with the Head of School Search Committee, RG 175 carefully reviewed resumes and materials from all candidates to prepare a thorough evaluation of the top contenders. In thoughtful discussions, the Committee identified those candidates best suited to succeed Mr. Williams as Rectory's next Head of School. As the next step in the process, semi-finalists were interviewed in late August.

Four exceptional finalists emerged and were invited to campus in September to meet with members of the School community. During these campus visits, each of the finalists demonstrated strong engagement, fostered meaningful conversations, and addressed key questions about their vision for Rectory's future. Their dynamic participation and genuine interest in the community left a positive impression on all involved.

After this rigorous selection process, the Head of School Search Committee selected the best candidate and presented that individual to the Board of Trustees for approval in late September 2024. Now that the Board has made its decision, the School will make a public announcement in October, officially introducing the new Head of School and sharing details about their leadership background and plans for the School's continued growth and success. 🐾

CHRIS LOWRY '11: WALL OF HONOR

Remarks delivered by Head of School Fred Williams, adapted for print by David Turner.



I've known Chris for a long time. I first met him when I was at his brother's basketball games. He played with my son. During the timeouts of the games and at halftime, Chris would always take his ball and go out on the court and shoot around. And every time I saw him there, the referees would send him back to the stands because he was in the way.

Chris' transition at Rectory was a little difficult at first. But he quickly adjusted and excelled academically and athletically. He was one of the top runners and top tennis players. At tennis, he always frustrated his opponents, because his doubles partner and Chris, on every changeover, would sprint from one side of the court to the other side of the court while his opponents were sitting and getting a drink. To compound it, they would hit every ball back that they hit to him.

But Chris shined in basketball. That was the sport he loved. At a young age, he made our varsity basketball team and had a major impact on the team. One of the first days of practice, Chris was known for wearing shirts of NBA players to practice, he came up to me and said,

"Some of the guys on the team, my teammates, are making fun of me because they say I'm not worthy to wear this." I told him, "All the more reason why you should do it." It didn't take too much time for him to earn their respect.

We played in a tournament in New York City and Chris was getting fouled constantly and, actually, getting beat up a little bit. Those tournaments are known for that. At one point, he came by and asked me to take him out. I acted like I didn't hear him. Later that day, we played many games that day, Chris made five three-point shots. It was incredible. A number of prep school coaches came up to me afterward and said, "Who is that guy?"

Chris' major athletic accomplishment in basketball was that while a junior at Woodstock Academy, he won the state championship. He led the team to an incredible story. Four years later, he was the starting point guard for Babson College, which went on to win the Division III National Championship. After each of those championships, within an hour, he called me. He didn't talk about the game or how he played. He thanked me.

That's the kind of guy Chris is. There was a point when I had an injury, probably between when he was at Babson and when he started working, he would drive me to my physical therapy appointments. And one day he said to me, "Mr. Seward, don't take this the wrong way, but I'm glad you got hurt." What did he mean? He said, "We've never been able to speak like this before because we were always on the move."

You have no idea how much I appreciate your kindness and respect, Chris.

Over the years, you've been so nice to me to this day. Now he's a marathon runner. I told him maybe that's not the best thing. You are truly deserving of this award. Not just for your athletic and academic accomplishments, but much more so because of the person you are. And it's a great privilege for me to give you this award. 🐾

C. SANFORD MURRAY: ATHLETIC WALL OF HONOR

Remarks delivered by Head of School Fred Williams, adapted for print by David Turner.



A 1959 issue of *The Rectory News* contains the first reference to wrestling at Rectory School, depicting the rag-tag nature of the fledgling program as its first meet approached. Of the 11 wrestlers on the roster for the Pomfret School match, only five were able to compete. After the matches concluded, “our beaten and battered wrestling squad returned home, having lost 20 to 3.”

In 1960, C. Sanford “Sandy” Murray accepted a position at Rectory, and he and his wife, Donna, moved onto campus. Like many at Rectory, Sandy both taught and coached—football in the fall, track in the spring, and wrestling in the winter. Of the three, wrestling was the sport with which he had zero personal experience. Fortunately, Sandy had two years under the tutelage of Ed Moriarty.

In 1963, the head coaching responsibilities shifted to Coach Murray, and according to *The Rectory News* that year, “This year wrestling has become a major sport at Rectory.” During this season, the team avenged its prior blowout loss and secured its first win by defeating Pomfret 19-5. The win was an early indication that Coach Murray could train successful wrestlers, and it was a springboard toward future milestones.

Coach Murray spent two additional seasons as coach of Rectory’s wrestling team. In the 1964 season, the roster had ballooned to over 30 wrestlers. According to a report in *The Rectory News*, “We had one of the best wrestling teams we have ever had at Rectory.” It was clear that Coach Murray could build a winning program at Rectory and beyond, doing so by fostering a sense of family on all his teams.

Coach Murray’s protégé led Rectory to its first undefeated season, and in 1969, Rectory hosted several teams for the School’s first wrestling tournament. Bringing people together to celebrate the sport Coach Murray loved is one of his signature qualities, and his early stewardship of the wrestling program at Rectory put it in a position to grow and thrive.

After Rectory, Coach Murray worked as a teacher and coach at St. Johnsbury Academy for 30 years. He started the wrestling program there in 1968. One year after starting the program, Coach Murray’s team went 13-1 en route to winning a league championship. Over the following years, his teams compiled over 200 dual meet wins, and he coached 23 individual state champions, including one New England champion in 1980. Coach Murray was inducted into the New England

Interscholastic Wrestling Hall of Fame in 1994 and the Vermont Wrestling Hall of Fame in 2019. Those are impressive accomplishments, but they pale in comparison to the impact Coach Murray has had on his athletes, their families, and his community.

Shortly after Sandy passed away in December 2023, some of his former athletes reflected on the difference he made in their lives. One commented that, “Sometimes you need people to believe in you before you believe in yourself. He was that guy.” Another claimed, “Outside of my parents, he was the most influential person in my life.” On Coach Murray’s legacy, one wrestler-turned-coach said, “Murray is a legend. He will be sorely missed and definitely not forgotten.”

We will never forget Sandy Murray at Rectory School as we are so proud to induct him to the Athletic Wall of Honor. 🐾

A MERGING OF THE HISTORIC AND NEW

KEVIN TUBRIDY: DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

One of Head of School Fred Williams' early priorities at Rectory was creating and implementing a Campus Master Plan. Fortunately, Williams had met an individual with the creative vision and industry knowledge to help get that job done. Kevin Tubridy '60 joined the Board of Trustees in 2012, and it is hard to find another person who has had the level of impact Kevin has had on Rectory.

Kevin earned a degree in Political Science from Providence College where he was one of only seven graduates inducted into the National Honor Society for Philosophy. This feat is even more impressive given that he was sneaking into architecture classes at another nearby institute on many evenings. These evening sojourns, combined with his early passion for architecture, led to his true calling.

After graduation, Kevin found himself doing interior design work for places such as the department store G. Fox and Travelers Insurance. A desire to envision entire spaces, not just the interior, led him to the bold step of forming his own company, New England Design, where one of the first projects was the Eastbrook Mall in Mansfield, CT, which featured the new location of his father's clothing store. Later, Kevin was approached by a builder doing work with the Mashantucket Pequot tribe. New England Design played the lead role in designing many spaces at Foxwoods Casino.

In 2013, under Kevin's leadership, the Rectory School Campus Master Plan, an extensive document that presented an ambitious vision for our campus, was unanimously adopted by the Board of Trustees. This plan turned into reality, generating unprecedented facilities improvement impacting all aspects of school life. A few of these projects include:

- John and Millie Green Hall, housing the Smith Learning Center and the Hale Elementary School
- Seaward Family Pavilion and Wang Amphitheater
- Bigelow Academic Building and SPIROL Science Wing renovations
- The new girls locker room in Colhoun Gymnasium
- Centennial Dormitory
- The George S. Brewster Odeum
- The Colhoun Gymnasium renovation and expansion (in progress)

This list is impressive, but Kevin is not concerned about the number or size of projects. He is focused on impact. Aesthetically, his respect for our current structures and his desire to create new and improved spaces has resulted in the merging of the historic and new in a seamless way. Kevin's keen interest in understanding the hopes, wants, and realities of current and future users continues to ensure a collaborative, inclusive process. The result is a perfectly designed structure down to the most minute of details.

To date, just about every component of the original master plan has been completed. The result:

- Improved academic spaces filled with natural light and colors designed to attract, engage, and calm
- Recreational and social gathering spaces that are vibrant, welcoming, and fun
- Residential spaces that rival any secondary school dorms

- Faculty apartments that provide a place to raise a family on campus

Kevin ensured that Rectory's campus is designed and built so that people, program, and place merge in an extraordinary fashion. He is the first to say buildings are but shells, providing an envelope for the true value of space: the activities inside. Our activities, and those students and adults who engage in them, have thrived because of Kevin's vision. For decades to come, the Rectory campus will bear Kevin's imprint, not just in the structures, but in the strength of the relationships formed within them.

It is with extreme appreciation and gratitude, Rectory presents the Distinguished Service Award to Kevin Tubridy. 🐾



2023-2024 ALUMNI EVENTS

ANOTHER AMAZING YEAR OF EVENTS BRINGING STUDENTS, PARENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE RECTORY.

1) New Faculty Luncheon, August 2023 2) Fall Family Weekend 2023 3) George Groom Dining Hall Rededication, Fall Family Weekend 2023 4) Fall Family Weekend 2023 5) Fall Family Weekend 2023 6) Faculty Appreciation, February 2024



7) Spring Family Weekend 2024 8) NYC dinner with young Alumni, May 2024 9) Eric Kim Basketball Tournament 10) 8th Grade Leadership Luncheon, May 2024 11) Leaving the Wolf Den, May 2024





HARMONIES OF GROWTH:

RACHEL SCHOPPE ROGERS' JOURNEY FROM RECTORY SCHOOL TO MUSICAL FULFILLMENT

By Allison Channey, Associate Director of Development

Rachel Schoppe Rogers' '99 journey to Rectory was just a short car ride as she grew up next door in Thompson, Connecticut.

When Rachel was still in elementary school, her eldest sibling was entering middle school, and their parents sought a more diverse educational program than the local school system could offer. Once the Schoppes witnessed the transformative experience their eldest children had at Rectory, it was assured that Rachel would follow them to Pomfret for middle school. This move to Rectory would become a defining chapter in Rachel's life, particularly in fostering her passion for the arts.

Rachel's earliest musical memories involve her being an early riser, often waking up before anyone else in the house. "I was four years old and wanted to play the piano; I didn't know how to play, so I was just pushing keys and making noise at 5:30 in the morning, directly below my parent's room." Her mother quickly decided to enroll Rachel in lessons because, as Rachel put it, "She said to me, if you are going to wake up and play the piano, I am at least going to listen to music and not just sounds." This led to her first piano lessons at age five or six, sparking a lifelong passion for music.

In elementary school, Rachel took up singing and participated in a local program called "Kids on Broadway," where she could sing and act alongside other children. This early exposure to performing arts deepened Rachel's passion, which she carried through to her time at Rectory and beyond. Arriving at Rectory opened even more doors for Rachel's musical ambitions. Under the mentorship of Jackie Smith, Rachel found herself exploring new musical horizons through participation in the school band. Rachel embraced the challenge of learning new instruments, like the flute and saxophone, and found joy in making music with her peers. Similarly, her experiences in chorus, under the direction of Bev DiPaolo, provided Rachel with a platform to showcase her vocal talents and cultivate her confidence on stage.

Reflecting on her time at Rectory, Rachel emphasizes the sense of community and support

that positively impacted her experience. "I think that was a big piece for me," she says, recalling the warm and encouraging atmosphere in the music classroom. "I think Rectory did a lot for me in growing my passion for music." She recalled Jackie Smith being incredibly supportive. "Even though I had no idea how to play the flute initially, she patiently worked with me and made the learning process enjoyable." Her teachers taught her music and helped her build confidence in herself. This nurturing environment allowed her to take on significant roles in school musicals, including playing a narrator in "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" and Snoopy in "Charlie Brown." Beyond music, Rachel's time at Rectory was marked by a spirit of exploration and discovery. She tried her hand at cross country, soccer, softball, and basketball, winning several awards for her achievements. These experiences not only broadened her horizons but fostered lifelong friendships and memories.

After Rectory, Rachel moved next door to Pomfret School, which brought new challenges and opportunities. With no band program available, Rachel focused on singing, joining the chorus, and an a capella group. During her senior year, she stepped away from the chorus to explore digital music production, a class where she composed, recorded, and mastered her own music. "This class was a turning point," she reflects. "It allowed me to explore different music production and performance aspects."

After graduation from Pomfret, Rachel's life continued to be intertwined with music. She took a gap semester before attending Clark University, during which she traveled to England, where she built a custom guitar at a specialized workshop. This unique experience was a testament to her dedication and love for music. Later, in college, she minored in vocal performance, ensuring that music remained a significant part of her life.

Post-college, Rachel's career path took her into retail marketing and alumni relations, yet her love for music remained constant. She worked at Crabtree and Evelyn before moving to Boston, where she managed a restaurant and had the

opportunity to work with a diverse array of people. Eventually, Rachel found her way back to the world of independent school education, working in Alumni Relations at Pomfret School. This role ended up being a great fit. Having grown up on independent school campuses, Rachel found comfort in how easy it was to fold back into the community. Her experiences at Rectory and Pomfret helped her connect naturally with her constituents. Over the years, the demands of the job changed, and the travel requirements of the job no longer aligned with Rachel's new growing family, so she made the decision to move on to Marianapolis Prep School in her hometown of Thompson.

Rachel has spent the past decade at Marianapolis, helping build up their advancement program through multiple roles in alumni relations, fundraising, and marketing communications. However, this past year marked the end of an era for the Rogers family at Marianapolis as they moved on to Tilton, New Hampshire, where her husband will be the Dean of Enrollment at Tilton School. Despite pursuing a career path outside the arts, Rachel is still musically oriented. She sings and performs for family and friends. In the chaos of day-to-day life, music is her escape, and she holds it near to her heart. She has even passed the passion on to her young daughter who has started to explore her own artistic journey.

As Rachel embarks on her new chapter, she looks back on her time at Rectory with gratitude and fondness. She offers advice to current students: "Try everything. You have no idea what's going to stick, and you have the opportunity now to explore anything you want. Get out of your comfort zone." Rachel's story is a testament to the power of music, the impact of a supportive educational environment, and the importance of pursuing one's passions. As Rachel navigates her future career, music remains a steadfast interest, and we eagerly anticipate her journey ahead. 🐾

REPORT *of* GIVING

JULY 1, 2023-JUNE 30, 2024



**ALUMNI &
DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE**

DAVID TURNER

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DEAR FRIENDS,

With another remarkable year at Rectory School recently concluded, I am again overwhelmed with gratitude for the unwavering support and generosity shown by our community. Together, we have achieved extraordinary milestones that will shape the future of our School for generations to come.

Through your support and commitment, during Fall Family Weekend we rededicated our Dining Hall in honor of long-time faculty member Mr. George Groom. For over thirty years, Mr. Groom maintained a legendary presence in the history classroom, on the athletic fields, and in the Dining Hall, where his oversight of the meals and his daily offerings of grace prior to the repasts are well remembered by all. At this same event, we were proud to unveil the renovated food servery named in honor of former school chefs John and Odessa Hunsucker. The Hunsuckers worked tirelessly to provide a home-like dining experience for the students and staff, and they cared for the Rectory young men (we were boys only at that time) as if they were their own. Another season then meant another ribbon cutting as this spring, just across from the Groom Dining Hall, we opened to great fanfare the George S. Brewster Odeum. This new music rehearsal venue, a testament to Rectory's commitment to nurturing artistic excellence and creativity, will vastly improve our music program by affording students the opportunity to practice in locations that best support their artistic development.

These facility improvements represent the most recent progress on our ambitious master plan and the corresponding Centennial Campaign. This campaign, designed to grow our endowment in support of teacher salaries and student financial aid and address key space needs, is so close to completion thanks to your steadfast support and belief in our mission. With your continued involvement, the full vision of the campus master plan will soon be a reality as there is only one campaign initiative remaining—the expansion of the Craig Colhoun Gymnasium.

Paralleling our facilities and endowment progress, our academic programs continue to evolve, challenging and inspiring our students along the way. The ninth-grade Capstone Project, the Bigelow Honors Program, and MELP (May Experiential Learning Program) are a few examples of the learning experiences that empower our young men and women by promoting skill development, curiosity, and accountability. More than ever, Rectory is seeking out and utilizing quantifiable data in an effort to inform curriculum development and instructional practices as we seek to provide the best school experience possible for our young learners. Rectory's goal is to provide students with the appropriate level of challenge and support, and our recently implemented standardized testing program, MAP Growth, allows the School to closely monitor each student's individual progress and adapt methods to meet the child's unique needs like never before.

As we celebrate Rectory's achievements, let us also reflect on the collective spirit that defines our community. Whether you have volunteered your time, made a generous donation, or simply offered words of encouragement, your contributions have made a profound impact on the lives of our students and the legacy of our School. Together, we continue to build on a strong foundation for the future of Rectory, ensuring that our students thrive in an environment that fosters academic excellence, personal growth, and global citizenship.

Thank you once again for your incredible support. Together, we have proven that when we unite in pursuit of a common goal, there is no limit to what we can achieve.

With deep gratitude,

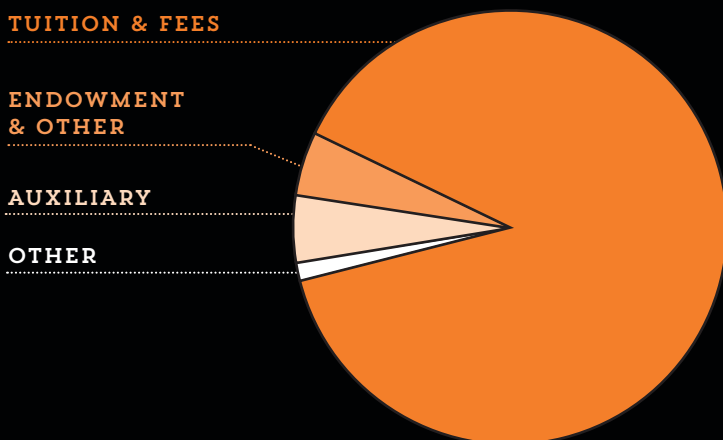


Frederick W. Williams
Head of School

The following pages list all of our donors who generously supported Rectory School during fiscal year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy. Please accept our sincere apologies if an error or omission has occurred and kindly notify the Development Office.

2023-2024 FINANCE REPORT

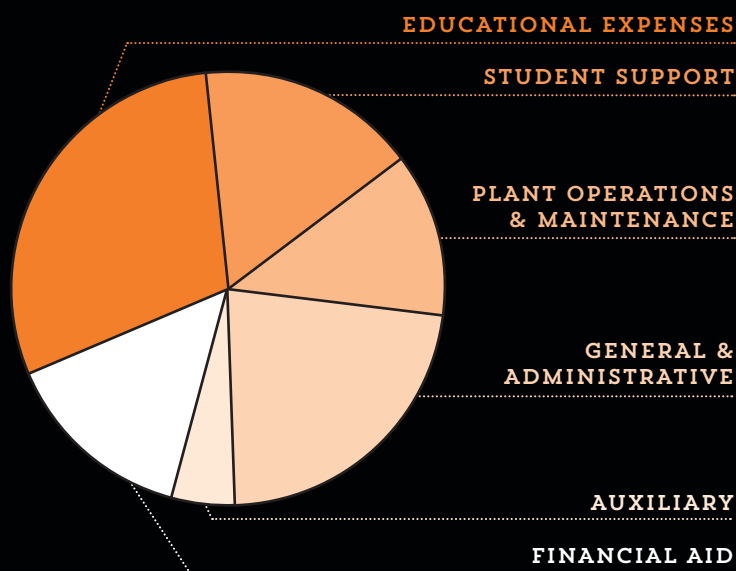
OPERATING REVENUE



FY 2023-2024 OPERATING REVENUE*

TUITION & FEES	\$15,990,063
ENDOWMENT & OTHER	\$872,711
AUXILIARY	\$913,253
OTHER	\$207,862
TOTAL	\$17,983,889

OPERATING EXPENSES



FY 2023-2024 OPERATING EXPENSES*

EDUCATIONAL EXPENSE	\$5,316,206
STUDENT SUPPORT	\$2,880,686
PLANT OPERATIONS/MAINT.	\$2,203,714
GENERAL & ADMIN.	\$4,004,257
AUXILIARY	\$836,226
FINANCIAL AID	\$2,521,102
TOTAL	\$17,762,191

*Please note that the amounts and figures above reflect the unaudited financial position of Rectory School as of June 30, 2024.

CAMPAIGN FOR A CENTURY

The donors listed below made a permanent impact on Rectory this past year with their generous support of our Campaign for a Century, which includes our Master Plan Phase 1, Tang Family Endowment, and the Centennial Campaign. Thank you for enhancing the Rectory experience for our students, faculty, and community.

CAMPAIGN FOR A CENTURY DONORS

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CAMPAIGN ACHIEVEMENTS

\$1M+

The Annual Fund for Rectory has exceeded \$1 million six years in a row.



The opening of Centennial Hall, a state-of-the-art dormitory in the heart of campus.



The opening of the George S. Brewster Odeum, a beautiful music and practice hall.



Renovation of the John B. Bigelow Academic Building to upgrade classroom spaces and enliven learning for our students.



The Grosvenor House front entrance and expanded Admissions Office provide a welcoming first impression for families and visitors.



More than tripled the overall endowment, supporting named scholarship funds that provide access to a Rectory education for highly qualified students, the \$11.9 million raised for the Tang Endowment for Excellence in Teaching and the \$1 million for the Faculty First Fund have enhanced faculty salaries, professional development, and improvements, strengthening Rectory's ability to recruit and retain top teaching talent.



Completely renovated Memorial Dormitory to bring a modern feel to this iconic student living space, and the addition of a family-sized apartment increased faculty housing, benefitting the Residential Life program.



The construction of John and Millie Green Hall, housing the Smith Learning Center and the Hale Elementary School Wing, to allow students to thrive in a holistic, 21st-century learning environment.



The construction of a faculty duplex, including one three- and one four-bedroom home, to provide much-needed on-campus, non-dormitory housing.



The Whipple Brewster Tennis Pavilion offering first-class facilities for one of the most popular sports on campus.



The Wolf Den Student Center converted the old Dining Hall into an invaluable informal space for students to gather for work and play.



The Seaward Family Pavilion and Wang Amphitheater to create a central hub for students interested in a game of basketball, four square, or just a space to relax with friends.



Renovation of Fisher and Murphy dormitories to become much-needed non-dorm faculty housing.



Renovation of the Dining Hall kitchen and dining room in honor of John and Odessa Hunsucker and George Groom respectively to modernize the facility and expand offerings for students and employees.

REMAINING FUNDING PRIORITIES



Complete the Colhoun Gymnasium renovation and expansion to provide greatly expanded and improved athletic facilities for our players and coaches.



LEADERSHIP LEVEL GIVING

The 1920 Society recognizes individuals who make contributions of \$1,000 or more in any one year, to any priority at Rectory School. The list below recognizes The 1920 Society donors during the 2023-2024 fiscal year. Thank you for your leadership support of Rectory School. These Leadership Donors are noted with a "*" throughout the Report of Giving. To learn more about The 1920 Society visit www.rectoryschool.org/1920.

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Recognizing donors who made gifts totaling \$25,000 or more during the 2023–2024 fiscal year.

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**GIVING TO RECTORY
AT-A-GLANCE**



1,147 GIFTS RECEIVED

ANNUAL FUND SURPASSED

\$1,000,000

FOR THE 6TH CONSECUTIVE
YEAR **RAISING \$1,079,944**

TOTAL YEARLY GIVING

 **\$3,694,716** 

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR DONORS!

ORANGE & BLACK CIRCLE

Recognizing donors who made gifts totalling \$1-\$999 during the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

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FEBRUARY IS FOR FACULTY: OUR FACULTY ARE ALL IN!

In lieu of a giving day, Rectory held its annual February Is for Faculty giving month asking our constituents to BE ALL IN celebrating and supporting our inspirational faculty.

Donations to the Annual Fund for Rectory were received with tributes to current and past faculty. In addition, we honored our faculty with delicious treats, weekly raffles, breakfast & lunch from the RPA, and shared your kind sentiments with them.



120
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\$155,007

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**Honoring Rectory's legendary
 faculty and friends, past and
 present.**

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Hilary & Robert Hutchinson

IN HONOR OF ALL FACULTY

You Sun Won & Dowan Kim*

IN HONOR OF ALL OF THE SPORTS COACHES

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IN HONOR OF ALL OF THE TEACHERS!

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COLLEAGUES WHO
BECAME OUR
LIFELONG FRIENDS**

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'82

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STILL IN
MY HEART
AFTER MANY
YEARS, IT
GAVE ME
TOOLS THAT
I STILL USE
TODAY.”

IN MEMORY OF MR. AND MRS. THOMPSON

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John H. Forsyth '60
Herbert B. Gengler Jr. '64
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Carolyn & Stephen Golding '63
Jennifer & Alexander Guthrie '66
Leita & William Hamill '61*
Alta & N. Peter Hamilton '67*
Elizabeth & Kurt Jones '62
Martha & Kenneth Knowles III '65
Edward D. Kratovil '60
Cindy & Robert Olmsted Sr. '60
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Cynthia & Andrew Rodman '69
Louise Witherite & S. Dunham Rowley Jr. '60
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Margaret Wiff & Hugh Whipple '68*

1970s

Anonymous
Eda & James Bell III '71*
James E. Byron '70
Michael S. Cady '70*
Bintou & Allen Chatterton III '75
Kimberly & Bradford Dimeo '77*
Ariane & R. Mark Ellerkmann '78*
John L. Gengler '70
Alfred C. Glassell III '79
James F. Hettinger '78
George C. Holt III '75
Lisa & David Jacobs '73
Victoria Greenleaf & Michael Kempner '70*
Keeley '77 & Scott Kriskey
James H. Leach '76*
Karen & Walter Levy '70*
Susan & Edwin McCarthy '70*
Thomas O. McCarthy '75*
James A. Myers '74*
Connie & David O'Neill '71*
Barbara & Oliver Parker '72*
Polly Spring & Breck Perkins '73
Allison & Daniel Rooney '77*
Elisabeth d. Sauer '76
Amy & Andrew Seymour '79
Doris & Daniel Shea '77
Dianne & John Smith '70*
June & Henry Smith '76*
Lisa & Christopher Toney '75
Carol & Stephen Wagner '70
Timothy S. Wile '70
Felicia Pickering & Stephen Wood '72

1980s

Anonymous
A Friend of Rectory School
Kirstin & Charles Ashford III '86
Sheryl & Peter Berk '80
Jennifer Nolen & Robert Clark III '82
Janel Cunneen '84 & Steven Grippio
Jenny & H. Dalton Davlin '80*
Pier F. de Sanctis '88
Monica & John DeVivo '84
Melanie & David Dixon '86
Sarah Lambert & John Dolan '86*
Daniel J. Entwistle '86*
Karen & Charles Ernst IV '80
Bradley & Robert Fogelman II '88*
Todd M. Frodyma '84

WHY WE GIVE

CLAIRE SHA &
JIUPING
DONG P'24

"I APPRECIATE THE SAFE, FRIENDLY, EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT RECTORY PROVIDES. WITH RECTORY FACULTY'S GUIDANCE, MY SON DEVELOPED VALUABLE LIFE SKILLS LIKE ORGANIZATION, NOTE-TAKING, TIME MANAGEMENT, AND SELF-ADVOCACY."

Cassi & William Gerdsen '86
 Marc I. Goldfarb '83
 Jennifer Rossiter & Matthew Green '82
 Angela & David Harner '87
 Peter R. Harrington '87
 Nathan B. Karnes '80
 Karen & Lawrence Klaff '82*
 Ryan R. Leirvik '88
 Julie & Christopher Lippke '80
 Elizabeth & Charles Lynch '83*
 Kristi & Mason McCarthy '84
 Cynthia & Kendall Miller '80*
 Andrew T. Norris '84
 Jennifer & Timothy Polishook '84
 Melissa & Penry Price II '84*
 Malu Sterling &
 Federico Prince-Laris '82
 Keelin & Christopher Pye '87
 Beth & William Reich '85
 Andrew B. Rosenberg '86
 Randy M. Stevens '84
 Gari M. Stroh '87
 Natasha '84 & Christopher Swann*
 Robert M. Wileman '86*
 Andrew J. Williams '82
 Logan H. Yonce '82
 Elizabeth Zimmermann '84 &
 Thomas Gardos*

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 Benjamin Z. Clark '92*
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 Lizzie & William Gahagan '96
 Cassandra Grzybowski &
 Jeffrey Glenn '94*
 Morgan K. Holland '97
 Paula & Ryan Howard '93
 Melissa & Ethan Jamron '95
 Gray & Andrew King '90*
 Katie Derry & Clayton LeBlanc '93
 Meredith Brown & Jesse Lebus '90
 Joohyun Song & Hyukkee Moon '95*
 Octavius Prince '94*
 Courtney & Whitney Reutlinger '93
 Christine & Samuel Scott '90*
 Anders J. Vercelli '96
 Regina Yopak & Paul Wagner '99
 Shelley & Ashton Williams '94

2000s

Anonymous
 Yao & Henry Bowden III '01
 Brittany & Miles Collins '04*
 William D. Goldberg '08
 Michael C. Gorman '03
 Paul Kenichi Gray '09

Charles L. Griffith '08
 Eliza G. Jones '04
 Marshall A. Jones '05
 Dennis F. Leary '02
 Hyungjoon Lim '00*
 John W. Seaward '02
 Kendra '00 & Jake Sumner
 Lars C. J. Vercelli '01
 Stephanie & Johnny Wells '03
 Danielle & Franklin West '08
 Samantha & Alexander Wiegel '05
 Min Jae Yoo '09

2010s-PRESENT
Donors in this section marked with a # earned membership in the Young Alumni 1920 Society.

Anonymous
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 Charles C. Bell '17 #
 Om P. Brown '22 #
 Melissa Browne '14
 Adam C. Carafotes '10
 Christopher A. Chambers '10
 Yeo-Bi Choi '10
 Nicholas R. DeBlois '10
 Matthew C. DeMaria '10
 Patrick A. DeNuccio '10
 Clara C. Dowdle '23 #
 Grayce Gibbs '15
 Maya R. Gibbs '15
 Jeffrey R. Gibbs '17
 Walker H. Goodridge '19
 Maxwell O. Green Wright '15 #
 Timothy H. Haggerty '10
 Abbey Haggerty '12
 Alexander T. Hutchinson '23 #
 Jiayi Ji '17 #
 Devin P. Lannan '15
 Abisola O. Lawal '16 #
 Will H. L. Lee '22 #
 Shailyn C. Lineberry '13
 Maia S. Lineberry '14
 Cheng Lou '14
 Megan M. McCarthy '18 #
 Nicholas R. Pezza '10
 Gregory J. Pezza '12
 Gregory B. Rice '14
 Carl V. Sangree '11
 Katherine C. Scripps '18
 Peter J. Sheehan '15
 Bailey E. Sheehan '18
 Rongyue Sun '19 #
 Adam C. Tillinghast '20 #
 Tianshu Wang '16 #
 Jeffrey Wang '17 #
 Joseph T. Wheelock '15 #

Caleb R. Wilcox '14
 Zoe G. Wilcox '16
 Shepherd A. Wilcox '22 #

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Thank you to the parents of alumni who gave to Rectory School this year. Your ongoing support sends a positive message of commitment and appreciation to all within the Rectory community.

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 Catherine & Brian Bastow
 Andrea & Marc Becker
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 Donna & Andre Bessette
 Debbie & Richard Binswanger
 Paul M. Blass
 Kathy & Thomas Borner*
 Cheri Brandon*
 Crystal & Albert Britton III
 Ellen & Edward Browne
 Lynn Burdick
 Cheryl & Paul Canavan
 Karine Vigne & Manuel Cangas
 Maria Cardenas & Oscar Ramirez
 Mary & Stephen Caron
 Maria & John Carpenter
 Christine & David Carter
 Jody Chapman
 Yi Cai & Jie Chen
 Jie Chen
 Rong Juan & Ji Yang Chen*
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 Jungsun Yun & Sehoon Choi
 Jennifer & Christopher Choroszy
 Mary L. Clayton
 Fay Cox
 Kathia Pichardo & Edwin Cruz
 Christina & Mark Cunningham
 Catherine Bochain & Anne D'Alleva
 Garfield W. Danenhower*
 Sarah Danso Adjei
 Maria & Daniel De Nuccio*
 Andrew N. deTreville
 Sara DiIorio*
 Richard Dilko

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 Jennie Dunham
 Sarah R. Evans
 Marian Fox
 Milixsa Denis Ramirez &
 Andres Garcia Castillo*
 Lesley & Donald Gibbs
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 Julie & Phillip Goldberg
 Marcia & William Goldberger*
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 Emelin Halilovic
 Alta & N. Peter Hamilton '67*
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 Deanna Hart Rodman &
 Matthew Rodman
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 Elisabeth & Justin Herdic*
 Geoffrey R. Hoguet
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 Anthony S. Hoyt
 Angela & Thayne Hutchins Jr.
 Hilary & Robert Hutchinson
 Bridie & Ronald Jamron
 Michael Jeffers
 Jacqueline & Rodney Jenks Jr.
 Dejie Jia & Yihu Dai*
 Louisa & Jeremiah Jones
 Joo Hyun Ha & Seung Woo Kang
 Nancy & David Kelly
 Jae Young Baek & Sang Wan Kim*
 Marka & Stephen Larrabee
 M. Lynette Latiolais
 Abimbola & Taju Lawal
 Yeonjae Chun & Joonsung Lee
 Sunhwa Oh & KangWoo Lee
 Jennifer Tan & Danny Lee*
 Soyoun Kim & Don Ki Lee*
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 Victoria & Nicholas Leveille
 Elisabeth Levesque
 Kevin T. Lewis*
 Carri & Frank Lineberry
 Julie & Christopher Lippke '80
 Rui Chen & Guining Liu*
 Norma Jean Loftus
 William P. Loftus III

Sanchai Lojanarungsiri*
 Qi Long
 Pedro Amastal & Olga Lopez
 Barbara & William Lott
 Elizabeth & Charles Lynch '83*
 William F. MacLaren '59
 Gloria Garcia & Gerardo Marquez
 Gail & Patrick McCarthy
 Carol & William McPherson III
 Carlos Medina*
 Cindy & Lloyd Montgomery III*
 Hasnaa & Abdel Morsi
 Constance & David Moynihan
 Patricia Mulcahy & Bruce Paro*
 Raymond F. Murphy III
 Kerri & Fred Nagle
 Joy & McNeville Nanna
 Cynthia & Thomas Noone
 Elsie & Christopher O'Connor
 Suzanne & Wulfrin Oberlin
 Marcela Macias Ortega &
 Cuauhtemoc Ochoa Fernandez
 Nancy & Jules Paderewski
 Luis Palomino Bernal*
 Pamela Paquin
 Lindsay & Jeff Paul
 Abigail Dominguez Garcia &
 Marta Perez Gomez
 Polly Spring & Breck Perkins '73
 Michelle & Robert Pezza
 Oksana Voinalovych &
 Mikhail Pimenov
 Elin M. Pye
 Danielle & Anthony Reilly*
 Marchant & Barton Reutlinger
 Ju Young Shim & Seung Chul Rhee
 Anne & Eric Rice
 Patricia & Deron Rippey Sr.
 Yanira Rodas
 Tia Rosengarten
 Kathy Fitzgerald &
 William Rounseville
 Angelo E. Santiago
 Mary Lou & Bradford Seaward
 Leslie & Edward Self Jr. '58
 Kelly & Jon Sheehan
 Anne Lo & David Shen
 Jihye Kim & Kyo Shik Shin*
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 Jacqueline & Paul Smith Jr.
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 Kendra '00 & Jake Sumner
 Jinghuan Chen & Chen Sun
 Oscar L. Tang '53*
 Fang Wu & Xin Tang*
 Liwei Li & Yong Tang
 Lynda & Mark Tillinghast
 Sandra Torrence
 Jane Vercelli

Carol & Stephen Wagner '70
 Chunlei Man & Hui Wang*
 Ying-Ying Wu & Chen-Wei Wang*
 Jeffrey Warren
 Beini Zhong & Lei Wen
 Andronica Stanley-Wheelock &
 Joseph Wheelock III*
 Leslie L. White
 Leslie M. Wileman
 Yu Hong Chen & Jia Hui You
 Melissa & James Zahansky*
 Jing Zhang & Zhenyu Zhao
 Xiaoqiu Wang & Zhongchao Zhao
 Yumei Wan & Shaojun Zhong
 Hao Zhu
 Betty H. Zimmermann
 Elizabeth Zimmermann '84 &
 Thomas Gardos*
 Marta Garcia del Castillo &
 Juan Zuniga Gomez*

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Thank you to all Rectory grandparents who chose to support Rectory this year.

GRANDPARENTS OF THE CLASS OF 2024
 Sheila & Gerard Lepine

GRANDPARENTS OF THE CLASS OF 2025
 Jim Bendall*
 Belinda M. Chen
 Brooke & Steve Cornwell*
 Jane Covington
 Diane & Mario Saliga
 Cathie & Richard Volz

GRANDPARENTS OF THE CLASS OF 2026
 Maria & John Carpenter
 Judy Haines
 Edwin R. Rodriguez*

GRANDPARENTS OF THE CLASS OF 2027
 Jim Bendall*
 Belinda M. Chen
 Diane & Mario Saliga
 Cathie & Richard Volz

GRANDPARENTS OF THE CLASS OF 2028
 Barbara Woodard

GRANDPARENTS OF THE CLASS OF 2029
 Sheila & Gerard Lepine
 Diane & Mario Saliga
 Cathie & Richard Volz

GRANDPARENTS OF THE CLASS OF 2031

Deanna Hart Rodman &
 Matthew Rodman
 Donna Krell

GRANDPARENTS OF THE CLASS OF 2032

Kathy & Thomas Borner*
 Mary & Stephen Caron

GRANDPARENTS OF THE CLASS OF 2033

Jim Bendall*

FACULTY & STAFF

We are proud to have the financial support of our current employees. Thank you to all of our faculty and staff for your commitment to Rectory School.

Anonymous
 Pamela & Glenn Ames
 Catherine & Brian Bastow
 Justin Bendall
 Donna & Andre Bessette
 Erin P. Bradley
 Melissa & Todd Brytowski
 Maria & John Carpenter
 Allison & Tyler Channey
 Dawn & Peter Chmura
 Dena Coccozza O'Hara &
 Keith O'Hara
 Kayla & Zachary Desmond
 Sara DiIorio*
 Donna & Larry Dubinsky*
 Jennifer & Michael Dumais
 Andrea Fahl
 David Farrell
 Hayley & Ryan Finnegan
 Meghan Fluckiger
 Olivia Frost
 Lesley & Donald Gibbs
 Scott Gimber
 Elizabeth & Nathaniel Gould
 Jennifer & Stephen Graham
 Donna Grant
 Maxwell O. Green Wright '15
 Colleen Gregory
 Jacob E. Guertin
 Jamie & Russell Haines
 Lisa & Martin Hart
 Deanna Hart Rodman &
 Matthew Rodman
 Erin & Reid Hayden
 Elisabeth & Justin Herdic*
 Sara & Ryan Howley
 Tracy & Ron Hudash
 Alysia Labonte-Campbell &
 Evan Campbell

WHY I GIVE

NORMA JEAN
 LOFTUS P'13

“FOR THE COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE AND THE LEVEL OF SUPPORT AND CARE FOR EVERY STUDENT REGARDLESS OF THEIR UNIQUE ABILITIES.”

WHY I GIVE

MICHELLE VOLZ
P'25, '27, '29

“I GIVE BECAUSE OF THE COMMUNITY AND FAMILY ASPECT THAT THE SCHOOL OFFERS MY CHILDREN.”

Julie & Timothy Leveille
Elisabeth Levesque
Haley McInerney
Valerie McKinney
Katherine & Robert Oakes
Tonya Rayment
Diana Stoianov & Maxwell Richards
Diana & Wayne Richardson
Lauren Richardson
Felicia & Trevor Rodman
Courtney Callanan & Robert Roy
Maria Sangiolo Jessurun
Margaret Sbordy
Kuan Shen
Michelle & Barry Slotnick
Ryan Smith
Patricia Susa
Kathy & David Turner
Colleen O'Neil & Matt Vollinger
Patrick Wyman & Anna Werge
Samantha & Alexander Wiegel '05
Marcia & Frederick Williams*
Natalia Aragon & Dawson Woodard
Kristen & John Xeller
Melissa & James Zahansky*

CONTINUOUS GENEROSITY: THE BELL TOWER SOCIETY

The Bell Tower Society recognizes our most loyal supporters who have made a philanthropic commitment to Rectory School for three or more years.

45+ YEARS OF GIVING

Marcia & William Goldberger*
Lisa & David Jacobs '73
Maggie & David Sturdevant '63*

25-44 YEARS OF GIVING

Claudia '60 & William Abbott
James F. Armstrong '67
Richard C. Armstrong '66
Virginia & Thomas Army Jr.
Erika M. Baldwin*
John S. Becker '68
Blair F. Bigelow '52
Debbie & Richard Binswanger
Bintou & Allen Chatterton III '75
Mary L. Clayton
F. Mitchell Dana '56
Garfield W. Danenhower*
Melanie & David Dixon '86
Ariane & R. Mark Ellerkmann '78*
Karen & Charles Ernst IV '80

Bradley & Robert Fogelman II '88*
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Allan G. Freedman '58
Herbert B. Gengler Jr. '64
John L. Gengler '70
Nancy & Ronald Glenn*
Cassandra Grzybowski & Jeffrey Glenn '94*
Scott Glickenhous '61
Marita & David Glodt '61*
Sandy & George Groom*
Leita & William Hamill '61*
Alta & N. Peter Hamilton '67*
Elizabeth & Bradford Hastings
James F. Hettinger '78
Cynthia & Peter Kellogg '57*
Gray & Andrew King '90*
Karen & Lawrence Klaff '82*
Edward D. Kratovil '60
Marka & Stephen Larrabee
Karen & Walter Levy '70*
Barbara & William Lott
William F. MacLaren '59
Victoria & Michael Martin
Kristi & Mason McCarthy '84
Thomas O. McCarthy '75*
Susan & Edwin McCarthy '70*
James A. Myers '74*
Connie & David O'Neil '71*
Robert S. Perkin '62*
Sara & Samuel Post '68
Elin M. Pye
George W. Rabbe '63
Cynthia & Andrew Rodman '69
Tia Rosengarten
Mary Lou & Bradford Seaward
Leslie & Edward Self Jr. '58
Barbara & Richard Silver
Jacqueline & Paul Smith Jr.
Mary & Dana Smith '57
Nancy & Norman Smith Jr. '56
June & Henry Smith '76*
Mary-Jane Stanton
Jo Ann & Thomas Succop '50
Natasha '84 & Christopher Swann*
Oscar L. Tang '53*
Nancy & O. David Thompson '65
Carol & Stephen Wagner '70
Margaret Wiff & Hugh Whipple '68*
Timothy S. Wile '70
Leslie M. Wileman
Felicia Pickering & Stephen Wood '72
Logan H. Yonce '82

10-24 YEARS OF GIVING

Anonymous (6)
A Friend of Rectory School
Sally & David Allen '51
Pamela & Glenn Ames
Karen & Harold Anthony '51

Denise Archambault
Carol Barrette & William Gajewski
Catherine & Brian Bastow
Eda & James Bell III '71*
Sheryl & Peter Berk '80
Donna & Andre Bessette
Kathy & Thomas Borner*
Anthony A. Bottone '54
Yao & Henry Bowden III '01
Erin P. Bradley
Ellen & Edward Browne
Andrea & Hill Bullard '54
Lynn Burdick
Jean Burdick*
Alysia Labonte-Campbell & Evan Campbell
Cheryl & Paul Canavan
Maria & John Carpenter
Christine & David Carter
Rose Ortiz Chappell & Robert Chappell '63
Scott Childs
Dawn & Peter Chmura
Jennifer & Christopher Choroszy
Benjamin Z. Clark '92*
Dena Coccozza O'Hara & Keith O'Hara
Betty & Norman Cooper '55
Fay Cox
Janel Cunneen '84 & Steven Grippio
Jenny & H. Dalton Davlin '80*
Maria & Daniel De Nuccio*
Peter A. deTreville '69
Monica & John DeVivo '84
Sara DiIorio*
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Henry B. Eaton '66*
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Daniel J. Entwistle '86*
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Hayley & Ryan Finnegan
Meghan Fluckiger
Mary Rose & Alan Forsyth '60
Marian Fox
Lizzie & William Gahagan '96
Robert Garofalo
Cassi & William Gerdson '86
Lesley & Donald Gibbs
Christelle Cook & Philip Gibbs*
Alfred C. Glassell III '79
Julie & Phillip Goldberg
William D. Goldberg '08
Carolyn & Stephen Golding '63
LaRita & Edwin Gordon*
Jane & John Gore Jr.
Michael C. Gorman '03
Benjamin Gott
Elizabeth & Nathaniel Gould

Jennifer Rossiter & Matthew Green '82
 Colleen Gregory
 Charles L. Griffith '08
 Jennifer & Alexander Guthrie '66
 Valerie Haggerty
 Timothy H. Haggerty '10
 Abbey Haggerty '12
 Jamie & Russell Haines
 Jane & Laurence Hale II*
 Angela & David Harner '87
 Lisa & Martin Hart
 Deanna Hart Rodman &
 Matthew Rodman
 Erin & Reid Hayden
 Janet & Ronald Henson*
 Geoffrey R. Hoguet
 Morgan K. Holland '97
 George C. Holt III '75
 Paula & Ryan Howard '93
 Anthony S. Hoyt
 Angela & Thayne Hutchins Jr.
 Bridie & Ronald Jamron
 Melissa & Ethan Jamron '95
 Jacqueline & Rodney Jenks Jr.
 Dejie Jia & Yihu Dai*
 Eliza G. Jones '04
 Louisa & Jeremiah Jones
 Elizabeth & Kurt Jones '62
 Nathan B. Karnes '80
 Nancy & David Kelly
 Victoria Greenleaf &
 Michael Kempner '70*
 Keeley '77 & Scott Kriskey
 M. Lynette Latiolais
 Abimbola & Taju Lawal
 Dennis F. Leary '02
 Katie Derry & Clayton LeBlanc '93
 Meredith Brown & Jesse Lebus '90
 Ryan R. Leirvik '88
 Julie & Timothy Leveille
 Elisabeth Levesque
 Kevin T. Lewis*
 Maia S. Lineberry '14
 Shailyn C. Lineberry '13
 Carri & Frank Lineberry
 Julie & Christopher Lippke '80
 Norma Jean Loftus
 William P. Loftus III
 Elizabeth & Charles Lynch '83*
 Gail & Patrick McCarthy
 Carol & William McPherson III
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 John Moore '49
 Margery & Keith Mosher
 Patricia Mulcahy & Bruce Paro*
 Raymond F. Murphy III
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 Nancy & Jules Paderewski
 Barbara & Oliver Parker '72*

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 Polly Spring & Breck Perkins '73
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 Constance & Thomas Quinn Jr. '60
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 Lynda & Mark Tillinghast
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 Colleen O'Neil & Matt Vollinger
 Regina Yopak & Paul Wagner '99
 Sandra Lynn & Charles Walbridge '62
 Allaire & Robert Warner '55
 Jeffrey Warren
 Stephanie & Johnny Wells '03
 Joseph T. Wheelock '15*
 Andronica Stanley-Wheelock &
 Joseph Wheelock III*
 Leslie L. White
 Kathryn & E. John White
 Samantha & Alexander Wiegel '05
 Marcia & Frederick Williams*
 Melissa & James Zahansky*
 Betty H. Zimmermann
 Elizabeth Zimmermann '84 &
 Thomas Gardos*

3-9 YEARS OF GIVING

Anonymous (6)
 A Friend of Rectory School
 Carolyn & Kenneth Ackerman
 Marie & Ken Ackerman
 Jamie & Eric Aleman

Kirstin & Charles Ashford III '86
 Jake W. Backman '19
 Ruth & John Barbie
 Caitlin & Andrew Barker
 John M. Basinet
 Andrea & Marc Becker
 Charles C. Bell '17
 Justin Bendall
 Leighann A. Bendall
 Paul M. Blass
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 Melissa & Todd Brytowski
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 Michael S. Cady '70*
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 Allison & Tyler Channey
 Jody Chapman
 Yi Cai & Jie Chen
 Belinda M. Chen
 Jie Chen
 Xin Lu & Kaiyan Chen*
 Rong Juan & Ji Yang Chen*
 Sheila Clancy*
 Jennifer Nolen & Robert Clark III '82
 Kristin & George Crook Jr. '91
 Kathia Pichardo & Edwin Cruz
 Catherine Bochain & Anne D'Alleva
 Sarah Danso Adjai
 Irene Konak & Oleg Davie*
 Pier F. de Sanctis '88
 Nicholas R. DeBlois '10
 Patrick A. DeNuccio '10
 Kayla & Zachary Desmond
 Andrew N. deTreville
 Sarah Lambert & John Dolan '86*
 Karen & James Donovan
 Donna & Larry Dubinsky*
 Jennifer & Michael Dumais
 Jennie Dunham
 Naomi Egah
 Nathan Follansbee*
 Robert W. Gardner '56
 Jeffrey R. Gibbs '17
 Grayce Gibbs '15
 Maya R. Gibbs '15
 Marc I. Goldfarb '83
 Susan Lombardi & Donald Gordon
 Paul Kenichi Gray '09
 Alison Zaeder & John Green
 Fei Xu & Xiaofeng Gu*
 Jacob E. Guertin
 Judy Haines
 Larisa Zukic-Halilovic &
 Emelin Halilovic
 Barbara & Dean Henrichs
 Elisabeth & Justin Herdic*
 Hilary & Robert Hutchinson
 Michael Jeffers

WHY I GIVE

FREDDY
NAGLE P'20, P'17,
PAST FACULTY

“THE
RELATIONSHIPS
I MADE
THROUGHOUT
MY TIME AT
RECTORY WILL
LAST FOREVER
AND FOR THAT I
AM GRATEFUL.”

WHY I GIVE

DAVID TURNER
P'20, '24, '25, '26,
'26, '28, CURRENT
STAFF

"I AM CONFIDENT THAT AS MY KIDS MOVE THROUGH THEIR LIVES, RECTORY HAS AND WILL CONTINUE TO HELP INSTILL THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS TO FIND SUCCESS. RECTORY HAS BEEN AN ESSENTIAL PART OF MY FAMILY'S LIFE FOR THE PAST 15 YEARS AND I AM EXCITED TO BE ABLE TO BE A PART OF THE COMMUNITY AS A STAFF MEMBER."

Marshall A. Jones '05
Joo Hyun Ha & Seung Woo Kang
Martha & Kenneth Knowles III '65
Donna Krell
Devin P. Lannan '15
William Latimer
Abisola O. Lawal '16
James H. Leach '76*
Yeonjae Chun & Joonsung Lee
Sunhwa Oh & KangWoo Lee
Jennifer Tan & Danny Lee*
Soyoun Kim & Don Ki Lee*
Sheila & Gerard Lepine
Victoria & Nicholas Leveille
Rui Chen & Guining Liu*
Qi Long
Paige Mador
Peter Mann
Rachelle & Eric Mauer
Valerie McKinney
Bing Han & Xiangbin Meng*
Anthony Bannister & Cheryl Miller-Bannister
Cindy & Lloyd Montgomery III*
Joohyun Song & Hyukkee Moon '95*
Hasnaa & Abdel Morsi
Allison & Bo Moss*
Constance & David Moynihan
Joy & McNeville Nanna
Cynthia & Thomas Noone
Suzanne & Wulfrin Oberlin
Cindy & Robert Olmsted Sr. '60
Pamela Paquin
Hyeyoung Chung & Jungbo Park
Gregory J. Pezza '12
Nicholas R. Pezza '10
Jennifer & Timothy Polishook '84
Malu Sterling & Federico Prince-Laris '82
Danielle & Anthony Reilly*
Courtney & Whitney Reutlinger '93
Gregory B. Rice '14
Diana Stoianov & Maxwell Richards
Yanira Rodas
Kathy Fitzgerald & William Rounseville
Louise Witherite & S. Dunham Rowley Jr. '60
Courtney Callanan & Robert Roy
Diane & Mario Saliga
Maria Sangiolo Jessurun
Carl V. Sangree '11
Angelo E. Santiago
Elisabeth d. Sauer '76
Amy & Andrew Seymour '79
Bailey E. Sheehan '18
Peter J. Sheehan '15
Kuan Shen
Anne Lo & David Shen
Jihye Kim & Kyo Shik Shin*

Carol & Alfred Slanetz
Michelle & Barry Slotnick
Randy M. Stevens '84
Kendra '00 & Jake Sumner
Jinghuan Chen & Chen Sun
Fang Wu & Xin Tang*
Zung Hoang & Mitchell Thorn
Sandra Torrence
Kathy & David Turner
Anders J. Vercelli '96
Joan A. Vieira
Faye Vollinger
Michelle S. Volz
Cathie & Richard Volz
Sue & Edgar Wachenheim III*
Alyssa & Harold Walker
Claire & John Walsh*
Tianshu Wang '16
Chunlei Man & Hui Wang*
Ying-Ying Wu & Chen-Wei Wang*
Lucinda & Steven Warnick
Danielle & Franklin West '08
Stacy Koehler & Thomas Wilber
Caleb R. Wilcox '14
Zoe G. Wilcox '16
Robert M. Wileman '86*
Shelley & Ashton Williams '94
Andrew J. Williams '82
Natalia Aragon & Dawson Woodard
Jun Yuan & Liansheng Wu*
Nancy Wu*
Kristen & John Xeller
Ying Yang & Xiaoliang Xiang*
Rubing Han & Gu Yang*
Min Jae Yoo '09
Yu Hong Chen & Jia Hui You
Yvette Zahansky
Xiaoling Jia & Aiping Zeng*
Dong Liu & Hua Zhang*
Jing Zhang & Zhenyu Zhao
Xiaoqiu Wang & Zhongchao Zhao
Zhenzhen Huang & Shanxin Zhao*
Yumei Wan & Shaojun Zhong
Yao Chen & Jian Zhou*

CORPORATIONS, FOUNDATIONS, & MATCHING GIFTS

Thank you to the foundations and corporations that supported Rectory School in 2023–2024. We would also like to thank the donors who initiated matching gift support.

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Connecticut Residential School Nurses Association
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George W. Harris Foundation
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Hamilton Family Charitable Trust
Hewlett Packard
James M. Collins Foundation*
Luther & Claire Griffith Foundation
Michael C. Kempner Fund/The New York Community Trust*
Morgan Stanley Gift Fund
National Christian Foundation
New England Design, Inc.*
O'Neill Family Charitable Trust*
Pfizer Foundation Matching Gift Program
Prince Charitable Trusts*
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RenaissanceRe*
Ronald P. & Susan E. Lynch Foundation*
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The Benevity Community Impact Fund
The James E. & Constance L. Bell Foundation*
The Longview Foundation*
The Tang Fund*
Thornedge Foundation*
Tunnell Companies*
U.S. Charitable Gift Trust*
United Way of Rhode Island*
W.F. Reilly Foundation*

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The following people and companies have generously donated goods and services.

Bottlerocket Design Group
Jeremiah W. Jones
Linda Pratt
New England Design, Inc.





THANK YOU
FOR YOUR SUPPORT
OF RECTORY AND THE
PEOPLE WHO MAKE
IT SO SPECIAL!

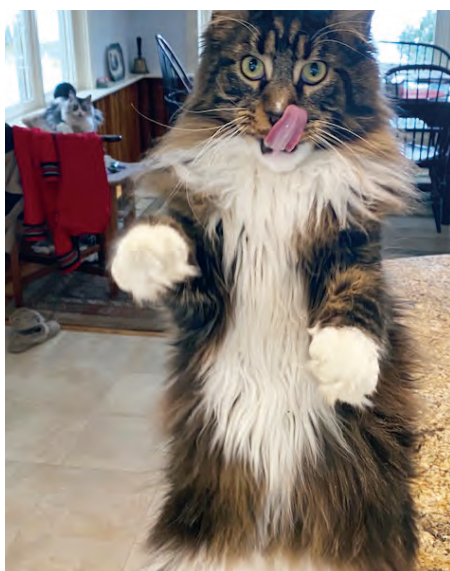


ALUMNI NOTES

1960s

CLAUDIA ABBOTT '60

Claudia reports, "It's always a thrill for me to hear from former students. Most recently, I have become a board member for the Pomfret Historical Society. In addition, my perennial garden is a source of great joy, as well as the changing scenery on our lake including a pair of swans. Our Maine Coon cat, Beau, is quite the host for the chipmunks that frequent his kitty yard and often invites them in for an overnight. May my classmates from 1960 be well, and may the students who entered my doorway have exciting new chapters in their lives."

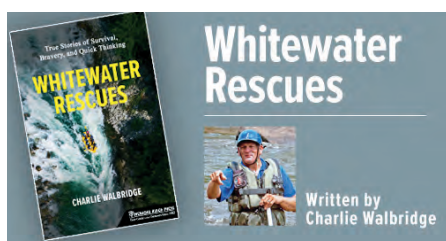


Beau Abbott

CHARLES WALBRIDGE '62

Charlie reports, "I have been a whitewater paddler for almost 60 years and writing about river safety since 1976. I currently maintain the American Whitewater Accident Database and recently published a collection of close calls and great rescues from the past few decades. The accounts are intense and inspiring, showcasing the courage and

ingenuity of canoeists, kayakers, and rafters from all over the country."



Recent book authored by Charlie Walbridge '62

KENNETH KNOWLES '65

Ken reports, "I have lived in Rye for close to fifty years. We raised two children, Bill and Liza, who now have their own families in Sleepy Hollow Manor, NY and Marblehead, Massachusetts.

Martha and I have five grandchildren ranging from six years to thirteen. The one aspect that I am particularly proud of is my grandchildren's breadth of interests. My family loves a range of the arts, whether singing or drawing and painting, and to compete in sports such as lacrosse, swimming, and ice skating as a group. Their ability to read and to learn is exhilarating to watch.

With my recent return to Rectory, this too really reinforced all the positive processes in education. Rectory's campus and watching the students assured me that Mr. John would be pleased and for me likewise thankful for my time at Rectory."



Ken Knowles '65 (gray hair, black shirt) with his family at their camp in Lake Placid, NY.

1970s

DAVID NORTH '70

David reports, "Retired from running a small boatyard/marina in Connecticut. We now split time between living on our boat traveling the East Coast and our new home in Connecticut."

CLASS OF 1975:
50TH REUNION

1980s

CHRISTOPHER BARRY '81

Christopher reports, "I am currently living in California and working for Tesla as an automated systems technician. After over 20 years in the oil and gas industry, I made the switch to Tesla because I believed in the mission and the technology. I have also been working on my own personal writing projects, i.e. poetry, short stories, and fiction. Some of these works are on Amazon and Instagram."

THE REV. GEORGE SHERRILL '81

George reports, "I am the Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church, Roslyn, NY"



The Rev. George Sherrill '81

BRIAN HOGG '85

Brian reports, "Retired from Mondelez International. Currently employed by the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office. Own two Hear Again America hearing aid franchises and growing. Married to my best friend, Elizabeth James. Grateful for my time at Rectory!"



Brian Hogg '85.

1990s**PETER CHELALA '91**

Pete reports, "I have been working at Paramount for the past 13 years and recently was at a media event where I ran into fellow Rectory classmate Stephen Yap who is working for Google."



Left to right: Stephen Yap '91 and Pete Chelala '91

WHITNEY REUTLINGER '93

Whit reports, "I am currently living in Florida working as a tennis coach."

JEFFREY GLENN '94

Jeff reports, "I am currently living in Florida and finishing up the construction of our new home."

JEFFREY LUIPIENT '94

Jeff reports, "I recently moved to Florida with my family."

WILLIAM GAHAGAN '96

Will reports, "I am the Senior Director of Global Partnerships and Integrated Marketing at Activision. This past summer, I completed my first full cycle with Treyarch, helping work on the new trailer for *Call of Duty: Black Ops 6 - Gameplay Reveal*."

RACHEL SCHOPPE ROGERS '99

Rachel reports, "After ten years at Marianapolis Prep School, my husband and I are moving to New Hampshire."

**CLASS OF 2000:
25TH REUNION**
2000s**HYUNGJOON JASON LIM '00**

HyungJoon reports, "I am delighted to share an exciting update with you all. It's been quite a journey since my time as a Rectory alumnus in 2000. I'm happily married and proud to be a father to my 11-year-old son, Mark. Currently, I'm privileged to work at Apple, Inc."

This summer, a truly special occasion took place – I returned to Rectory School for the first time in 23 years. My son, Mark, had the privilege of attending the summer program, and it was a nostalgic journey for me. During my visit, I was astounded by the remarkable changes on campus. The addition of new buildings, a state-of-the-art Dining Hall, the impressive Art Barn, and the Seaward Family Student Pavilion truly showcased Rectory's commitment to growth and excellence. I was fortunate enough to receive a special campus tour; the school's transformation is awe-inspiring, and I'm thrilled to see it continue to flourish."



Left to right: Hyungjoon Jason Lim '00, Mark L. '28, and Tina Kim.

**STAY UP-TO-DATE
ON ALUMNI
HAPPENINGS:**

**RECTORYSCHOOL.ORG/
ALUMNI-NOTES**

CHRISTOPHER HEFFRON '03

Christopher reports, "I am now in my fifth year with Inceed in Texas working as an account manager."

DANIEL DINOV '04

Daniel reports, "I am currently living in Miami, working in real estate, DJing, and producing my own music."



Daniel Dinov '04.

JAMES WILSON '04

James reports, "I recently became a Managing Partner at Rhodes Associates."

EIICHIRO TAKINAMI '06

Eiichiro reports, "I recently received my master's from Yale University and have accepted a position with the United Nations."



Eiichiro Takinami '06 during a recent visit to Rectory

ALEXANDER BENTON '07

Alex reports, "I have started a new position as a Senior Program Manager focusing on Marketing analytics and operations at Dynatrace company!"

IKE CHAFKIN '09

Ike reports, "I am an Account Executive at Copado and head boys lacrosse coach at San Marcos High School in Santa Barbara, CA."

2010s**MADELEINE HUTCHINS '11**

Maddy reports, "I got married this past April to Kaiser Leuze."

**CLASS OF 2015:
PAW 10TH REUNION**

JORDAN BRANDON '14

Jordan reports, "I have graduated from college and am currently working as an independent contractor."

CHENG VICTOR LOU '14

Victor reports, "I earned my Master's in Learning Sciences & Technologies at UPenn."

SARAH PASQUALETTI '14

Sarah reports, "I just completed my third year and my candidacy exam for my PhD in Molecular and Cell Biology! I'm studying how gut microbes in the threespine stickleback fish interact and whether they can enhance microplastic degradation in freshwater systems. I'll be heading out to Alaska this summer for a month to collect samples and fish eggs for my project!"



Sarah Pasqualetti '14.

ANNA MURPHY '15

Anna reports, "I have recently taken flight to West Palm Beach, Florida, where I am the Director of InFlight Catering for Island Kitchen. My team currently services nine private airports across the Florida coasts, HQ in West Palm Beach, and also operating kitchens in Naples and Miami. The team goal is to elevate inflight dining by providing healthy and fresh options for all private travel."

MAYA GIBBS '15

Maya reports, "I continue to work in the environmental energy sector as a policy analyst, and I recently took on a volunteer position as a policy co-lead for the Climate Mobility Community Action Network."

MAXWELL GREEN WRIGHT '15

Max reports, "I am in my second year working at Rectory School in the Admissions office."

GRIFFIN BATSON '16

Griffin reports, "I just graduated *cum laude* from Centre College with a B.S. in Chemistry and am joining the chemistry PhD program at Texas A&M in the fall."

ANNA MENDENHALL '16

Anna reports, "This past spring I graduated from the University of Vermont with a B.A. in Sociology."

TIANSHU WANG '16

Tianshu reports, "After my graduation from Duke University in May 2023, I decided to visit Rectory again! I wished Rectory a Happy100th Birthday and congratulated the opening of the new dorm! Last fall, I started my co-op program at Tesla as an autopilot processor validation engineer. I'm excited about this new chapter in life."



Tianshu Wang '16

JEFFREY GIBBS '17

Jeffrey reports, "I just graduated from Bucknell University and concluded my Division 1 running career. This fall, I will attend RIT for a master's program in industrial design and will continue running as I have another year of eligibility. I worked as an Industrial/Graphic Designer for a company this past summer."

SUSAN SHIN '17

Susan reports, "This summer, I am conducting research to study behavioral, neuropathological, and immunological consequences of traumatic brain injury in the Cullen Lab at the University of Pennsylvania while preparing for graduate school in my free time. I am

entering my senior year in the fall, and I study Neuroscience with minors in chemistry, healthcare management, and medical sociology. During the school year, I am not only continuing with research and my coursework but also helping students learn more about my field of interest as a teaching assistant for Introduction to Neuroscience course and leading two clubs, Penn Neuroscience Society and Hype Dance Crew. While I was involved a lot in theater, orchestra, and acapella at Rectory, I wanted to pursue a different form of art I've always had an interest in, which is hip-hop fusion dance, when I came to Penn. If you remember me from my time at Rectory, I am still running around everywhere, trying to pursue as many passions as I possibly can."

STEVEN MASCOLO '19

Steven reports, "I'm super excited to announce that I have accepted a job offer for the summer of 2025 in JPMorgan's Asset & Wealth Management division in the Private Banking Summer Analyst Program at the Austin, TX, office."



Steven Mascolo '19 (on left)

2020s

SEUNGYEON ETHAN CHOI '21

Ethan reports, "I transferred to Pomfret School so I am back home in Pomfret, CT!"

MILESTONE REUNION YEARS

CLASS OF 1975:

PAW 50TH REUNION

CLASS OF 2000:

PAW 25TH REUNION

CLASS OF 2015:

PAW 10TH REUNION

DYLAN LAVALLEE '21

Dylan reports, "I graduated from Marianapolis this year and am attending Rhode Island College for the next four years."

NESSA TANG '21

Nessa reports, "I graduated from Loomis and am beginning college at the School of Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts."

ALEXANDRA REILLY '21

Allie reports, "I miss Rectory so much!"

BROOKE COMBS '23

Brooke reports, "I have just finished my 2024 alpine ski racing season, ending up 9th in giant slalom and 11th in slalom in the US. I'll continue traveling to ski training camps in Norway, Chile, Colorado, Michigan, and Belgium this coming year, and am excited to move up to the FIS age group this coming race season. During the off season, while playing soccer, I was cast as Meg in *Damn Yankees* and I'm looking forward to being in my next musical."



Brooke Combs '23

ALEXANDER HUTCHINSON '23

Alex reports, "I am settled into Cushing and doing very well academically. I will always be grateful for the opportunities that Rectory has given me."

GILLIAN TANG '23

Gillian reports, "I completed my freshman year at Loomis, where I was lucky enough to join the volleyball varsity team, which had an undefeated season."

ZILIN RITA ZHOU '23

Rita reports, "I am a student at Westminster! I've continued doing what I did at Rectory but under the stage lights of Westy! Miss the people, miss this family, miss this home!" 🐾

**IN
MEMORIAM**

**THE RECTORY SCHOOL
COMMUNITY EXTENDS
ITS DEEPEST SYMPATHY
TO THE LOVED
ONES OF RECENTLY
DECEASED ALUMNI
AND FRIENDS.**

GEORGE S. SHAW '43

September 10, 1927 – October 4, 2023 (Age 96)

ANTHONY W. GIBSON '73

March 4, 1957 – December 4, 2023 (Age 66)

ADAM D. FRIEDMAN '99

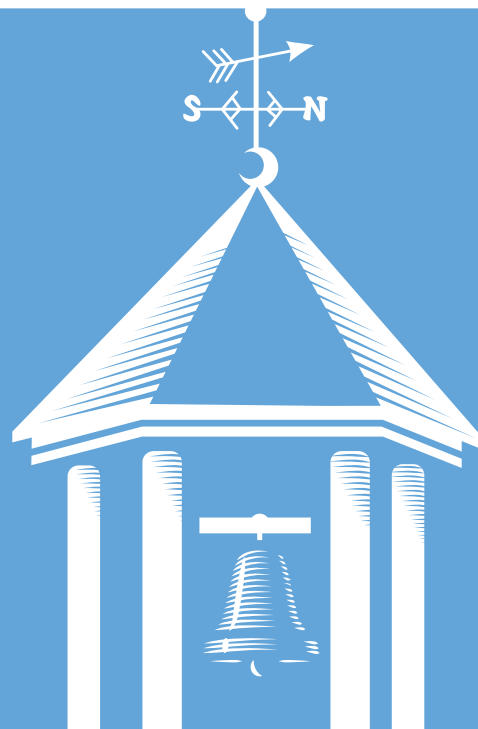
December 2, 1983 – January 6, 2022 (Age 38)

**CARLYN DUNCAN,
PAST FACULTY**

May 13, 1933 – February 7, 2023 (Age 89)

**WE WOULD
LOVE TO HEAR
FROM YOU!**

**CONTACT ALLISON CHANNEY, ASSOCIATE
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AT:
860.963.6740 X370
ALLISON.CHANNEY@RECTORYSCHOOL.ORG**



1920

100 YEARS

2020

VOICES AND MEMORIES THROUGH THE DECADES

WE'RE EXCITED TO PRESENT OUR CENTENNIAL PUBLICATION!

Flip through the photographs, take a trip through a decade's timeline, read a classmate's story, or enjoy one of the in-depth memories—choose your own journey through headmasters' views, campus traditions, *The Rectory News* articles, timeline highlights, archival images, and remembrances from alumni, faculty, staff, parents, and students.



SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT THE WEBSITE TO PREVIEW & TO ORDER!



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A FEW OF THE MEMORIES YOU'LL FIND INSIDE...

“The Cedars was considered prime accommodations, though it was subject to occasional floods, and we would have to wade through an inch or so of water to get to the main building.”
From the memory of Robert P.L. Frick '28

“Life in the main house is very pleasant but it has its unhappy moments; for instance the inspector may find a bit of dust in the corner of a room when he examines it in the morning.”
From the memory of Weston Fenhagen '37

“As I walked through the room that now has the faculty coffeepots, I was scared because this area was the school library. It was a dark room with bookcases and long tables for study hall.”
From the memory of Claudia Abbott '60

“My father [Headmaster John Green] had a phrase that probably was the bane of many a student's existence. ‘Step into my office,’ he'd say.”
From the memory of Matthew Green '82

“My 9th-grade year I got the lead role in the play. Mrs. Bessette really pushed me out of my comfort zone to give it a shot.”
From the memory of Frank West '08

“The dining hall was probably my favorite place on campus. You would sit at a table with your friends and faculty to just eat and talk about whatever you wanted to talk about. Some of my favorite memories happened there sitting around doing nothing.”
From the memory of Clayton LeBlanc '93

RECTORYSCHOOL.ORG/CENTENNIAL-PUBLICATION For additional publication information, to share a memory, or to donate an item to the Rectory Archives, contact Rectory Archivist Lisa Levesque: 860.928.7759 | archives@rectoryschool.org

Support the Annual Fund For Rectory

YOUR GENEROSITY IS MORE THAN A DONATION...

It is the power of a door. On a rainy day, you open doors for students.

Join this year's community of donors by making a gift today.



HOW TO GIVE

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MAIL | Use the enclosed envelope



**BIGELOW
SOCIETY**

Plan Your Legacy.

Members of the **Bigelow Society** play an important role in ensuring sustainability and success for future generations of Rectory students and faculty. Established in 2002 in memory of Rectory's founder, Father Frank Bigelow, the Bigelow Society recognizes all who have chosen to include Rectory in their long-term plans by naming Rectory as a beneficiary in their will or trust.

Ways to make a planned gift:

- Remember Rectory School in your will.
- Name Rectory School as a beneficiary of your retirement plans, IRAs, bank or brokerage accounts, or life insurance policies.



If you are interested in learning about ways you can provide for Rectory's future, or if you have already made the decision to include Rectory in your will or estate plans, please contact: **David Turner, Director of Development**

david.turner@rectoryschool.org • 860.963.6740 ext. 340

SAVE THE DATE FOR

The graphic features the words 'SAVE THE DATE FOR' in a large, bold, sans-serif font. Each letter is filled with a different aerial photograph of a campus. The 'S' shows a wide view of a lake with a small boat. The 'A' shows a dense forest. The 'V' shows a golf course. The 'E' shows a building. The 'T' shows a forest. The 'H' shows a building. The 'D' shows a building. The 'A' shows a building. The 'T' shows a building. The 'E' shows a building. The 'F' shows a golf course. The 'O' shows a golf course. The 'R' shows a building.

ALUMNI REUNION

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2025 at Rectory
School Invitation to follow



Rectory SCHOOL

528 Pomfret Street, P.O. Box 68, Pomfret, CT 06258

