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The following icons denote stories related to key goals of SSA's strategic vision, entitled Challenging Students to Think Expansively, Act Ethically and Lead Responsibly.

For more information, visit shadysideacademy.org/strategicvision.
## FEATURES

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Dear Shady Side Academy Community:

When I was a kid, my mother always used to always remind me that it was important to help out our neighbors, many of whom were elderly. This might mean shoveling Mrs. Wall’s walk after a big snow or mowing Mr. Page’s grass on a hot summer’s day. I also remember hauling Mrs. Umbro’s trash from her garage to the sidewalk on trash day and minding Mrs. Small’s cats when she had to visit her son who was ill. My mother always knew when one of our neighbors needed something, and I was regularly deployed to assist. When I asked her why I never got paid for anything I did, no matter how arduous the task, she told me that the good feeling I got from helping others in need was more than enough compensation.

When I came to Shady Side Academy in the summer of 2010, I was struck by the “helping others” ethos of our community. Parents, faculty, staff and students were always ready to pitch in to help people in our community who needed it. I was particularly impressed with our students, many of whom logged a huge number of hours of service in their neighborhoods, churches and temples, and a wide range of other institutions in and around Pittsburgh. When we started the Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service in 2011, we were tapping a service culture that was already well established in our students and families.

When Shady Side’s Strategic Vision was approved by the Board of Trustees in 2012, an important initiative was to formalize and expand our service program. Our faculty service coordinators at our three campuses have done a fantastic job finding excellent service opportunities for our students and coordinating the logistics. And the list of service opportunities keeps growing. For example, just this spring we started a Saturday morning tutoring program at the Urban Pathways Charter School in downtown Pittsburgh.

But we’d like to do more. We hope that in time we will be able to devote more resources to our service program, with the goal of one day having a full-time service coordinator, a position that many schools have been able to create.

Instilling in our students the value that they have a responsibility to give back to their communities is an important part of the Shady Side experience. I’m so pleased that this issue of the magazine shines a spotlight on the culture of service at our school, and some alumni who have chosen to serve their communities.

Sincerely,

Tom Cangiano
Academy President
Summer renovations are underway on two SSA campuses this summer to further enhance the student learning and living experience.

At the Junior School, the 1,900-square-foot science lab on the lower level of the building is being renovated and expanded into a new 3,000-square-foot suite of science labs, including: separate early elementary (K-2) and upper elementary (3-5) labs; an ecosystem lab with mudroom; an idea lab; and a robotics and maker space. The labs will be separated by glass partitions and feature new furniture, casework, lighting, HVAC, carpet and paint, and be equipped for technology integration. The new, flexible layout will enable students to move seamlessly between labs during class or for two classes to be scheduled concurrently, allowing for greater collaboration between students in different grades. The new robotics and maker space will allow the school’s popular after-school robotics program to be moved into the curriculum, and a maker faire curriculum will be added to allow students to design, build, invent and tinker. The ecosystem lab and mudroom will enable students to engage in ecology projects year-round.

The Junior School renovation is part of a comprehensive, long-term plan to upgrade science facilities at all three campuses, which is a goal of the Strategic Vision. Two Middle School labs were renovated in 2014, with a third tentatively slated for renovation in 2016, and fundraising efforts are underway to support the construction of a new center for science and innovation at the Senior School.

At the Senior School, improvements are underway at two residence halls to enhance the living experience of all boarding students and to prepare for the arrival of seven-day boarders this fall. In Morewood House (girls), work includes the expansion and upgrade of student bathrooms to include private showers, hands-free sinks and toilets, and motion-activated lighting; new carpet, paint and lighting in student rooms; a new laundry room; the relocation of the kitchen to the first floor; central air conditioning in the common areas; the expansion and reconfiguration of the faculty apartment; and more. In Croft House (boys), improvements include new paint, carpet and central air conditioning in the common areas and new kitchen appliances. Croft’s bathrooms were renovated a few years ago, and a laundry room was added this spring. In both dorms, new security cameras are being installed in common areas and at exterior doors, as well as a new key fob security system for resident access.

The reinstatement of seven-day boarding as a complement to the existing five-day option will help SSA broaden its admissions reach, bolster its boarding student population and geographically diversify its student body – all goals of the Strategic Vision. The school anticipates opening this fall with more than 50 boarding students, including approximately 15 domestic and international seven-day boarders.

Renovations at both campuses have been made possible in part by gifts from SSA alumni, parents, trustees and friends, including an anonymous donor. Naming opportunities are available on both campuses; for information, contact Director of Development Rick Munroe ’84 at 412-968-3044.

The Junior School renovation is part of a comprehensive, long-term plan to upgrade science facilities at all three campuses, which is a goal of the Strategic Vision.
Senior School Student Wins State, National Awards in Patriotic Art Contest

Junior Alisa Pugacheva placed first in the state and sixth in the nation in the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest, hosted by the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Her winning oil-on-canvas painting entitled Soldier’s Heart won prizes totaling $600 in college scholarships.

Junior Wins National History Essay Contest

Junior Elena Xiong was a winner in the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America 2015 Essay Contest, for which the prize was an all-expense-paid trip to the Washington Workshops Congressional Seminar in Washington, D.C., from June 20-26. The national contest invited high school students to submit an essay on the topic “How have the values and ideas of America’s colonial past made possible our country’s present?” It marks the third straight year that SSA has had a winner in the contest; Blake Beckemeyer ’13 won in 2013 and Zach Kosbie ’15 won in 2014.

National Merit Scholarship Winners

Two seniors were awarded 2015 National Merit Scholarships. Krishna Patel was awarded a National Merit $2500 Scholarship, while Tyler Demchak won a National Distillers Distributors Foundation Scholarship, which is a corporate-sponsored National Merit scholarship. Both Patel and Demchak plan to attend the University of Pennsylvania in the fall. SSA’s other National Merit finalists for 2015 included Courtney Clark, Adam Hart, Sylvie Lee, Brendan Leech, Arya Reddy and Kevin Vellanki.

Senior Named U.S. Presidential Scholar Semifinalist

Senior Brendan Leech was selected as one of 565 semifinalists nationwide in the 2015 U.S. Presidential Scholars competition. Leech was among just 17 semifinalists chosen in Pennsylvania. The United States Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964 by Executive Order of the President to recognize and honor some of our nation’s most distinguished graduating high school seniors. Application to the program is by invitation only. In addition to Leech, senior Courtney Clark was also invited to apply.
Junior Wins Two National Scholastic Writing Awards

Nineteen Middle and Senior School students earned 68 regional medals from the 2015 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, the nation’s longest-running and most prestigious recognition program for creative teens in grades 7-12. Junior Abbie Minard was recognized by the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers with two national medals in the writing category of awards. Minard earned a national gold medal for her short story *Elvis Has (Already) Left the Building* and a silver medal for her poem *Little Cowboys*. As a national medalist, Minard earned an invitation to the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards National Celebration in New York City, and attended the national awards ceremony at Carnegie Hall on June 11.

Science Olympiad Teams Achieve State, National Success

The Middle School Science Olympiad Team earned a second place finish at the 2015 Pennsylvania Science Olympiad Tournament in April at Juniata College. By placing second in Division B (grades 6-9), SSA advanced to the 31st annual National Science Olympiad Tournament, held in May, where the team finished 16th overall. The Senior School Science Olympiad Team placed seventh at the state tournament in Division C (grades 9-12) out of 36 teams.

All the World’s A Stage

The Senior School theatre program has been invited to participate in the prestigious American High School Theatre Festival (AHSTF) in Edinburgh, Scotland, in August 2016. The AHSTF features the top high school theater programs from around the world and runs in conjunction with the world’s largest performing arts festival, the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. “This is a huge honor for our students and our school,” said Senior School Theatre Director Dana Hardy-Bingham.

NATIONAL FINALIST FOR YOUNG NATURALIST AWARD

Seventh grader Caroline “Coco” Redican was named a national finalist in the Young Naturalist Awards, a nationwide research-based science competition for grades 7-12. The topic of Redican’s research project was *A Study of Food Preference of Winter Birds in Western Pennsylvania*. Redican received a cash award, an expense-paid trip to the American Museum of Natural History in New York City for an awards ceremony and behind-the-scenes tour, and the publication of her essay on the museum website.
Two Students Named to Beckwith Institute Board

Senior School students Alisa Pugacheva and Chirag Kulkarni have been named student members of the board of the Beckwith Institute, a health care institute dedicated to improving patient care. Pugacheva, a rising senior, will serve one year on the board, while Kulkarni, a rising junior, will serve a two-year term. Each year two Senior School students hold seats on the Beckwith Institute board alongside Academy President Tom Cangiano. Pugacheva and Kulkarni replaced graduating seniors Krishna Patel and Leah Liu, who completed two-year terms on the board. Prior to Patel and Liu, Ayesha Shah ’13 and John Bodkin ’13 held the first two student seats on the board. Shady Side alumnus and trustee emeritus G. Nicholas Beckwith III ’63 is co-founder of the Beckwith Institute along with his wife, Dorothy. Beckwith is also chairman of the UPMC Board of Directors. Cangiano worked together with Beckwith several years ago to create this unique experiential leadership opportunity for SSA students with an interest in health care. The students are selected via an application process.

Career Connections

Senior School students had the chance to learn about different careers at the third annual Career Connections night, held in Rowe Hall on Jan. 28. The evening event gave students the opportunity to meet and talk with 15 SSA alumni, parents, past parents, trustees, faculty and staff members who have built successful careers in a variety of fields. The evening was structured like a career fair, with students able to wander from table to table to meet different professionals and ask questions about their chosen careers in a wide variety of fields, including banking and investments, computer technology, dermatology, digital advertising, engineering, journalism, law, marketing, medicine, performing arts, teaching and visual arts.

PRESIDENT, ENROLLMENT DIRECTOR VISIT CHINA

Academy President Tom Cangiano and Director of Enrollment Management and Marketing Katie Mihm spent a week in April visiting Beijing, China, touring several Chinese schools and talking to Chinese families about American education, including the value of an SSA education. Cangiano gave two scheduled presentations at Beijing Foreign Studies University and Peking University, where he gave an overview of the American secondary and higher education systems and options. Mihm gave an admissions presentation to help Chinese families learn more about Shady Side Academy and the Senior School’s seven-day boarding program. A highlight of Mihm’s presentation was a short video of four current Senior School students who are Chinese nationals talking about Shady Side and their own positive experiences here. Cangiano and Mihm also visited and met with administrators at Beijing No. 4 High School’s International Program Campus and Beijing No. 5 Middle School, both of which are expected to be excellent feeders for SSA’s seven-day boarding program. In fact, Beijing No. 5 is considering sending 10-12 of its middle school students to visit SSA in January 2016 during the Chinese New Year vacation, just like Beijing No. 4 did in January 2014. “With the move to seven-day boarding, our ultimate goal is to be able to attract students from different states and different countries,” said Cangiano. “In addition to tapping an applicant pool beyond the Pittsburgh region, this will also help in making the Academy feel a bit more national and a bit more global.”
MLK Day of Service

For the fifth straight year, volunteers from Shady Side Academy participated in hands-on community service projects around the Pittsburgh region on the Academy’s annual MLK Day of Service on Jan. 19. The volunteers, which included students in grades PK-12, and parents, faculty and staff, completed service projects for 10 organizations: Animal Rescue League, GASP Pittsburgh, Stormworks, FOCUS Pittsburgh, Kingsley Association, Woodlands Foundation, North Hills Community Outreach, Braddock Carnegie Library, Family House, and the H.J. Heinz Campus of the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System.

Boys Hockey Service Efforts Support the Military

Two Senior School boys’ ice hockey teams spearheaded separate service efforts to support U.S. military members and their children. The boys prep team partnered with Total Hockey Pittsburgh to collect used ice hockey equipment for Defending the Blue Line, which ensures children of U.S. military members are afforded every opportunity to participate in hockey. The boys varsity team organized a support drive for Sticks for Troops, which provides street hockey equipment to deployed service members worldwide. The sticks collected were sent to U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan.

Lax Out Cancer Raises $2,600

The boys and girls varsity lacrosse teams raised $2,600 for childhood cancer at the second annual Lax Out Cancer fundraiser, held April 11 at Michael J. Farrell Stadium. Proceeds from the gate, concession and T-shirt sales, a silent auction and 50/50 raffle were donated to childhood cancer research at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC.

Girls Basketball Breast Cancer Awareness Classic

The girls varsity basketball team hosted the second annual Shady Side Academy Breast Cancer Awareness Classic on Feb. 7. The day featured 24 area girls’ teams facing off throughout the day in Mellon and Curry Gym, as well as raffles and prizes. Proceeds supported breast cancer charities and the girls varsity basketball program.
1. Pre-Kindergarten Play
2. Kindergarten Play
3. 1st Grade Play
4. 2nd Grade Play
5. 3rd Grade State Fair
6. 4th Grade Greek Museum
7. 5th Grade Wonder Performance
8. Middle School Musical Bye Bye Birdie
9. Senior School Musical Into the Woods
10. Senior School Original Theatre Works Festival
TEDxSSA

The Senior School hosted TEDxSSA, an independently organized TED event, on May 20, in the Hillman Center for Performing Arts. The event was organized by senior Chloe Zack, who had been working with the TED organization for nearly two years to prepare the event in accordance with international TED guidelines and standards. The private event was open to 100 current members of the Senior School community at no cost via an application process. The theme of TEDxSSA mirrored SSA’s mission: Challenging students to think expansively, act ethically and lead responsibly, and speakers were members of the Senior School faculty. Each speaker presented a 5-10 minute talk on a topic of his or her choice, following TED’s maxim of promoting engaged discourse about current events and civic engagement. Faculty speakers included English teacher Paul Ejzak ’89, history teacher Michele Greene, math teacher Dan Proulx, History Department chair Kyle Smith, history teacher Matt Weiss and librarian Reed Williams.

“TEDxSSA is a chance for the community to engage in interdisciplinary, quality, above-the-timberline discussions outside of the classroom,” said Zack. “It’s about the power and importance of ideas and passions.”
Learning Through SERVICE

BY VAL BRKICH

Bottom left: Senior School students volunteer at the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank.

Top right: Every year, hundreds of volunteers from SSA participate in MLK Day.

Bottom right: Middle School students put together dry soup mixes for Global Action Conference Day.
On seven Saturdays between February and May, Zack volunteered as a tutor at Urban Pathways Charter School (UPCS), a free public charter school in downtown Pittsburgh. While there she worked one-on-one with a fifth-grader named Khalea, helping her with math and reading skills.

“Shady Side students are good at sharing what they know,” said Zack, who also took part in chamber choir, the school musical and mock trial. “This partnership offers a good way to share our skills in a tangible way.”

The SSA/UPCS partnership began this past February and pairs Senior School students with UPCS elementary students for free tutoring sessions. Thirty-one SSA students in grades 9-12 volunteered as tutors for the spring sessions, which took place on Saturday mornings on the UPCS campus. The program will continue in 2015-2016.

Senior School Director of Service Learning Michele Ament coordinated the program on SSA’s end.

“Our students’ response and dedication to the partnership has been impressive,” said Ament, who adds that the impact it’s had on her students has been eye-opening. “The level of commitment these kids are showing is something we haven’t seen before. It’s really changed my view of what we should be doing with service learning at Shady Side.”

In addition to the enrichment work, the tutors also play games at the end of each session.

“The kids really like it,” said Zack, who plans on studying religion and politics at Washington University in St. Louis this fall. “We tried our best to make it fun for them to be at school on a Saturday doing extra work. They were always excited to see us, and they were all very sweet. They really look up to us. It’s nice to be a role model for someone.”

Christopher Muracca, a rising senior, also took part in the UPCS program. “Tutoring at Urban Pathways was rewarding because I too was heavily influenced at a young age by two Junior School faculty members, and I knew the impact I could have on other elementary school children by serving as a role model.”

Muracca, who has participated in numerous service learning activities throughout his time at SSA, says doing so helps students experience life outside of the “Shady Side bubble.”

“By impacting the lives of individuals, directly and indirectly, students gain feelings of self worth, empowerment and leadership, all while learning about humility,” he said. “My goal was to boost a child’s achievement, courage and self confidence. And I believe that’s what I did.”

The idea for the UPCS partnership originated with SSA parent Dr. Ravi Balu, whose son, rising junior Rakesh Ravi, was looking for opportunities to tutor and mentor students with diverse and challenging backgrounds. Balu connected with

Many students would consider going to school on a Saturday as punishment. But for students like recent Shady Side Academy graduate Chloe Zack, it was a privilege.
Janine Macklin, the external engagement and grants manager at Urban Pathways, and then pitched the idea of a partnership to Academy President Tom Cangiano.

“One of our educational goals is to encourage students to give back to their communities,” said Cangiano, “both as students at Shady Side and in the future. The service opportunities that we are able to provide our students help to instill this value in our students.”

Having observed the students in their tutoring work at Urban Pathways, Cangiano was struck by how intuitive and natural their relationships were with the young students. “Our students are excellent mentors, and they have a very good understanding of what being a mentor entails.”

“The partnership has been a huge success for our school community,” said Urban Pathways K-5 Principal Kimberly Fitzgerald. “Our students received individualized instruction in math and ELA, and also had a mentoring experience with a high school student who is working towards acceptance into college. At Urban Pathways, we focus on getting students thinking about college as early as kindergarten, so the relationships that were formed through this tutoring experience are instrumental in further developing this goal.”

The Urban Pathways partnership is just the latest in a long line of service learning opportunities that Shady Side provides to its students throughout the year.

Each January on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, hundreds of students, parents, faculty and staff devote the entire day to helping others, partnering with multiple local nonprofits for hands-on work throughout the city. Partner organizations have included Bethlehem Haven Shelter, Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh, the Kingsley Center, the Woodlands Foundation and The Animal Rescue League, to name but a few. Zack, who served as student co-president of service learning her freshman and sophomore years, was a group leader for a couple of years on MLK Day at the Braddock Carnegie Library, working to redo the entire children’s library, cleaning up, covering new books, and moving it from downstairs to its new location upstairs. “It’s nice to have a day where everyone can come together,” she said.

According to Ament, it’s all part of the Academy’s efforts to promote a sense of lifelong service within students and seeing the world from outside.

“Shady Side is like a little bubble sometimes,” said Ament, who’s always amazed by the amount of service that her students do outside of school for their communities, churches and temples. “This really opens students’ eyes to the impact they can have. There hasn’t been one time where a kid hasn’t come back and said ‘You know, that was really neat. I learned a lot.’ They always end up getting more than they gave.”
The Middle School hosts Global Action Conference (GAC) Day, a comprehensive school-wide day of service learning, each December. During the day, students learn about complex social issues from local nonprofit organizations, engaging in hands-on service activities and planning future service efforts.

GAC Day was the brainchild of sixth grade social studies teacher Molly Braver ’94, who coordinates the event in cooperation with School Head Amy Nixon and the faculty.

“It’s a great opportunity for the entire school to learn from various organizations about local and global issues,” said Braver. “It teaches students how to make a difference.”

According to Braver, the goal of GAC Day has always been to get the kids involved instead of just raising money. “We want to make sure they’re getting some meaning out of it,” she said. “It empowers them; it teaches them how to work together. There’s so much need in the world today, and this helps them understand that they’re very capable of making a difference.”

“It’s important for the Middle School community to all be engaged in something so meaningful at the same time,” said Nixon. “It brings us together, and helps us to see what can be done when we all work towards a common goal. It makes community service very real, and it helps to show the Academy’s commitment to the value of working on behalf of others.”

Thanks to GAC Day, Braver says students are starting to recognize ways to make a difference throughout the rest of the year. They’ll come to her with ideas, and she guides them and helps them flesh out the ideas and handle the logistics. “They’re reaching the whole community. Everyone’s done something, and they feel a real sense of ownership in it. They’re excited, engaged. It lights something up in them.”

One of Shady Side’s more popular service learning opportunities at the Senior School is the annual Untucked event—a student-produced music festival that is now in its 13th year.

Each year, students on the Untucked committee select a local charity and host a family carnival and concert on the Senior School campus to raise money for the charity. Sarah York Rubin, director of programs, serves as one of the advisors for the event.

“Untucked is a great bridge from Shady Side to the outside world,” she says. “The activities let the kids take full ownership and share SSA’s culture and mission with others. They do all the marketing and production. It’s a huge component connecting to the surrounding communities.”

This year the Untucked committee chose the Pace School in Monroeville, which serves kids with emotional challenges or autism, as the event’s beneficiary. This year’s headliner was The Voice champion Danielle Bradbery; the 2014 event featured the popular 1990s alternative rockers the Spin Doctors.

Muracca was selected to be a member of Untucked as a sophomore in 2013-2014. “We volunteered at Family House of Pittsburgh throughout the year, hosting events and socializing with the residents,” he said.

“It’s a wonderful bonding opportunity,” said Muracca, who was asked to return as a mentor and advisor for this past year’s group. “I now know that simple contributions on my part can have a lasting and powerful positive impact on others.”

Instilling the importance of service comes early for students at Shady Side, beginning with their formative years in the Junior School. Each grade does one big community service project throughout the year, according to Jennifer Riscili, second grade teacher.

“It’s important to get students used to the idea of giving back early on in their lives,” said Riscili. “That way it becomes a natural part of who they are.”

In the spring, PK students hand-deliver flowers from the school garden to the neighbors close by with a note that says “Thank you for allowing us to be loud and learn and for being a great neighbor!” In December, kindergarteners collect toys...
for Hill House, and in February, along with their third grade buddies, they take part in Bounce for Bundle-Up, which raises money to provide coats, hats and mittens for kids in need.

Throughout the year first graders collect “Change for Haiti,” and in February they hold “Hearts for Haiti” – both fundraisers to support schoolchildren in the impoverished country.

Second grade students collect canned goods for the food bank at First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood; third grade participates in the American Heart Association’s Jump Rope for Heart; fourth graders take part in the Animal Rescue League’s Furry Friends Project; and, in December, fifth grade instrumentalists play holiday music at Schenley Gardens retirement home. Junior School students also participate in school-wide service projects like the holiday Giving Tree.

“Just the idea… to teach kids how lucky they are, to not take things for granted, to enjoy the meals that mom and dad provide them, to not take more than they need – it all goes a long way in helping them to become better members of society,” said Riscili. “They really are making a difference. The reward is just that they’re helping people.”

Rising senior Mark Antosz has served as the Senior School’s service learning co-president for the past two years. “I think it is important to introduce students to service when they are young so they can explore their interests,” he said. “There are all sorts of ways to help out in a community such as painting a house, interacting with children or serving a meal. By taking part in service learning, hopefully the student will find the type of service they enjoy doing and continue to volunteer for years to come.”

Antosz has participated in many weekend service opportunities over the years, including Produce to People, Redd Up Pittsburgh, The Children’s Institute and Habitat for Humanity. He’s also led several fundraisers – one to collect soap and shampoo for a homeless shelter, another to raise money for relief in the Philippines, and yet another to collect paper products and school supplies for the North Hills Community Outreach. His favorite project, however, was a coffee house they held last November, where the SSA community bought tickets to see students perform talents such as singing and dancing. All of the money raised went to Our Military Kids, which supports the families of the men and women in the military.

“It’s important to get students used to the idea of giving back early on in their lives. That way it becomes a natural part of who they are.”

– Jennifer Riscili, Second Grade Teacher
“Through it all I’ve learned how much I enjoy helping others,” said Antosz. “I always want to make room for volunteering throughout my life.”

The list of service activities that Shady Side students can get involved in goes on and on.

Another long-term program is with Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS). Students can apply to become a Big Brother or Big Sister during their junior and senior years, mentoring a middle school student once every two weeks at nearby Dorseyville Middle School. There they meet with students who are struggling academically or have a rough family life, helping them with homework and working to build some continuity.

When it comes to making a difference on a global level, Shady Side’s Parkin Fellowships have a major impact. Named for alumnus Fred H. Parkin ’59, the Parkin Fellowships for Global Service Endowment Fund was established to sponsor Senior School students on summer service trips all around the world. Parkin Fellows have completed service projects in places like Australia, China, Tanzania, Argentina, Peru, Belize and many others, working with kids in orphanages, on environmental issues, promoting healthy living and so much more.

The Senior School also hosts three blood drives for the Central Blood Bank every year, and all athletic teams are encouraged to do some type of service project as well. Every advisory group is asked to help with something on campus, like internal service or just general cleaning up around campus.

On their own, Shady Side students hold collections, like the one this year where a Senior School student collected more than 200 pairs of socks for veterans at the V.A. in Aspinwall. Another student led a holiday gift drive for the Allegheny County Department of Human Services, collecting over 150 presents for needy kids in their care.

All of these events work together to show Shady Side students that there is a world out there beyond their own, and, according to Senior School Head Kate Vavpetic, it shows them that they really can make a meaningful difference.

“Students can get wrapped up in their own world,” said Vavpetic. “These types of opportunities teach them empathy and broaden their perspective. It’s important for them to experience these things, rather than just reading about them.”

Vavpetic estimates that at least 85 percent of students are doing some type of service learning, either through SSA or on their own. And she has seen big changes specifically in those who have taken part in the Parkin Fellowship program. “When I talk to them before they begin, they’re not really sure what they’re getting into. When they come back they have realized they’re just one part in a long string of volunteers. They end up with a greater appreciation of what they have here.”

Most importantly, Vavpetic says that the service learning opportunities teach students a sense of community. “When they connect with others beyond Pittsburgh, they realize that their problems aren’t so big after all, and that they’re part of a greater whole. And that’s good for all of us.”

“Students can get wrapped up in their own world. These types of opportunities teach them empathy. It’s important for them to experience these things, rather than just reading about them.”

– Kate Vavpetic, Head of SSA Senior School
Live music could be heard throughout the campus as the five bands performed throughout the course of the afternoon. First up was the Nox Boys, followed by Vertical 48 (helmed by sophomore Chris Ferree), Protege, Matt Ferree ’13 and concluding with the headliner, Danielle Bradbery. Bradbery was champion of NBC’s *The Voice* in 2013 and her amazing country act drew fans from as far away as Canada.

In addition to the music, a family carnival featured a petting zoo with a baby zebra, bounce houses and inflatables, carnival midway games, a henna artist, a magician, palm readers and a student face-painting corps. Food trucks and carts were on site for an impressive culinary selection. Purveyors included Franktuary, Millie’s Ice Cream, Rita’s and Steer and Wheel. Members of the Shady Side Academy community, as well as local residents, came out for the event, which was specifically designed by the students to be entertaining for all ages.

Throughout the school year, the Untucked students raised money through events such as Junior School movie nights, ice cream sales and shirt sales. Many generous members of the SSA community pitched in to support the event and its beneficiary. Untucked students maintained a close relationship with the Pace School throughout the 2014-2015 year, and representatives from Pace were present at Untucked. Tricia Norris, the director of community outreach at the Pace School, commented, “I have to tell you that we were and are blown away by this group of young people.”

The 13th annual Untucked festival was held May 16, 2015, at McKnight Hockey Center, raising $10,000 for the Pace School.
Untucked is a student organization founded in 2002 at Shady Side Academy. Its mission is to support local charitable organizations while providing a fun-filled community event. Each May, Untucked hosts a family carnival and concert on the Senior School campus to raise money for a selected charity. During the school year leading up to the event, Untucked students work tirelessly to fundraise, plan and publicize the carnival and concert, while also volunteering with the charitable organization they selected as the beneficiary. Over the past 12 years, Untucked has raised more than $140,000 for local nonprofits while featuring nationally acclaimed musicians including Danielle Bradbery, The Spin Doctors, The Clarks, Better Than Ezra, Sister Hazel, and Arrested Development.
SENIOR SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT 2015
2015 PRIZE WINNERS

First Honor Student in Senior Class – Krishna Patel
Second Honor Student in the Senior Class – Gabrielle Harchelroad
Raymond F. Arnheim Memorial Award – Sarah Small
Richard S. and Kenneth L. Simon Award – Alec Schmidtetter

Princeton Alumni Awards
- Fifth Form – Christopher Muracca
- Fourth Form – Alexa Conomikes
- Third Form – Jennifer Jaffe

Alfred C. Dickey Memorial Prize – Jennifer Jaffe
Joseph Bole Hare Steffey Memorial Prize – Krishna Patel
Edward Ernest Ebbert Memorial Award – Zachary Kosbie

All-Round Cup – Gabrielle Harchelroad
Todd Drelles Memorial Prize – Chloe Zack
Lowell Inness Award – Tyler Demchak
President’s Prize – Krishna Patel

Visit shadysideacademy.org for complete coverage of Commencement week, including videos, legacy family photos, event recaps and more.
THE CLASS OF 2015 BY THE NUMBERS

118 GRADUATES

3 WILL ATTEND U.S. SERVICE ACADEMIES

6% WILL ATTEND AN IVY LEAGUE SCHOOL

13% WILL ATTEND A US NEWS & WORLD REPORT TOP 10 NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OR LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE

23% WERE RECOGNIZED BY THE NATIONAL MERIT OR NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

58% WILL ATTEND A TOP 50 SCHOOL

10% PARTICIPATED IN AN INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE OR OFF-CAMPUS SEMESTER PROGRAM

44% PARTICIPATED IN A THEATRE PRODUCTION OR MUSICAL PERFORMANCE GROUP

38% COMPLETED AN INDEPENDENT STUDY OR SENIOR PROJECT

14% PARTICIPATED IN THE SENIOR SCHOOL BOARDING PROGRAM

73% WILL ATTEND COLLEGE OUT OF STATE

13% WILL ATTEND A TOP 50 SCHOOL

143 COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

$5 MILLION IN MERIT SCHOLARSHIP MONEY

143 WERE OFFERED MORE THAN $5 MILLION IN MERIT SCHOLARSHIP MONEY

14% WILL ATTEND A TOP 50 SCHOOL

70 COLLEGES IN 25 STATES + WASHINGTON, DC, AND CANADA

22 "LIFERS" WHO ATTENDED SSA FROM GRADES K-12

81% WILL ATTEND COLLEGE OUT OF STATE

3 WILL ATTEND U.S. SERVICE ACADEMIES

36% LETTERED IN TWO OR MORE

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CLASS OF 2015 COLLEGE CHOICES

American University
Amherst College (2)
Arizona State University
Boston College
Boston University (2)
Bucknell University
Carnegie Mellon University (2)
Case Western Reserve University
Coastal Carolina University
Colgate University (2)
Connecticut College
DePaul University (2)
Dickinson College (2)
Duke University
Elon University (3)
Emory University (4)
Florida State University
George Washington University (3)
Georgetown University (2)
Grove City College
Hamilton College (2)
Harvard University
Indiana University Bloomington
Kenyon College (4)
Lafayette College (2)
Lehigh University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
McGill University
Miami University, Oxford (2)
Middlebury College (2)
New York University (4)
Pennsylvania State University (5)
Princeton University (2)
Reed College
Rice University
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rollins College
Southern Methodist University (2)
Saint Vincent College (2)
Syracuse University
United States Air Force Academy
United States Military Academy
United States Naval Academy
University of Alabama (2)
University of Arizona
University of California Davis
University of California Los Angeles
University of Colorado at Boulder
University of Dayton
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota Twin Cities
University of Mount Union
University of Pennsylvania (4)
University of Pittsburgh (8)
University of Pittsburgh Greensburg
University of Richmond
University of Rochester
University of South Carolina
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
University of Wisconsin-Madison (2)
Vanderbilt University
Washington & Jefferson College
Washington & Lee University
Washington University in St. Louis (3)
Williams College (2)
2015 PRIZE WINNERS

Erwin W. Cole Award — Sean Kelley
Form I Improvement Award — Isabella Faiello
David McNaugher Marsh Award — Julia Lazzaris
Willard E. Mead English Award — Ariel Rockman
Charles P. Shriver Mathematics Award — Raven Bradford
Robert B. Stiffler Athletic Award — Catherine Jewart and Connor Leemhuis
Betsy Watkins Form II Improvement Award — Brooke Livingston
E. Bruce Hill Memorial Award — Caitlin Mulvihill
David A. Mancosh Award — Connor Caputo
The Sixth Grade Academic Award — Tyler Hart
The Betty C. Labun Citizenship Award — Nicholas Zana
The Audrey Ashworth Sixth Grade Improvement Award — Ashley Chu
The Blanche C. Wick Math Award — Tyler Hart
JUNIOR SCHOOL
CLOSING EXERCISES
& MOVING UP DAY
2015
CARI BATCHELAR

Cari Batchelar has been a visual arts teacher at the Senior School since 1988, and serves as advisor to the Academian yearbook. A professional artist and painter, she maintains a studio in Chautauqua, N.Y. Batchelar also writes and is working on a book about the life of Europeans in Egypt during and before World War II.

Letters of recommendation from parents and alumni described Batchelar as inspiring, knowledgeable, passionate and caring.

“Young at heart, quick in mind and joyous in spirit, Ms. Batchelar has a natural affinity towards the teenagers that she encounters,” said one alumnus. “Commanding respect because she displays respect, Ms. Batchelar is both authentically interesting and sincerely interested.”

Batchelar is also known for her big heart and her contagious can-do spirit.

“Ms. Batchelar is an amazing woman with the biggest heart that I’ve ever encountered,” said an alumnus. “Every day when I would walk in to her classroom, she would greet me with a big smile and ask how my day has been. It was never just a casual conversation starter either. She truly cared. She inspired me to not only be a better artist, but to be a better person.”

The Posner Award for Meritorious Faculty Performance is presented annually to a Shady Side teacher who has a “gift for teaching” and who has had a significant impact on the learning, development and lives of the students. The 2015 recipients were Senior School visual arts teacher Cari Batchelar and Senior School science teacher John Landreth.
JOHN LANDRETH

John Landreth has taught Senior School chemistry and coached the boys and girls varsity swimming teams since 1992. A dedicated coach, he has led SSA to numerous WPIAL and PIAA titles. In 2000, he was named the Grandizio Coach of the Year. As an educator, Landreth regularly leads teacher workshops in the modeling process.

Described as an extremely hard worker who expects his students and athletes to work just as hard he does, Landreth is credited for building confidence and character.

“No one will tell you that he is easy. He is tough, academically rigorous,” said one parent. “He makes his students work harder and reach higher, and he gets results.”

Another parent stated, “As a teacher, advisor, mentor and coach, John Landreth embodies the values of Shady Side Academy. He pushes his students to succeed, and they do.”

One graduating senior stated in his Posner nomination letter, “I could never repay Mr. Landreth for all that he has done for me, both in and out of the classroom. He has helped me become the person that I am today. More importantly, he has taught me how to always improve myself. His lessons will stay with me for the rest of my life.”

FACULTY AND STAFF AWARDS

A number of awards are presented annually during Commencement Week to recognize excellence, dedication and service by faculty and staff.

The Ruth and F. Walter Jones Service Prize is awarded to a member of the SSA community who, by willing and selfless service, has contributed to the quality of the Academy and enriched it by example. This year’s recipient was Junior School Receptionist/Office Assistant Megan Vrcic.

The Michel J. Farrell Chair for Support of Faculty Compensation and Professional Growth in Honor of Thomas N. Southard, President (2001-2010) funds seven annual awards for outstanding faculty. This year’s Going Above and Beyond Awards went to Junior School fourth grade teacher Marci Anderson and Senior School world languages teacher Denis Cronin; Innovative Educator Awards went to Senior School art teacher Scott Aiken and Middle School mathematics teacher Susan Short; and Exceptional Interactions With Students Awards went to Middle School librarian Mary Guering, Junior School music teacher Ruth Ann Modic and Senior School world languages teacher Suzanne Belles.

The Class of ’61 Faculty Award for Excellence recognizes an exemplary and dedicated Senior School teacher in his or her first or second year who shows the promise of an extended career and has made significant contributions to students and colleagues. This year’s winner was science teacher Emily Hayes-Rowan.

The President’s Award for Distinguished Staff Service is awarded to an individual who has exemplified the heights of excellence on a day-to-day basis through their actions, job performance, work ethic and positive relationships with colleagues. This year’s recipient was Facilities staff member Jodie Miller.

25 Years of Service awards went to Junior School music teacher Ruth Ann Modic and Senior School teachers Suzanne Belles (world languages) and Elizabeth Garvey (English).
BOYS SWIMMING
By Ben Skinner ’15
The boys swim team, led by Head Coach John Landreth and senior captain Brendan Leech, found continued success in the water. In addition to an impressive regular season, the team placed 10th at the WPIAL Championships and earned four medals in individual events. Medalists included Leech, sophomore Zac Coughlin and the 400 free relay team. Leech and Coughlin advanced to the state championships, where Leech earned two medals, finishing sixth in the 100 freestyle and fifth in the 100 backstroke, and Coughlin finished 24th in the 500 freestyle.

GIRLS SWIMMING – WPIAL CHAMPIONS
By Mara Barron ’15
The girls swim team won its first-ever WPIAL title this season and finished sixth in the state out of 55 teams. At the WPIAL Championships, the girls swept all three relay events and won 14 individual medals to score 288 points. Medalists included sophomore Ashley Azzarello, junior Caroline Colville, and freshmen Lindsey Grune, Heather Grune, Jeanne Lauer, Meredith Cummings and Sasha Arefyev. At the PIAA Championships, the 400 free relay and 200 medley relay teams earned medals. Although six seniors are graduating, the exceptional underclassmen will certainly allow the team to continue to be successful and defend the WPIAL title.
BOYS PREP ICE HOCKEY

By Ryan Wagner ’15

The boys prep hockey team had a final record of 16-21-2 and was led by captain Max Devorris, and assistant captains AJ Oppenheimer and Wilson Conley. There were seven new players this year, all taking on essential roles during a rebuilding season. The team went 2-2 at the divisional MPHL weekend at Chicago and 2-1-1 at Shady Side, finishing second in the division for the second consecutive year. Junior Wyatt Glover led the division and team with 21 points, and was named an MPHL all-star. Sophomore Milo Defay was also a great contributor, leading the division and team in goals with 11. Both were essential pieces in Shady Side’s playoff push as well. The team played strong in its first playoff game, winning 4-2 over Loyola Academy. Unfortunately that success did not carry over to the next game, when SSA fell 5-2 to eventual MPHL champion Ridley Academy in a hard-fought battle. The team is looking forward to taking the ice next season with a solid core of returning players.

GIRLS PREP ICE HOCKEY – WIHLMA CHAMPIONS

By Olivia Stokes ’15

The girls prep ice hockey team made history this year by winning their first-ever Women’s Interscholastic Hockey League of the Mid-Atlantic (WIHLMA) Championship, defeating five-time defending champion Morristown Beard, 3-2. Senior Rachel Khalouf scored the game-winning goal in overtime to secure the WIHLMA title. The team went 13-5-4 on the season and was led by captains Olivia Stokes, Andrea Rockey and Alayna Trice. The team’s outstanding performance in their regular season allowed them to enter the WIHLMA playoffs in second place and compete in the A bracket. After beating the Portledge School 4-1 in the semifinals, the girls advanced to the championship game. Although eight seniors are graduating this year, the team has a powerful base of underclassmen that are looking forward to defending the title.
sportsbriefs

BOYS BASKETBALL
By Jackson Fitzgerald ’15
The 2014-2015 boys basketball team had a successful and meaningful season, finishing with an overall record of 15-8. After defeating Riverside in the preliminary round of the WPIAL Championships, SSA fell eventual WPIAL runner-up Seton La-Salle in the first round, falling one game short of qualifying for the state playoffs. The team had notable wins over Apollo-Ridge, Greensburg Central Catholic, Riverside and Woodland Hills. Coach David Vadnais will graduate nine seniors but has a very capable group of underclassmen returning.

BOYS VARSITY ICE HOCKEY
By Jake Horne ’15 and Patrick Bush ’15
The boys varsity hockey team started off the season hot, winning four of its first five games, including a 2-0 start in ISHL league play. The solid start was followed by a stretch of challenging games, which included talented WPIAL opponents and road trips to Western Reserve Academy and Linsly School. While the team faced some midseason adversity, the players grew together and became even more focused. The season culminated with the ISHL Tournament at SSA. After a thrilling 3-2 shootout victory over Sewickley Academy, SSA faced No. 1 seeded Linsly School in the semifinals. The boys pulled off an exhilarating 5-3 upset, which was the highlight of the season. Unfortunately, they were unable to cap off the year with a championship, falling short against Western Reserve and finishing as ISHL runner-up with a record of 8-7-3. The team also showed commendable effort in the community with the Sticks for Troops equipment drive. The varsity team returns plenty of talent next year and will be a strong contender for the ISHL title.

GIRLS BASKETBALL
By Gab Harchelroad ’15
The girls basketball team returned this year with a successful season in the toughest section in WPIAL AA. Led by seniors Stephanie Pish, Gab Harchelroad, Rebecca Budd and Jackie Yencik, the team ended the regular season in third place in the section, behind Burrell and Greensburg Central Catholic. The team’s success was grounded in the motivation and hard work on both ends of the court. Unfortunately, the season was cut short in playoffs after a first-round loss to Neshannock; however, the future looks bright. The team will be back next year with a strong core, as starters Caroline Benec, Emily Natoli and Sarah Hacke return in a quest to win the section as well as progress through playoffs.

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SHADY SIDE ACADEMY / SUMMER 2015 / 31

GIRLS TRACK & FIELD
By Rachel Slaugenhaupt '15
The girls track and field team finished the season with an overall record of 4-3. Individually, seven members of the team went on to represent Shady Side and compete at the 2015 WPIAL Championship meet. Senior Alia Yossef placed eighth in the pole vault, and freshman Lindsey Grune placed third in high jump, qualifying her for the PIAA Championships. At the state championship meet, Grune finished in a nine-way tie for 12th place, clearing a height of 5'0".

GIRLS PREP SQUASH
By Kate Van Horn '15
The girls squash team was led this year by new Head Coach Jason Deal '09 as well as captain Kate Van Horn and assistant captain Sophia Scherlis. The team trip to Buffalo was the highlight of the season, with three matches in one weekend. The team competed again the Nichols School, Buffalo Seminary and Nardin Academy, losing all three but taking away great experience. The squash team holds promise for next season, looking forward to bringing a winning record to Shady Side.

BOYS TRACK & FIELD
By Leonard McAllister '16
The boys track and field team finished the season with a 3-4 overall record. Under the leadership of Head Coach Adam Janosko, the athletes learned to push themselves to accomplish their goals. At the PIAA Class AA Individual Track & Field Championships in May, senior Louis Berry placed second in the boys’ 100-meter dash, earning a silver medal. Berry’s time of 10.83 seconds set a new school record, eclipsing the previous record of 10.87 seconds, which he set at the 2015 WPIAL Championships on May 14. Also competing at the WPIAL Championships was junior Peter Wyeth, who earned a medal in the pole vault, placing sixth by clearing a height of 11 feet, 9 inches.

BOYS PREP SQUASH
By Julian Schwartz '15
The 2014-2015 season proved to be one of transition for the boy squashers of Shady Side. First-year Head Coach Jason Deal '09 led the boys to several quality wins, including two decisive victories over crosstown rival Sewickley Academy and a strong season finale win against The Gow School. A season highlight was when sophomore Gannon Leech defeated one of Ukraine’s top junior squash players, Mercersburg Academy’s Iliia Presman, in a rousing four-game victory. The team is sure to return stronger next year.

2014-2015 WINTER SPORTS RECORDS

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<th>Varsity Teams</th>
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The 2014-2015 Winter Sports Records show the performance of the varsity teams in various sports, including basketball, swimming, hockey, and squash. The records highlight the achievements of the teams, with some emphasizing specific accomplishments such as placing in championships or securing runner-up positions.
2015 SPRING SPORTS RECORDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Varsity Teams</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>L</th>
<th>T</th>
<th>PCT.</th>
<th>Team Accomplishments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boys Baseball</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.684</td>
<td>Section Champion; WPIAL Quarterfinals</td>
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<td>WPIAL Runner-Up; PIAA Quarterfinals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Girls Track &amp; Field</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>0.551</td>
<td>WPIAL Semifinals; PIAA Quarterfinals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Girls Lacrosse</td>
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<td>0.688</td>
<td>WPIAL Semifinals; PIAA First Round</td>
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<td>Totals</td>
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<td>40</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.592</td>
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BOYS TENNIS
As defending WPIAL and PIAA champions, the boys tennis team had a lot to prove this season. The team worked hard and finished the season with a 14-2 overall record, finishing as the WPIAL runner-up and a PIAA quarterfinalist. Seniors Eric Grubbs and Derek Chen qualified for the WPIAL Singles Championships but were eliminated in a tough first-round loss. The doubles teams of Cooper Kann and Michael Kann, as well as Chen and Naveen Jain qualified for the WPIAL Doubles Championship. Kann and Kann advanced to the quarterfinals, and Chen and Jain lost in the first round. The team is looking forward to bringing back the championship title to SSA next season.

SOFTBALL
By Nurul Quratulaini Abd Salim Nast '15
After being moved to a different section and facing a new group of competitors, the softball team ended the season 2-11, but showed continued dedication and hard work. Led by senior captains Emily Curry and Jackie Yencik, the girls approached the field with positive and open minds, and the determination to make a name for themselves. With the help of Head Coach Abby Bodenlos '04, the softball team will continue to climb to great heights in the years to come.

BASEBALL
By Tyler Gorse '16
The baseball team had a very successful season, winning its first section title in two years. The team finished the regular season with a record of 12-5, including a 10-0 record in section play, and received the No. 6 seed going into the WPIAL playoffs. The boys defeated Avonworth in the first round but unfortunately lost to Neshannock in the quarterfinals. The team was led by captains Andrew Scherbarth, Alex Hartz and Chris Santucci. Both Scherbarth and Hartz had a very successful season on the mound with help from a very strong defense. Hartz was voted to the WPIAL All-Star game for his stellar performance this year, including his historic perfect game against West Shamokin. The team looks to build off of this great season and battle for another section title next year.
BOYS LACROSSE
By Skyler Blaxter ’15
The boys lacrosse team had another great season in 2015, making both the WPIAL and PIAA playoffs. Led by captains Jackson Fitzgerald, Connor Jones and Robby Woodings, the team advanced to the WPIAL semifinals and made the quarterfinals of the state playoffs for the second year in a row. Under the direction of Head Coach Mike Williams, the team finished 11-9. Junior Doc Szlachetka was named to the Under Armour All-America Underclass Tournament. The team will continue to be strong competitors moving forward into next year.

GIRLS LACROSSE
By Tori Winter ’15
The girls lacrosse team had a solid run this season, advancing to the WPIAL semifinals and earning bid to the PIAA Division I Championships. Unfortunately, the team fell to District 3 champion Manheim Township in the first round, 22-10. The team proved to have the enthusiasm, stamina and talent to achieve playoff berths and fought hard to finish the season with an 11-5 overall record. The team is looking forward to another successful season next year.

GEAR UP FOR HOMECOMING!
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Just place your order by Oct. 1, 2015, and enter code HC2015 at checkout.
www.store.shadysideacademy.org
The Hillman Series for Performing Arts concluded its ninth season in April 2015. The season had an international flair and patrons saw performers all the way from Texas to the Czech Republic. The 2014-2015 series began last October with Canadian illusionists Ted and Marion Outerbridge taking the audience on a magical ride through time in Outerbridge – Clockwork Mysteries. In November, Cirk La Putyka’s Slapstick Sonata transformed the Richard E. Rauh Theater stage into a warehouse for an evening of daring acrobatics, tightrope walking and human tumbling.

After a break for the winter holidays, the series resumed in February 2015. America’s Got Talent winner ArcAttack’s Tesla Coil Music warmed the cold winter air with electricity in the form of lightning. ArcAttack provided a unique experience with homemade tesla coils that they used to recreate some well-known and loved songs. The Hillman partnered with the Carnegie Science Center and the Senior School science faculty to create a mad science lab in the black box as a pre-show teaser. In March, the Hillman welcomed Rhythm of the Dance, one of the most popular Irish step dance shows in the world. On a limited U.S. tour, these world-renowned dancers kept the audience on the edge of their seats with Irish dancing, singing and live instrumentation. The season rounded out with a sold-out performance of Popovich Comedy Pet Theater in April. Gregory Popovich and his troupe of performing rescue pets brought the audience to their feet time and time again with daredevil feats and surprises. The Hillman partnered with the Animal Rescue League (ARL) and donated a portion of the evening’s proceeds to the ARL Wildlife Center.

The 2015-2016 Hillman Performing Arts Series continues the international menagerie with six fantastic shows. Just in time for Halloween, King Michael: A Tribute to the King of Pop will recreate fantastic moments, including the famous Thriller dance. Michael Jackson impersonators and dancers promise to lead the audience on a journey through the King of Pop’s remarkable career. In November, the Hillman hosts the U.S. premiere of Cas Public’s Symphonie Dramatique – a modern-day ballet telling of Romeo & Juliet. After opening at the Hillman, Cas Public will head to the Lincoln Center in New York City for a residency. In February, for the first time in history, the Richard E. Rauh Theater stage will transform into an ice skating rink. Winter Ice Solstice, with a nod to Disney’s Frozen, will feature professional figure skaters taking the stage to tell a wintry tale. In The Greatest Pirate Story Never Told, an improv comedy troupe will interact with the audience to create a pirate-themed musical in March. Finally, the series concludes in April as the U.K.’s Jive Aces present Jump, Jive and Wail.

As a special event in May, the Hillman is fortunate to welcome NPR’s Garrison Keillor. He will be on a solo tour, sharing anecdotes from A Prairie Home Companion about growing up in the American Midwest, the people of Lake Wobegon and “late-life fatherhood.”

The 2015-2016 Hillman Series is open to all members of the community and offers special discounts for seniors and students. Please visit www.thehillman.org for up-to-date information on tickets and subscriptions.
Hillman Center for Performing Arts
Richard E. Rauh Theater

All shows Saturdays at 7:30 pm
unless otherwise noted

To order tickets: www.thehillman.org or 412-968-3040

Shady Side Academy | 423 Fox Chapel Road | Pittsburgh, PA 15238
In the summer of 2002 Daniel Gilman ’00 climbed the steps of the U.S. Capitol building, walked through its gigantic bronze doors and felt as though he had stepped on to the set of the hit TV drama The West Wing.

After passing through security and getting his government ID, the 20-year-old redhead’s sense of exhilaration and awe only deepened. The historic hallways were buzzing with members of Congress, staffers and guards. Camera crews and reporters stalked their prey. Loud bells sounded throughout the Capitol complex, alerting representatives when it was time for a floor vote.

As Gilman walked into the office of Mike Doyle, the longtime Pittsburgh congressman who’d be his boss for his internship, it hit him. This will be my office for the whole summer.

Gilman, who was about to be a junior at Carnegie Mellon University, quickly fell in love with the heady excitement of Washington and greatly admired Doyle. But as the summer
progressed and he helped the congressman work on amendments for Medicare reform, Gilman became disillusioned with the intense partisanship he witnessed.

It was frustrating for him to watch how often party politics thwarted the lawmaking process. “Everything you did for the boss would be defeated along a party-line vote,” he said. “I left intrigued by Washington, but completely turned off by the realities of government.”

Fast forward one year. Gilman walked down the hall of the City-County Building in Pittsburgh and entered the office of then-City Councilman Bill Peduto. It was the start of another summer internship – and an opportunity that would transform his life.

There was no exciting TV show about national politics playing in his mind this time. But as Gilman manned the phones and began hearing requests from Peduto’s constituents for things like new stop signs and complaints about construction dust, he had a sudden realization.

“My first day as an intern in City Hall, I got more done than a whole summer in Washington,” he said.

Gilman’s love for politics at the sidewalk-and-street level has only strengthened during the past 11 years. Most of that time he spent working as a staffer and then chief of staff for Councilman Peduto, who became mayor of Pittsburgh in 2013.

But for the last year and a half, Gilman has become a public servant himself. The boyish-looking 32-year-old now represents
Peduto’s former council district, District 8, which includes Shadyside, Squirrel Hill, half of Oakland and half of Point Breeze.

Gilman has become an important part of the youth movement on City Council that, along with Mayor Peduto, is transforming Pittsburgh from a city known for its industrial past into a high-tech, youth-oriented, livable city heralded for its great future. But he didn’t grow up dreaming of becoming a politician. As he says, his political career is a result of “a series of accidental stumbling.”

He got his first taste of politics while at Shady Side Academy, where he attended high school after moving to Pittsburgh from Dallas. In 1999, the summer between his junior and senior years, he volunteered to work in Al Gore’s presidential campaign. Though he performed mundane office chores, such as making copies and answering phones, he loved having a behind-the-scenes glimpse of a presidential contest.

During his senior year at Shady Side he became a voting student representative on the Admissions Committee, a coveted honor for a few top students. He quickly became one of the go-to students for Katie (Hoopes) Mihm ’83, who had just been named the Senior School director of admission. “Dan did a remarkable 10 recruiting tours that year, double that of most students, and fully engaged in the admissions file-reading process and deliberations… And he did all of this with a smile on his face. I am glad he was in my foxhole during my first year in admissions.”

After graduating from SSA in 2000, Gilman crossed town to attend Carnegie Mellon University, where he majored in ethics, history and public policy. His well-rounded education at Shady Side prepared him for the rigorous course work, he said. Shady Side also had taught him something else that would become invaluable for his future career in politics – the ability to write well and think critically.

Gilman was active in CMU’s student government all four years, first as a member of the student senate and finally as president of the student body his senior year. During his junior year, as student government vice president, he lobbied to retain the 28x Airport Flyer, the Port Authority bus that went from Oakland to the airport. When Gilman met with then-Councilman Peduto to tell him how vital the public transit service was for college students, Peduto was so impressed by the young man that he asked him to be a summer intern.

Gilman loved that internship, especially the simple satisfaction of fixing a pothole or trimming a tree for someone in the district. But he believes that three-month stint might have been the end of his relationship with politics had it not been for an illness Gilman contracted during his senior year at CMU.
As graduation approached, he emailed Peduto’s office asking if he could meet with the councilman for career advice. But the night before the meeting, he got violently ill from the Norovirus infection that had hit the campus. At 4 a.m., Gilman dragged himself out of bed, crawled to the phone and left a message asking Peduto’s office to reschedule the meeting.

Meanwhile, as Gilman recovered, Peduto’s chief of staff, Chris Coleman, a Navy reservist, was called up to Afghanistan suddenly. Peduto lamented to Coleman that he didn’t know how they would be able to find a replacement quickly.

“Are you kidding?” Coleman said. “That Dan Gilman is one of the one percent.”

“What is the one percent?” Peduto asked.

“One of the one percent of the smartest people on Earth,” Coleman replied. “You should hire him.”

So just one day after his college graduation, Gilman became a staffer for a Pittsburgh city councilman, working with people often decades older. He took the job over another tempting offer, a staff position for the Clinton Foundation in New York.

“What 21-year-old Democrat wouldn’t want to say he worked for Bill Clinton?” Gilman said. Plus, he said, just like the Congressional internship with Mike Doyle, the Clinton Foundation job would look impressive on his résumé.

But Gilman passed up New York and the Clintons. He knew his heart was in Pittsburgh, helping the city and neighborhoods he loved. Early on, Gilman complained that he was not getting enough responsibility in the councilman’s office. Peduto told his young and enthusiastic staffer to be patient. Greater responsibility would come with time, he promised. Did it ever.

Within a few years, Gilman rose to become Peduto’s chief of staff. “By year five, the majority of the workload and responsibility of the office came directly from him,” Peduto said. “There was never a time when a project was half done. He didn’t have a time clock. He had my back 110 percent of the time, both in my professional life and my personal life.

“I wouldn’t be where I am today without Dan Gilman,” Peduto said. “I got very lucky in life to have someone like that working side-by-side with me. Besides his help with my career, I am blessed because I met a true mensch.”

Gilman figured if he worked for Peduto for a few years it would be a nice career move on his way to law school. But he never made it to the LSAT test. Instead he stayed with the councilman for nine and half years. When Peduto decided to run for mayor in 2013, Gilman came to another career crossroad. Should he run for City Council in the District 8 seat vacated by Peduto, or should he become a lobbyist in Washington, a job offer that would pay almost twice as much?

The choice turned out to be an easy one. Gilman decided to stay in Pittsburgh and become a public servant. “If I didn’t run, I could picture myself being 45 years old, with a child on my lap, watching the election returns on CNN and regretting my decision not to take my shot. I would have regretted it my whole life.”

“I wouldn’t be where I am today without Dan Gilman. I got very lucky in life to have someone like that working side-by-side with me.”

– Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto
On election night, Nov. 5, 2013, an elated Peduto, who won the mayor’s office in a landslide, watched as Gilman took over his District 8 council seat. “I have never been so proud as when he won the election on the same night I won,” Peduto said. Gilman celebrated at his own victory party and then went to Peduto’s celebration. The photo in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* the next morning showed the two winners hugging on stage.

As a rookie councilman, Gilman did not sit on his laurels. He’s worked to help modernize City Hall with 21st Century technology. “City Hall was stuck in the 1980s,” he said. “Our building inspectors didn’t have emails or cell phones. Trucks didn’t have GPS.” He’s also interested in stopping “the brain drain in Pittsburgh and growing startup companies. I love that part of my job.”

To address the 50 percent of the workforce that is female, he introduced legislation that makes it illegal to discriminate against women due to pregnancy and required accommodations for mothers who are breastfeeding. Mayor Peduto said Gilman’s contribution goes beyond just getting legislation passed, however.

“I think he has the potential to be one of the greatest councilmen of all times,” Peduto said. “He is someone who brings people together. If a bill is in trouble, he will text me late at night. He’ll tell me the issues with a councilman and what it will take to resolve it.”

Community activists also praise Councilman Gilman. “He meets with community leaders at least twice a week,” said

“If I didn’t run, I could picture myself being 45 years old, watching the election returns on CNN and regretting my decision not to take my shot. I would have regretted it my whole life.”

– Dan Gilman
Richard Rattner ’80, president of the Shadyside Chamber of Commerce. “Dan is real hands-on. He isn’t from the old school of Pittsburgh politics.”

Gilman, who recently married and bought a house, keeps a full schedule, often working nights and weekends. On a recent day, his back-to-back calendar included meetings with an engineering firm doing construction, a City Council meeting, a meeting on Pittsburgh Fashion Week, a phone call with the sheet metal union on fire safety, a press conference for security guards demanding better wages, an anniversary party for robotic baby gear maker 4Moms, and on and on. He also churns out a steady stream of updates of what he’s doing during the day on Twitter and Facebook.

“I don’t know when he sleeps,” said friend Alex Moser ’90, who served on the SSA Alumni Council with Gilman for several years. “It is exhausting just following him on Twitter and Facebook. I need to take a nap after reading his Twitter feed. He is very worldly and highly intelligent. We are very lucky to have him in Pittsburgh.”

As Mayor Peduto’s protégé, Gilman received the real-world equivalent of Ph.D. in politics – but not old-school politics. “I learned what it means to stand up for your values in the face of controversy and adversity. In politics, you are stuck in the weird position where you have friends on both sides of an issue. But if you stick with what you believe; if you are consistent and honest and can look someone in the eyes; they may disagree with you and they may be upset, but in the end they will respect you. I think what kills so many politicians is this never-ending desire to please everyone. You end up becoming a flip-flopper.”

Gilman has recently applied the lesson of sticking to your principles to his support for the new bike lanes the city has put in Downtown. When he gets yelled at by a major donor or a friend of the family who says the bike lanes are dumb, he doesn’t just sheepishly say, “I know. I know.” Instead he tells them exactly what he believes – that bike lanes are vital to attracting and retaining high-tech companies and making the city attractive to young people.

Though Gilman loves his job, sometimes he bristles at the bad reputation of politicians. “I do hear it all the time – politicians are corrupt and government is such a waste – and I take personal offense.” He knows dozens of public servants like him who are honest and earning much less in government than they could in business, plus they’re putting in more hours.

“The bad politicians give the industry a bad name,” he says. “Talk radio and blogs and 24/7 news has turned things ugly.”

In politics, it’s almost impossible to calculate your next career move. But Gilman does entertain one thought in the back of his mind, and it has to do with local politics. “I think being mayor of Pittsburgh is the greatest job in America. If that opportunity ever presented itself, it would be a dream come true.”
Alyssa Smaldino ’07 has 64 stamps on her passport, so many that they spill over to a second book. And she earned them far from the tourist trail in some of the poorest places on earth.

Consider her whirlwind trip to Africa. First she flew to Nairobi, Kenya, to visit an organization that teaches teens in the Viwandani slum about sexual health through theatre. She befriended the staff before watching teenage girls sing and dance.

Then she headed to Kisumu in western Kenya to meet a group that counsels HIV patients working at or near a sugar factory. The group members had never seen an American before, so they bonded with the five-foot-two-inch Smaldino and asked her about President Obama, whose grandmother lives close to their village.

Next Smaldino boarded a bus to cross the border into Uganda. She thought it would be a quick trip, but it took 12 hours. No matter. Smaldino has learned to roll with unexpected travel complications in her job as the director of partnerships at GlobeMed, an Evanston, Ill., based nonprofit that partners college students with grassroots organizations in developing nations. “I have become very flexible. I wasn’t beforehand,” she said with a laugh.

Driven by a passion for social justice and public health, the 25-year-old Smaldino has visited about 50 communities in the developing world over the past three years. She travels in intense six- to eight-week bursts. In the fall of 2012, she traveled to Africa, and the following year, crisscrossed Latin America with stops in Guatemala, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Ecuador and Peru. This past fall, she toured Asia, visiting GlobeMed partners in Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Nepal and India.

In April 2014, Smaldino reunited with Simon, a homeless child she met in 2012. He now lives at the Adonai Center for Child Development, Uganda.
In keeping with GlobeMed’s philosophy, she doesn’t swoop in to “fix” problems with Western solutions. Instead she listens to the needs of community organizers, who often tackle issues such as women’s health, youth empowerment and water purification.

“I listen before I speak up,” she said. “Here in the United States, we have a very direct communication style. When we ask a question, we imply an answer. ‘Do you want to do this?’ That is not how the rest of the world works.”

Smaldino cites as examples groups that have tried to force large-scale mechanized agriculture on small organic farms – an approach that has often backfired. “The assumption is, ‘We are Americans. We are industrialized. We have advanced solutions.’ But we are shaping a different kind of international organization. We talk to partners and open up our minds.”

Smaldino, who was active in a GlobeMed partnership with an organization in Rwanda as a student at George Washington University, was the first person hired for the position of director of partnerships.

Bianca Nguyen, the former director of development at GlobeMed, said Smaldino has flourished as she has forged her way. “As a young person at a young nonprofit, it is very difficult to find your own path,” Nguyen said. “But Alyssa has done it. She has some guiding light she follows. She is very resilient and very open and curious. It is difficult to have people trust you when they have never seen you before. But people just respond to her. They invite her into their home and community.”

Even as a little girl, Smaldino, the oldest of a family of four in Butler, Pa., had a big heart and a fearless streak. “She would bring the stray dog home,” her mother Karen said. “She would later help her girlfriends with boyfriend crises.”

She would go on every crazy ride at Kennywood and Disney World, despite her mother’s worries that she was too tiny. Her sense of adventure grew over time. “She went whitewater rafting on the Nile on her 21st birthday,” Karen said.

Smaldino attended public elementary schools, and in eighth grade, her mother suggested she transfer to Shady Side Academy. On the ride to Fox Chapel for the tour, the teenager said she didn’t want to leave her friends. But after the visit, she flashed a huge smile and said, “That school is so cool.”

She became her own person at Shady Side Academy. “It all started clicking for her,” Karen said. “She soared there. She loved the teachers.”

A swimmer who competed in the freestyle and breaststroke, she learned more than efficient strokes from Senior School coach John Landreth. “He did a great job helping swimmers with
“She is one of the most influential young people I have ever met...She supports us and she supports the kids. She has that charisma.”

— Peter Mokaya, Founder, U-Tena, Nairobi

time management,” she said. “Swimming is intense. So is the workload of Shady Side.”

“I always attribute so much of my success to what I learned at Shady Side,” she said. “I always say that I learned how to learn from Shady Side. I learned how to live at George Washington University.”

In college, she majored in public health. During freshman year, she joined the university’s GlobeMed chapter, which was the young nonprofit’s ninth chapter. The organization opened up her world. “I learned how poverty and health are all connected. GlobeMed gives students a new lens on issues they might not get in class.”

As co-president of her chapter, she worked on a partnership with the Rwanda Village Concept Project. After graduation, she spent two months working with women in Rwanda’s rural Huye District, where the infant mortality rate is 64 deaths per 1,000 births. GlobeMed helped to refurbish a health clinic with running water, electricity and a new waiting room. In addition, Smaldino and other students worked on maternal health and income generation programs for 150 mothers in order to combat infant malnutrition.

Five days after returning from Rwanda, she started her new job as GlobeMed’s director of partnerships, working with student leaders of university chapters who raise money for projects implemented by community organizers and often travel overseas for internships to assist. Founded in 2007 by students, GlobeMed has grown to a network of more than 2,000 undergraduates at 57 universities. Each chapter works with one grassroots health organization in one of 18 countries.

A year later, Smaldino began her ambitious goal of traveling the globe to meet every partner organization. (She only has a handful left to check off her list).

Every time Smaldino returns from one of her far-flung trips, her mother breathes a sigh of relief. She can’t help but worry about her oldest daughter. But then again, she knows her daughter is driven to help people in the most remote corners of the world. “If anyone can do it, Alyssa can do it,” Karen said.

“She finds every train, plane and everything in between. She goes anywhere and everywhere.”

Along the way, Smaldino has made lasting friendships. Peter Mokaya, who founded the group U-Tena in Nairobi, called Smaldino “my role model.”

In November 2012, she visited his organization, which uses music, dance, puppetry and theatre to teach residents of the Viwandani slum about HIV, sexually transmitted infections and reproductive health. Smaldino and Mokaya talked about the group’s future and clicked immediately.

“She is one of the most influential young people I have ever met,” he said. “She has been to Kenya twice, and she knows everyone in the office. She knows my family. She supports us and she supports the kids. She has that charisma.”

“She knows who we are and our strengths and weaknesses. She believes in using local knowledge and local people to make positive changes.”

Smaldino left that visit wowed and impressed by the theatre-based health education program. She stayed in regular email contact with Mokaya, and three years later, during this past March, GlobeMed flew him and his colleagues to Chicago for its annual summit. “We remain close friends,” said Smaldino.

This May, Smaldino traveled to Uganda for a forum of all of GlobeMed’s African partners. While she was there, she made an important announcement. She has been named interim executive director of GlobeMed. “I am very excited. I’ve seen the power of GlobeMed firsthand as a student, intern and staff member.”

Often in her travels, Smaldino feels saddened by the sight of children begging on the streets without the most basic health care. Yet she is optimistic about working toward a future without such basic inequities. “I have the hope that as we become more globalized, we will start to feel a greater sense of commitment across the world and have more cross-cultural relationships. It helps me see a future where kids begging in the street doesn’t happen.”
SPRING DOWNTOWN LUNCH

The Spring Downtown Luncheon was held April 22, 2015, at the Allegheny HYP Club. Academy President Tom Cangiano welcomed attendees and introduced the featured speaker, The Honorable Rich Fitzgerald, Allegheny County executive and current SSA parent. Fitzgerald spoke about his connection to the SSA community and the positive experience that his son, Jackson ’15, has had at the Senior School. He also spoke about how science, technology and education are reshaping the Pittsburgh region and the importance of STEM-related jobs in the region. Fitzgerald fielded several questions from guests and attentively listened to various concerns.

ALUMNI REGIONAL RECEPTIONS
1. Palo Alto, Calif.: Alli Rath ’10, Felicia Tissenbaum ’13, Ben Cohen ’11 and Paul Steenkiste ’13 at the home of event hosts John ’64 and Allyn Taylor
3. Santa Monica, Calif.: Ben Mendelson ’73, Jetsy (Totten) Rickling ’80, event host Dan Fawcett ’80 and Jennie Prebor ’81 at Fawcett’s home on Feb. 5, 2015
4. Atlanta: Bart Griffith ’93 and Josh Kamin ’88 on Feb. 25, 2015, at ONE Midtown Kitchen
5. New York City: Alex Pitz ’08, Jamie Egan ’08 and Brendan Hannon ’08 at the Feb. 25, 2015, reception hosted by David Puth ’74
6. Bedford Hills, N.Y.: Andrew Viehe ’09 with Bill Wallace ’66, who hosted the event with his wife, Suzanne, at the Bedford Golf and Tennis Club
8. Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.: Olivia Stokes ’15, Britton Wean ’02, Alayna Trice ’16 and Fraser Stokes ’80 at the BallenIsles Country Club on March 18, 2015, at the reception hosted by Tom Kaplan ’65
9. Vero Beach, Fla.: Tom Cangiano, co-hosts Laurie (O’Brien) ’85 and Jeff Troutman, and Director of Development Rick Munroe ’84 on March 19, 2015. The event was also co-hosted by past parent and current grandparent Maureen O’Brien
10. Boston: Katie Vincett ’09, Jared Scheck ’09, Basyl Stuyvesant ’09 and Gina Poerio ’08 at The Hawthorne on April 16, 2015
11. Chicago: Ashley and Garret Fitzgerald ’04, Andrew Thompson, Dylan Guyer ’05, reception host Ryan Ruskin ’86 and Claudia Mendelson ’90 on April 28 at The Racquet Club of Chicago
12. Pittsburgh: Laura Buchanan ’01, Farah Tejpar ’01, John Rhoades ’01, Mac Lynch ’01 and Senior School faculty member Mary Lynch on May 14, 2015, at Luke Wholey’s (’02) Wild Alaskan Grille
The annual meeting of the Shady Side Academy Board of Visitors was held May 1, 2015, at the Senior School campus. The morning session consisted of Academy updates by President Tom Cangiano, as well as the three school heads, the business office, admissions and college counseling. During the Senior School community assembly, five members of the BOV participated in a panel discussion, answering student-submitted questions about their career paths and favorite SSA teachers. During the afternoon, the group met together with the Board of Trustees for more in-depth discussion of strategic initiatives. In attendance were Jill Barkin ’94, Elizabeth Collins ’87, Ron Davenport ’81, John Duff ’59, George Egan ’78, Anne Gailliot ’94, Bart Griffith ’93, Margaret Hazlett ’84, Alex Howson ’82, John Kramer ’57, Doug Mancosh ’76, Andy Mathieson ’74, Abhishek Mehta ’01, Steve Modzelewski ’76, Jim Morris ’59, Rob Mullin ’93, Fred Parkin ’59, Ryan Ruskin ’86, Catherine Vodrey ’81, Betsy Watkins, Annie Westbrook ’96, Dan Wolf ’07 and Tom Worrall ’87. The BOV was founded 12 years ago by Kramer and Ed Grefenstette ’85, and serves as a tremendous asset to the Academy.

Thank you for another outstanding year!

The faculty, staff and students of Shady Side Academy thank you for being a part of our success story:

- We surpassed this year’s goal, raising a total of $1,305,376
- Increased Founders Society gifts at all levels comprised 88% of the total funds raised
- Alumni participation is now 7% higher than the national average
- Parent participation increased by more than 15% from last year

Your gift to the Blue & Gold Fund will help reach a new goal of $1.45 million in support of our students and faculty as they think expansively, act ethically and lead responsibly in the 2015-2016 academic year.

www.supportssa.org
Included in this section are news items received through May 1, 2015.

1943
Gwen Swaney, the widow of Lester Swaney, is writing a book about Lester’s World War II aviation awards.

1947
William Patterson writes: “I am sad to report that I lost my wife, Marilyn, to a brain tumor last January.”

1953
Jim Kuhns writes: “I now live in both Sonoma and Santa Monica, Calif. Best wishes to all!”

1956
Jay Crane writes: “My active summer included the honor of being a commissioner to the Presbyterian Church church-wide general assembly. The group made national news by allowing (not requiring) their ministers to marry same-sex couples in states where permitted. The group also divested their pension and foundation funds from three companies that were in violation of PC investment policy by providing equipment used by Israeli military in the non-peaceful occupation of Palestine. At the same time, the denomination reaffirmed its support for a two-state solution of a secure Israel and a free state for Palestinian people. A month later my wife, Mary Ann, and I traveled with our oldest grandson, Slade Crane, 12, to the Grand Canyon on a Road Scholar Intergenerational Tour, including a 37-mile raft trip down the Colorado River. It was truly an exciting and bonding adventure. Our plans and hopes are to provide similar journeys to our six other grandchildren as they each turn 12 years old.”

1959
Jay Carson writes: “I’m now retired after 44 years of teaching at Robert Morris University. I continue to write poetry, publishing fiction and two books, Cinnamon of Desire and Irish Coffee.”
Foster Goldman writes: “Same old, just a bit older.”

1962
Tom Addenbrook writes: “In September 2014 I retired after 48 years in sales in the cement/concrete industry. I have two adult children living in North Carolina and Texas. I became widowed in 1996 and am living in St. Charles, Mo. I welcome anyone traveling in the area to contact me.”
Tom Benghauser reports that he has just published a new edition of his ongoing memoir entitled Cunning Stunts, Stunning Babes. The title was chosen with the help of the Rev. William Archibald Spooner. It’s available on Amazon.com.
Lou Martone writes: “My youngest son, Henry ’00, after seeking a career in acting, graduated from the University of Southern California Law School in May 2015. I have finally made my last tuition payment. After being in private practice in dermatology for 40 years, maybe now I can think about retiring.”

1966
Peter Stephens writes: “I have been named regional director and member of the 11-member executive committee of the Sigma Chi fraternity. Both are voluntary alumni leadership positions.”
Chris Abernethy writes: “So my wife and I decide, after 10 years of looking for a retirement town, to settle in Sarasota, Fla. In anticipation of retiring in a few years, we seized an opportunity to buy a nice place now, fix it up to our liking, and then when the office door finally closes, we will have a place to land, decorated to our taste. So we took the plunge! We are down here picking out colors and window treatments, so I invited the prior owner, Drew, over for drinks. We had had a seamless purchase and he seemed like a good guy, so we wanted to meet and greet him and his wife. They came over with a nice bottle of red, which we demolish, along with another, and during the course of conversation we both reveal that we are lawyers. He had come to Florida from New Jersey about 25 years ago and had landed a job in a three-lawyer firm in Naples. He says to me that there was an attorney there who was originally from Pittsburgh. He says we are about the same age, and wondered if I might have met him. His name is Casey Wolff. I looked at him straight-faced, pretended to try to pry the name loose from my memory bank, and said, ‘Nope. Never heard of him. Do you want some more wine?’ Casey and I had a good laugh about the whole episode. He was Drew’s mentor for a couple of years before they both moved on to other firms. But how weird is it that with such a tiny class of high school buds, we cross over each other all the time?”
Rich LaMagna was invited by his alma mater, Eisenhower Institute at Gettysburg College, to participate in a panel discussion as part of their Intelligence and National Security Series, to present “How Terrorism is Funded Through Transnational Organized Crime.” Drawing upon his 27 years of experience in the law enforcement and intelligence fields and having served with the DEA, FBI and the National Security Council, Directorate of Drugs and Counterterrorism, LaMagna was able to offer a unique and historical perspective on these vital threats to national security. He was invited back to give the same presentation to Gettysburg College alumni for his 45th class reunion on May 29, 2015.

1967
Pat Loughney writes: “Chris Skelly, who lives in Knoxville, Tenn., spent a week in the Portland, Maine, vicinity visiting Ester and Barclay Palmer, who were with our class for our 45th reunion. Chris is hoping they will be here for our 50th reunion as well. En route to Maine, Chris stayed in New Haven with his SSA roommate Jay Pottenger, a longtime law professor at Yale University. I spent a weekend with Ray Celli at a Celli family wedding in Roanoke, Va. It was great connecting again and meeting his three grandchildren. I have spent an inordinate amount of time crafting this news as I feel Mr. Gregory’s spirit looking over my shoulder. I hope it is up to his standards.”

1968
Joe Safier was appointed to the City of Beverly Hills charitable solicitations commission. In June 2015 he stepped down after serving three two-year terms as a member and audit committee chair on the Beverly Hills Unified School District measure and bond citizens oversight committee.

1969
David Slonaker writes: “In addition to continuing to orchestrate Hollywood films (some recent films include A Million Ways to Die in the West, Mr. Peabody & Sherman and Oz the Great and Powerful), the Dave Slonaker Big Band CD entitled Intrada was nominated for a 2013 Grammy for best large jazz ensemble album.”

1972
Christopher Bender writes: “After two years, I am comfortably established in my new post as dean of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh, and have moved back into the city. My wife, Filitsa, is delighted with our new community, as well as her shorter commute to work as a UPMC physician. I always enjoy greeting SSA alumni or current students who come to our church, whether to worship, learn or enjoy our May Food Festival. Stop by anytime!”

1968
Ed Strauss, Robert Swinston and James Gutman at the Joyce Theater, New York, N.Y., after the performance by Swinston’s company, the Compagnie Nationale de Danse Contemporaine, Angers, France.

1981
Jim Gregory reports: “I have two sons. Chris is starting his freshman year at Tufts and Alex is starting his freshman year at Park Tudor (sort of like the Shady Side Academy of Indianapolis). I have been with Eli Lilly and Company for more than 20 years now, working across many different therapeutic areas, including diabetes, depression, bipolar disorder, osteoporosis, lupus, etc. over the years in various marketing and market research roles. I still remember my SSA days fondly.”

1981

Catherine Vodrey writes: “I had the good fortune to have lunch with Patricia Foxen while she was in Pittsburgh for a conference. By chance, we bumped into New York Times photographer Jeff Swensen ’82, who took this photo of us.”

1981

Naomi (Himmelhoch) Tiscione writes: “In 2010, I had to give up my job after I developed chronic daily migraine. Meanwhile, my husband Jason, who has suffered from epilepsy since childhood, started having too many seizures at work. Brain surgery was a rather spectacular failure. We are both on disability, living in Salt Lake City, Utah. The good news is that Jason snagged the last spot in a study for a new anti-seizure medication, and his seizures have stopped altogether. He will be re-entering the workforce within the next few months. And for the first time in a decade, my bipolar illness has stabilized with the help of some new medication. I have really enjoyed moderating a support forum for the mentally ill. Please feel free to contact me if you’d like further information. My headaches have not improved, so I have been passing the time taking up the saxophone again and learning to knit (poorly). We have two dogs, Violet and Darwin. If you want to appreciate the little things in life, my advice is to let your health deteriorate. No, please don’t. But this is a life lesson we have had drilled into our heads (in my husband’s case, literally).”

Eric Olds writes: “I’m an architect at D2CA in King of Prussia, Pa., working on too many projects for a stress-free life. I’m still playing men’s league hockey and coaching my son’s travel team.” Eric lives south of Philadelphia with his wife, Cathy; son, Jake, 15, and daughter, Jessica, 8.

Dan Schreiber and his wife, Laurie, have three little girls. The family resides in Bethesda, Md.

1987

Shari Grandizio writes: “I recently moved myself and my children back to Fox Chapel to be near my family (all of them!). After several years of being a multi-million dollar producer for Berkshire Hathaway Carolinas Realty in Charlotte, N.C., I have joined the team at Berkshire Hathaway The Preferred Realty here in Fox Chapel. It has been a great homecoming so far! Please feel free to reach out and catch up at sharigrandizio@thepreferredrealty.com.”

1991

Christian Borle won his second Tony Award for his role as a villainous power-drunk William Shakespeare in the Broadway musical Something Rotten! Borle, who won his first Tony in 2012, was the winner in the category Best Performance by an Actor in a Featured Role in a Musical. Borle also earned a Drama Desk Award for the role in the category Outstanding Featured Actor in a Musical.

1993

Graham Westerberg has been voted the Washington Metropolitan Prep School Swimming and Diving League (WMPSSDL) Girls Swimming Coach of the Year for the third time. In addition, he was named Washington Post All-Met Coach of the Year and the Gazette Coach of the Year. Graham’s team won the WMPSSDL championship title for the third year in a row.

Alison Fragale reports: “On May 7, 2015, my husband and I welcomed our daughter, Maddux Greene Abell. Like her older brothers, Jordan Bradshaw and Payton Harris, her name pays homage to our two hometowns, Chicago and ‘the Burgh.’ And, after 11 great years in Chapel Hill, N.C., my husband is finally getting his wish as we are moving to Chicago (Lincoln Park) this summer. I am excited about the move, even though it guarantees that my kids will become Bears fans.”
1996

Geoffrey Melada is pleased to announce his engagement to Natalie Rosenfelt (Cornell ’01), a trial lawyer with the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

Nicole Birch Ndumele is working for the U.S. Justice Department in the policy division. She and her husband, Chiadi, a cardiologist at Johns Hopkins, live in Silver Spring, Md.

1997

Dr. Beth Appleman and her husband, Dr. Michael Kaplan, had a baby girl, Shelby Rose Kaplan, on April 19, 2015.

1998

Dan Leers was recently appointed the curator of photography at the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh. Most recently a New York-based independent curator, Leers worked on the 2013 Venice Biennale, during which he served as an advisor on contemporary African Art. Previously, he was the Beaumont & Nancy Newhall Curatorial Fellow in the Department of

1996

Zach Kaufman reports: “On Jan. 10, 2015, Elizabeth Katz and I were married at a synagogue (B’nai Torah) in Boca Raton, Fla. Attached is a picture of us with the SSA contingent at the wedding. From left to right: Arvind Grover, Michelle Semins ’97, Jared Williamson, Lauren (Pinskler) Kushner, Kate (Brillman) Kassab, Lacey (Cass) Lupetin ’97, Brendan Lupetin, Jim Mitre and Julie Brillman ’02.

During his speech at the wedding reception, Jim recounted how Elizabeth and I met. A few years ago, I was online dating and Jim helped me search. In the subject header of an email he sent me linking to Elizabeth’s profile, Jim wrote: ‘Marry this woman.’ And, because I’ve implicitly trusted Jim’s judgment since we were at SSA, I did.”

1998

Ernie Hartner and Andrew Ross met up in Miami where Ernie and his family reside. Ernie with his children, Max and Sam, and Andrew with his children, Sydney and Skylar.

2000

Tim Miller writes: “My wife Shawna McIntyre and I were married Oct. 25, 2014, at St. Bernard’s Church in Mt. Lebanon. The reception was at the Sheraton Station Square.”

Front row: Jamie Antoniono, Shawna McIntyre, Tim Miller, Zak Weidner
2005
Jessica Cohen hosted a gathering in her Cambridge apartment for SSA alumni attending Harvard Business School (HBS). They reported that SSA is perfect preparation for the case method.

From left to right: Emily Schofield, Cohen, Adina Pomerantz, Lyndsey Billings '06 and Joseph Costa '04

Photography at the Museum of Modern Art, New York. He received his undergraduate degree from Lawrence University in Wisconsin and his master's degree in modern art: curatorial studies from Columbia University, New York.

2001
Mac Lynch, his father, Tim Lynch '61, and the Lynch Team of Janney Montgomery Scott LLC are proud to announce that their business practice has been profiled in the special “Pennsylvania Financial Leaders” section in the April 13, 2015, edition of Forbes magazine. The profile describes the legacy of four generations of the Lynch family helping generations of families with their financial lives.

2006
Charles W. Petredis is a financial advisor and chartered financial analyst with Petredis Investment Advisors in Wexford, Pa.

2007
Jacqueline Allen graduated from Monmouth University with an M.S.Ed. in December 2014.

2008
Ben Kander writes: “I am currently in the process of launching my own company called WELLY Bottle. In short, I have designed a filtered water bottle made from natural, renewable resources that gives clean water to people in need in developing nations. Each filter purifies the equivalent amount of water as 300 disposable plastic bottles, helping to reduce our demand for plastic and the oil and water required to produce, transport and refrigerate those bottles. A Kickstarter campaign was started on April 27 to raise $50,000 to pay for our tooling costs and first production run, which I will be selling to customers and supporters via Kickstarter. Learn more at www.wellybottle.com.”

2009
Alexandra Petredis, Vanderbilt '13, is a financial advisor with Petredis Investment Advisors. Christian Petredis, Penn State Shreyer Honors College '13, was a financial valuation analyst in New York City and now writes and performs music as ‘Sava and Razz’ out of Manhattan.
2010

Matt Giel writes: “Last fall, I attended Pittsburgh Magazine’s 40 Under 40 induction ceremonies to celebrate former Shady Side assistant wrestling coach Kris Smith’s selection to the class of 2014. Each year Pittsburgh Magazine and PUMP sponsor the 40 Under 40 program with the goal of recognizing 40 people under the age of 40 who are committed to shaping our region and making it a better place for everyone to live, work and play. Congratulations Smitty!”

From left to right: Matt Giel, Kris Smith, Tim Giel Sr.

2012

Reggie Mitchell, along with other University of Pittsburgh student-athletes, went on a mission trip to Haiti in April 2015 to work with children in an orphanage. Each student-athlete used GoFundMe to raise money for their trip.

Above: Reggie with Haitian children in their donated SSA football T-shirts.

2010

Todd Berglund is currently serving in the U.S. Air Force after graduating from the U.S. Air Force Academy. He is in pilot training at Laughlin Air Force Base, Del Rio, Texas.

2011

Grant Foley made the spring 2014 academic honor roll for the Landmark Athletic Conference. The honor roll recognizes all spring student-athletes who have reached sophomore standing or higher with a cumulative GPA of 3.20 or higher. Foley attends the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and plays baseball.

2013

Athena Petredis is a sophomore at Emory University pursuing a business major and remains active with her dance.

2012

On Jan. 25, 2015, Tyler Edwards and Betsy Vuchinich were both at the University of Virginia for squash round robins. Tyler plays for the Bucknell University club team and Betsy is on Dickinson’s inaugural women’s squash team. The two were surprised to see each other and grateful for the opportunity to reconnect and share their passion for squash.
The Academy expresses its deepest sympathy to the families of the following Shady Side Academy alumni and friends. Although we are unable to include remembrances of all, we sincerely value the special involvement in and contributions to the Shady Side Academy community during their lives. These listings include all information received by May 1, 2015.

WILLIAM P. SNYDER III ’36
William Penn Snyder III passed away Feb. 9, 2015. He was predeceased by his first wife, Jean Rose Snyder, and his daughter, Marie Elise Lynn. He is survived by his wife, Dr. Verna Burchard Corey; two children, J. Brandon (Jean) Snyder and William P. Snyder IV; five grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

THOMAS J. HILLIARD JR. ’38
Thomas J. Hilliard Jr. passed away Jan. 29, 2015. He was predeceased by his wife of 63 years, Audrey Hillman Hilliard. He is survived by his children, Thomas J. Hilliard III, Constance Hilliard (Francis Coyne), Elsie (Billy) Humes, Peggy (Max) Martin and James (Christine) Hilliard; 11 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

ALAN M. KAUFMANN ’42
Alan M. Kaufmann passed away March 12, 2015. Kaufmann spent his professional career in retail, working at various stores including Gimbels and Montgomery Ward. He was predeceased by his wife, Mildred Gingold Kaufmann. He is survived by his children, Leslie (Mark Koenig) Kaufmann, Alan M. Kaufmann Jr. and Lauren (Lee Adler) Kaufmann; and two grandchildren.

EDWARD H. SIPE ’44
Edward Heckel Sipe passed away Feb. 28, 2015. Sipe was a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps airborne lifeboat training division. After WWII, he attended Princeton University, graduating with a B.S. in chemical engineering. He also received a B.S. in industrial management from Carnegie Mellon University. He worked for Main, Hurdman & Co. and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, specializing in health care finance. Sipe was an active volunteer fireman for 30 years with Fox Chapel Borough. He was predeceased by his first wife, Gwendolyn Judson Sipe, and their two sons, Edward Heckel Sipe Jr. and Charles Henry Sipe. He is survived by his daughter, Gwendolyn (Jeffrey) Hilger; wife, Nancy Sipe, and her three daughters; and two grandchildren.

RICHARD ROYSTON ’51
Richard Downey Roytson passed away Jan. 4, 2015. Royston was a graduate of Trinity College and a member of Alpha Delta Phi fraternity. He was a captain in the United States Air Force, where he was a pilot and instructor of single-engine jets. He founded Education Management Corporation, which started a number of schools across the country, most notably the Art Institutes and the National Centers for Paralegal Training. He is survived by his wife, Gail; his children, Ty Royston, Leslie (Frank) Rocco, Jane (John) Gwaltney and Rick (Margaret) Royston; 11 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

PAUL G. RODEWALD JR. ’54
Paul Gerhard Rodewald Jr. passed away June 14, 2013. He received his B.A. in chemistry from Haverford College in 1958, and a Ph.D. in chemistry from Pennsylvania State University in 1963. He retired from Exxon-Mobil Corporation in 1996 after 33 years as a petro chemist. He was awarded more than 60 U.S. patents for his work on zeolite catalysts and other chemical processes to increase the efficiency of oil refining and maximize the extraction of preferred distillates from petroleum. After retirement he traveled to more than 50 countries and amassed a list of 6,999 bird species. Rodewald is survived by his wife of 55 years, Adrienne Soost Rodewald; four children, Kristin Dawson, Jane Burroughs, Paul Rodewald III and James Rodewald; and seven grandchildren.

PHILIP C. BOGGS ’52
Philip Clifton “Flip” Boggs passed away Jan. 21, 2015. He was a graduate of Bowdoin College and the head of North American automotive paint sales with PPG Industries. Surviving are his wife, Patricia Boggs; children, Cliff (Beth) Boggs, Joe Boggs and Nancy Boggs; six grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Michael J. Wherry ’54
Senior Judge Michael J. Wherry passed away Jan. 29, 2015. Wherry completed his undergraduate degree, as well as his law degree, from the University of Pennsylvania. By 1983, the Supreme Court noted that Wherry had tried 200 cases before a jury, handled 2,500 criminal cases and had been primary defense counsel in more than 90 homicides. He was first appointed to the bench by Gov. Bob Casey Sr., with unanimous consent of the Pennsylvania Senate. Later, when he ran for his only full 10-year term, he had no opposition. Wherry served in the Army Reserves, rising to administrative sergeant at the 475th Quartermaster Unit. Wherry is survived by his wife, Nancy Dilley Wherry; four sons, Charles Montgomery IV, Roger (Jane) Montgomery, Stephen (Deborah) Montgomery and David (Renee) Montgomery; and seven grandchildren.
ROBERT F. HENNINGER ’60

Robert “Bob” Franklin Henninger passed away Dec. 10, 2014. Henninger was a graduate of Denison University, where he was captain of the football team. He was employed by Mellon Bank for 25 years and worked for more than 20 years at Kennywood Park as director of sales, retiring in 2008. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Laurie Henninger; children, Rob (Becky) Henninger and Melissa (Joel) Henninger Blair; and five grandchildren.

EDWARD WETTACH III ’61

Edward Wettach III passed away Sept. 27, 2013. Wettach spent 35 years as a business owner in the automotive industry in Jackson, Miss. He is survived by his wife, Eleanor Hederman Wettach; sons, Edward (Brittany) Wettach IV and Webb (Holly) Collums; and two grandchildren.

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Donald J. Coleman, M.D., father of Sean Coleman ’78

Elizabeth Hopkins Colt, mother of Associate Director of College Counseling Tom Colt

Pietro “Pete” Ferraro, Facilities Department, 1990-2015

Cecilia Harchelroad, mother of Fred Harchelroad ’74, grandmother of Christian ’11, Noah ’13 and Gabrielle ’15 Harchelroad

Mary McNaugher “Polly” Marsh, mother of William Marsh ’76, Robert Marsh ’86 and the late David Marsh ’81

Richard “Dick” Matiasic, father of Facilities staff member Ronald Matiasic

Paul Simmons, father of Anne Simmons ’81


Linda Stuckeman, wife of Alan Stuckeman ’62, and mother of Charles Stuckeman ’97 and Philip Stuckeman ’98

Barbara Unger, mother of Facilities staff member Jodie Miller

Guiseppe Veneziano, brother of Facilities staff member Francesco Veneziano

Joseph P. Pavlovich
Faculty Emeritus, Senior School Mathematics

Joseph “Joe” Philip Pavlovich was a member of the Senior School Mathematics Department for 23 years, from 1970 to 1993, and also held the Richard King Mellon Charitable Trust Chair in Mathematics during that time. He was beloved by his students and remembered as a forward thinker, kind and caring. Pavlovich passed away March 23, 2015, at the age of 84.

Pavlovich was a dedicated educator and member of the Shady Side community, who lived on campus with his family for many years. Both of his children attended Shady Side; his daughter, Karen West, graduated in 1975, and his son, Philip Pavlovich, graduated in 1978.

Shady Side has long honored his legacy with the Joseph P. Pavlovich Mathematics Achievement Prize, awarded to that student in an advanced mathematics course who has demonstrated a keen interest in and an unusual talent for the study of mathematics.

Always on the forefront of mathematics education, Pavlovich produced a series of videos from 1971 to 1973. The program, called Individualized Instruction in Mathematics, was used at the Senior and Middle Schools for a number of years and allowed students to progress at their own pace. In 2012 he uploaded 80 of his video lessons in Algebra I and Algebra 2 to YouTube and had students commenting on his lessons from as far away as India and Korea.

In addition to his two children, he is survived by his wife of 60 years, Lee Pavlovich, and six grandchildren.

To make a gift in memory of Joseph Pavlovich, visit supportssa.org and enter “Joseph Pavlovich” in the comments box; mail a check payable to Shady Side Academy with “Joseph Pavlovich” in the memo line to Alumni & Development Office, Shady Side Academy, 423 Fox Chapel Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238; or call 412-968-3011.
A Proud Tradition of Service

On April 22, 1970, Earth Day, an event to increase public awareness of the world’s environmental problems, was celebrated in the United States for the first time.

Millions of Americans, including students from thousands of colleges and universities, participated in rallies, marches and educational programs. Local colleges, including Duquesne University, Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh, came together to host a four-day teach-in event, and many Shady Side Academy students were part of the activities. The first Earth Day at the Senior School required all students to participate in a campus cleanup effort from 6 a.m.-3:30 p.m. It was an era of social change in the nation and growing concerns on the Senior School campus.

In response to growing issues, Senior School Headmaster David Denman announced that on Nov. 20, 1970, instead of attending classes, students would meet with their faculty advisor and, as an advisory group, work on a service project around the school. Several groups raked leaves; one group painted the basement of Ellsworth (now Hunt Hall); and another built a display board for student artwork. After a morning of work, the advisory groups organized an afternoon of discussion around school service and interests. It was determined that year that the “Day of Work and Discussion” would be an annual event.

By 1974, as the Academy transitioned to a coed institution, the day evolved into a “Day of Concern.” Students met with the faculty and administration for a half-day to discuss the positives and negatives of SSA. In the afternoon, students divided into advisory groups to further discuss current issues and sets goals for giving back to the community. By 1981, the Day of Concern featured 25 guest speakers from local organizations heading panel discussions on a variety of topics affecting not only Shady Side and Pittsburgh, but the entire globe. As the years passed, the day continued to grow and expand into the 2000s. In 2011, the tradition of the MLK Day of Service started.

If you have any photos of or information on Earth Day 1970 or the Day of Concern, we would love to hear from you. Please email lkovach@shadysideacademy.org with your story.
SHADY SIDE ACADEMY

SEPTEMBER 25–26, 2015

HOMECOMING

2015

REUNION CLASSES:

1940 • 1945 • 1950 • 1955 • 1960
1965 • 1970 • 1975 • 1980 • 1985
1990 • 1995 • 2000 • 2005 • 2010

The classes of 1965 and 1990 will be celebrating their 50th and 25th reunions, respectively.

Stay tuned for a detailed schedule of events available online at www.shadysideacademy.org/homecoming.

For more information call Jamie (Brush) Scott ’98 or Lisa Page in the Alumni Relations Office at 412-968-3032 or 412-447-2252.

www.shadysideacademy.org