

SUMMER 2016

shady side

academy

**Giving a
Hand to
Those in
Need**



COMMENCEMENT 2016 • JESSE SHAPIRA '95 • REID VAN LEHN '05



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of SSA's strategic vision, entitled *Challenging Students to
Think Expansively, Act Ethically and Lead Responsibly*.

For more information, visit shadysideacademy.org/strategicvision.



Academic
Program



Community
Connections



Faculty



Physical
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Students



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Sustainability



SUMMER 2016

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President's Message

DEAR SHADY SIDE ACADEMY COMMUNITY:

The title of Jeff Gordinier's recent *New York Times* article says a lot: "Pittsburgh's Youth-Driven Food Movement." After years of a young people exodus, the tide in Pittsburgh is turning. Demographic statistics confirm the percentage of people between the ages of 25 and 34 has been ticking up. "Everybody seems so young," Gordinier wrote. "And everybody's talking about restaurants. If there are scholars who hope to study how a vibrant food culture can help radically transform an American city, the time to do that is right now, in real time, in the place that gave us Heinz ketchup." In December 2015, *Zagat* named Pittsburgh the No. 1 food city in America.

New restaurants started by talented chefs relocating to Pittsburgh is just one of the stories. The city's rapidly evolving economy, with expanded opportunities in technology, medicine, higher education and sustainability, has encouraged college graduates to stay in Pittsburgh and attracted young professionals to relocate here. Coupled with continued strength in the more traditional economic realms of finance, law and energy, the region is flourishing in a way that many people never anticipated. Toss in some high livability ratings and a reasonable cost of living, and Pittsburgh is poised for continued success.

The same can be said for Shady Side Academy. Two strategic decisions have positioned the Academy to catch this wave of change in the region. First, with the transformation of East End neighborhoods, the board's decision to reinvest in our Junior School campus in Point Breeze and to lower its tuition rates was prudent. At the same time, bold programmatic changes and superb execution by our talented faculty have made the Junior School one of the most attractive in the city. In fact, both our PK and kindergarten programs were fully subscribed by March, something that hasn't happened in years.

Second, last year's decision to reintroduce seven-day boarding has helped us to maintain our numbers at the Senior School. With 15 seven-day boarders in the first year and a projection of 28 seven-day boarders in the second year, we have grown our total boarding population from 42 students two years ago to a projected 65 students in 2016-2017. In addition to becoming somewhat less dependent on the Pittsburgh area for students, we are increasing the geographic diversity of our Senior School population, which enriches the experience of all students. Next year we will have boarding students from five countries and 10 states.

If we are able to reach our fundraising goals by the fall, we plan to break ground on the new Center for Science and Innovation in March 2017. As we continue to build endowment to support faculty and students, the future of Shady Side has never been brighter.

Sincerely,



Tom Cangiano
Academy President



SSA, Fox Chapel Country Day School to Merge

Shady Side Academy and Fox Chapel Country Day School plan to merge, with FCCDS joining SSA as a second junior school campus in 2017-2018.

“The merger will be a big moment in the history of these two schools and offer significant advantages to both institutions,” said SSA Board of Trustees Chair **Mike Hannon '74**. “For Shady Side, it will extend our geographic reach into the growing North Hills, while our existing Junior School continues to enjoy strong enrollment in the thriving East End.”

“Sixty percent of our Middle School enrollment is from the northern suburbs, but many of those families don’t join us until sixth grade because the commute to our Junior School is simply too long,” said SSA President **Tom Cangiano**. “This merger will give more North Hills families access to a Shady Side Academy education at an earlier age.”

FCCDS currently enrolls 107 students in junior pre-kindergarten through fifth grade on its 17-acre campus in Fox Chapel. Historically, a majority of its graduates have gone on to attend SSA Middle School.

“We are very excited about formalizing a relationship that has been very close over the

years,” said Fox Chapel Country Day School Head of School Sharon Smith. “Historically, Country Day has been a strong feeder for Shady Side’s Middle School, so many Fox Chapel Country Day School families are also Shady Side Academy families.”

Merger discussions between the two schools have occurred on and off for nearly 30 years, but the timing now meets both schools’ strategic needs. Preliminary discussions began last summer between the two boards, with the goal of preserving the unique attributes of each school’s program and culture.

“Shady Side has been very respectful of Country Day’s unique culture and place in the community,” said FCCDS Board of Trustees President Tom Karet. “All discussions have involved structures which preserve that uniqueness, as well as our campus and faculty, while creating long-term, sustainable, high-quality educational opportunities for more students.”

In early 2016, SSA and FCCDS notified their school communities of the intention to merge and held town hall meetings to share the vision, answer questions and solicit feedback. Two working committees

comprised of faculty, administrators, trustees and parents from both schools were formed to begin working through the curricular and operational considerations of a merger. In May, the boards of both schools approved the merger agreement. The official name of the FCCDS campus is yet to be determined.

The merger will take effect in the 2017-2018 school year. Both the SSA Junior School and FCCDS campuses will continue operating in a similar manner as they are today, with both feeding well-prepared students into SSA Middle School.

“We are excited about the opportunity of combining our resources to form a unified school community of more than 1,000 students across four campuses,” said Cangiano.



Students on the FCCDS campus, which overlooks the SSA Senior School.



SERVICE

Sixth Annual MLK Day of Service

Nearly 150 volunteers from Shady Side Academy engaged in hands-on community service projects at two locations in Pittsburgh on the Academy's sixth annual MLK Day of Service on Jan. 18. The volunteers, which included students in grades PK-12 plus parents, faculty and staff, celebrated the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday by volunteering on this national day of service, making it "a day on, not a day off." Partner organizations this year included Beverly's Birthdays, Habitat for Humanity, the Kingsley Association and Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.



Boys Hockey Teams Support the Military

Service efforts led by two boys ice hockey teams supported hockey-related charities that benefit U.S. military members and their children. The boys varsity team collected street hockey sticks and money for Sticks for Troops, which provides the equipment to deployed U.S. service members worldwide. The drive was spearheaded by senior **Tyler Gorse**. The boys prep team partnered with Total Hockey Pittsburgh to collect donated ice hockey gear for Defending the Blue Line, an organization which provides children of U.S. military members with free hockey equipment.



SERVICE ABOVE SELF AWARD

Graduating senior **Mark Antosz** was honored by the Rotary Club of Fox Chapel with the annual Service Above Self Award. The award is a \$2,000 prize given to a local student who serves others in significant way. Antosz served as co-president of the SSA Service Learning Club for three years, and led numerous service projects, including fundraisers for Our Military Kids and Philippines disaster relief, and more.





FOURTH GRADE FURRY FRIENDS COLLECTION

The fourth graders collected more than 530 items for shelter animals at the Animal Rescue League through the annual Furry Friends service project. Their donations included animal toys, towels and blankets, pet food and treats, plastic bags and paper towels, and soap.



Jumpin' Around for the American Heart Association

The third grade raised \$6,347 for the American Heart Association through the annual Jump Rope for Heart project. On April 22, students jumped rope for almost 2.5 hours. Prior to the event, third graders collected donations from friends and family to support Jump Rope for Heart, and Mr. Stern's class performed a skit at assembly to promote the event.

Water Walk-A-Thon

In February, sixth grade students held a walk-a-thon to raise money to support the nonprofit organization Water for South Sudan. With the help of their student sponsors in seventh and eighth grade, the sixth graders raised \$4,548, well past their goal of \$1,000. Water for South Sudan drills wells in South Sudan to provide a source of clean water for villagers. The organization was started by Salva Dut, who is featured in Linda Sue Park's book *A Long Walk to Water*. Students read and discussed the book in English class this year and wanted to help. They created promotional posters and public service announcements, and they approached seventh and eighth grade students to sponsor them in the walk-a-thon.



Bounce for Bundle-Up

Kindergarten students participated in Bounce for Bundle-Up, an annual class service project. During the month of March, the kindergarteners worked with their third grade buddies to practice dribbling basketballs, which coincided with their P.E. basketball lessons. The students then collected pledges from family and friends to support their efforts. On "bounce day," the third graders counted how many times their kindergarten buddies bounced a basketball, in one-minute increments, for three minutes. The students averaged 300 bounces apiece, raising a total of \$2,405.



U.S. Service Academy Commissions

Two seniors were presented with commissions from the U.S. service academies they plan to attend for college. **Jack Fako**, who will attend the U.S. Military Academy at West Point (Army), and **Donald "Doc" Szlachetka**, who will attend the U.S. Air Force Academy, were presented with commissions at a Senior School assembly. A service academy commission is the equivalent of a four-year full scholarship and includes tuition, room and board, books, fees, uniforms, military training, medical benefits, a living stipend and more.



Middle Schoolers Place in Top 3 in National Science League Contest

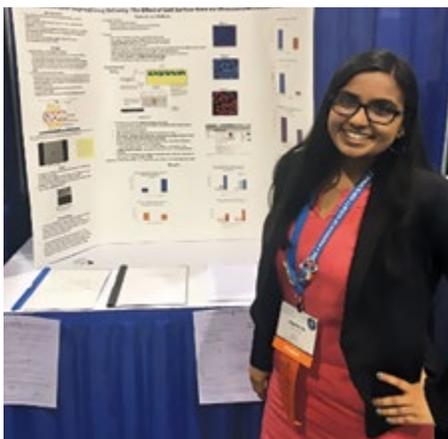
Middle School science students participated in the National Science League contest. Sixth graders took the general science test, seventh graders took the life science test and eighth graders took the physical science test. This year, the SSA eighth grade finished second in the nation, while the seventh grade finished third in the nation. In addition, eighth grader **Albert Hoe** received a medal for a perfect score on the physical science exam.

National Merit Scholarship Winners

Two seniors were awarded 2016 National Merit Scholarships. **Roy Navid** won a National Merit \$2500 scholarship, while **Shaan Fye** won a \$2500 National Merit Mary E. Beyerle Scholarship. Fye plans to attend Duke University in the fall, while Navid will attend Trinity College at the University of Cambridge in England. SSA's other National Merit finalists for 2016 were **Michael Kann**, **Juliana Sandford** and **Amanda Williams**.

SENIOR QUALIFIES FOR USA PHYSICS OLYMPIAD EXAM

Senior **Roy Navid** was one of only 350 high school students nationwide – and one of 11 from Pennsylvania – who qualified to take the 2016 USA Physics Olympiad (USAPhO) Exam. The USAPhO is the second in a series of two highly competitive physics exams used as the basis for selection to a U.S. Physics Team. It marked the second straight year that Navid qualified to take the USAPhO Exam – last year as a junior he was the first SSA student ever to qualify.



Junior Wins Full College Scholarship at Intel ISEF

Junior **Anya Satyawadi** won a free college education for the scientific research she presented at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF), held May 8-13, in Phoenix, Ariz. Satyawadi was one of eight students out of more than 1,700 participants chosen to win a full tuition scholarship for four years to Drexel University at the Intel ISEF Special Awards Ceremony. Her project, *Popping Bubbles: Relationship Between Cell Surface Area and Ultrasound Microbubble Mediated Toxicity*, was based on her ongoing research with Dr. Floredeliza Villanueva at the University of Pittsburgh. The Intel ISEF is the world's largest international pre-college science competition.



Two Students Win National Scholastic Art & Writing Awards

Two Senior School students earned national recognition in the 2016 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, the nation's longest-running and most prestigious recognition program for creative teens. Senior **Abbie Minard** earned a gold medal in writing for her critical essay and a silver medal with distinction for her writing portfolio. Sophomore **Sydney Cleveland** won a silver medal in art for photography. Minard attended the National Awards Ceremony in New York City on June 2. It marks the second straight year that Minard has won national Scholastic Writing Awards.

Two Students Place First at PJAS State Competition

Sophomores **Jai Ganesh** and **Ashvin Dhawan** each earned a first-place award at the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS) state competition at Penn State University on May 16, 2016. Ganesh earned the award for his research project *Circadian Rhythm Dysregulation's Effects*. Dhawan earned the award for his research project *Heat's Effects on the Effectiveness of Antioxidants in Food*.

Speech & Debate Students Qualify for National Tournaments

Five members of the Senior School Speech and Debate team qualified to compete in national tournaments in May and June based on their strong performances at district qualifiers. Seniors **Anand Tayal** and **Dipak Krishna** placed first in Public Forum Debate while the team of sophomores **Jennifer Jaffe** and **Ashvin Dhawan** placed second at the National Catholic Forensic League qualifiers, and moved on to the NCFL Grand National Tournament in Sacramento, Calif., in May. Senior **Abbie Minard** qualified to compete at the National Speech and Debate Association National Tournament in Salt Lake City, Utah, in June by winning the Program of Oral Interpretation event at the district qualifier in March.



SSA Places 16th at Academic WorldQuest Nationals

A team of four Senior School students placed 16th out of 49 teams from across the country at the Academic WorldQuest National Competition, held at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., on April 23. Team members included senior **Max DeGregorio**, junior **Sameer Annamraju**, and sophomores **Fuad Youssef** and **Nick Becker**. The team qualified for nationals by winning the Western PA regional competition in February.





aroundtheacademy



STUDENT PERFORMANCES

1. Pre-Kindergarten Play
2. Kindergarten Art Show
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 *Elf*
9. Senior School Musical *Curtains*
10. Senior School Original Theatre Works Festival





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COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS



Middle East Expert Speaks to History Class

On April 29, the Senior School History Department welcomed Georgetown University faculty member and Middle East expert Ross Harrison as a guest speaker in the senior history elective *The United States and the Middle East Since 1945*, taught by department chair **Kyle Smith**. Harrison discussed and answered questions about the Syrian civil war, including the war's human, political and economic tragedy; the many different local, regional and national players in the conflict; and possible pathways and challenges to resolution. A native of Pittsburgh, Harrison is on the faculty of the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown and a scholar at The Middle East Institute in Washington, DC. He is also an author and teaches a course at the University of Pittsburgh.

Teen Dating Violence Awareness Play

The Senior School welcomed performers from Prime Stage Theater to a special all-school assembly on March 14. The troupe performed a 45-minute play, *You Belong to Me*, as part of its Winter 2016 Teen Dating and Violence Awareness Tour. The play was brought to SSA by the Senior School Peer to Peer Club, which works in collaboration with Crisis Center North and 15 local school districts to bring awareness to teen dating violence prevention.

Parent Education Program

Diversity and identity expert Rosetta Lee spoke to parents on April 5 after working with the entire PK-12 faculty during the in-service day. In her presentation, *Parenting With Identity in Mind*, Lee shared research on identity development and discussed how parents can instill positive self-identity in their children and coach them to be positive influences on others' identities.

CAREER CONNECTIONS

Senior School students had the chance to learn about different careers at the fourth annual Career Connections night, held on Jan. 20 in Rowe Hall. The evening event gave students the opportunity to meet and talk with SSA alumni, parents, past parents, trustees and staff members who have built successful careers in a variety of fields including banking and finance, business ownership, civil engineering, education, law, media, medicine and performing arts.





PRE-MED CLUB OBSERVES OPEN HEART SURGERY

Fifteen student members of the Senior School Pre-Med Club spent the morning of Feb. 4, observing triple coronary bypass surgery performed by alumnus **Dr. George Magovern Jr. '70** at Allegheny General Hospital. Magovern is the system chair of the Department of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery for Allegheny Health Network. The Pre-Med Club was co-founded last year by juniors **Knox Coulter** and **Arman Lateef** in an effort to expose more students to the field of medicine.

Author Visits

Author and illustrator Grace Lin visited the Junior School on April 27, and was greeted with enthusiasm by students in all grades PK-5.

Lin is the author and illustrator of more than 20 novels, picture books and early readers, including the Newbery Honor Book *When the Mountain Meets the Moon*. Students read Lin's books all spring, and created bulletin boards and projects to welcome her to SSA.

In May, author Siobhan Vivian visited the Senior School to host a writing workshop for students interested in learning more about writing, editing and publishing. A group of more than 15 students attended the workshop, which was held in the library. Vivian, the author of five novels, read excerpts from *The List*, and provided background information on how she came up with the idea for the book. Then she gave the students some basic story lines and asked them to put together an impromptu story. She provided guidance along the way, with tips on character development and overcoming writer's block.





NO DEBATE ABOUT IT

SSA SHINES AS INTERNATIONAL HOST





SHADY SIDE ACADEMY SHONE ON AN INTERNATIONAL

stage as the Senior School campus played host to the 2016 World Individual Debating and Public Speaking Championship (WIDPSC). From March 30 to April 4, nearly 100 of the world's top independent school speech and debate students spent a week at SSA competing in this prestigious tournament. In addition to hosting a world-class event, Shady Side shone in the competition itself, as an SSA senior earned a second-place finish in one event.

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WIDPSC competitors hailed from Australia, Canada, China, Cyprus, Hong Kong, Korea, Lithuania, Pakistan, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Every student competed in four events: Impromptu Speaking, Parliamentary Debating, Interpretive Reading, and either After-Dinner Speaking or Persuasive Speaking. A panel of judges scored each performance, and the top 8-12 students in each event advanced to the finals, then the top 2-4 to the grand finals. Winners and top finishers for each event, as well as in the overall tournament, were celebrated at a closing banquet and awards ceremony at the Heinz History Center in downtown Pittsburgh.

SSA senior Abbie Minard and sophomore Antoni Yotov were the only students from Pennsylvania among the 15 Team USA competitors. Minard advanced to the grand finals in After-Dinner Speaking and placed second in the world, giving a six-minute comedic speech calling for the creation of an international grammar police force. Canadian Natalie Ganzhorn was the tournament's top finisher overall after advancing to the finals in four events.

In between competition rounds, SSA showcased the city of Pittsburgh to its international guests, including trips to Mt. Washington, Station Square, the Gateway Clipper, Heinz Field, museums and more.

The event was a huge success, thanks to the hard work of organizers Kate Vavpetic, SSA Senior School head, and Mary Krauland, dean of studies and speech and debate coach, and a team of SSA volunteers. Several parents were on the tournament steering committee, and Speech and Debate Team members served as hosts, bus captains, runners, photographers, social media managers and more. Students

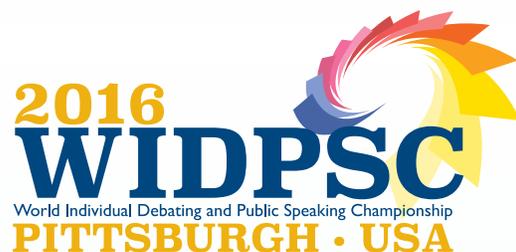
5



from all three divisions performed at opening and closing ceremonies and volunteered as greeters, announcers and room managers. Parents, faculty, staff, alumni and local community members volunteered as judges in preliminary rounds. Tournament sponsors included Bayer, Metz Culinary Management and the SSA Parents' Association.

The tournament and Minard's success received local media coverage by KDKA-TV, the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*, the *Butler Eagle* and WESA-FM.

The international guests enjoyed an amazing week and left impressed with all that Shady Side and Pittsburgh have to offer. In fact, one South African competitor has since enrolled in SSA's seven-day boarding program for a short-term exchange in fall 2016!



1. SSA sophomore Antoni Yotov competes in the parliamentary debate event.
2. The international visitors enjoyed seeing the sights of Pittsburgh during their stay.
3. Junior School students performed at the opening ceremony.
4. The tournament included nearly 100 students from 11 countries, as well as their coaches and chaperones.
5. Canada's Natalie Ganzhorn was the top overall finisher in the tournament.
6. Team SSA: Dean of Studies and Speech & Debate Coach Mary Krauland, senior Abbie Minard, sophomore Antoni Yotov, Senior School Head Kate Vavpetic
7. Senior Abbie Minard, who placed second in the world in After-Dinner Speaking, is interviewed by the local media.



Connor Colombo

GIVING A HAND TO THOSE IN NEED

..... BY VAL BRKICH / PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAMES KNOX

Connor Colombo has always been a problem solver. Back when he was six years old, his mother asked him to help her take the garbage out, and when she paused to talk to a neighbor, she turned to find that Connor had used bungee cords to attach the recycle bin to the back of his tricycle.

Today the 2016 graduate of Shady Side Academy is still solving problems. Only now he's changing lives in the process, using his home-built 3D printer and other printers to print prosthetic hands for children in need.

"Before I started printing these hands, most of the stuff I would make was cheap tchotchkes and trinkets, or even prototypes," says Colombo. "Now I understand what a profound and special meaning such a simple feat of engineering can have for a person."

Colombo first prints the individual pieces of the hands – 22 for each hand – either during the night or when he's at school. The process can take anywhere from four to 16 hours. Then he brings the pieces to school, where members of SSA's Service Learning Club help him assemble the actual hands. He then ships them off to e-NABLE, a grassroots, volunteer network of more than 8,000 individuals from around the world who use 3D printers to produce free, upper-limb assistive devices. e-NABLE then sends the hands to developing countries around the world where volunteers distribute them to needy children.

"Kids like Connor are finding out that they themselves can make a difference in the life of another," says Jen Owen, e-NABLE volunteer and blogger. "This global movement only exists because of people like Connor and the many other volunteers who saw a need in the world and realized that they had access to the technology to make it a reality for another who does not."

Colombo first became interested in 3D printing back when he was a freshman at SSA. Through RepRap, an open-source, rapid-prototyping system, he learned how to build his own 3D printer, and after six months or so had it assembled; it took him another year to get it to work. Finally, in January of his sophomore



Connor Colombo (right) instructs members of the Service Learning Club on how to assemble the prosthetic hands.



Connor's incredible story received media coverage by KDKA-TV, WPXI-TV and the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. See the stories at www.shadysideacademy.org/connorcolombo.

year, he had a completed, working 3D printer, and he started printing stuff for his friends for their various school projects. As word got around and demand grew, he began charging for his time and materials. That summer, he took part in Leap@CMU (formerly Andrew's Leap), a summer enrichment program run by the Carnegie Mellon University's School of Computer Science. As it turned out, their robotics group needed affordable parts. Colombo offered to print some for them, and his 3D-printing business – OllTheStuff.com – was born. It was a year later that he first heard about e-NABLE, which at the time was in need of 1,000 hands.

"It was the first really meaningful use I had heard of for my printer," said Colombo, who decided to volunteer his printer and his time to help, using the leftover materials from his paid jobs.

The size of the first small hand he printed blew him away. "It reminded me of my nephew," he said. "I thought about the amazing impact it would have, and I decided I wanted do more."

At first Colombo was assembling the hands himself; however, it didn't take long for him to realize he could use some help with the time-consuming process. The parts for each hand come out of the printer attached in a block, and the pieces have to be broken apart and assembled into a hand. So he reached out to Michele Ament, Senior School math teacher and director of service learning.

"He asked me if the Service Learning Club could help," said Ament. "It blew me away that he could be so unassuming and humble about his knowledge and abilities, and I was so impressed that he wanted to use those abilities to help others."

Ament said the Service Learning Club members were very eager to help Colombo with this project. "He came to our meeting and explained what he was doing and the help he needed in separating the parts. Most importantly, he talked about the children who would benefit from the use of the hands. Once the club members saw the worthiness of the project, they took to it instantly."

“We knew he enjoyed building things, but you don’t expect to hear that your son is building a hand. I was **PROUD, HUMBLLED** and **AMAZED**. I have learned over the years that there is not much that he can’t do.”

– Bill Colombo

“Connor has always loved helping people,” said his father, Bill, a retired executive of Dick’s Sporting Goods. “He is just a wonderful kid who loves sharing his knowledge and helping others.”

Bill said Connor was always a curious and creative young man. “He loved to tinker and experiment with his toys. I can remember going on a trip when he was 10, and he was explaining in detail to our friends how he planned to construct a hovercraft. Funny, but six years later he actually built one for a school science project.”

His mother, Shelia, a retired reading specialist, said Connor always enjoyed fixing and creating things using stuff he’d find around the house. “Aluminum foil, duct tape and tools were always going missing,” she said. “That is, until we found them in Connor’s playroom. We used to refer to him as ‘our little manager.’ If there was a problem, Connor would just take charge and resolve it.”

Bill admitted he was a little taken aback when he first learned of his son’s work with

e-NABLE. “We knew he enjoyed building things, but you don’t expect to hear that your son is building a hand. I was proud, humbled and amazed. I have learned over the years that there is not much that he can’t do or won’t try to do.”

Growing up, Colombo looked up to his two older brothers, Sean and Ryan. Like Connor, Sean also took part in the CMU camp and became interested in computer science as a kid. He now owns Blue Line Game Studios, a video game development company.

“I was always pestering Sean about stuff,” said Colombo. “He’s the one who got me interested in computer science at an early age.”

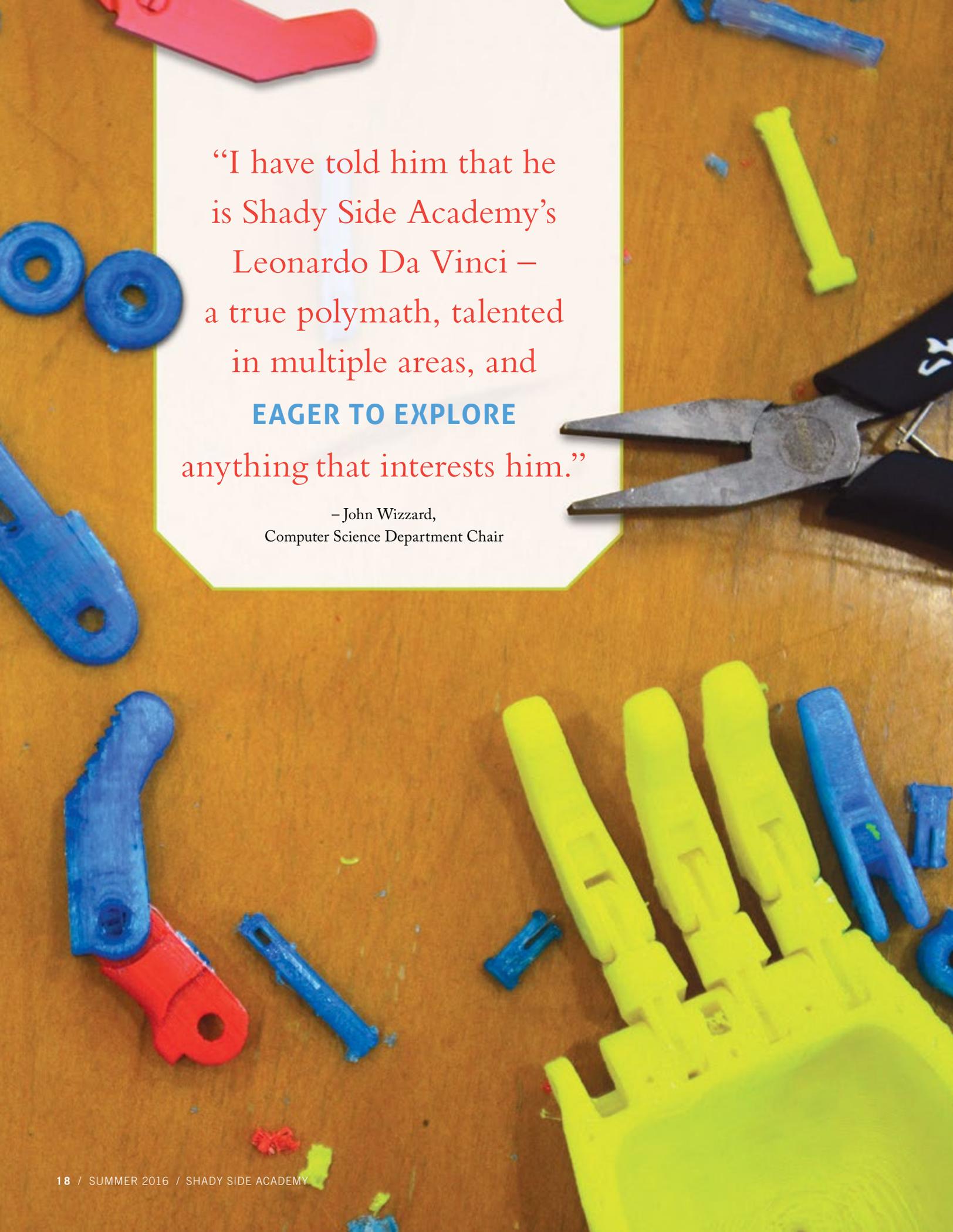
Bill and Sheila Colombo said Shady Side played a big role in challenging Connor and helping him develop his passions.

“From the day Connor started at SSA, we knew it was the right choice,” said Bill. “The teachers let him explore in so many ways his interests and help guide him. They treated Connor as their son, not just a student. They went out of their way to guide him, coach him and make him not only a better student, but a better person.”

“Connor has always been driven to learn, explore and experience as much as he could,” said Sheila. “Shady Side’s impact on him brings to mind William Butler Yeats’ statement that ‘Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.’ They have definitely ‘lit the fire’ in Connor’s educational experience.”

When Colombo first came to SSA in sixth grade, he became involved in the Science Olympiad, a sort of track-





“I have told him that he is Shady Side Academy’s Leonardo Da Vinci – a true polymath, talented in multiple areas, and **EAGER TO EXPLORE** anything that interests him.”

– John Wizzard,
Computer Science Department Chair

and-field for science, where teams of students work to tackle problems, build things and complete specific tasks. The team meets as much as possible to prepare for regional invitationals; the Middle School team met every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. “We put in thousands of hours,” Colombo said. “But I like it. It teaches you to manage huge workloads, and it lets me find out about the most up-and-coming areas of science.”

Connor was a member of the Middle School Science Olympiad Team that won the Pennsylvania state championship in 2012 and 2013; the 2013 team placed 11th in the national competition. As a member of the Senior School Science Olympiad Team, he helped SSA to three straight top 10 finishes at the state tournament and won first place in the Electric Vehicle event in 2016.

“The type of science education Connor received at SSA is extremely important for all students,” said John Wizzard, Colombo’s faculty advisor and chair of the Computer Science Department. “The skills he used to design the prosthetic hand parts relies on his ability to create CAD designs of the hand components and then to transfer those files to the 3D printer. His programming skills are excellent, and he has been one

of our best students. I have told him that he is Shady Side Academy’s Leonardo Da Vinci – a true polymath, talented in multiple areas, and eager to explore anything that interests him.”

Before he discovered 3D printing, Colombo originally became interested in human bionics after viewing a TEDTalk by MIT professor Hugh Herr (“New Bionics Let Us Run, Climb and Dance”), who created bionic legs to replace his own legs, which were amputated following a climbing accident. The video served as an inspiration to Colombo, who now hopes to study biomechanics or prosthetic design and engineering. He plans to attend Case Western Reserve University in the fall.

Recently, Colombo was contacted by a woman whose daughter doesn’t have a hand. Originally she went to another supplier, but they gave her the wrong size prosthetic. Colombo agreed to meet with her in person and fit her daughter for a replacement hand. The girl would like to have something that resembles her own skin, which Colombo says is possible but also very expensive, so he hopes to organize a fundraiser to help raise money. “Eventually I’d like to see SSA acquire its own 3D printer and become certified as a producer,” he said.

“That way future students can continue to print hands on-site for distribution throughout the world.”

As for the future of 3D printing in general, Colombo believes the sky’s the limit.

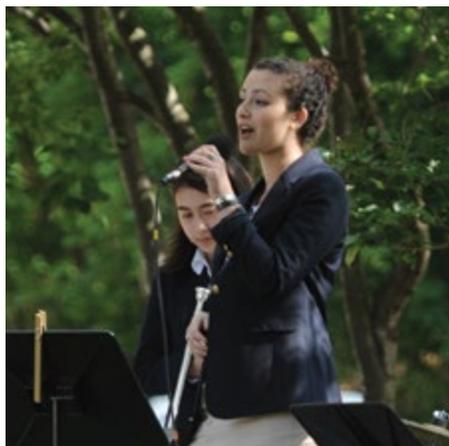
“It just keeps getting better and more versatile,” he said, “not just in printing plastics but entire pieces of electronics. It marks a huge shift in personal manufacturing. Eventually everyone will have a printer in their home. You won’t have to go out to buy basic stuff or even certain medicines; you’ll just print them on your own.”

Colombo said his work printing hands for e-NABLE has drastically impacted the direction he wants to take with his life. “It’s inspired me to follow this line of work into college and then put technology to work those who need it most. All it takes is time, and everyone has some time to give.”



2016

SENIOR SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT



2016 PRIZE WINNERS

First Honor Student in Senior Class

Christopher Muracca

Second Honor Student in the Senior Class

Peyton Lane

Raymond F. Arnheim Memorial Award

Phoebe Thompson

Richard S. and Kenneth L. Simon Award

Isabella Borrero

Princeton Alumni Awards

Fifth Form – **Haoran Fei**

Fourth Form – **Jennifer Jaffe**

Third Form – **Andrew Sveda**

Alfred C. Dickey Memorial Prize

Jennifer Jaffe

Joseph Bole Hare Steffey Memorial Prize

Kyle O'Connor

Edward Ernest Ebbert Memorial Award

Abigail Minard

All-Round Cup

Mark Antosz

Todd Drelles Memorial Prize

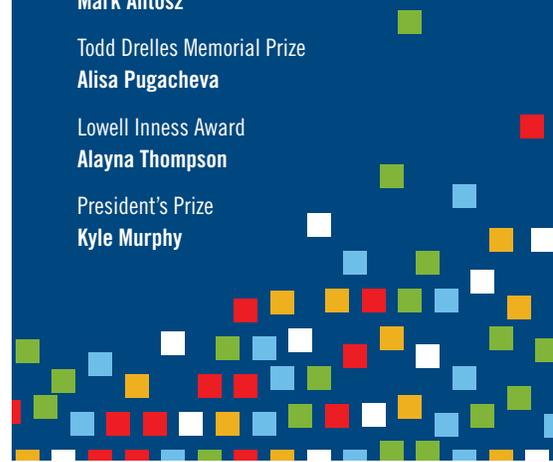
Alisa Pugacheva

Lowell Inness Award

Alayna Thompson

President's Prize

Kyle Murphy



Lifers



Visit shadysideacademy.org for complete coverage of Commencement week, including videos, legacy family photos, event recaps and more.

Commencement speaker
David McCullough '51



Senior speaker
Abbie Minard



Class of 2016

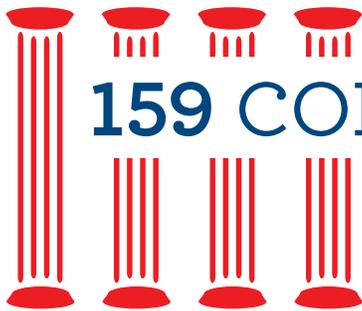


THE CLASS OF 2016 BY THE NUMBERS



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

128 GRADUATES



WERE ADMITTED TO

159 COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

- WILL ATTEND 79 COLLEGES IN 23 STATES PLUS D.C. AND THE U.K.
- 70% WILL ATTEND COLLEGE OUT OF STATE

WERE OFFERED MORE THAN **\$4.7** MILLION
IN MERIT SCHOLARSHIP MONEY

15% WERE RECOGNIZED BY THE NATIONAL
MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



- 2 WILL ATTEND U.S. SERVICE ACADEMIES
- 13% WILL ATTEND A *US NEWS & WORLD REPORT* TOP 10 NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OR LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE; 55% WILL ATTEND A TOP 50 SCHOOL
- 16% WILL ATTEND A *TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION* TOP 25 WORLD UNIVERSITY



- 10% PARTICIPATED IN THE SENIOR SCHOOL BOARDING PROGRAM
- 16% PARTICIPATED IN AN INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE OR OFF-CAMPUS SEMESTER PROGRAM

37%

COMPLETED AN
INDEPENDENT
STUDY OR
SENIOR
PROJECT



34%

PARTICIPATED
IN A THEATRE
PRODUCTION
OR MUSICAL
PERFORMANCE
GROUP



94%

LETTERED IN
AT LEAST ONE
VARSITY SPORT

63%

LETTERED IN
TWO OR MORE



CLASS OF 2016 COLLEGE CHOICES

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Allegheny College | Duke University (2) | Ohio Wesleyan University | University of Michigan |
| American University (2) | Duquesne University (3) | Pennsylvania State University (7) | University of Mount Union |
| Amherst College | Elon University (3) | Pennsylvania State University Behrend (2) | University of New Hampshire |
| Assumption College | Emory University (2) | Pomona College | University of Notre Dame |
| Bates College | Fordham University (2) | Princeton University | University of Pennsylvania (5) |
| Boston College (2) | Franklin & Marshall College (3) | Purdue University | University of Pittsburgh (7) |
| Boston University | Georgetown University (2) | Rollins College | University of Richmond (2) |
| Brown University | Grove City College | Shawnee State University | University of Virginia |
| Bucknell University (3) | Hamilton College (2) | Southern Methodist University | Virginia Tech |
| Carnegie Mellon University (3) | Hobart and William Smith Colleges (3) | Stanford University | Wake Forest University (2) |
| Case Western Reserve University (2) | Indiana University Bloomington (3) | Syracuse University (2) | Washington & Lee University |
| Catholic University of America | Lafayette College | Tufts University | Washington University in St. Louis |
| Champlain College | Lehigh University | United States Air Force Academy | Williams College |
| Colgate University (2) | Loyola University Maryland | United States Military Academy | |
| College of the Holy Cross | Massachusetts Institute of Technology | University College London (UK) | |
| College of Wooster | Miami University (Ohio) (2) | University of Akron | |
| Colorado State University | Mount Holyoke College | University of Alabama (2) | |
| Cornell University | New England College | University of Arizona | |
| Columbia University | New York University (2) | University of California, Berkeley | |
| Davidson College (2) | Northeastern University | University of Cambridge (UK) | |
| Denison University (2) | Oberlin College | University of Chicago | |
| Drexel University | Ohio State University | University of Maryland | |

2016

MIDDLE SCHOOL CLOSING EXERCISES





Form II speaker
Sean Kelley



Lifers

2016 PRIZE WINNERS

Erwin W. Cole Award – **Brenna Fouser**
 Form I Improvement Award – **William Dunleavy**
 David McNaugher Marsh Award – **Porter Markel**
 Willard E. Mead English Award – **Maxwell Minard**
 Charles P. Shriver Mathematics Award – **Avery Guyaux**
 Robert B. Stiffler Athletic Award – **Zoe Conomikes and Sean Kelley**
 Betsy Watkins Form II Improvement Award – **Sophia Marquette**
 E. Bruce Hill Memorial Award – **Julia Lasers**
 David A. Mancosh Award – **Sean Kelley**
 The Sixth Grade Academic Award – **Prayag Vemulapalli**
 The Betty C. Labun Citizenship Award – **Cecelia Messner**
 The Audrey Ashworth Sixth Grade Improvement Award – **Lochlan McGinnis**
 The Blanche C. Wick Math Award – **Prayag Vemulapalli**



Class of 2020

2016

JUNIOR SCHOOL CLOSING EXERCISES & MOVING UP DAY

Class of 2023





2016

POSNER AWARD WINNERS

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 2016 recipients were Senior School world languages teacher Suzanne Belles and Junior School fifth grade teacher Lisa Anselmo.



Suzanne Belles

Suzanne Belles has taught Latin at the Senior School since 1990. A believer in always striving to learn new things, Belles has pursued graduate studies in classics and education at a variety of universities, under the auspices of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and through private research.

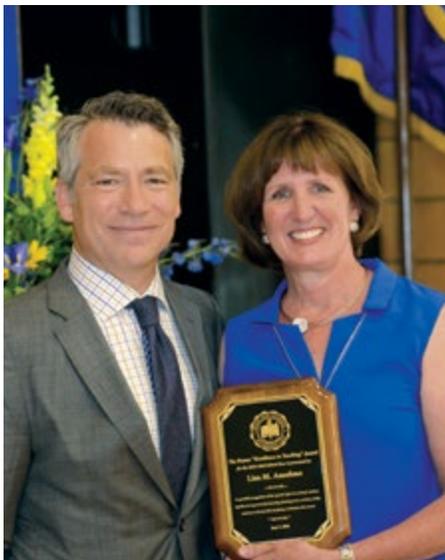
Described as kind, committed and upbeat, Belles not only teaches but also advises several student clubs, including *The Egerian* and Latin Club.

"Ms. Belles is like the Latin Energizer Bunny," said one alumnus. "She is always moving, full to the brim and spewing Roman anthropology. She singlehandedly made me fluent in Latin and excellent at English grammar, and approached every day with enthusiasm and charisma."

Belles is also known for her encouraging words and her contagious can-do spirit.

An alum stated, "Ms. Belles had a way of bringing Latin – a so-called dead language – to life in a way that made Latin class consistently one of my favorite subjects."

"I want to shine a light on Ms. Belles because she was the epitome of what an SSA faculty member would be," said a former student. "She encouraged me to write, and I did for the *SSA News*. I would later minor in creative writing in college, having found my voice at SSA. What she did was life changing for me."



Lisa Anselmo

Lisa Anselmo joined the Junior School faculty in 2006 and has taught kindergarten, second and fifth grade at SSA. She also holds the Academy's Rea Chair in Humanities.

Described as attentive, positive and a great communicator, Anselmo is often credited for building confidence and character.

"Mrs. Anselmo's way of interacting with my granddaughter had made her rise to each and every challenge," stated one nomination. "My granddaughter loves math, science, the school and, most importantly, she loves herself. We have Mrs. Anselmo to thank for that."

One parent stated, "She never makes my son feel less than the other students while she goes out of her way to help him in areas where he struggles. Mrs. Anselmo recognizes when she needs to be a nurturer, and when she needs to be a disciplinarian, and this is a balance that is so important for teachers and students."

"Mrs. Anselmo is attentive, enthusiastic and has an infectious love of learning," said one parent. "She created the learning environment that we wanted our sons to experience."

Another parent summed up her nomination by stating, "Mrs. Lisa Anselmo – in a single word – inspiring!"

DAVID McCULLOUGH'S COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS



The following are excerpts from the address given by **David McCullough '51** at Shady Side Academy's 2016 Commencement Exercises on June 10.

I have always felt extremely lucky to have grown up in Pittsburgh ... And how I loved Shady Side! Though I would never have dared say so at the time, I could hardly wait for the last days of summer vacation to end, so I could get back in the swim here with my pals. Teachers like Lowell Inness, Carl Cochran, Robert Abercrombie and Walter Jones were plain marvelous, as good as they get. When our track coach, the legendary "Cap" Palmer, told me to "take the hurdles as they come," I'm sure it never occurred to him or me then that these were words to the wise that I would carry with me long into the future.

I'm sure you of the graduating class appreciate the great part your parents and your teachers here at Shady Side have played in shaping and inspiring you. But so, too, has Pittsburgh figured in the process. And if I have a message in what I'm saying here today, it is this: Don't ever forget how much you owe to your great home town. Be glad and be proud to be a Pittsburgher. Take heart in being a Pittsburgher.

There's an old saying that the country you learn the most about from

travel abroad is your own. And if your experience is anything like mine and that of so many others, it will be after you have left home that you come to appreciate more and more many of those traits and characteristics so distinctly evident in Pittsburgh and its response to life – the natural friendliness of Pittsburghers, the pride taken in one's work, the dislike of hypocrisy and impatience with snobbish airs, respect for those who work hard whatever they do, and yes, the love of learning and innovation.

Harry Truman once said he tried never to forget who he was and where he came from. Wilbur Wright, when asked what was the secret to success in life, said "Pick out a good mother and father and grow up in Ohio." And so, it's in that same spirit that the same may be said of Pittsburgh. You of the Shady Side Class of 2016 and I of the Class of 1951 are not only graduates of as fine a secondary school as to be found anywhere, we are ourselves products of our parents and of this great city of Pittsburgh, and let us all be very grateful and never forget that.

"We are all, each of us, each and every one of us, more lastingly influenced by the setting where we grew up than we know or sufficiently appreciate – the deep impress of place, the hills of home, home ground, the look and lay of the land, old home ways, old home values, home horizons."

Watch a video of McCullough's full address at www.shadysideacademy.org/commencement.



The 14th annual Untucked festival was held May 21, 2016, at the McKnight Hockey Center, raising more than \$15,000 for Beverly's Birthdays. Live bands rocked the rink throughout the day, as a crowd of all ages turned out to support the cause. Musical performers included the McMahan Band, Vertical 48 (helmed by junior **Chris Ferree**), **Matt Ferree '13** and headliner The Cheat Codes, a Los Angeles-based trio that had the crowd dancing to a unique blend of pop music, house bangers and top 40 hits.

In addition to music, a family carnival featured four enormous bounce houses, a henna artist, caricatures, airbrush tattoos, face painting and a popular reptile exhibit. Some of Pittsburgh's best food trucks were on site, including Franktuary, Bella Christie, Mac n' Gold, The Onion Maiden and Sticklers. The event welcomed members of the SSA community, local residents and numerous families-in-need who are working with Beverly's Birthdays and their affiliates.

Beverly's Birthdays is a Pittsburgh nonprofit that provides birthday cheer for children experiencing homelessness. The Untucked students maintained a close working relationship with the nonprofit throughout the school year, volunteering as party hosts, assisting with party preparation and gift distribution. Josh Whiteside, Beverly's Birthdays development director, thanked the Untucked students for all of their hard work, adding, "More importantly, thank you from all of the kids who will undoubtedly be beaming with joy from what these funds will provide for them."

Throughout the school year, Untucked students raised funds for the festival by hosting a Junior School movie night, selling Untucked merchandise and organizing an extensive letter-writing campaign. Many generous SSA families contributed in various ways to support the event. Beverly's Birthdays Executive Director/Founder Megs Yunn said, "Working with Untucked has been amazing. Thank you so much for the generosity, and we were thrilled to have partnered with you all."

Untucked is an annual student-run benefit music festival. Over the past 14 years, Untucked has raised more than \$155,000 for local charities.

UNTUCKED

PHOTOGRAPHY BY SACHE COURY '16



GIRLS PREP ICE HOCKEY – WIHLMA CHAMPIONS

By Hannah Steffey '18

The girls prep ice hockey team had a phenomenal season this year with an undefeated record of 16-0-3. In the Women's Interscholastic Hockey League of the Mid-Atlantic (WIHLMA) playoffs, SSA defeated the Hill School 1-0 in the final game to become back-to-back WIHLMA champions. Senior captains **Alayna Trice** and **Connor O'Donnell** led the team in points and greatly contributed to the team's success. In the final minutes of championship game, O'Donnell drew the penalty that led to the game-winning, power-play goal by Trice. In addition to the strong senior leadership, freshman goalie **Gwyneth Philips** was a brick wall in net and had a shutout in the championship game. The team couldn't have asked for a better way to end the season than bringing the championship banner back home.



BOYS VARSITY ICE HOCKEY

By Tyler Gorse '16

The boys varsity hockey team had an enjoyable season this year, but the team faced many challenges after key losses of graduated seniors last year. The team was led by senior captains **Tyler Gorse**, **Jack Katarincic**, **CJ Keim** and **Gabe Wecht**. SSA took a little bit of time to get its first win against Gonzaga Prep in December, then went on a three-game win streak. Even though the season was a tough one, there were bright moments, including close games with league rival Linsly School. The team stayed together throughout the entire season and finished with a 5-10-1 record. The players are looking forward to a fresh start next year.



GIRLS SWIMMING – WPIAL CHAMPIONS

By Caroline Colville '16

The girls swim team had an amazing season and went undefeated (12-0) for the second year in a row in the regular season, winning the WPIAL team title and placing third in the state. Season highlights included the 400 freestyle relay of **Ashley Azzarello**, **Meredith Cummings**, **Caroline Colville** and **Lindsey Grune** breaking both the pool record and team record, capturing a second WPIAL title and placing second at the state meet. The 200 medley relay team of Azzarello, Colville, and Lindsey and **Heather Grune** won a WPIAL title as well. In addition, Azzarello broke her own team record in the 100 backstroke. With one of the largest WPIAL girls teams in school history and an amazing coaching staff, the swim team is poised for another successful season next year.

BOYS SWIMMING

By Zachary Coughlin '17

The boys swim team made waves this year under head coach **John Landreth** and junior captain **Zac Coughlin**. The team grew stronger this year and put up a fight against competitive teams, finishing 9-3. Seniors **Nico Bodkin**, **Eric Barnfarther** and **Jon Twan** made an impact by scoring crucial points in relays and individual events. Barnfarther, Coughlin, **Ethan Forgas**, **Collin Flaherty**, **William Lu**, **Christian Taylor**, **Adrian Beckford** and **Nick Lauer** all qualified to compete at the WPIAL Championships. The team finished 17th at the meet, and Coughlin advanced to the PIAA Championships, where he placed 14th in the 500 freestyle. With a solid core of returning athletes, the team is looking forward to a strong 2016-2017 season.

2015-2016 WINTER SPORTS RECORDS

Varsity Teams	W	L	T	PCT.	Team Accomplishments
Boys Basketball	14	9	0	0.609	WPIAL First Round
Girls Basketball	8	12	0	0.401	
Boys Prep Squash	5	5	0	0.501	
Girls Prep Squash	1	3	0	0.251	
Boys Swimming	9	3	0	0.751	17th Place WPIAL
Girls Swimming	12	0	0	0.1	Section Champions, WPIAL Champions
Boys Prep Ice Hockey	27	12	4	0.692	4th Place WPIAL
Girls Prep Ice Hockey	16	0	3	0.722	WIHLMA Champions
Boys Var. Ice Hockey	5	10	1	0.333	
Totals	97	54	8	0.642	

BOYS PREP SQUASH

By Gannon Leech '17

The SSA boys squash team had a successful year, posting one of the strongest seasons in recent history. The boys went 5-5 over the course of the season, which was a big improvement from the 2015 season record of 1-12. The growth and success can be attributed to both the determination and athletic ability of the squashers, as well as the strategy of the new coaching staff, **Mary Georgis** and **Dr. David Bardollar**. The innovative practice techniques led to growth throughout the season, and the team showed improvement in the game. The team hopes to continue its success next year.

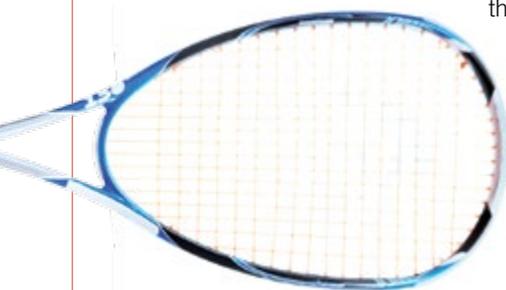
GIRLS PREP SQUASH

By Maria Jovin '16

Under the leadership of new coaches **Dr. David Bardollar** and **Mary Georgis**, the girls squash team had a great season and saw overall improvement to their game. Led by captains **Maria Jovin** and

Sophia Scherlis, the girls played their hearts out every match.

Although the team suffered some tough losses, it was one of best seasons in terms of attitude and improvement. The girls finished the season 1-3.



BOYS PREP ICE HOCKEY

By Mac Ference '17

Boys prep hockey had a great winter, finishing strong in league play and setting a new school record for wins in a season. In the Midwest Prep Hockey League, the team had one of its best finishes, coming in second in the division and fourth overall. The team was led in scoring by captain **Wyatt Glover**, while **John McDonagh** and Glover were named MPHL all-stars. The prep team won 15 of its last 17 games en route to setting a school record with 27 wins and a 27-12-4 overall record. The team returns two defenseman, all three goalies and a solid core of offensive players next year, and looks forward to another winning season.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

By Erin Frohlich '16



Led by senior captains **Erin Frohlich** and **Emily Natoli**, the girls basketball team had a challenging season as injuries played a major role in the team's performance. However, despite injuries and the loss of **Sarah Hacke**, a key starter, and **Erin Gramley**, the team continued to persevere, finishing 8-12 overall. One of the team highlights was hosting 24 teams in the annual Breast Cancer Awareness Classic, with sponsorships from Allegheny Health Network and Highmark. The team nearly doubled last year's earnings by raising a total of \$17,000. Overall, the classic was a huge success and will hopefully continue to grow in upcoming years. The team is looking forward to playing in a challenging section next year and the girls are excited to step up their game.

BOYS BASKETBALL

By Jordan Conn '16

The boys basketball team faced a season of ups and downs. Led by senior captains **Mike Ware** and **Jordan Conn**, the team fought in and had a short WPIAL playoff run under third-year head coach **David Vadnais**. SSA capped the season with a 14-9 record and a first-round loss to eventual WPIAL runner-up Lincoln Park. The team overcame adversity throughout the season, including injuries and illness. Though there were many highlights, the two most notable were Ware joining the elite 1,000-point club and **Etai Groff** scoring 45 points in a WPIAL playoff game, breaking Billy Knight's record of 41, which stood since 1970. The team returns a wealth of experience next year in hopes of making a deep run into the WPIAL and state playoffs.



GIRLS TRACK AND FIELD

By Emily Natoli '16

The girls track and field team completed another successful season. In the section, the girls finished with a record of 4-3. In the postseason, the team competed at the Pine Richland Invitational and Freeport Invitational. Following the invitationals, **Crosby Deliman**, **Elizabeth Harper**, **Brooklynn Lowry**, **Lindsey Grune**, **Jeanne Lauer**, **Sophia McMahon**, **Krystyna Rytel** and **Gabby White** competed in the WPIAL Class AA Championships. Grune placed second in the high jump and advanced to the PIAA Championships in Shippensburg, where she tied for 10th place (5'02").



BOYS TRACK AND FIELD

By Gannon Leech '17

The boys track and field team was off to a fast start, opening the season strong against section opponents. After a loss to rival Freeport, the team refocused and numerous athletes posted personal bests at local invitationals in preparation for WPIAL and PIAA competition. Four athletes qualified for the WPIAL Class AA Individual Championships: **Brian Foster**, 100m dash; **Peter Wyeth**, pole vault; **Mark Antosz**, 400m dash; and **Gannon Leech**, 1600m dash. Wyeth took seventh in the pole vault, clearing a height of 12'3". Leech placed eighth in the 1600m (4:29:57) and advanced to compete at the PIAA Track & Field Championship at Shippensburg University. With an overall record of 3-4, the team is looking forward to another strong season next year.

BASEBALL

By Tyler Gorse '16

As defending Class AA section champions, the baseball team had a lot to prove this season. Led by captains **Tyler Gorse, Eric Yoest, Killian Cavanaugh, Mario Lagnese** and **Luke Fitzgerald**, the team finished the regular season with a record of 8-2. The team was able to beat out contenders Burrell and West Shamokin, earning the section title for the second consecutive year and advancing to the WPIAL playoffs. In the quarterfinals of the WPIAL Class AA Championship, the team lost to No. 1 seed Neshannock, finishing the season 11-9. The squad looks to build off of the winning season and battle for another title next year.



SOFTBALL

By Erin Frohlich '16

Under the direction of new head coach **Mashea Johnson** and senior captains **Erin Frohlich, Mandi Williams, Taylor Wood** and **Courtney Kozdron**, the softball team approached the field with determination and finished the season 3-9. With a strong squad of returning players, the team has a positive outlook moving into next year.



GIRLS LACROSSE

By Alexa Conomikes '17

The girls lacrosse team had a solid run this season, led by new head coach **Brooke Kerschbaumer '91**, and assistant coaches **Brooke Mullin** and **Joanie Hilton '08**. Although the team was just shy of making the WPIAL playoffs, the girls approached each game with enthusiasm, optimism and determination. First-year players had a huge impact, while returning veterans led the team with positive and motivating attitudes. Highlights from the season included a win over Upper Saint Clair by one goal, and wins over Seton La Salle and Oakland Catholic. The girls finished the season with an overall record of 4-9.

BOYS LACROSSE

By Mac Ference '16

The boys lacrosse team had a solid season, finishing with a record of 10-8. Season highlights included wins over longstanding rivals North Allegheny and Mt. Lebanon and advancing to the WPIAL semifinals and the PIAA first round. The team is going to miss the leadership of the 15 graduating seniors but will hope to reload and make a run into the playoffs again next season. Senior goalie **Blake Goodman** and junior attacker **Clayton Krol** were named to the US Lacrosse 2016 Boys' High School All-America Team, and senior defenseman **Peyton Lane** and senior midfielder **Neil McQuigg** were named to the US Lacrosse Academic All-America Team.



2016 SPRING SPORTS RECORDS

Varsity Team	W	L	T	PCT.	Team Accomplishments
Boys Baseball	11	9	0	0.551	Section Champion, WPIAL Quarterfinals
Girls Softball	3	9	0	0.251	
Boys Tennis	9	7	0	0.563	Third Place WPIAL, PIAA First Round
Boys Track and Field	3	4	0	0.429	
Girls Track and Field	4	3	0	0.571	
Boys Lacrosse	10	8	0	0.555	Third Place WPIAL, PIAA First Round
Girls Lacrosse	4	9	0	0.308	
Totals	44	49	0	0.473	



BOYS TENNIS

By Michael Kann '16

Under the leadership of head coach **Tom Mercer**, the team had a strong regular season, finishing 9-7 and advancing to the WPIAL semifinals. The team fell to Cathedral Prep in the first round of the PIAA Class AAA Championship. Shady Side's singles starters were senior **Cooper Kann**, senior **Michael Kann** and junior **Tanay Kumta**, and the doubles teams were senior **Armaan Jethmalani** and freshman **Naman Dua**, and senior **Neil Nath** and sophomore **Clayton Guyaux**. Dua and Kumta were the WPIAL doubles runners-up and advanced to the quarterfinals of the PIAA doubles championship in Hershey. The team has strong returning players and is looking forward to another competitive season.



The Hillman Series: New Season, New Look

BY CHRISTA BURNEFF / PHOTOGRAPHY PROVIDED BY PERFORMERS

The Hillman Center Performing Arts Series had quite a year. The 10th season brought many acts to the Richard E. Rauh Theater that the Hillman had never seen before, including two Michael Jackson impersonators, improvising pirates and professional figure skaters performing on an ice rink on stage! The season concluded with a sold-out performance from Garrison Keillor of *A Prairie Home Companion* and NPR fame.

In 2016-2017, the Hillman is proud to present a special event as Tony award-winning Broadway icon Ben Vereen hits the stage for a one-night only engagement on Sept. 17. The tour de force will perform with a three-piece ensemble in *Steppin' Out Live With Ben Vereen!* Best known for his Tony and Drama Desk award-winning performance as the lead player in *Pippin*, this remarkable entertainer has only picked up speed throughout the years. Vereen also will be doing a master class in Pittsburgh as part of his visit. This evening is not one to be missed.

The Hillman Performing Arts Series will officially kick off its 11th season in October with *Masters of the Mind*. Famed mentalist Guy Bavali will be joined by a few friends for an evening of mind reading, telekinesis, hypnosis and predictions that is sure to leave



the audience spellbound. In November, audiences will find out what happens when homegrown hoofers from Minneapolis hit the road with a trunk full of tap shoes, funky costumes and a big brass band as Rhythmic Circus presents *Feet Don't Fail Me Now!* The 2012 winners of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe's "Spirit of the Fringe" Award will have audience members jumping out of their seats with their genre-hopping music and hard-hitting percussive dance.

The series will gear back up in February with the smooth vocals of *Committed*. The season two winners of NBC's a cappella competition *The Sing Off* will perform a memorable evening of vocal harmonies and incredible showmanship. In March, *Playing by Air* will bring a comedic blend of music, circus and juggling to the stage, intertwined with a nonstop spectacle of creativity and inventions. The season concludes in April with *The StepCrew*, a refreshingly energetic group that will take audiences on a musical journey through Ottawa Valley stepdance, tap and Irish stepdance. With world-class fiddlers and some of the most accomplished musicians on the Celtic music scene today, *The StepCrew* is one not to be missed.

For more information on upcoming Hillman Series performances, check out our new website at www.thehillman.org.

The StepCrew



A Season of Fun

Right in your Backyard!



STEPPIN' OUT LIVE WITH BEN VEREEN
SEPTEMBER 17, 2016 *Special Event*



MASTERS OF THE MIND
OCTOBER 22, 2016

RHYTHMIC CIRCUS
NOVEMBER 12, 2016



COMMITTED
FEBRUARY 18, 2017

PLAYING BY AIR!
MARCH 11, 2017



THE STEPCREW
APRIL 8, 2017

ALL SHOWS SATURDAY AT 7:30PM
THE HILLMAN CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS
Shady Side Academy | 423 Fox Chapel Road | Pittsburgh, PA 15238

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Jesse Shapira (right) with his business partners at the 21st annual Critics' Choice Awards in January 2016.

JESSE SHAPIRA '95

FROM SHADY SIDE ACADEMY TO THE ACADEMY AWARDS

BY CRISTINA ROUVALIS

JESSE SHAPIRA '95 SAT UP IN BED AT 5:30 A.M.

He was wide awake. From his Hollywood Hills apartment, he nervously scanned the Oscar website on his laptop. For the executive producer of *Room*, this was it – the moment the Academy Award nominations would be announced and the culmination of six months of ups and downs through the film awards season. Buzz had been building for the independent film about a young woman who was kidnapped and imprisoned with her five-year-old son in a shed.

First came the widely-predicted best actress nomination for Brie Larson. Shapira was thrilled, but he hoped for more than one nomination. It wasn't a sure thing, though. After all, *Room* was the ultimate underdog, a low-budget indie going up against

blockbusters like *The Martian* and *The Revenant*. Many people – even fans of the Emma Donoghue book on which it was based – hadn't seen the movie because of its disturbing subject matter.

His hopes soared as Donoghue won a best adapted screenplay nomination. Then the best director nomination for Lenny Abrahamson flashed on his computer screen. Seconds later, Shapira shrieked when *Room* received a best picture nomination. It was an honor he would have never imagined 10 years ago, when he and two friends decided to make movies and no one in Hollywood would return their calls.

From the moment *Room* earned its fourth nomination on Jan. 14, Shapira's phone vibrated with one congratulatory call after another. But before he talked to anyone in the movie



industry, he made a call to Pittsburgh to talk to his parents, Daniel and Barbara Shapira, who had been watching the announcements on TV.

Father, mother and son screamed and cried in unison, pure joy coming through the phone line. “I’m going to take you to the Oscars,” he told his mother.

Shapira felt such a debt of gratitude. When he told his parents a decade ago that he wanted to make movies, they didn’t roll their eyes or look at him like he was crazy or tell him to get a real job, one that didn’t depend on beating ridiculously slim odds.

“To my parents’ credit, they stuck by me. I wouldn’t be here without them.”

Shapira grew up going to the movies every week. His grandmother, Frieda, would take him to the Manor Theater in Squirrel Hill. It took 20 minutes just to wade through the lobby, because Frieda, a philanthropist whose father co-founded the Giant Eagle grocery chain, would be greeted by dozens of people.

The first movie he saw was *Chariots of Fire*, and he was hooked. He loved *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *The Sting* and *The Big Lebowski*, inhaling the dialogue like molecules of air. “He has a photographic memory as it relates to movies and lines,” said his father. In fact, father and son have always entertained themselves by batting movie lines back and forth.

Shapira got an even better appreciation of film at Shady Side Academy, where English teacher Jeff Miller taught a film class. Miller taught his students to analyze great movies like *The Graduate*. Shapira loved the class not just for the subject matter but because Miller treated his students like equals.

But Shapira didn’t grow up wanting to make movies. The athletic kid dreamed of managing a professional sports team.

Shapira, who attended SSA from kindergarten through 12th grade, played baseball and stood out as a sprinter on the track and field team.

He had never played football when he got a call from former head football coach Art Walker. The coach was impressed by his athleticism and speed, and asked him to try out for the team his senior year. He not only made it – he became quarterback.

“He took a chance on me,” Shapira said. “He got something out of me I didn’t know I had. I didn’t want to let him down.”

He stood out enough in his season as a high school quarterback to play football at Colgate University, where he majored in political science. In his last semester of college, he interned for the Pittsburgh Steelers and then became a scout for the Buffalo Bills. He liked working with professional sports teams, but it left little room for creativity. It seemed like an ideal job for Shapira when he got a position as an associate producer of *Fox Sports News* and *The Keith Olbermann Evening News*.

Then he got a call from his childhood friend, David Gross. They had gone to camp together in Canada and kept in close contact over the years. Gross had relocated from Toronto to Los Angeles and was attending the American Film Institute (AFI). He encouraged Shapira to join him. They had always talked about making movies together. Why not do it now?

So Shapira flew to Los Angeles and enrolled in the AFI in 2005, and the two childhood friends set up a production company in 2008.



Shapira on the set of his film, *Goon*.

**“IT’S PART LUCK,
PART SKILL, A LOT OF
BANGING YOUR HEAD
AGAINST THE WALL.”**

– Shapira, on making his first movie

They needed a name – and they found the inspiration when Shapira, a self-confessed slob, visited Gross’ neat-as-a-pin apartment. Within minutes, Shapira’s clothes were on the floor and half-eaten food was strewn around. Gross surveyed the destruction and told his friend that he could only stay with him if he left no trace of his mess in his apartment. “Like no-trace camping,” he told Shapira.

“That’s it – our name,” Shapira said. No Trace Camping production company was born.

The name was the easy part. The hard part was getting their company off the ground. In fact, they were struggling so much in the first two years that their unofficial office was a Starbucks on Sunset Boulevard.

The biggest roadblock was getting anyone to take the two young outsiders seriously in the insular world of Hollywood. But Shapira’s family took the dream seriously enough to give No Trace Camping the investment it needed. His father, a corporate attorney who did legal work for Giant Eagle, and his uncle David, the chief executive officer of the supermarket chain, gave Shapira both financial backing and business advice.

“It wasn’t like, ‘Here’s the money,’” Shapira said. “I had to have a plan to be successful. The reason I am successful is that they were extremely critical of decisions – in a good way. They gave us guidance on managing our business and finances” so Gross and Shapira could make good movies while returning the investment to funders.

But before they could get investors, they needed a good idea. “That is the

hardest thing to do,” said Jeff Arkuss, the third partner of No Trace Camping and Shapira’s friend from Colgate. “Jesse is constantly thinking of ideas of what would be a good movie. He has a real curiosity about the world.”

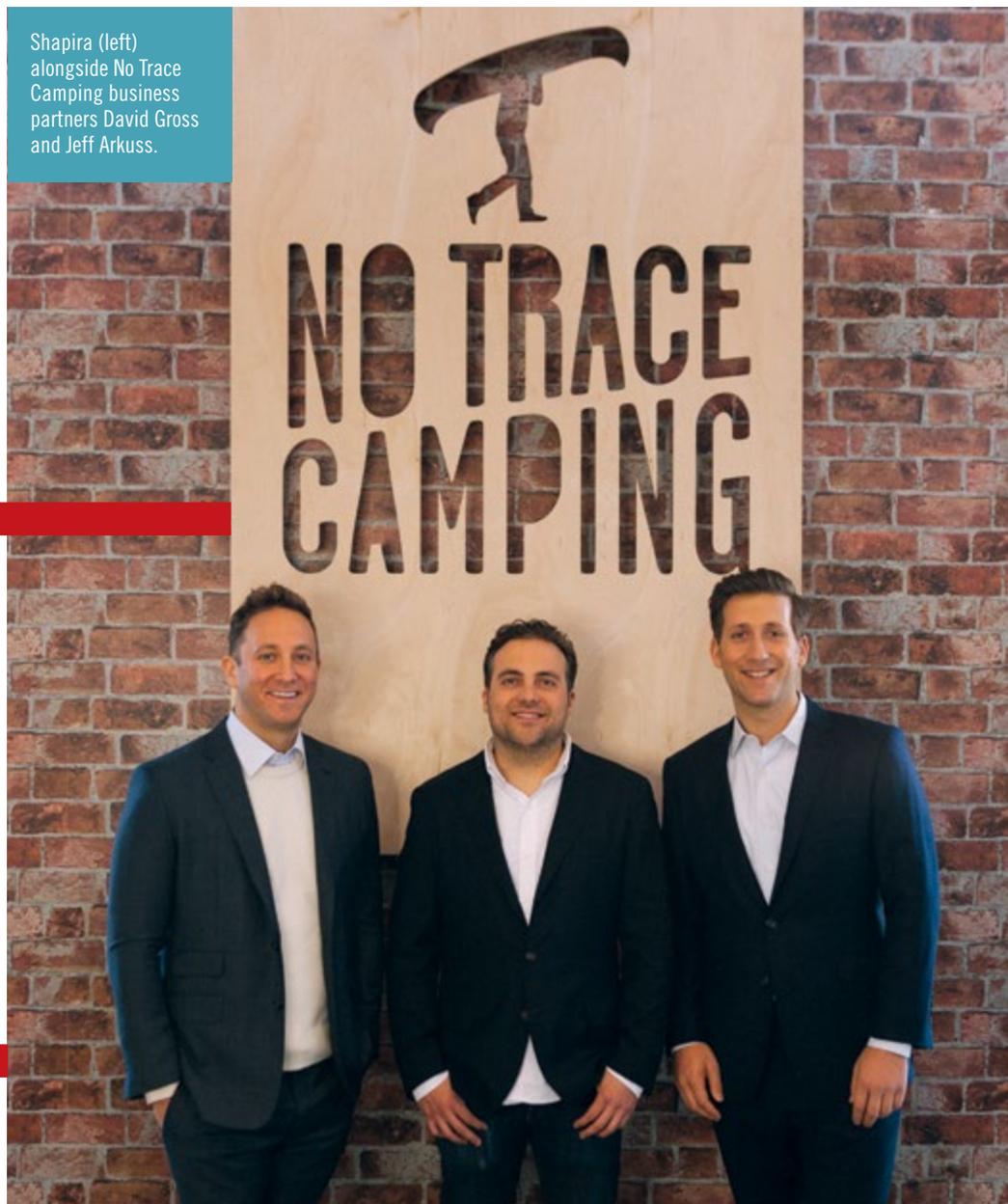
Shapira plucked his first idea from his childhood, going to Penguins hockey games. He would cringe as tough-guy goons from the opposing teams attacked superstar Mario Lemieux. “It got me so angry,” he said. That got him thinking – who are these goons, these players who are not gifted hockey players but are ferocious with their fists? What makes them tick?

That question became the genesis of his company’s first movie, *Goon*.

They got their big break when Shapira met Evan Goldberg, a screenwriter who had worked with Seth Rogen on big hits such as *Knocked Up* and *Superbad*. He agreed to co-write the screenplay for *Goon*, an R-rated comedy, with Jay Baruchel.

“We got lucky that the first movie was well-received. We made enough money to pay all of our investors back,” Shapira said.

Shapira (left) alongside No Trace Camping business partners David Gross and Jeff Arkuss.



“JESSE IS CONSTANTLY THINKING OF IDEAS OF WHAT WOULD BE A GOOD MOVIE. HE HAS A REAL CURIOSITY ABOUT THE WORLD.”

– Jeff Arkuss, business partner

“It gives you momentum to move forward... It’s part luck, part skill, a lot of banging your head against the wall.”

They went on to make *What If*, an indie romance/comedy starring Daniel Radcliffe of *Harry Potter* fame.

Then came their breakout movie, *Room*. Shapira and his partners got wind that author Emma Donoghue had already teamed up with a director to turn her 2010 best-selling novel into a film. Shapira, Gross and Arkuss aggressively chased the project. They landed a role as co-producers and co-financiers with an Irish production company.

When the time came for casting, luck was on their side. Brie Larson took on the role of the young mother. The other lead would play a five-year-old who had never seen the world outside of that room. The company did an extensive search throughout North America to find the right boy for the part, ultimately casting gifted child actor Jacob Tremblay.

“Jacob’s performance changed everything,” Shapira said. “Without him, there was no movie.”

With a child actor in practically every scene, they had a limit on how many hours they could shoot. They also had to manage finances carefully for a movie that wouldn’t be a box office smash.

“It wasn’t like *Ironman* where you throw money at special effects. We had to be thoughtful and careful.”

Shapira adored the actors and the director. “But not in a million years did we think we would end up with an Oscar nomination. If you would have told me that, I would have said, ‘You are out of your mind.’ But the beauty of movie making, you never know what is going to happen.”

Shapira and his partners knew the movie was extraordinary. Despite the depressing subject matter, the movie managed to be uplifting, depicting the strong bond between mother and son and ending on a hopeful note.

The movie grossed \$15 million domestically, making it profitable for a low-budget movie.

As word spread about Larson’s and Tremblay’s remarkable performances, No Trace Camping had to make sure it came to the attention of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, which votes on the Golden Globes. They scheduled screenings and events and dinner parties with appearances by the actors. But the tiny production company faced an uphill battle.

Shapira (right) and his family on the set of *Goon*, starring actor Liev Schreiber (center).



“You’re going against gigantic films that spend 20 times more on their Oscar campaigns,” Gross said.

February 28, 2016, was the day of the 88th Academy Awards ceremony. It was surreal. Shapira and his partners were whisked to the Dolby Theater in a car, and even though Shapira had the flu, he was so excited to be sharing this moment with his two best friends. They stepped out of the car and walked on the red carpet and took in all the movie stars.

As it turned out, Shapira couldn’t get a ticket for his mother, so he did the next best thing – he FaceTimed his parents during the event to let them in on the experience.

The highlight of the ceremony was Brie Larson’s win for best actress. It was the only Oscar for *Room*, but for Shapira, to be included as one of the eight best films of the year was a victory.

Despite the success, “he has not let any of it go to his head,” said his father. “He is still the regular kid, still humble. There is not a shred of arrogance.”

The four Oscar nominations have, however, changed his professional life. People in the industry have been more aggressive about bringing projects to No Trace Camping.

Currently, they are working on two new movies: a sci-fi movie in the vein of *True Romance*, and a film adaptation of *Inside the O’Briens*, a novel about Huntington’s Disease and genetic testing. They also have shot a sequel to *Goon* called *Goon: Last of the Enforcers*, directed by Baruchel.

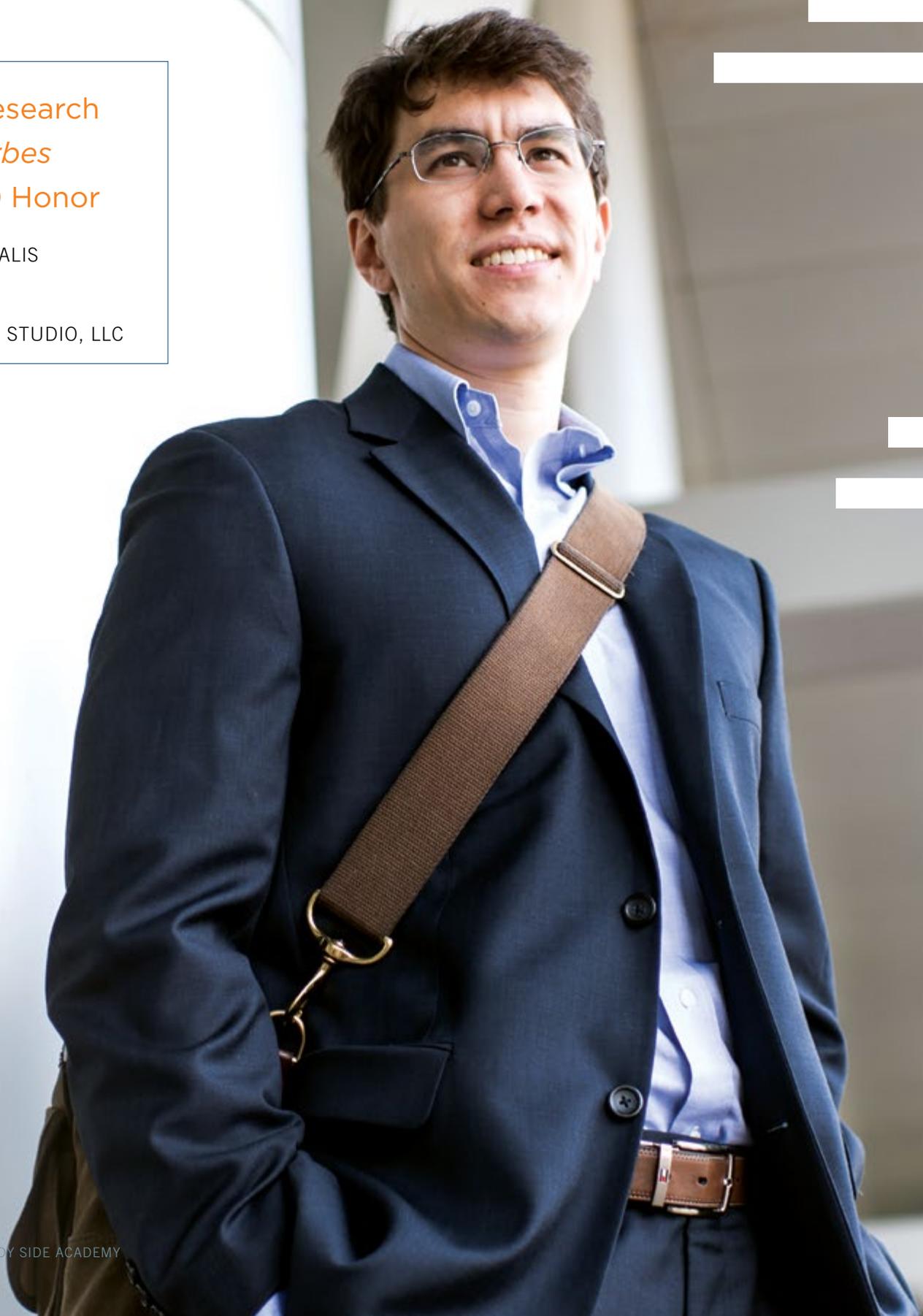
Shapira hopes there is another Oscar nomination in his future so that he can make good on his promise to take his mother to the ceremony. Until that happens, he is still relishing his trip to the Oscars. “I don’t know when it will sink in. My wildest dreams did not include going to the Academy Awards.”

REID VAN LEHN '05

Molecular Research
Leads to *Forbes*
30 Under 30 Honor

BY CRISTINA ROUVALIS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
NICK BERARD, TNT STUDIO, LLC





At age 14, Reid Van Lehn '05 played a sci-fi video game, but he wasn't content to just zone out and rack up points. Using his self-taught computer programming skills, he created code to change the game into a Special Forces combat adventure, the type of modification the manufacturer encouraged its gamers to create and share with each other.

But Van Lehn's rudimentary coding skills didn't allow him to create a fun, complex game. When he posted his modified game on the Internet, disgruntled gamers flamed him for the lack of sophistication. It was outright game-shaming from anonymous critics – and it stung.

That's where many kids might have given up, but Van Lehn wasn't an ordinary teenager. "I want to learn computer programming," he told his father, Kurt, then a professor of computer science at the University of Pittsburgh.

A year later, the teenager began learning computer programming in an intensely academic setting. His father, whose research focused on the best way to learn science, knew of a graduate student at Pitt who was organizing a tutorial session to teach Java to novice programmers among his colleagues, and his dad invited him to join.

"It was a few graduate students and a snot-nosed kid," said Van Lehn, exhibiting his typical self-deprecating humor. "I had all of these wonderful opportunities growing up in an academic household."

A few years later, the teenager seized another scientific opportunity. When his father developed a self-directed tutoring system for college-level physics, his teenage son volunteered to take it – just for fun. "I was a guinea pig," he said with a laugh.

The many opportunities to pursue science at home – and his burning curiosity nurtured at Shady Side Academy – have paid off in a big way.

Named to the 2016 *Forbes Magazine* 30 Under 30 list in science, Van Lehn is leading

the way on some of the most promising, and most complex, research on drug delivery systems.

The computer programming skills he first honed as a teenager now help him to predict the precise molecules that allow a drug to target a precise diseased cell. He has been conducting his research, first as a doctoral student at MIT and then as a postdoctoral scholar in the division of chemistry at the California Institute of Technology. This year, the 29-year-old is starting a new job as a tenure-track assistant professor of chemical and biological engineering at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

"I just see the idea of predicting the behavior of these molecules using computer simulations as really cool. A lot of what we do is take the classical equations of motion you would learn in high school physics, and then apply the same laws at the atomic level."

He and other scientists are joining forces to develop treatments for some of the most devastating diseases of modern life, including cancer.

We are actually very good at killing cancer cells," he said. "In the lab, drugs are very effective – but in a test tube, you can also kill cancer effectively with a gun. The problem is when you administer the same drugs to a patient, you kill healthy cells too, and you get these horrible side effects. This problem of off-target effects is true of many therapies."

As an alternative to the wide swath of destruction caused by chemo, scientists are excited by the possibility of delivering new therapeutics into only specifically targeted cells. For example, a relatively new therapy uses small interfering RNAs (siRNAs), composed of double-stranded pieces of nucleic acid, to turn off the production of proteins that cause fatal diseases and chronic conditions

in humans. But there's a problem in getting siRNA – or small-molecule drugs – to enter the diseased cells. Commonly mistaken for foreign objects by the liver, kidney or spleen, they are often rejected by the immune system before they arrive at their intended target.

Current lab research is underway to identify which molecules will facilitate the transport of the drugs to the targeted diseased cells. Instead of testing thousands of possible particles in the lab, Van Lehn uses computer simulation to provide chemical insights into which tiny molecules allow a given drug to penetrate a diseased cell. "What do I put on the surface of a nanoparticle so it goes into a cell?" he asks. "The major challenge is that there are thousands and thousands of choices, and it's impossible to screen them all experimentally. We used computer simulations to understand the underlying design principles. We can say to an experimentalist – 'Here is your chemical toolbox. These are the molecules that will be most effective.'"

He knows that this kind of scientific inquiry can take decades. "It's a long, long slog, but the payoff is worth it."

In June, Van Lehn took his research to another level by opening his own lab in Madison. He is working with three or four graduate students and cycling in some undergraduates to learn about computer-assisted research. "One of the great things about being a young professor is that I am very excited about the day-to-day aspects of my research, and this is the kind of passion I want to spread to my students."

Van Lehn knows the power of inspiring teachers, both in his home and at Shady Side. His parents were both mentors and professors who valued education enough to focus their research on the best way to learn. His mother, Michelene Chi, is a cognitive psychologist and the Dorothy Bray Endowed Professor of Science and Teaching at Arizona State University.

They sent him to Shady Side Academy from the Junior School on up. "It was a fantastic school," Van Lehn said. In fact, people call him a lifer – although technically he missed fourth grade because his parents left Pitt for a year for a sabbatical at a center near Stanford University.

When his father discovered that the math instruction at his new California school lagged behind Shady Side Academy, he called the teacher to ask if his son could be moved to a higher level.

"So you think Reid is not getting enough math? We can fix that," Kurt recalls the teacher saying. "Come in at 2 p.m. on Friday."

Kurt wasn't sure how observing Reid's math period would help, but he showed up in class. The teacher handed him a math enrichment book for fourth graders and pointed to a small group of kids. "Here is your book. Here are your kids."

"You could tell right away he was brilliant. If you were talking through problems, you could see the pace his mind was working. He was a voracious learner. He would take to anything."

– Joseph Reilly '05

"But I'm not trained for that," he said, flabbergasted.

"My first rule is that the first parent who complains becomes the teacher."

Once he got over the initial shock, Reid's father was a good sport. "He dutifully showed up and tutored," Van Lehn said. "My parents made sure my education was good."

So when Van Lehn returned to Shady Side in fifth grade, his math skills were razor-sharp. His passion for math and science only grew during his time at the Middle and Senior Schools.

He viewed John Landreth, his organic chemistry teacher, as a mentor – both in the classroom and as his swim coach. "He taught organic chemistry, which was not typical for high school. That class served me all the way up. I still remember things from that class."

In the pool, Landreth also inspired Van Lehn, a sprinter who pushed himself hard. "He taught us about work ethic. He had a great influence on me."

Kurt said his son would go to optional 6 a.m. swim practices, and the experience of becoming an athlete transformed him. "I am not athletic. Neither is my wife," said Kurt, now the Diane and Gary Tooker Chair for Effective Education in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math at Arizona State University.

"The culture of discipline and respect on that team changed his personality from being doubtful of himself to being confident. The coach got the athletes to be proud of each other's successes."



Joseph Reilly '05, Van Lehn's classmate SSA, was also on the swim team. Reilly said his friend was competitive only with himself. "He was driven to do his best, but he would never rub it in anyone's face. He was hard on himself. It served him well. It drew him to great heights."

His intellect was immediately obvious, Reilly said. "You could tell right away he was brilliant. If you were talking through problems, you could see the pace his mind was working. He was a voracious learner. He would take to anything. He took philosophy and really got into it."

Van Lehn remembered walking around the quad with Dr. John Sutula, who would ask students about their lives. "He was very concerned about the well-being of students. He was vested in our education and our personal growth. I really appreciated that."

The teenager also did scientific experiments on his own. In a preview of his career choice, he wrote a computer program in high school that enabled him to visualize molecules. "It was a good time."

In high school, he was a state finalist for the Wendy's High School Heisman, an award given to students who combined academic and athletic accomplishments. Those kind of honors never got to his head. "He was not one of those people who held himself up as better," Reilly said. "He was very kind, very empathetic. He cared a lot about friends."

His parents jokingly referred to 7 to 8 p.m. on weekday evenings as "the calling hour," because that's when Reid's friends would call and ask him for help on homework. "He was very generous with his time, and he was good at explaining things," Kurt said.

His passion for science led him to MIT, where he studied material sciences and engineering, receiving a bachelor's degree in 2009 and a Ph.D. in 2014.

Though he always envisioned himself as a scientist conducting his own research in the lab, he discovered that experimental lab work didn't appeal to him and wasn't his strength. Instead of making nanoparticles in the lab, his undergraduate advisor suggested that he do theoretical research on computers – a way of combining his computer expertise with his desire to contribute toward treatments for deadly and devastating diseases.

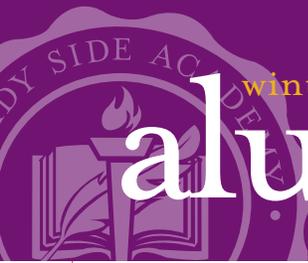
The advisor introduced Van Lehn to a new rising star professor, Alfredo Alexander-Katz, who was doing research in the area. "We hit it off. I was one of his first students. He introduced me to the idea of using computer simulation to answer bigger questions."

At MIT, Van Lehn authored papers with titles such as *Effect of particle diameter and surface composition on the spontaneous fusion of monolayer-protected gold nanoparticles with lipid bilayers*.

But he also had a gift for explaining such complex, arcane concepts in simpler terms. In fact he won the 2013 John Wulff Award for Excellence in Teaching an Undergraduate Subject. He also won the Materials Research Society Graduate Student Award Gold Medal and many other honors.

Though all that recognition was gratifying, he was especially honored to be recognized by a national magazine as one of the top 30 young scientists in the country. "It is very humbling. I know so many gifted researchers; so many people doing amazing things. To be recognized, I am very proud and grateful. "

His father, the professor who took his young son to the computer science class on a college campus 15 years ago, couldn't be prouder. "I was just blown away. I have always thought a lot of him. I didn't realize the whole world thought a lot of him."



winter/spring

alumni events

SPRING DOWNTOWN LUNCH

On Wednesday, May 4, more than 90 alumni gathered at The Duquesne Club for the annual spring downtown luncheon. SSA past parent and current grandparent James E. Rohr, retired chairman and CEO of PNC Financial Services Group and chairman of the board of Carnegie Mellon University was the guest speaker. Rohr delighted the crowd with some Pittsburgh history, spoke of his work at CMU and in the Pittsburgh community, and discussed his connection to SSA and the importance of supporting the current initiatives of the Academy.



L to R: Academy President Tom Cangiano, speaker Jim Rohr, Mike '74 and Judy Hannon

ALUMNI REGIONAL RECEPTIONS





1. **New York:** Kelly Grote '09, Christine Rua '08, Meredith Crimmins '09, Catherine (Evans) Heald '80 and Carlie Marous '07 on May 12, 2016, at the Metropolitan Club
2. **Boston:** Claudia Mihm '14, Aaron Horne '13 and Shaun Gohel '14 at the Downtown Harvard Club on April 7, 2016
3. **Chicago:** Garret Fitzgerald '04, Sara (Miller) Strowd '04, event host Ryan Ruskin '86 and Harrison Strowd on March 30, 2016, at the Woman's Athletic Club of Chicago
4. **San Francisco:** Claudia (Pendleton) Penwell '91, Ann Kim '83 and Martha (Bronaugh) Peterson '79 at the La Mar Cebiche Lounge on Feb. 24, 2016
5. **Naples:** Dick Kappel '50, Benny Benedum '50 and Bill Aiken on Jan. 26, 2016, at the Ridgway Bar & Grill. Bruce '65 and Barbara Wiegand hosted the event.
6. **Los Angeles:** Tom Cangiano, Geoff Greulich '79, event host Dan Fawcett '80 and Gary Chang '71 at Fawcett's home in Santa Monica on Jan. 13, 2016
7. **San Diego:** Elizabeth (McKinney) Kramer '99, Stephanie (McKinney) Bucciero '99, event host Gene Helsel '53, Jetsy Totten Rickling '80, Brian Rickling and Christine Krauland '03 on Jan. 12, 2016, at the San Diego Yacht Club
8. **Pittsburgh:** Adam Bell '01, Sean Gray '97, Mike Casey '01, Amit Grover '01, Beth (Maher) Grover '01 at The Ace Hotel on May 24, 2016

BOARD OF VISITORS ANNUAL MEETING

The Shady Side Academy Board of Visitors gathered at the Senior School campus on May 6, 2016, for its annual meeting. In the morning, BOV co-chairs **Tom Worrall '87** and **Linda LaMagna '83** welcomed members back to campus for a day of discussion and strategizing. After a brief introduction, President Tom Cangiano provided updates on the current landscape of the Academy, followed by a discussion of new enrollment initiatives, including

the upcoming Fox Chapel Country Day School merger and the newly reinstated seven-day boarding program. During Senior School community assembly, a panel of five BOV members answered student questions and offered advice on college and career. In the afternoon, the BOV teamed up with the Board of Trustees for a joint strategic session, including discussions about disciplinary policies and athletics. In attendance were **John Duff '59**, **Bart Griffith '93**, **Dan Haas '84**, **Michele Lieber '86**, **Doug Mancosh '76**, **Abhishek Mehta '01**, **Rob Mullin '93**, **Fred Parkin '59**, **Ryan Ruskin '86**, **Annie Westbrook '96**, **Bruce Wiegand '65**, **Dan Wolf '07** and **David Yaccino '86**. The BOV was founded 13 years ago by **John Kramer '57** and **Ed Grefenstette '85**.



THANK YOU for another outstanding year!

BLUE & GOLD FUND



Your gift to the Blue & Gold Fund will help reach a new goal of \$1.5 million in support of our students and faculty as they think expansively, act ethically and lead responsibly in the 2016-2017 academic year.

www.supportssa.org

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

We raised a total of \$1,353,000

More than 1,400 alumni, parents, grandparents, corporations and friends contributed this year.

14 first-time gifts, totaling \$60,155

We launched a successful Blue & Gold Alumni Trustee Challenge! We met our goal and released \$25,000 to the Blue & Gold Fund.



classnotes

Included in this section are news items received through May 1, 2016.

1946

Edward Jew Jr. writes: "At age 87, I continue to be an active person, having my children remind me that I am not 86 anymore. The unhappy part is that I lost my little lady, Rosemarie, in August 2015."

Alexander Hoon writes: "I moved to Chestertown, Md., after 31 years with Jones & Laughlin. I would be pleased to talk with any classmates. My cell number is 410-708-1111."

1952

Fraser Lewis writes: "I made the big move in May to an independent living/continuing

care unit just north of Princeton, N.J. We started in a two-bedroom apartment, and looks like we'll end up in a one bedroom."

1955

Jerry Fincke writes: "I have reluctantly retired this year with a great deal of bitterness over the fact that **Larry Niemann** never invited me to become a partner in his law firm."

Walter Rice writes: "How do my classmates look so young? All is well here. I have a wonderful wife and four grown children, who are all doing well. I am finishing up 46 years as a judge, with no retirement on the horizon. I spent a little more than 10 years in state court, and the last 35 years in federal court."

1959

J. Stanton Carson writes: "Having retired after 44 years of teaching at Robert Morris University, I am having a terrific time traveling, writing poetry and fiction, and seeing friends including some of my great classmates."

1964

Chris Pruszynski writes: "Dawn and I became grandparents in December 2015."

1965

Sandy Rea writes: "Thanks for a great 50th reunion weekend!"

The Georgetown University Alumni Association presented **Vincent "Court" Dwyer III** with a 2016 William Gaston Alumni Service Award, which recognizes outstanding service by undergraduate alumni who have exhibited leadership across many university activities.



1953

Ned Boshell (second from right) had a coincidental run-in over spring break 2016 with SSA students at the Capitoline Museum in Rome. Ned jokingly captioned the photo, "SSA students with two ancient antiquities, Marcus Aurelius and Ned Boshell."

Jim Rich writes: "There were many questions posed to me at the 50th reunion about my career, which I didn't have an opportunity to answer fully. Just for the record, I developed or created one-third of the more than 1,000 hours of cable, network and syndication shows that I produced. The other two-thirds were shows on which I was a hired gun. Abbie and I are currently developing *The Peter Hurkos Story: The Greatest Psychic of the 20th Century*."



1939

Dick Simon celebrated his 95th birthday at the Pittsburgh Golf Club.

Front row, L to R: **Dick Simon**, **Karl Kaufmann Jr.**, **Jeff Mates '70** and **Bob Whitehill '64**

Back row, L to R: Academy President Tom Cangiano, **Ken Simon '71** and **John Whitehill '68**



1966

Bill Hughes writes: "After a 20-year skiing hiatus, I returned to the slopes this winter at Loon Mountain, N.H. Aside from skiing, the family enjoyed touring the beautiful White Mountains and the historic hotel at Bretton Woods. I was accompanied by two grandsons and even tested parabolic skis for the first time!"

The Senior School Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) welcomed **Richard Gourley** to campus for a daylong visit on Feb. 11, 2016. Over lunch in McCune Dining Hall, Gourley sat down with more than 30 students and faculty members to share his life story and discuss issues facing the LGBT+ community. He then sat in on a modern social justice class and received a campus tour. Gourley concluded his day with a group discussion on ways to improve the GSA at SSA.

1966

Paul Zugates writes: "Hello from New York City! After nearly two years of retirement, my wife Bella and I are taking up temporary residence in Manhattan to assist our daughter with her three girls. The latest granddaughter came in March, and we moved just before her arrival. Other than the noise, the stinky smell and the dirt (I am talking of NYC and not the grandchildren),

we have enjoyed our stay. However, I cannot wait until we can get back to the quiet of Towson, Md."

Jeff Varadi writes: "Laura and I are easing our way towards retirement. She is as busy as ever as a master gardener, library volunteer and soap maker. I am the garden laborer and assistant volunteer, and have taken up painting again. No, Rich - not dorm rooms, watercolors. So is Laura. It's nice to do creative things together. We are so looking forward to seeing our classmates and spouses at the 50th reunion in October. It is looking like we will have a great turnout this year. After the festivities we plan to visit friends and family in Pennsylvania and Maryland, and then go up to New England for the fall foliage festivities."

Tom Tyson will have a very busy summer this year. He is a professor of accounting at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, N.Y., and will be presenting research papers in Durham, United Kingdom, Melbourne, Australia, and New York City. He plans to attend the 50th reunion and is looking forward to seeing his classmates for the first time in many years.

John Harrison writes: "Leslie and I completed our escape from Los Angeles last year to our new home outside Portsmouth, N.H. Quite a lifestyle change! But most welcome after 35 years in the City of Angels. I'm still working, so I am going back and forth to Los Angeles on a regular basis. My show, *Residue*, premiered on Netflix in April 2015 and is still running. My United Kingdom producers and I are planning another season. Several other projects are also in the works. My son Ian, a sergeant in the 82nd Airborne, will finish his U.S. Army commitments at the end of this year. His plan at the moment is to finish his bachelor's and master's degrees at Penn State, where he's already been accepted. My daughter Sidney graduated with honors from NYU and is headed to South Korea this fall to teach English. All in all, life is good."

Scott Becker is retiring in July after 21 years with the Zurich Insurance Group and 42 years as a trial lawyer, all of which were spent in Pittsburgh.

Bill Wallace writes: "Suzanne and I had dinner with the Rovelli's twice over the past several months. It was great to catch up with Jan and meet Joanne."

Dave Guy writes: "I understand some of my classmates are heading south in their retirements, so I just want to let folks know that I'm still in Durham, N.C., where I've been for the past 40 years. I also spend a fair amount of time in Asheville, N.C., where my wife and I have a cabin on the land where she grew up (pictures of this land are on my website: www.davidguy.org). If you're in either place, please get in touch. Asheville won the BeerCity USA poll for three years in a row, so it's a great place to retire. We also frequently visit our grandchildren who have just moved to Detroit."

Leslye and **David Weaver** are planning on attending the 50th reunion and are looking forward to seeing classmates.

Dusty Nelson writes: "I moved from Santa Cruz, Calif., to Doylestown, Pa. Is that boring enough?"

1973

Henry Posner III writes: "Indiana University Press has released the history of the company I have chaired since 1987 as *Railroaders Without Borders*." For more information, visit iupress.indiana.edu.

1976

Kathy (Walker) Laramie writes: "I have been married for 14 years to Russ Laramie, and adopted his three kids as teenagers, Amy, Julie and David. We now have four grandchildren, with a fifth on the way. I have worked at Boeing/McDonnell Douglas as an engineer or manager my entire career. We now live in St. Louis."

Pamela Matt writes: "I have a new position as the executive director of the Young Scholars Program at Utica College. The program helps at-risk high school students graduate, and go on to college."

1980

Catherine “Kat” (Evans) Heald writes: “I finally found my calling in life 10 years ago, as I turned my passion/hobby of Asian travel into a business. We are now celebrating the 10th year of Remote Lands, my business based in New York, Bangkok and New Delhi. After having founded three technology companies, I finally found something I am good at and I love every minute. I feel very lucky for this.”

Jeff Pollock was recently named to the inaugural board of directors of Pavers, a new nonprofit dedicated to helping pave the way for at-risk youth to avoid failures associated with many inner-city, impoverished children who fail to graduate high school.

1982

Hilary (Harley) Spector writes: “I am happy to report that I opened my new practice, Harley Holistic Healing, in 2015 and now offer full-service Reiki therapies and astrology counseling. My daughter Julia graduates from Mt. Holyoke College in 2016 and her younger sister Emma is a freshman at Dickinson College. My husband, Sean, is now running a division of IBM, and we are enjoying the empty-nester life.”



1981

Laura Gulley is a violinist with the Rhode Island Philharmonic, the Ocean State Chamber Orchestra and the ethnic music group Immigrant Suns. Since 1990, she has taught young violinists at the Music School of the Rhode Island Philharmonic.



1979–2015

Alums gathered at West Point for a lacrosse game against Bucknell. From left to right: **Marty Calihan '82**, **Rob Woodings '85**, West point lacrosse player **Rob Woodings '15**, **Lance Ruttenberg '86** and **Peter Mathieson '79**.

James Allen was elected president of American Society of Transplantation.

1986

David Roscow writes: “I am living in Bethesda, Md., with my wife Rachel and



1985

Senior vice president of government relations at the National Retail Federation **David French** and U.S. Secretary of Agriculture **Tom Vilsack '68** met at the Hotel Nacional in Havana, Cuba, in November 2015, to compare notes on opportunities for doing business in Cuba.

two kids, Amelia and Max. I head up communications for the Amalgamated Transit Union. I often get together with classmates **John Saaty** and **Eric Letsinger.**”

Michele Lieber writes: “On Nov. 9, 2015, I was honored as one of the top 100 women in the U.S. automobile industry in Detroit.”

1990

Vince Sonson and **Mike Bolanis** founded a company in summer 2015 called Balance Position (www.balanceposition.com) that is aimed at promoting positive mental health for student-athletes.

1991

Anjali Mehta and her husband, Hassan, live in Lincoln, R.I., with their son, Cameron, age 4. Anjali is practicing otolaryngology in Worcester, Mass.

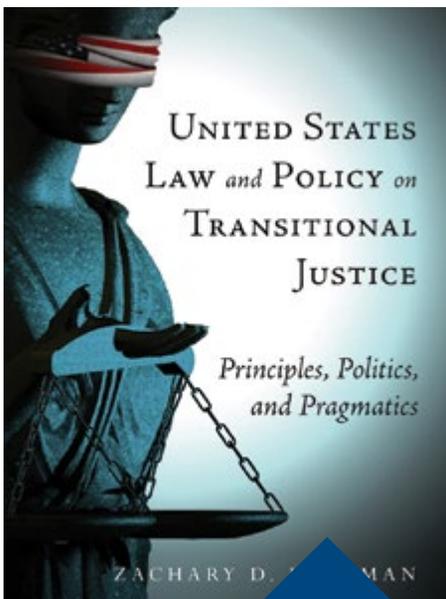
1993

From **Jennifer Gress (Daily)**: “Had a great time catching up with **Ilisabeth (Smith) Bornstein**, **Sarah (Getty) Fattal** and **Allison (Bellows) Tiernan** while visiting Boston for a yoga training.”



1996

Chetan Mehta writes: “I am happy to announce that my wife, Ginny, and I welcomed our first child into the world. Devan Mehta was born in New York on May 5, 2016, weighing 7 lbs., 7 oz. Mom and baby are both healthy and happy to be home.”



1996

Zachary D. Kaufman shares the news of the publication of his latest book, *United States Law and Policy on Transitional Justice: Principles, Politics and Pragmatics*. The book was published in April 2016 by Oxford University Press. The book’s companion website is www.transitionaljustice-book.com.

1994

Mike Weisberg and his wife, Elizabeth Goldberg, welcomed Henry Dean into the world on Nov. 27, 2015. His brother, Will, is six years old and loves being a big brother.

1997

Serdar Bankaci, who is the owner of Commonwealth Computer Recycling in Greensburg, Pa., and Aston, Pa., was featured in *Smart Business Magazine*. His business was also chosen as one of Pittsburgh’s top 50 smartest companies in 2015.

1998

Branston Williams writes: “On Aug. 3, 2015, we welcomed our second daughter, Hannah Ruth Williams.”

The UN Foundation blog named **Michael Edward “Eddie” Walsh** a “person to watch who wants to change the world.” Walsh founded the Islands Society with the mission of inspiring and empowering islanders to participate in international affairs to affect positive changes in their local communities. Through innovative policy planning and thought leadership,

Walsh and his team are helping to advance the conversation on issues such as good governance and climate change. A former senior foreign correspondent covering diplomacy, defense, trade and cultural issues in Africa and the Asia-Pacific region, Walsh is intimately familiar with the issues that island nations face.

1999

André Moura and Sophie Moura have two children, Henry, age 3, and Eloise, 1. They live in New York City.

2000

Jim May writes: “My first book of poetry was published by Louisiana State University Press, one of the nation’s top university presses for poetry. The book came out under the Goat Island Poetry Series, an imprint founded and edited by the late Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Claudia Emerson.” For more information, visit JamesDavisMay.com

2005

Pedro Moura is an independent computing consultant and lives in Brooklyn, N.Y.

2008

Hannah Foster and First Lieutenant Ian Quinn were united in marriage July 25, 2015, at the Church of the Ascension in Oakland. In attendance were SSA alums **Ayse Baybars** (bridesmaid), **Emily (Harmon) Weimer** (bridesmaid), **Anna (Rued) Dorosh**, **Jack Foster '11**, **George Childs '83**; current students **Peter Foster '17** and **Sam Childs '17**; faculty and staff members Matthew Weiss, David and Amy Szlachetka; and former faculty member Bonnie McCarthy. Hannah and Ian reside in Colorado Springs, Colo., where Ian, a graduate of West Point, is commissioned as an officer and ranger in the U.S. Army Infantry. In January 2016, Hannah began an accelerated, one-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at the University of Colorado in Denver. She received a bachelor’s degree in English from Princeton University in 2012.



1998

Lieutenant Andy Bowman (second from left) with FDNY Ladder 58 following a harrowing rescue of a disabled man from a burning apartment building.



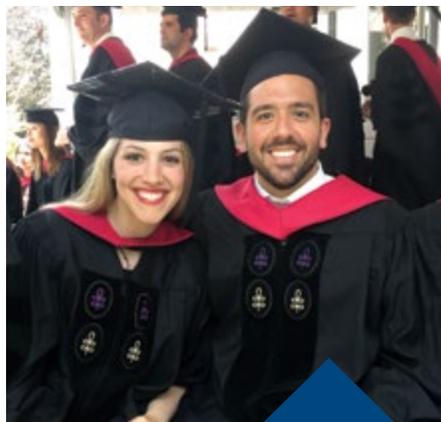
2001

Ric San Doval was inducted into the WPIAL Wrestling Hall of Fame. San Doval was the first of SSA's nine wrestling state champions and the third SSA wrestler to be inducted into the WPIAL Hall of Fame. He attended the University of Pennsylvania, where he was a four-year letter winner in football and two-time team captain and MVP. He graduated from the Wharton School of Business in 2006 and currently resides in Washington, D.C. Pictured: Former SSA assistant coach Brandon Newill, **Matt Giel '10**, **Nick Hartner '96**, **Ric San Doval**, **Roman San Doval '09**, **Tim Giel Jr. '09** and Nick San Doval.



2003

Jen Spyra with Stephen Colbert and his writers backstage at the *Kennedy Center Honors*, which Colbert hosted on Dec. 25, 2015, airing on CBS. Spyra is a writer for *The Late Show With Stephen Colbert* and was a writer for this year's Kennedy Center Honors as well.



2004/2005

Joseph Costa '04 and **Jessica Cohen '05** both graduated on May 26, 2016, from Harvard Law School and Harvard Business School as part of the elite J.D./M.B.A. dual degree program, which is made up of only 10 students per year. Costa graduated with high distinction as a Bakers Scholar for being in the top five percent of the class, and was also awarded the John Loeb Prize, which recognizes the student who demonstrated the best performance in finance.



2006

Nathalie Lister writes: "After graduation in 2006, I moved to Paris, France, where I obtained a bachelor's degree in international business at Schiller International University. I continued on with my studies and earned a master's degree in cross-cultural and sustainable business management at the American University of Paris, graduating in 2012. While having done several internships during my studies, I began working for an international fashion magazine, *Ghubar*, writing articles and helping with set design for fashion shoots. I stayed in Paris for a total of eight years until I decided to move to Rome, Italy, for my (now) husband. I married Andrea Conte, a television director at Rai, on Oct. 2, 2015, after a year of living in Italy. I spent the first year studying the language and am now currently working in Rome in photography."

Alexandra Bodnarchuk, a dance artist and choreographer, performed in *Kimono* at the Carnegie Stage in March 2016. The daughter of Middle School teachers Leslie and Paul Bodnarchuk, Alexandra is a freelance dance artist based out of Pittsburgh who is an active dancer, choreographer, arts administrator and educator. Her work *Dance! From the Inside Out* was a collaborative dance video project that premiered at the 2015 Dollar Bank Three Rivers Arts Festival.

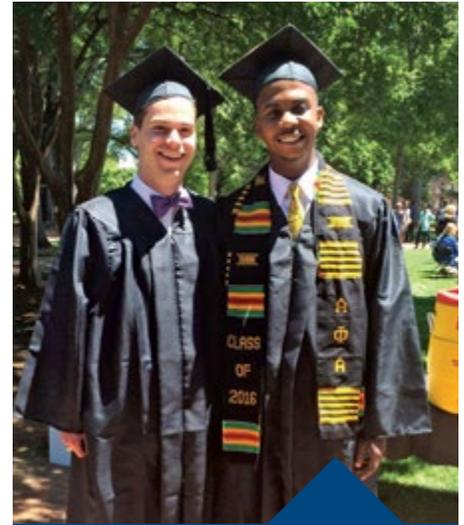
2011

The Landmark Athletic Conference named **Grant Foley**, a senior at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, to its 2015-2016 spring academic honor roll. Foley, who is on the baseball team, was one of 58 conference seniors to be named to the honor roll all three years of eligibility.



2004/2010

Andrew Armstrong '04 and **Elsa Hellberg '10** were married April 16, 2016, in a ceremony at the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh with a reception at the Duquesne Club. SSA alumni in attendance included: Front Row, L to R: **Andrew Armstrong '04**, **Elsa (Hellberg) Armstrong '10**, **Fritz Woelfel '04**, **Mary Rooney '10**, **Allison Rath '10**, **Jennifer Cozen '10**, **Karen Dawson '10** and **Jenny Dawson '08**; Back row, L to R: **Geoff Abraham '04**, **Dave Scott '05**, **Jeremy Gordon '04**, **Trevor Levine '04**, **Eric Hellberg '05**, **Justin Ferracio '04**, **George Pilafas '04**, **Brett Murphy '04**, **Max Schneider '04**, **David Kassling '02**, **Emily Ellis '10**, **Molly Marous '10**, **Caroline Ellis '14**, **Peter Deiseroth '10**, **Michael Gleason '02**, **Brie Linette-DiSilvio '00**, **Meredith (Armstrong) Repetto '01** and **David Hillman '71**.



2012

Alec Brown and **Rashaad Phillips** graduated from Davidson College on May 15, 2016. They've been close friends since third grade.



2007/2008

Jordan Foley '07 and **Katharine (Miller) Foley '08** were married May 2015 in Charleston, S.C. Jordan is a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy and currently stationed on the nuclear submarine USS Annapolis, which is undergoing a scheduled overhaul in the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. Jordan and Katharine reside in Portland, Maine, where Katharine is has a career in real estate.

Pictured: **Kevin Doubleday '07**, **Thad Hill '07**, **Tom Maher '07**, **Mike Hoffman '07**, **Ross Brendel '07**, **Margaux LeMaster '08**, **Brendan Hannon '08**, **Will Frederick '07**, **Zak Klinvex '07**, **Jordan Foley '07**, **Katharine (Miller) Foley '08**, **DJ Egan '07**, **Charlie Magovern '07** and **Grant Foley '11**. In attendance, but not pictured were **Cody Boyer '13** and **Frank Rocks '11**.

2013

Coleman Strohm pitched for the North Fork Ospreys in the Hamptons Collegiate Baseball League during summer 2015. He had three wins, one save and a 0.78 ERA.



2015

NCAA Division I lacrosse athletes **Gab Harchelroad** and **Charlotte Redican** met up during the Navy vs. Colgate game.

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, 2016.

VINCENT C. DWYER JR. '36

Vincent C. Dwyer Jr. passed away Nov. 3, 2011. Dwyer was a graduate of Georgetown University and worked for Honeywell Information Systems Inc. through retirement. He was predeceased by his wife, Nancy Steigerwalt Dwyer, and his brother, Jack Dwyer '45. He is survived by his son, Vincent "Court" (Suzanne) Dwyer '65, two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

WILLIAM M. SIEBERT '43

William "Bill" Siebert passed away Oct. 25, 2015. Siebert's entire career was spent at The Massachusetts Institute of Technology, starting as an undergraduate during WWII, when he also held a commission as ensign, U.S. Navy. He returned to MIT as a doctoral student and then professor in the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department. He was predeceased by his wife, Anne Siebert, and son, Charles. He is survived by his children, Tom (Betsy) Siebert, Peter (Candace Nelson) Siebert, Terry (Tom) Kuniholm and Ted (Lana Fuller) Siebert, and eight grandchildren.

JOSEPH M. SALSBUURY JR. '51

Joseph Morrison Salsbury Jr. passed away Dec. 5, 2012. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, Salsbury worked as postmaster, and owned and operated the Meriden Country Store, New Hampshire. He is survived by his wife, Julia; children, Michael (Lynnlæ) Salsbury, Karen (Ric) Moore, Joe (Janet) Salsbury; and four grandchildren.

CLARK W. KING III '52

Clark W. King III passed away Oct. 12, 2015. He was a graduate of Lehigh University and worked for many years in management at U.S. Steel. King served in the Army National Guard from 1957 to 1963. He is survived by his son, Clark W. King IV, and two grandchildren.

STEPHEN B. ELLER '58

Stephen Barrie Eller passed away Feb. 26, 2016. He was an All American soccer player for Bowdoin College in Maine. Retired from commercial construction, he served as mayor of Culloden, Ga., for the past 20 years. He is survived by his wife, Faye Elliott Eller; children, Jonathan Eller, Joseph (Cindy) Eller, David Eller, Michael Eller and Matthew (Anna) Eller; step-children, Richard (Sharon) Koon, Rita (Barry) Walker and Melinda (Tracy) Chesser; several grandchildren; and one great grandchild.

GEORGE MILLIGAN '61

STEVEN E. BURKE '72

Steven E. Burke passed away Jan. 19, 2016. Burke was treasurer and a board member of the Grable Foundation, his family's charitable organization, and helped to steer millions of dollars into improving educational opportunities for children. Survivors include his wife, Gail Burke; two sons, Charles "Chip" Burke and Peter Burke; as well as his mother and brother, Charles "Chip" Burke '79.

SUSAN HERZOG CAMPANA '78

Susan Herzog Campana passed away Nov. 27, 2015. She was a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University and worked as an art director for a number of prominent advertising agencies in Pittsburgh and North Carolina. She is survived by her husband, Greg Campana, daughter, Lindsay, and son, Jackson; and mother, Joan Herzog.

LAURA POOL HUBER '86

Laura Pool Huber passed away Nov. 10, 2015. She was a graduate of Colgate University and worked as a graphic designer in the Bay Area of California. She is survived by her husband, Jeff Huber; her children, Max and Grace; her parents, brother and sister.



in memoriam

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Clipston Allen, grandfather of Alexis Allen '12

Jerome Balbot, father of Bernard "Bernie" Balbot '05

James Colvin, father of Academy bus driver Terry Colvin

Chrissy Corrado, mother of Nicolas Corrado '28

Rose Bearer Ellis, mother of J. Keefe Ellis '74 and Peter Ellis '77; grandmother of Emily Ellis '10, John Ellis '12, Caroline Ellis '14, Patrick Ellis '18, Andrew Ellis '09, Peter Ellis '10, Thaddeus Ellis '13; and mother-in-law of Mark Heppenstall '80

Sally Kennedy Fownes, wife of the late John Fownes '46; mother of Henry Fownes '84 and John Fownes Jr. '77; grandmother of Ben Fownes '11; aunt of Matthew Fownes '84; and sister of George Kennedy Jr. '51.

Ron Giallonardo, former member of the Board of Trustees; father of Gary Giallonardo '78, Mark (Susan '78) Giallonardo '78, Susan Schindler '82 and John Giallonardo '84; and grandfather of Dana Giallonardo '06 and Andrew Giallonardo '08

Bette Goldblum, mother of John Goldblum '81 and Philip Goldblum '80

Harriet Mauder, mother-in-law of President's Office staff member Debi Mauder

Joseph McGuigan, father of Middle School faculty member Tim McGuigan, and grandfather of Violet McGuigan '28

David Murdoch, father of Christina Murdoch '96

H. Ward Olander, grandfather of Kelsey Olander '08, Kristen Olander '12, Kyle Olander '14 and Kristofer Olander '17

Bernice Owen, mother of Business Office staff member Cindy Mino, and grandmother of Mindy Mino '04, Nicole Mino '08 and Katie Mino '14

Martha Rankin, mother of Junior School faculty member Ruth Ann Modic

Margaret Rieck, mother of Ed Rieck '74 and John Rieck '77

Claire Ross, mother of Jimmy (Ilene) Ross '70 and Tony '74 (Karen '83) Ross; grandmother of Andrew Ross '98, Natalie (Ross) Lercher '05, Mark Simon '09, Zach Simon '10, Benjamin Ross '10, Ally Ross '11 and Teddy Ross '13

Justin Schleifer, brother of Senior School Head Kate Vavpetic, brother-in-law of Technology staff member Joe Vavpetic, and uncle of Blaz Vavpetic '23 and Niko Vavpetic '26.

Michael "Mischa" Stahovich, Senior School world languages faculty member, 1968-1972

Bill Sterner, Business Office staff member, 1962-1989, and father of Jeff Sterner '72

Eileen Szoss, mother of Cindy Landers, Senior School food service employee

Martin Weiss, father of Senior School faculty member Matt Weiss, and grandfather of Maya Weiss '18

William Wilson, grandfather of Jay Mangold Jr. '06 and Sara Mangold '09

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Hervey Allen

Leaving His Mark on the Literary World

Shady Side has long been known for producing skilled and eloquent writers. Students have a history of working alongside talented faculty, as well as other students, to hone their writing skills. Over the past few decades, Shady Side has produced many well-known authors, most notably two-time Pulitzer Prize-winner and 2016 commencement speaker David McCullough '51. One of the earliest SSA grads that made a mark in the literary world was William Hervey Allen Jr., Class of 1909 (later known as simply Hervey Allen). Allen was a successful poet, biographer and novelist, and made a remarkable impact on the literary world with his historical novel, *Anthony Adverse* (1933).

Anthony Adverse was a historical novel that told of a man's journey through life and across several continents in search of a meaning to his life. One of the biggest bestsellers of the 1930s, its success was surpassed only by *Gone With the Wind* and a small handful of other books. Decades before the *Harry Potter* and *Twilight* series, *Anthony Adverse* was among the first American novels to be cross-promoted through product tie-ins. In 1936, the screen rights were purchased by Warner Bros., which spared no expense in filming the movie version; it was one of the most expensive releases by the studio before the 1950s. The movie featured the studio's most talented producer at the time, Jack Warner, and one of the most distinguished film scores ever written by Erich Wolfgang Korngold. While the novel's success proved to be the high point of Allen's literary career, his later work also did very well.

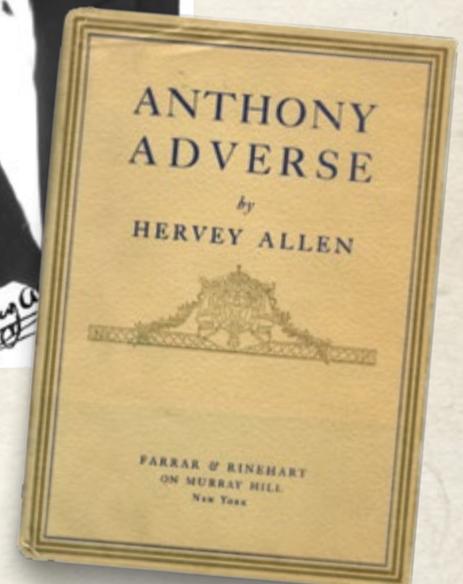
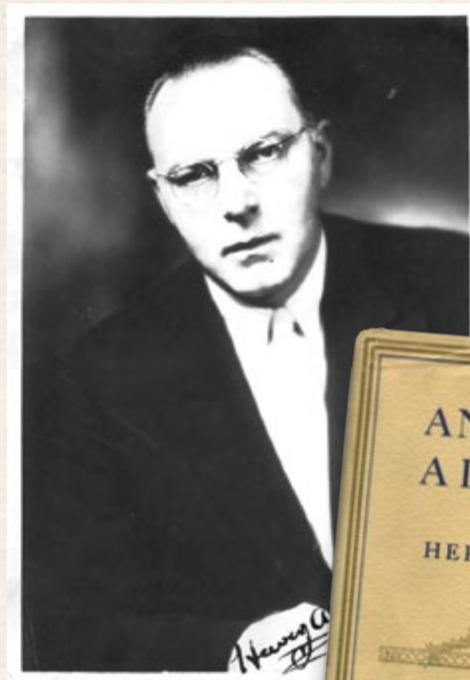
In the 1940s, Allen's reports of World War I gained national attention and readership. His publication, *It Was Like This: Two Stories of the Great War*, was represented in the personal library of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt. He then began work on *The Disinherited*, a series of novels about colonial America. He finished three books, *The Forest and the Fort*, *Bedford Village* and *Toward the Morning*, and sections of a fourth.

While Allen spent the majority of his time working on *The Disinherited*, he also found time to branch out into nonfiction as the editor of *The Rivers of America*, a landmark series of

books on American rivers, which was written for the most part by literary figures rather than historians. The series helped to popularize an environmental consciousness decades before such notions were widely acknowledged. Allen's decision to become involved with the series came after he moved to Florida, where he developed a deep love and respect for the Everglades.

Along with Kenneth Roberts and Ben Ames Williams, Allen was one of the most widely read authors of historical fiction of his generation, and his books were heavily reprinted in paperback long after his death.

If you have any additional information on Hervey Allen, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Lindsay Kovach at lkovach@shadysideacademy.org.





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