



CONNECTIONS

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*The camera loves comedian Mike Still '97,
and the Upright Citizens Brigade
veteran loves it right back.*

CONNECT



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Lancaster Country Day School
LcDs Alums
LCDS Parents of Alumni



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Lancaster Country Day School

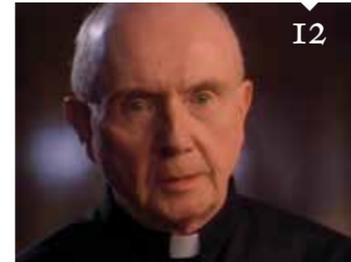
'Keep Yourself Inspired'

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FEATURES



A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL | STEVEN D. LISK

THE *World* OF CREATIVE ENDEAVOR

At a time when our society increasingly asks how — and if — education fosters creativity, we are thrilled to devote this issue of Connections to the stories of alumni in the performing arts. Among the commentators on education and creativity today, the perceptive and amusing Sir Ken Robinson is perhaps the most celebrated. He addressed the large hall at this year’s annual NAIS (National Association of Independent Schools) conference in Baltimore, describing how most children think they are highly creative while most adults do not. Sadly, schools have often undermined students’ creativity rather than nurture it.

Our school’s culture has long encouraged growth in many ways.

Our former students profiled here clearly testify that their LCDS experiences have served them well. They remind us that our school’s culture has long encouraged growth in many ways. Together, the voices in these stories show us two faces of creativity. The most obvious is found in their very craft — performances immediately recognizable as creative expressions.

More broadly, however, their individual paths reveal a kind of life-living creativity applicable to and attainable by us all. Robinson calls this guiding principle “The Element,” and its defining imperative is elegant and simple, “Love something you are good at.”

Whether we call it authenticity or The Element or raison d’être or leave it nameless, we know this force is a powerful and beautiful one.

Rya Kihlstedt ’87 frames it this way:

“Most kids finish high school not knowing what they want to be and a lot of kids get stuck, or just drift down some path they never even realized they were on,” she said. “It’s a long life and a long road and wouldn’t it be wonderful if we can find something that turns us on?”

“Our job,” she continued, “is to encourage kids to do what they love, but to also make a living.”

A career in the performing arts demands more than just creativity and talent; one has to have a tough enough skin to endure rejection; a sustaining, internal faith that allows one to persevere after failures and reversals; and a boldness that allows one to take a risk in the first place.

It is the mission of Lancaster Country Day School — and a mission I think we’ve fulfilled with striking consistency over the years — to encourage our students to take risks, to explore interests and to develop exactly the kind of traits that are a prerequisite for succeeding in any venture, including one in the demanding world of the performing arts.

12/8/16 | WGAL

Son fixes clock at Lancaster train station in honor of late father

Ryan Miller '01 donated fixes to the Lancaster train station clock so it always runs on time.



{NEWS}

IN THE NEWS

NEWS.LANCASTERCOUNTRYDAY.ORG/IN-THE-NEWS

6/7/16 | The Alliance Review

Old Trail School Names New Head of School

Effective July 2017, Sarah Liotta Johnston '91 was named Head of School of the Old Trail School in Ohio.



8/25/16 | The New York Times

George Washington Really Slept Here. So Did His Slave

Gina Jarvis Whelan '74 helped in the conservation of George Washington’s tent fabric.

9/15/16 | BuzzFeed

This Recent College Grad Is Running Across America

Chris Andrews '12 ran across America to talk with people face-to-face.

11/11/16 | Central Penn Business Journal

Business of the Year 2016

Oliver Feakins '01, president of Track5Media, won Business of the Year in the 1-50 employee category.



Clockwise from left: Sarah Liotta Johnston '91, Oliver Feakins '01 and Chris Andrews '12.

1/2/17 | LNP

Rose Bowl, Parade a 'Twirler's Dream' for Penn State's Blue Sapphire

Rachel Reiss '14, the Blue Sapphire, performed at the Rose Bowl.



A DAY in the LIFE



IN DECEMBER, MADDIE LIEB '22 DOCUMENTED A DAY IN AN LCDS SEVENTH-GRADER'S LIFE.

To view the slideshow go to <http://bit.ly/2jobJaf>

PUBLIC EVENT

4.05.17



WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO MOTIVATE STUDENTS TO OWN THEIR EDUCATION AND DEVELOP RESILIENCE?

At 7 p.m. on April 5, Jessica Lahey will explain that the key is motivation that comes from within. Learn how to wean your kids off bribes and coercion and give them instead the support and encouragement they need to succeed. Lahey is the author of the New York Times bestselling book "The Gift of Failure: How the Best Parents Learn to Let Go So Their Children Can Succeed." She is an English teacher, correspondent for The Atlantic and writes the Parent-Teacher Conference column for The New York Times. The event is free but an RSVP is required.

To register, go to: WWW.GIFTOFFAULTURE.EVENTBRITE.COM

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHT

JUNK FOOD LESSON

First-graders spent six weeks investigating the effects of a healthy diet versus a junky, sugar-based one with the help of two new classmates: a pair of lively white rats named A and B.

During the first week, A and B both ate oatmeal, but A drank milk while B drank sugar water. The students weighed both when they first arrived, and repeated the process each week to collect data and track the difference between A and B's growth.

Armed with the numbers, students worked out the math and discovered that B had grown 10 percent less than A because of its nutritionally empty diet.



The class combined math, journaling, reading, the fundamentals of nutrition and the scientific method into a single curriculum that the kids simply love.

When the kids can see the results for themselves, it's just so much more effective. And fun.

Devised by the Pennsylvania Society for Biomedical Research and intended for fifth-graders, the course was adapted by first-grade teacher **Carrie Haggerty** and Lower School Science Coordinator **Laura Trout** to give younger students a similar, immersive experience.

Haggerty said, "It's one thing to talk about nutrition or to teach subtraction on its own, but when the kids can see the results for themselves and use math to measure that, it's just so much more effective. And fun."

NEW FACES

JOHN A. JARVIS MERIT SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Former Head of School John Jarvis sought to make LCDS accessible to a wide range of deserving students. His legacy continues with the \$12,000 John A. Jarvis Merit Scholarship, now in its seventh year. All Middle and Upper schoolers are eligible for the scholarships, renewable each year through graduation. Four recipients were chosen for the 2016-2017 school year. They are:

- Eighth-grader **Bilal Chaudhry** of Mohnton. He plays the trumpet in band and the viola in orchestra.
- Ninth-grader **Ashanti Duncan** of Reading. At her previous school, she played clarinet and was captain of the basketball team. She continues to play basketball at LCDS and played this summer with the AAU Lady Ren travel team.
- Ninth-grader **Gabriel Leskusky** of Reading. He volunteers his time for various organizations and plays saxophone.
- Seventh-grader **Isadora Marquez** of Lancaster. She plays basketball, guitar and piano, as well as studying LEGO robotics.



MUN 2017



In October, **Allen Miller's** Model United Nations class was holding a symposium on nuclear security, with each student preparing to write a position paper from a different country's perspective. Across the Harkness Table, kids discussed the nuances of the security dilemma and Game Theory 101.

As **Caleb Grenko '17** put it, "It's one thing to disarm, but the knowledge of how to make these weapons is still going to exist. How are you supposed to deal with that?"

Miller is teaching MUN for the first time, and after class he explained his vision for the course.

"I would like to see MUN become more a program about global issues and I want students to



I think about how to deal with transboundary problems" such as climate change and humanitarian crises, Miller said. I want students to think about how to deal with transboundary problems.

He explained that The Hague International Model United Nations conference is so appealing because it's by far the largest international conference in the world and offers a level of diversity not found anywhere else.

This year, 12 LCDS students represented the sub-Saharan nation of Namibia. Six others played non-delegate roles representing UN Water, a United Nations agency dedicated to freshwater concerns, with sanitation at the fore.



BOARD MEMBERS

Rebecca (Becky) Miller and her husband, **Christopher**, are the parents of **Savannah '24** and **Kinzley '26**. The Millers live in Manheim and have been parents at LCDS since 2009. Becky is a co-owner of DBL Tank Services and SGM Enterprises. She joins the board as president of the Parents Association.

Dr. Jeffrey Grove and his wife, **Rene**, are the parents of **Brady '24**, **Anna '25** and **Tyler '27**. They live in Shillington and joined the LCDS community in 2014. Jeff is a practicing dentist and the owner of Grove Dental Group in Wyomissing.



FACULTY NEWS

Network Administrator **Hector Morales** earned his B.S. in information technology with a concentration in networking and security from Central Penn College.

Middle School English teacher **Meghan Kenny's** collection of short stories, "Love Is No Small Thing" was published on March 6 by LSU Press. In the spring of 2018, her novel, "The Driest Season," will be published by W.W. Norton. The novel follows a 15-year-old girl during a drought in rural Wisconsin in the summer of 1944. After her father's suicide, she struggles to make sense of family secrets, death, wartime and how quickly life can suddenly and forever change.



THANK YOU!

For the seventh year in a row, 100 percent of faculty and staff have donated to The Excellence Fund.



SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

Boys soccer coach **Dale Mylin**, who locked down career win No. 300 in the fall of 2015, reached another milestone this year by coaching his 500th game. The **boys soccer team** earned a third-place finish in the District III Tournament.

On December 15, the athletic directors for the Lancaster-Lebanon Athletic League voted unanimously to admit LCDS into the league. Our **Upper School teams** will compete in the L-L League beginning in the 2018-19 school year. Until then, we will continue in the Tri-Valley League. "That we get to develop relationships with the local schools around us is great," said LCDS Athletic Director **Austen Hannis**. "This will really make a big impact with our student-athletes."

The **LCDS girls tennis team** competed in the District III Team Tennis Tournament. **Amy Shields '17** and **Kendall Kubis '19** qualified for the District III Doubles Tennis Championships, while Shields also represented LCDS in District Singles, ultimately advancing to states and being named to the PennLive All-Star Team.

In the fall, 12 students were named Tri-Valley League All-Stars in boys and girls soccer, field hockey and golf.

The golf team placed fourth in the District III Tournament, and **Matt Berkenstock '19** advanced to the Regional Tournament. Coach **T.J. O'Gorman** was named Coach of the Year by the Tri-Valley League.

COACH MYLIN

500th SOCCER GAME



RECORD BREAKING

The PA Soccer Coaches Association honored **Taylor Eynon '17** for his outstanding play and leadership in the Tri-Valley boys soccer league as an all-state player for the 2016 season. In varsity basketball, **Taylor** eclipsed the 1000-point mark on January 14. He is only the ninth LCDS student-athlete in recent history to do it, and the first since 2012.

CAMPAIGN NEWS



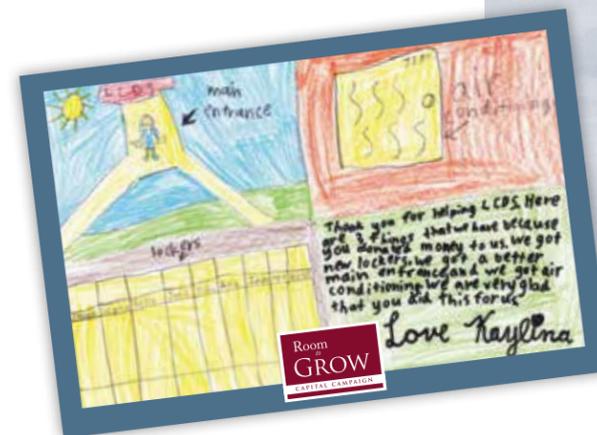
Room to GROW

In October, the Board of Trustees gathered for the groundbreaking of the new athletics and physical education complex.

...
For more details, visit www.lancastercountryday.org/building or contact **Shelby LaMar** at 717-397-7240 or lamars@lancastercountryday.org.



The Room to Grow campaign is currently at 80 percent of its \$11 million goal.



In the spirit of Thanksgiving, Lower School students illustrated thank you notes for our Room to Grow donors. The postcards depicted what they enjoy most about the Lower School renovations that were finished over the summer. The second phase of construction — improvements to our athletics facility — will be complete in the fall of 2017. The Room to Grow campaign is currently at 80 percent of its \$11 million goal.

KEEP YOURSELF INSPIRED

BY MICHAEL SCHWARTZ



Rya Kihlstedt '87 plays Caroline Bavaro on "One Mississippi." Comedian Tig Notaro (center) created the series and plays her daughter.

RYA Kihlstedt '87 is a working actress who has starred in films and television. She has earned recurring roles on "Dexter," "Nashville," and Tig Notaro's new show, "One Mississippi." She has warm memories and heartfelt praise for John Jarvis, and she has a younger sister, Carla, an accomplished musician who graduated from Country Day in 1989.

What Kihlstedt does not have, however, is a diploma from Lancaster Country Day School. So why choose to be featured in the alumni magazine of a school from which she didn't graduate?

Speaking to Connections during a layover in Atlanta, Kihlstedt answered that question with a burst of laughter. "Isn't that funny?" she said.

"I have two teenagers now and Country Day has come up a lot in conversations with my husband and our friends about the choices we make about our kids' schools, public versus private, big versus small, all of that," Kihlstedt said.

"John Jarvis was a truly spectacular headmaster. From where I stand now, what strikes me most is that he was so aware of all of the kids at Country Day. He knew you by name and was unbelievably engaged in every part of the school."

The conclusion Kihlstedt and husband Gil Bellows, best known for his role as Billy Thomas on "Ally McBeal," reached about

what they were looking for in a school was that they wanted a school like Country Day.

"We didn't find exactly that," Kihlstedt said, "partly because there aren't many schools like Country Day and partly because I can't spend five days a week in the car crisscrossing Los Angeles to ferry the kids to and from school. But we did our best and the kids are happy with their schools."

Kihlstedt's daughter will graduate next spring, and her son has three more years of high school.

All of which raised another question: If Kihlstedt was so keen on sending her children to a Country Day-like school because of how much she values her experience in Lower and Middle school, why did she choose to leave after eighth grade?

"Looking back, I think I made a mistake leaving Country Day," said Kihlstedt. "I remember feeling like a trapped teenager and I took whatever I could find, real or imaginary, to rebel against. I felt a need to try something unknown, something totally different. So that meant leaving the small school for the big school, but in the big school, I lost my way of learning in a way."

Kihlstedt's love of learning didn't wander too far away, however; she attended Skidmore College and graduated with a degree in theater arts in 1991.

After college, Kihlstedt moved to New York City, where she and her future husband started an "off-, off-Broadway, teeny little" theater company that exclusively staged new plays by new playwrights.

The couple had lived and worked in New York for 10 years when Bellows landed a leading role on "Ally McBeal." The show was a hit, and in 1997 they moved to Los Angeles, where they started a family and still live today.

Even though Kihlstedt has acted her entire life and, for example, rhapsodizes about how much she would love to play Martha in "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?," she's not overly sentimental about her profession.

"Along the years I've questioned why I chose acting," she said. "Some people are lucky enough (or cursed enough) to have that, 'I need to do this. I was born to do this' kind of calling. I never felt that, but with acting I did find a community where I loved the people and felt I belonged."

ENCOURAGE KIDS TO DO WHAT THEY LOVE, BUT TO ALSO MAKE A LIVING.

Recently, Kihlstedt has been looking at colleges with her daughter, a process that has led her to reflect on her own school experience, and her aspiration as a parent.

"Most kids finish high school not knowing what they want to be and a lot of kids get stuck, or just drift down some path they never even realized they were on,"

Kihlstedt said. "It's a long life and a long road and wouldn't it be wonderful if we can find something that turns us on?"

"Our job," she continued, "is to encourage kids to do what they love, but to also make a living."

And for young, aspiring actors with one eye already on Hollywood, Kihlstedt offered two pithy pearls of wisdom.

"Work your butt off and keep yourself inspired."



THE STARS ALIGN

FOR WORKING ACTORS, TOO

BY MICHAEL SCHWARTZ

“One thing leads to another, and there are things in life called breaks,” said Frank Birney, actor, father, traveller and avid believer in reaching for the brass ring when it comes around. The 1955 graduate of Lancaster Country Day went on to college at Trinity, where he “majored in romance languages and had zero idea about what that was going to lead to after graduation.”



“I also used to go to New York City a lot and see shows, so I went to the head of the theater department and asked him to recommend some acting schools for me to apply to. He just stared at me for a minute, then said, ‘Where have you been the last four years?’ Then he wrote me a list of schools.”

Luckily, Birney didn't have to wait to graduate to decide on a path, romance language-related or not. “I had an epiphany senior year,” Birney said. “My roommate was going on to study architecture at Penn and another friend had gotten into law school at UVA. Everybody had their plans and I don't have an answer for why I was so lackadaisical, but I remember walking through campus one day and being struck with this powerful, liberating realization that I could do anything I wanted. That there were no limitations.

“So I asked myself, ‘What am I equipped to do? What do I really enjoy doing and thinking about?’” he said. While it hadn't been Birney's primary focus, acting was hardly foreign to him. He grew up seeing both of his older siblings appear in plays, writing and performing in little vignettes at Country Day, and performing in a college production of “Julius Caesar.”

Birney moved to New York, where he studied at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in the mornings and in the afternoons and evenings worked as an NBC page at 30 Rockefeller Plaza, seating audiences for the original Tonight Show with Jack Parr, the Dinah Shore Show and other TV classics of the era.

“It was the coolest job you could have,” Birney said. “In a lot of ways, you were in charge of making sure things went smoothly, and we're talking about live television so it was always a bit of a high-wire act. Watching how the producers and the crew and all the other off-camera folks worked together to make everything come off without a hitch was an incredible education.”

Birney enjoyed the broad range of classes at the academy, which included fencing, voice and a variety of introductory pursuits besides pure acting. But he decided he wanted something more intense.

“And you couldn't get more intense than Uta Hagen,” Birney said. Hagen was famous both as an actress and teacher at the Berghof Studio, founded by her husband, actor and director Herbert Berghof. Some of the studio's alumni include Robert De Niro, Anne Bancroft, Al Pacino, Jessica Lange, Jack Lemmon and Sigourney Weaver.

To be accepted into Hagen's class, one had to audition. “I chose a speech by Edmund from ‘Long Day's Journey Into Night,’ because I always found Eugene O'Neill fascinating,” Birney said.

He found himself standing in an empty theater “with some trepidation,” when he walked Hagen, taking her place astride a chair in the front row with her head shrouded in cigarette smoke. Staring at Birney, she asked a simple question, “So what are you going to do for me?”

“I knew this was one of those times when you either produce or get up and go home, and sure enough, about halfway through I forgot my lines.

“OK, that's it,” Birney recalled thinking. “I can get up and walk out or sit here and hopefully the lines will come back to me. It seemed like 10 hours but who knows, it might

have been 10 nanoseconds, but I never took my eyes off her and she never took hers off me and we just sat there, for however long it was, in dead silence. Eventually I remembered my lines and finished my speech, and the first thing she asked me was if I was studying now and why I wanted to leave. She said I was in and asked when I wanted to start.”



“
I'M A
WORKING
STIFF
ACTOR.”

Above: Birney enjoyed a recurring role as a judge on two David E. Kelley shows, “The Practice” and its spinoff, “Boston Legal.”

Below: Sometimes crime-fighter Michael Knight (David Hasselhoff) needed more help than his talking car alone could provide. In this 1983 episode of “Knight Rider,” Birney pitched in against the underworld.

Birney studied with Hagen for less than a year before landing his first paying gig in theater, doing summer stock at the North Shore Music Theater in Beverly, Mass. Through connections he made there, along with a sense of adventure and wanderlust, Birney spent the 1960s by turns, in a theater company in Washington, D.C., working in the library at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, stationed in Germany as an enlisted man in the intelligence-gathering Army Security Agency, as a hospital care investigator in the South Bronx for the New York Dept. of Social Services, making guerilla films in San Francisco, a student at the Sorbonne during the May '68 Paris riots, and finally, as one of a cohort of international teachers at a school in Zambia, 50 miles from the nearest town of Choma.

Along the way he met and married his first wife in Germany, and the couple had two daughters.

He and his wife spent three years in Africa when another series of events more interesting, unusual and complicated than those in the average bear's life saw Birney land in Los Angeles,

via stints teaching in Alabama and acting in Minneapolis, where he met a journalist who would become the Arts & Entertainment editor for the Los Angeles Times, and who helped usher him westward.

“I came to L.A. with a job and a place to stay, and the stars aligned for me that way.

“And don't misunderstand me,” Birney continued. “I have an agent who believes in me and I'm a member of the [Screen Actors Guild], but I work. I love my job, I work a good bit and I find great excitement and fulfillment in it, but I'm a working stiff actor.”

Birney enjoyed years of recurring roles as a judge in two David E. Kelley shows, “The Practice” and its spinoff, “Boston Legal.” Coincidentally, one of Birney's earliest TV gigs was on Kelley's first as a showrunner, “L.A. Law.” Birney's resume extends far beyond “recurring judge” typecasting, however. He has appeared on stage, in commercials and in films spanning genres from comedy to horror.

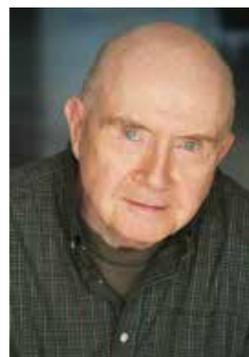
In 1982, Birney married his current wife, Betty, and the couple have a son. A multiple award winner whose honors include Writers Guild of America, Humanitas and Emmy awards, Betty left a career of many years writing for animated and live-action TV before successfully segueing into pursuing her passion as a children's book author, about 15 years ago.

In talking to Birney, this is the theme that constantly shines through: the importance of pursuing your passions no matter what. He got an early taste for that experience at Lancaster Country Day.

“Country Day was a tight ship, but there was tremendous freedom within those parameters,” Birney said. “We had very, very intelligent teachers who fostered our curiosity and gave us fantastic opportunities across the board, sports-wise, creativity-wise, and intellectually as a whole.

“I'm grateful I had the opportunity to go there and I made the most of it,” Birney said.

Frank Birney has spent decades performing on the big and small screen, as well as the stage.



A MILLION WAYS TO TELL A STORY, ONE WAY TO BE MOVED

BY MICHAEL SCHWARTZ



What drives
documentarian
Melissa Hammel's
films is "a person's
psychology, how
they operate and
move through the
world."

Documentary filmmaker Melissa Hammel '88 followed a decidedly oblique path into her chosen field, and but for a single course in her senior year of college, she would likely never have discovered her passion for making either motion pictures or documentaries.

Majoring in sociology and women's studies at Tufts University, Hammel found herself in an intensive, yearlong seminar on international security and the environment. The class divided into groups, and each had to create something to explore the material from a new angle and to present at an international symposium at the end of a year's study. One group had to put together a briefing book, for example, while Hammel's group was tasked with making a video.

She was chosen to lead the video group, and the experience literally changed her life.

"A lot of what I did was write a script, collect found footage and assemble it into the 20-30 minute final documentary," Hammel said, speaking to Connections from her home and production studio, Becoming Pictures, in Bridgehampton, NY.

"I thought, 'This format is genius. I can learn about a subject, digest it, and then filter it through my own lens to teach others. How cool is that?'" Hammel said. "I'll never get bored."

Before she set about never getting bored, she immersed herself in the deep end of the nuts and bolts of filmmaking at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts.

"Grad school was intense," Hammel said. She had always enjoyed photography, so while visualizing the world through a lens wasn't alien to her, other elements unique to filmmaking were. "Everything from lighting to cinematography to sound recording to producing. That was all new to me."

After graduation, Hammel moved to an apartment in the West Village, where she found one of her most fascinating documentary subjects living upstairs.

Hammel's film, "Ilona, Upstairs" offers both a moving portrait of a vibrantly, enigmatic woman, as well as a primer on Hammel's approach to filmmaking and storytelling.

The 25-minute film follows Ilona, an émigré and Holocaust survivor who doesn't let those biographical details impinge on her irrepressibly creative, positive and forward-looking demeanor. At times, Ilona seems singularly, almost obstinately uninterested in discussing her Judaism or her experience in World War II, despite Hammel's gentle questioning in those directions.



"What interests me is a person's psychology, how they operate and move through the world," Hammel said. "I like asking questions of people."

"With Ilona," Hammel continued, "I knew within a minute and a half of meeting her that I wanted to spend more time with her. She was a wise woman who had lived through a lot and had made a point of examining her experiences. She liked to

teach and I liked to be taught. I was curious and I think she appreciated someone valuing what she had to offer.

"But as far as her past, and whether or not the Holocaust is something that's always with her, I guess I don't know," Hammel said. "It was clear that that wasn't part of any story she was interested in telling, and it also wasn't a question that was burning deep inside me, either. I just accepted that aspect

of her and I suppose I was more interested in the person she was more than the specific details of how she became that person."

"I see all the films I make as an exploration for myself," Hammel said. "If I feel like I'm already tied to an answer or a point of view going in, it ceases to interest me."

Hammel describes her experience at Country Day as one defined by multiple points of view and a successful reconciliation of them and respect for them.

"I loved Country Day," Hammel declared. "Other people I know talk about high school being awkward and awful and I can't relate to any of it. We were a class of 30 and we all respected the heck out of each other.

"We were taught by incredible people who respected us and who we respected in turn. Chip Smedley is up there in the top few, and Donna Luttrell. And John Jarvis. I loved the man," Hammel said.

"I came to Country Day in sixth grade and I developed a lot of self-confidence there. I started an outdoors club, edited 'Impressions,' and was president of my class. Looking back, what made it special was that feeling that everybody could do anything, and I never felt I couldn't be myself," Hammel said.

And for aspiring documentarians, Hammel offered some advice.

"Whatever moves you as an individual you should pay attention to and ask yourself, 'Why am I moved?'"

"There are a million ways to tell the same story," Hammel said. "You have to find the one that resonates with you."

“

I SEE ALL
THE FILMS
I MAKE AS AN
EXPLORATION
FOR MYSELF.



For more on Hammel or
"Ilona, Upstairs" visit
www.becomingpictures.com



BUILDING AN ARMY

of WAY MORE THAN ONE BY MICHAEL SCHWARTZ



Top Left: Students perform Neil Simon's "Rumors" in November 2016. Kristin Wolanin heads the Country Day theater program and directed the show. Opposite page: Wolanin teaches a section of the Middle School class Theater 8.

Kristin Wolanin has neither the unkempt scruff of Che Guevara, the inflexible ideology of Leon Trotsky, nor quite the historical stature of Julius Caesar, but don't let those superficial differences fool you. The head of Country Day's theater department shares one paramount ambition with this trio, and she's been open about it since taking the helm in fall 2014: "I'm building an army," Wolanin declared.

The ranks of students who have enlisted in Wolanin's (nicknamed the not terribly intimidating "Mama K" by her kids) corps stretch across a broader range of grades, dramatic and technical interests, and creative inclinations than the department has likely ever seen.

For example, in November 2016, her troupe performed Neil Simon's "Rumors." A lesser-known farce by one of America's best-known playwrights, the piece demands an ensemble with the trust and chemistry — to say nothing of comedic timing — that comes only from working on it for hours and working together as a group in other contexts.

"We couldn't have done this show three years ago," Wolanin said.

Her students have taken ever greater ownership of school productions under her stewardship, including publicity, poster and T-shirt design, ticket sales, set building, running lights and sound, and even assistant directing.



For Wolanin, who also teaches sixth-grade public speaking, Theater 8 and a biennial Upper School Shakespeare seminar, the acting on stage and the technical action behind-the-scenes share equal billing. "My goal for how to run the theater department is to create a bridge between tech and acting, and for everybody to experience both sides of putting on a show," she said.

Wolanin offered an elegantly simple explanation for why she's put so much work into making Country Day theater as broadly appealing and inclusive as the department can be.

"I like to have fun," she said. "The day I wake up and don't feel excited about coming into work will be the day it's time to move on. I never want to be bored and, not to be cliché, but I love my job."

“ MY GOAL IS TO CREATE A BRIDGE BETWEEN TECH AND ACTING, AND FOR EVERYBODY TO EXPERIENCE BOTH SIDES OF PUTTING ON A SHOW. ”



Above: Audrey (Bailey MacDowell '16) in her final moments before becoming a meal for the insatiable man-eating plant, Audrey II, in 2015's "Little Shop of Horrors."

"The most rewarding thing is seeing the change in students as they progress over time, whether that's onstage or backstage or nowhere near the stage. My philosophy with the kids is, 'If you want to be involved, I can get you there,'" Wolanin said.

After earning her bachelor's from DeSales University, where she has the distinction of being the first theater major to also play a sport for the school (track & field and cross country), Wolanin went on to earn an M.F.A. in theater performance from Southern Methodist University, where she earned the Bob Hope Scholarship for Excellence in Graduate Acting.

A stint acting in New York City followed by the vagaries of life saw Wolanin head back south to Orlando, Fla. There, she reconnected with the head of the Orlando Shakespeare Theater, who had previously directed for the Pennsylvania Shakespeare Theater and directed Wolanin in several productions.

One of the ways Wolanin paid the bills during this time was as a personal trainer. "It's kind of like a bartender in that you've got all sorts of people who are more or less strangers telling you all this personal stuff, which can get — interesting," she said. During one personal training/unlicensed therapy session, a client told Wolanin how distraught her son was that his theater teacher was leaving to get her master's.

"And I was instantly, 'What school is this? I have my master's. I can teach theater,'" Wolanin said in the scheming, robotic tone of someone reacting reflexively to an unforeseen opportunity.

"I went in and interviewed and within a couple days, I had the job" teaching theater at Bishop Moore Catholic High School, Wolanin said.

"I never thought I would be a teacher. I never thought I would be a director. It was all about the acting. And then something just shifted and it was one of the best things in the world. I can't see myself doing anything else but teaching."

"And," Wolanin continued, "to make the whole thing even more ironic, they have a theater teaching track at DeSales and my dad was really pushing that direction hard so I'd graduate with a slightly more practical degree, in his view, but I told him I just wanted to be an actor and I meant it. I meant it then, at least."

"I should have listened to my dad."

Though teaching and directing take up more of Wolanin's time than they once did, she has never stopped acting and continues to find her way on stage whenever she can. Playing Elizabeth Proctor in Arthur Miller's "The Crucible" was a revelatory experience for her. "That was the role that let me release something that I don't think I had fully tapped into before," she said.

Wolanin has performed in works ranging from "The Tempest" to "Cinderella" to "The Velveteen Rabbit," in addition to helping shape state standards as a District Theater Chair of the Florida State Thespians.

She loves acting, but she clearly loves her students just as much, and she wants nothing less than to help each one of them realize his or her fullest potential, as well as that of the ensemble as a whole.

"I want the LCDS Theater Company to be a drawing point for the school. I want people when they're shopping at Giant to see our posters and say, 'We love going to their shows,' and they're not an LCDS family but they want to come here because of the way we entertain," Wolanin said.

"We're a quality army."



MIKE STILL'S ADVICE:

Writer, Discover

Thyself

BY MICHAEL SCHWARTZ



If Mike Still had felt even slightly less repelled by the prospect of studying for and taking the LSAT, the world of comedy and improv would be without one of its warmest, wittiest and most clear-eyed and grounded citizens.

“Yeah, I remember graduating with this vague idea that I wanted to be a lawyer, or go into law somehow, but I started looking at that test and not wanting to take it tipped the scales in the artistic direction for me,” Still said, speaking to Connections from Los Angeles.

Like Rya Kihlstedt, Still did not graduate from Country Day, yet both remembered their experiences fondly. Still's tenure consisted of a two-year respite from Centerville Middle School.

“I remember Country Day as a breath of fresh air,” Still said. “There was much more attention from the teachers and more freedom to learn for the students. That was a real change for me and Country Day was definitely a positive experience in my life.”

“I remember graduating with this vague idea that I wanted to be a lawyer.”

Still's first love is acting, which, along with improv, he has done in one form or another ever since his first summer job — at the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire.

“I think I was 14 and doing this thing at the Ren Faire where me and another person would make up a three-line scene that went line-counter-line,” Still said. “It was fun and challenging and it felt like a sport, like longform dodgeball. What was really great about it was it gave me the opportunity to get better. I wasn't good when I first started but I had to develop the discipline to stay in character for eight hours a day.”



Still spent three summers at the Renaissance Faire, and had been promoted to royalty by the time he left. "So that's a feather in my cap," Still said.

While in high school, Still was active not just in school plays, but in Lancaster's broader theater scene, appearing in Theatre of the Seventh Sister's productions of "Macbeth" and the Fulton Opera House production of "Bye Bye Birdie."

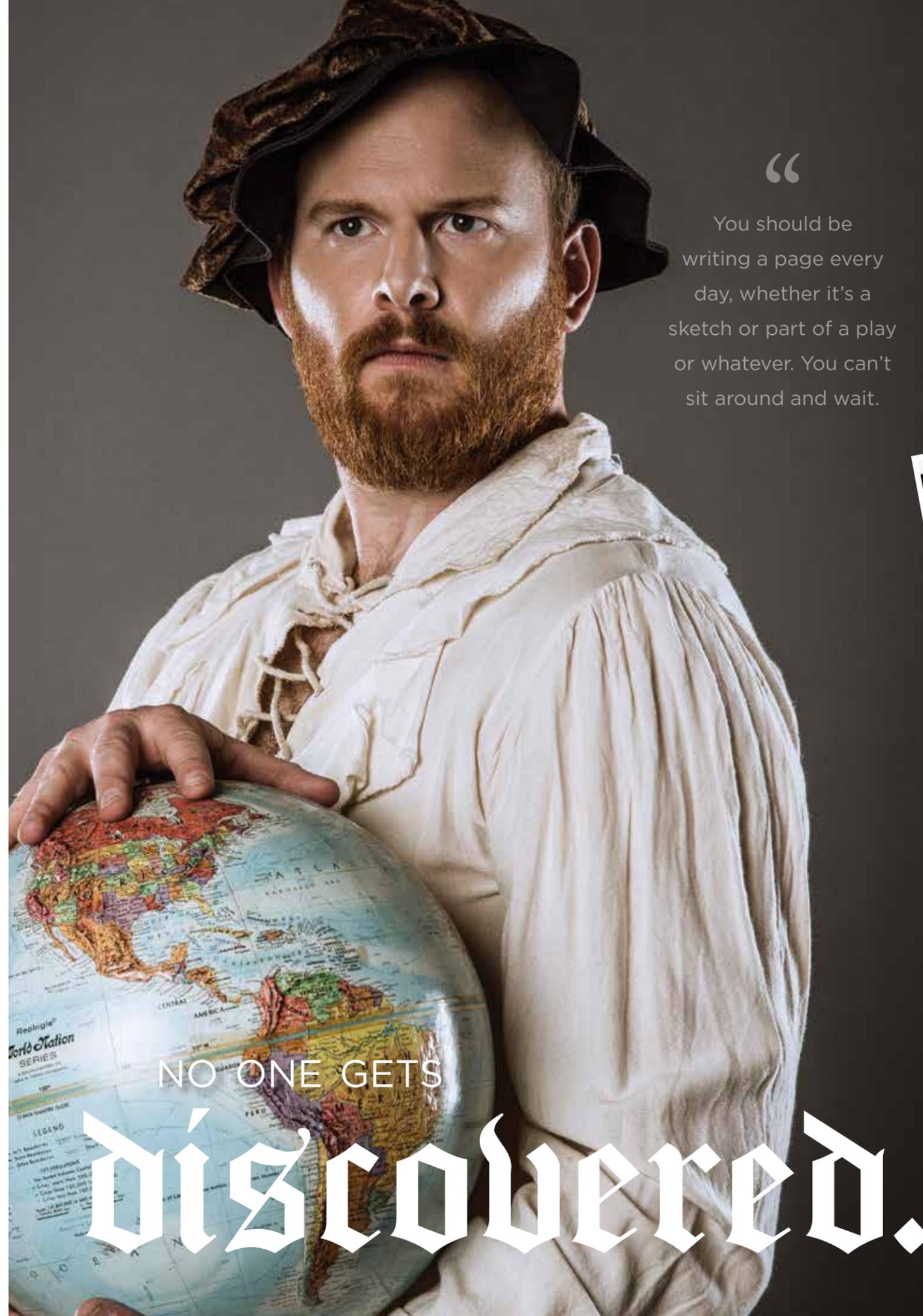
"It wasn't until after college that I auditioned and got cast in a touring production of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' that I thought, 'Oh, I can make a living doing this,'" Still said.

His drive and improvisational talent led Still to Los Angeles and the Upright Citizens Brigade Theatre, where he became its artistic director. The famous comedy group's alumni include Amy Poehler, Adam McKay, Ilana Glazer, Kate McKinnon and Chris Gethard.

Still's resume is too long to list here, but if you want to see or hear him right now, you can check out "Broken," on ABC.com, a show that Still created and stars in, or subscribe to his political comedy podcast, "Hard Nation" on Earwolf. Or, if you find yourself in the Los Angeles area, you might see Still on stage on any given night performing at UCB.

Still offered an extemporaneous bounty of caution, inspiration and perspective for the young, aspiring and creative.

"Sit down and make your own work; write your own material. The days are gone (to the extent they ever existed in the first place) when you could sit somewhere and wait to get cast in something," Still said.



NO ONE GETS
discovered.

“ You should be writing a page every day, whether it’s a sketch or part of a play or whatever. You can’t sit around and wait.

stage & screen



Top: Still performing on stage at UCB in Los Angeles. Middle: The title card of "Broken," created by and starring Still. Bottom: Still educates America on Comedy Central's "Drunk History."

"Being discovered is a myth," he continued. "No one gets discovered without doing the work. You should be writing a page every day, whether it's a sketch or part of a play or whatever. You can't sit around and wait. You have to get around to doing it."

He went on:

"You need to find a good group of collaborators, and you're going to find that successful folks are also prolific folks. The comedy world can be fun, and it's supposed to be, but at the same time you need to come at it with your eyes open and ask yourself, 'How is what I'm doing getting me closer to being able to buy a house?'"

"Be careful of ephemera," he continued. "Vine is gone and who knows what the next thing to go will be, but writing matters and it always will. Larry David is still working," Still said.

"I wish I knew coming out of high school and college all the jobs in entertainment. Entertainment is such a vibrant and huge thing. It's not just acting. If you want to be a lawyer, there's entertainment law. If you want to write commercials, you can get gigs doing that. It's a massive and recession-proof economy and California isn't some faraway place.

"The people who don't think it's far away are the people who make it."



Left: Daniel Walton plays Gonzalo in "The Tempest." As part of NYU's Shakespeare in the Square company, Walton has enjoyed a Bard-stravaganza, with turns in "As You Like It," "Twelfth Night" and more. Right: Katie Jacobsen (left) as one of the Weird Sisters in "Macbeth."

DANIEL WALTON '14, a junior at New York University's Stella Adler Studio of Acting, is working toward a B.F.A. in drama and minor in English. He has performed in NYU's Shakespeare in the Square's productions of "Much Ado About Nothing" as Borachio, "The Tempest" as Gonzalo, "As You Like It" as Orlando, and "Twelfth Night" as The Sea Captain. Shakespeare in the Square brings free Shakespeare to Washington Square Park year-round, rain or shine.

KATIE JACOBSEN '14, a junior at Skidmore College, is working toward a B.A. in English language and literature, along with a B.S. in drama and dramatics/theater arts. At Skidmore, she was cast as Weird Sister in "Macbeth" and the Goddess of Marriage in "As You Like It." She traveled to Oxford University for the 2017 spring semester to study early modern drama.



Trust yourself.

— WALTON

Breathe.

— JACOBSEN

What's the biggest misconception people have about acting and the performing arts?

DW | I would say the biggest misconception, or a least the one most palpable in my community, is that theater and the arts in general do not make a difference. There is a view in America that studying the arts earns a useless degree and that pursuing the arts is nothing more than a frivolous passion. That's simply inaccurate. I know countless programs making a difference here in New York City through arts and theater. I have friends in Shakespeare companies that visit underfunded schools. The studio I train in, The Stella Adler Studio Of Acting, has a fantastic outreach division where they teach theater at rehab facilities and at Rikers Island (a program I was lucky enough to take part in this summer). And beyond the countless outreach and community service programs, the impact actors can have on us on a daily basis is remarkable. From fighting climate change to promoting healthier body image to inspiring young women to fight for their rights to demanding Hollywood show the diversity of this country, actors are indeed forces for change. And I have a lot of respect for my community and the impact artists make.

How did you decide to study acting in college?

DW | I knew for a very long time that I wanted to pursue it. And I was lucky enough to be an environment that not only encouraged me to pursue my passion, but also fostered an intellectual and diligent approach to any field that I'd pursue. I felt as confident pursuing the arts as I would English or some other academic topic.

KJ | I had my mind set on studying acting in college since Middle School. Theater had always been in my life, and I was determined to make a future for myself in the field.

What's been the most surprising part of pursuing acting in college?

DW | I think I expected acting school to be competitive, but everyone was honestly just as nervous as I was.

KJ | I've been so gratefully surprised by the fact that I'm expected to do so much more than just act. In the Theater Department at Skidmore College, we operate on a company mentality. This means that even if we've declared a concentration in acting or directing or one of the technical fields, we are still expected to contribute to the department in other ways. Even though I mainly identify as an actor, I have spent time in the catwalks of our theater hanging, focusing, and circuiting lights; I've helped sew costumes in the costume shop; I was gently introduced to power tools while working on sets in the scene shop. I never expected to leave an acting program with all of these skills.

What's been the most rewarding part?

DW | My studio has this saying, "Growth as an actor and growth as a human being are synonymous," and I find that more and more apt each year I spend in training. I feel that I've become a kinder and more generous individual both with myself and others. On a daily basis I work on not only understanding other people's views and their feelings but embodying them. And this takes a great deal of patience and kindness with myself. This is has been the greatest take-away. Studying acting has taught me to take care of myself in ways I greatly appreciate. I eat better, sleep better, exercise more, and most importantly prioritize my mental health. Acting has taught me so much about love, and what it means to love and care for oneself as well as others.

KJ | How much I've grown as a person from my acting training. Between figuring out what topics have the most emotional depth for me while studying Stanislavski or using the Alexander technique to adjust how my body moves and reacts to the space I'm in, I have learned so much about how I operate as a person. My training has given me a voice that is full of soul. It has taught me how to honestly communicate not just in a theatrical setting, but in my personal relationships as well.



Left: In addition to her role in "Macbeth," Jacobsen (right) was cast as the Goddess of Marriage in Skidmore's recent production of "As You Like It." Right: Walton as Borachio in "Much Ado About Nothing."

Have an open mind about where you are and where you're going.

— JACOBSEN

What advice do you have for Upper Schoolers considering the performing arts?

DW | First things first, if you're not sure you want to pursue theater, this is OK. I have plenty of friends at NYU that studied acting for a year or a semester and transferred into another department, and the other way around. I think there is this feeling in high school that when you decide that you're studying theater, you've made a commitment to do that and only that, and likewise if you decide not to that maybe you're making a mistake and giving up on a passion of yours. But your decision can always change. In college, one is constantly altering and refining and redefining and redirecting their life plan. It's OK to not know. So if you are considering theater, audition. Give yourself the option. There's no harm in having possibilities. If you've already decided that you're auditioning, you're probably overwhelmed too. You've probably been told that to get into a theater school, you have to audition for a lot. But no matter where you end up, and trust me on this, I know of people studying all around the country; you're gonna be fine. Being a good artist isn't defined by your training. If you don't get into your top school, or you can't afford it, or you simply can't study acting, just breathe. You can still achieve your goals. You'll find a way to make it work. Trust yourself.

KJ | There are so many paths to get to the same place. Have an open mind about where you are and where you're going. Breathe. There is no one correct way to get to a certain job, so look at your opportunities as they come. But above all, be passionate and have fun.

How did Country Day help you get to where you are now?

DW | I think one of the biggest legs up Country Day gave me was my constant exposure to Shakespeare and studying the English language. I'd say the three things that prepared me most for studying acting were the Playing Shakespeare course with Renée Morth, the Beats poetry course with Mike Simpson, and Model United Nations with Sam Schindler. Those three course, and teachers, taught me a lot about acting, and humanity. Through Playing Shakespeare, I had the chance to work on plays and parts that very few actors my age would have the privilege to work on: "Richard III," "Macbeth," "The Tempest," etc. The Beats trip showed me parts of American culture that I had never seen, and opened my eyes to understanding people very much not like myself. MUN brought me a confidence in myself and ability to encounter risk and challenges on the fly with ease and composure. All of these skill have been instrumental to my work here at NYU as an actor.

KJ | I am so grateful for my time at Country Day. The interdisciplinary nature of the Upper School helped me form a deep passion for not just theater, but for English as well. Because of the time I spent in World Civilizations and AP English, as well as a theater class called Playing Shakespeare, I have become a passionate English and theater double major. Country Day gave me a work ethic beyond most of my colligate peers, as well as the skills needed to have meaningful discussions both inside and outside of classroom. Because of the skills that Country Day helped me acquire, I'm going abroad during my spring semester to study English, with a focus on early modern drama, at Oxford University. I hope to continue to marry my English and theater majors after college by pursuing graduate work in early modern drama and performance studies.

A 'BREAKFAST CLUB' OUTSIDER

BY MICHAEL SCHWARTZ



By the time she was in eighth grade, Joanna Underhill '86 had attended four different schools. When freshman year rolled around, that tally climbed to five as she found herself at Lancaster Country Day, and not terribly thrilled about it.

"My mom was a big believer in changing schools," Underhill said. "By that point, I wasn't nearly as big a believer as she was and told her I didn't want to go. Then she said I could take theater classes there, and that was the sweetener."

Underhill has been in theater class in one way or another ever since, and while the adolescent stress of changing schools has given way to the concerns and responsibilities of adulthood, theater remains her sweetener.

In addition to her day job as assistant director of the Philadelphia Alumni Writers House at Franklin & Marshall College, Underhill is a teaching artist at the Fulton Theatre, performs in the sketch comedy troupe Happy Time Explosion Show, and serves as board chair, resident sock puppet artist and prop designer for Creative Works of Lancaster.

Underhill has always enjoyed a sense of belonging and camaraderie with her drama-oriented fellow travellers, and generally just felt at home in the theater. With one major exception.

"I was much too shy to be onstage, so I volunteered to do the backstage stuff," Underhill said. "I really wanted to perform, but I just couldn't get up the nerve. So by senior year at Country Day, I stage managed my first play."

Underhill built on that experience in college, earning a theater degree from Penn State, with a concentration in stage management.

Besides her own shyness, Underhill credits Country Day theater institution Jean Clemson with opening her eyes to the myriad possibilities and opportunities for fulfillment that stage management offered.

"I think she knew how much I liked that backstage stuff, and that I didn't want to be on stage, but I did want to be in the mix," Underhill said. "She told me it was the best of both worlds, because you get to work with the actors, the directors and the technicians. The stage manager is the lynchpin."

Underhill generally just felt at home in the theater. With one major exception.

It was a practical realization that finally impelled Underhill to steel herself and get on stage with an actual audience in the seats.

"I wanted to be a drama teacher," she said, "and it occurred to me that if I'm going to teach this, I'd better learn to do it."

Her first experience came during a Fulton Theatre children's tour. In addition to her work as stage manager, Underhill led acting workshops with the kids.

"A light bulb went off," she said. "I can be a drama teacher and it's the best thing ever."

This newfound passion took her to Northwestern University, where she earned her masters in children's theater and creative drama. The first job offer Underhill got after graduation brought her back home to Lancaster, as the Upper and Middle School drama teacher at Linden Hall.

She moved on from that position to her current one at F&M, but Underhill's commitment to participating in and supporting the performing arts in Lancaster only continues to grow.

As the board chair of Creative Works of Lancaster, Underhill focuses her efforts and resources on bringing new works and new artists into the local scene.

The thread running through these disparate pursuits leads back to Jean Clemson's theater classes. It didn't take long for the skeptical freshman transplant to warm to other aspects of the school, and she finds herself in the familiar role of oddball whenever the topic of high school comes up in conversation.

"Everyone else seemed to hate high school, so when I chime in and say not only didn't I hate it, but I actually really enjoyed it, people don't know what to make of that," Underhill said.

"It's as if everyone else feels like they lived through 'The Breakfast Club' except me."



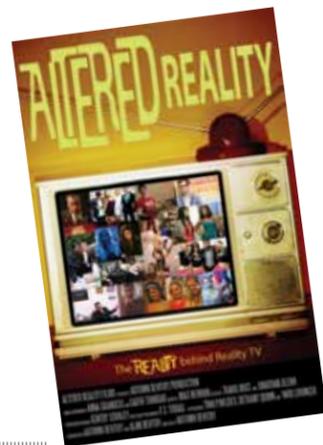
CLASS NOTES

We recognize that social media is an easier way than Class Notes for our alumni to stay in touch. Please see Page 2 for a listing of LCDS social media accounts. You'll notice alumni news and updates moving more onto these networks, even as Class Notes continues to be a place to see some alumni submissions, reunion updates and event pictures.



In August, Debbie Murray Martin '68 and Harriet Appel Breuninger '68 traveled to Scotland, visiting Glasgow, Edinburgh and the Highlands.

The poster for "Altered Reality," the film co-written by Alan DeVitry '71 and his daughter, Autumn.



To submit a class note for print or web publication, contact Anne Dandridge Amman '98 at ammana@lancastercountryday.org.

1950s

1951
Margaret Haller Hannum
717-299-3798
phanum3@verizon.net

1954
Sally Rich Rohrer
717-394-0847

1955
Eunice Fulton Blocker
502-895-2691

1958
Barbara Jaeger Gillis
717-299-3374
wicklawn1770@comcast.net

1960s

1960
Anne Campbell Slater
610-896-6468
Slater.Anne@gmail.com

1961
Alix Shuman Roth
717-507-8227
alixroth@verizon.net

1964
Phyllis Morgan-Rupert
717-768-3322

1966
Joseph A. Myers Jr.
717-394-9854
joemyers1@comcast.net

1968
Deborah Murray Martin
717-290-2082
debbie.martin@fandm.edu

In August, Debbie Murray Martin and Harriet Appel Breuninger, along with spouses and 20 others, joined a tour of Scotland sponsored by LancasterHistory.org. The trip included several days in Glasgow and Edinburgh, but the highlight was eight days at Aegis Field Center near Inverness in the Highlands.

1970s

1971
Melissa Byers
818-719-6550
melissabyers@earthlink.net

Will Campbell was a guest of the Texas Horns at Ottawa Blues Fest.

Alan DeVitry wrote a film with his daughter, Autumn. The film, "Altered Reality," is based on the real world behind reality television. The movie is available for streaming online.

1974
Virginia Whelan, a textile conservator, was interviewed in The New York Times and appeared on C-SPAN for her work helping to conserve the fabric of George Washington's headquarters tent.

1975
Diane Eshleman Djordjevic
410-919-7219
dianedjordjevic@gmail.com

1976
Margaret Hall Norton
503-638-6127
Margie.Norton@cenveo.com

1977
Eileen Eckenrode Vroom
540-338-3630

1979
Sarah Miller Dorgan
717-687-6466

1980s

1983
John F. Hinkle III
717-898-5728
jfh3rph@comcast.net

1984
Kathleen Murphy Jasaitis
781-631-7899
kmjasaitis@comcast.net

1985
Deborah Dodds
310-415-7796
Debby@DebbyDodds.com

1986
Joanna Underhill
717-468-3788

The Wall Street Journal published Victoria Gardner Coates' op-ed "Rewriting the History of Jerusalem," which described the attempts to redefine the capital of Israel as a supranational city to which Muslims, Christians and Jews have equal claim.

1987
Kristen K. Gedeon
703-283-6187
kristengedeon@hotmail.com

Rya Kihlstedt plays a mother being taken off life support in the new series "One Mississippi," a tender, occasionally funny, often moving show about the grieving process.

1988
Jack Fulton
717-394-2255
jack.fulton@tecomet.com

1989
Bob Porter
pistol3667@aol.com



1990s

1990
Mary Fulton Gingrich
717-560-4908
marygingrich@comcast.net

1991
Susan Hull Ballantyne
717-464-3537
shballantyne@yahoo.com

Katie Kozloff Banks' company, Katie K Active, was featured on the Steals and Deals segment of "Good Morning America."

1992
Kate Matwiczuk Hemmerich
kmatwiczuk@gmail.com

1993
Jennifer Gschwend McGough
610-430-7671
drgschwend@yahoo.com

1994
Stacey Gregg
919-622-4284
sgregg13@yahoo.com

1995
Betsy Wademan Ahlstrand
415-845-7654
betsyahlstrand@gmail.com

Jennifer Mikes Mullen
781-558-5293
jcmikes@gmail.com

In July, Laura Sheaffer Harkin earned her mastership with the Academy of General Dentistry in Boston. Laura owns her family's patient-centered practice in New Holland. She and her husband, Sean, have two children, Denis and Lianne, who joined the LCDS community in ninth and third grade, respectively. "While there are definite changes since my graduation, all of the attributes that I loved about the school are ever-present!" Laura said.

In July, Laura Sheaffer Harkin '95 earned her mastership with the Academy of General Dentistry in Boston.

Paula Leonard '96 married Jose Cabrera on Aug. 6 at their home in Columbia.

Anne Dandridge Amman '98 married Cory Amman on Oct. 8 in Lancaster. Ashley Walker '98 was one of her bridesmaids.

Matthew Elkin '97 and Brandon Barr '97 competed in "Rock the Ridge," an endurance event that raised more than \$200,000 for the Mohonk Preserve.



1996
Dennis M. Baldwin
484-269-4309
fcsp3@yahoo.com

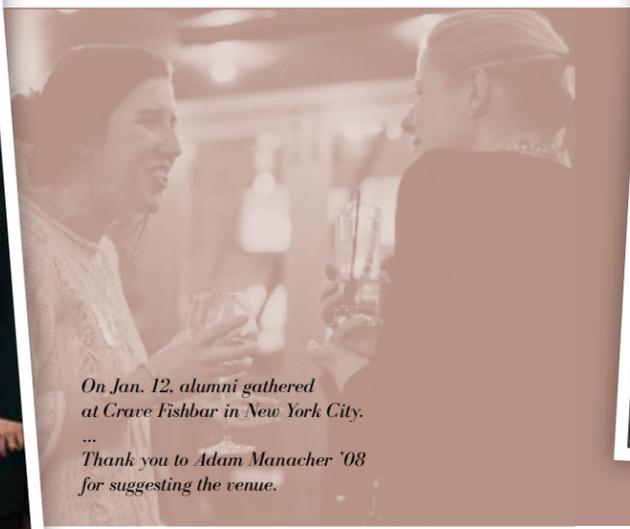
Kerry Diamond Rinato
krinato@gmail.com

Paula Leonard married Jose Cabrera on Aug. 6 at their home in Columbia, Pa. and welcomed a baby girl Oct. 5.

1997
Mark Ewing
303-859-4994
stuff@foresightphoto.com

Matthew Elkin and Brandon Barr teamed up for a 50-mile endurance challenge called "Rock the Ridge." The event raised more than \$200,000 for the Mohonk Preserve, in the heart of the Hudson Valley, where Matthew lives. Brandon traveled all the way from San Diego to participate. They completed the challenge by hiking the 50 miles in less than 20 hours (and making it alive!)





On Jan. 12, alumni gathered at Crave Fishbar in New York City. ... Thank you to Adam Manacher '08 for suggesting the venue.



The class of 1956 gathered over Alumni Weekend and celebrated at the Hamilton Club. Pictured in the center is Sally Vanderslice McMorris' graduation dress.



The class of 2001 reconnected in November at Annie Bailey's.



Recent graduates gathered for coffee with Alumni Director Anne Amman Dandridge '98 (left) and Steve Lisk on Dec. 16. ... Alumni returned to school in May to talk to the class of 2016 about college life.

Mary Porter '01 earned a spot in the LCDS Athletic Hall of Honor for her stellar performance in basketball and tennis. Her former coach, Gloria Jaremko, inducted her.



John Heath '05 married Dr. Allison Chambliss June 25 in Virginia Beach, Va. Classmate Dr. Andrew Baron was his best man.

Sarah Clements Jordan '05 married Anthony Jordan on Oct. 17, 2015 in Reading. Bridesmaids included LCDS alumnae Liz Grimm, Libby Roman '05 and Alissa Menges Noss '03.

SAVE THE DATE

4/7/17
Lifers Luncheon

4/28/17
Shippen Society Lunch

5/20/17
Graduation

10/13-10/14
Alumni Weekend

2000s

2000
Nicole Richie
404-216-2053
nrchie617@yahoo.com

Piera Moyer
610-376-7546
pieraesmesnyder@gmail.com

Emily Sedlis Russo and husband, **Christopher Russo '01**, welcomed baby Alexander Daniel Russo in October.

2001
Bianca M. Heslop
BiancaMHeslop@gmail.com

Elizabeth Sudhakar Vidor
elizabethsudhakar@gmail.com

Mary Porter was inducted into the LCDS Athletic Hall of Honor by former faculty member Gloria Jaremko.

Oliver Feakins, president of Track5media, was named one of Central Penn Business Journal's Forty under 40, with Track5media winning its Business of the Year award.

2002
Corie Patterson Burton
Corie.Burton@gmail.com

2003
Lauren Allwein-Andrews
laurens99@hotmail.com

2004
Andrew England
aengland1@gmail.com

Elizabeth Reidenbach
717-560-9470
Elizabeth.reidenbach@gmail.com

Jeffrey FitzSimmons Enos married Courtney Marie Vaughan Aug. 27 at Mt. Washington Mill Dye House in Baltimore.

Melisa Baez, director of the new Women's Business Center at Assets in Lancaster, was interviewed by LNP and the Central Penn Business Journal for her work helping women start businesses.

Noah Miller is running for Lancaster City Council.

2005
Libby Roman
717-669-8307
RomanL@lancastercountryday.org

John Heath married Dr. Allison Chambliss June 25 in Virginia Beach, Va. Classmate **Dr. Andrew Baron** was his best man.

Sarah Clements Jordan married Anthony Jordan on Oct. 17, 2015 in Reading. Bridesmaids included LCDS alumnae **Liz Grimm, Libby Roman** and **Alissa Menges Noss '03**.

2006
Brendan Drewniany
brendan.drewniany@gmail.com

2008
Erika Vernet
484-269-7483
Erika.vernet@gmail.com

Kellen Wenrich has a new song, "Kellen of Troy — So You Found Yourself a Rockstar," available on YouTube.



Ella McDougall '10 talked to the Upper School in January about her time with the Peace Corps in Peru.

Alex Blickle '11 was inducted into the LCDS Athletic Hall of Honor by faculty member T.J. O'Gorman and former faculty member Mike Simpson '91. In Upper School, Blickle earned varsity letters in soccer, basketball and baseball.

Chris Andrews '12 walked across the country to promote face-to-face communication as part of his Let's Talk USA project.



2010s

2010
Molly Umble
UmbleME@hendrix.edu

Benjamin Murdoch finished his master's degree at Cambridge University and started working in consulting for KPMG in London.

Ella McDougall talked to the Upper School in January about her time with the Peace Corps in Peru.

2011
Alex Blickle was inducted into the LCDS Athletic Hall of Honor by faculty member T.J. O'Gorman and former faculty member **Mike Simpson '91**.

2012
Kelsey Gohn
717-575-9034
kelseygothn@gmail.com

On Aug. 8, **Chris Andrews**, who recently graduated from the University of St. Andrews in Scotland, set out on a project called Let's Talk USA. He walked across the country, logging more than 3,000 miles in 200 days to promote face-to-face communication in the digital age. For more information, visit Letstalkusa.com or Instagram at #letstalkusa.

Sarah Murdoch graduated from Cornell University and began working in hospitality/real estate consulting for PWC in Manhattan.

ALUMNI WEEKEND 13TH & 14TH OCTOBER

Celebrating Class Years Ending in 2 and 7

ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT *Ton-Taun*

Ton-Taun, a band whose members include **Jordan Capizzi '08, John Spurlock '09** and **Doug Hynes '09**, adapted their EP "Sorry Brian, You're Derek Now," into a stage musical. **Joanna Underhill '86** directed the show.



2016
ALUMNI
WEEKEND
OCTOBER 14 & 15

Alumni Weekend and Spirit Week succeeded yet again in reuniting old friends and producing a solid week of sustained, raised spirits. The weekend festivities included the John Jarvis Competitive Croquet Tournament, whose title went to Zoe '71 and Don Timperon.

In addition, alumni got together at the Lancaster Arts Hotel Friday, while Saturday's annual Race for Home charity run raised \$855 for Lancaster Area Habitat for Humanity.





On Oct. 25, former faculty and staff attended a luncheon at the school.



Above: Lindsay Ngau '15, Rachel Reiss '14, Anna Winner '14 and Solly Klombers '15.



Left: Rachel Reiss '14 and Olivia Blocher '25.

2013

Alison Charles was named to the dean's list for the fall semester with a 4.0 GPA at Penn State University, where she is a senior majoring in elementary education.

2014

Rachel Reiss, the Blue Sapphire featured twirler for the Penn State Blue Band, performed at the Rose Bowl Tournament of Roses Parade in January.

Lindsay Ngau '15, Rachel Reiss '14, Anna Winner '14 and Solly Klombers '15 got together at the recent Penn State-Pitt football game.

Katie Jacobsen was named to the dean's list for the spring semester at Skidmore College, where she is double majoring in English and theater.

Navia Flowers was part of an African dance performance at Crispus Attucks Center's 29th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast.

Bridget Umble, a junior at Hendrix College, has made the second squad of the Irish National Lacrosse Team. Bridget will represent Ireland in London next summer at the World Games Tournament. An attacker for the Warriors, Bridget has notched 84 goals and seven assists for 91 points over two seasons. She is the program's all-time leading scorer and made the 2016 All-Southern Athletic Association second team.

2015

Elizabeth Warfel
ewarfel@middlebury.edu

Randolph-Macon College's Department of Modern Languages awarded **Chrissy Burke** the Georgina Childs and Marcelle Prat de Jouvenel Scholarship to study abroad at the University of Nice this fall.

IN MEMORIAM

Eugene H. Gardner Sr. '53

Eugene H. Gardner Sr. '53, a Lancaster Country Day luminary whose ties to the school span four generations, passed away on July 16 at 80 years old.

In 1972, while serving on Country Day's Board of Trustees, Gene offered to manage the LCDS endowment pro bono. He went on to serve as Board president from 1978-1980, and his investment management firm, Gardner Russo & Gardner, has managed our investment accounts for more than four decades.

Gene Gardner is among a handful of individuals whose importance in the history of our school cannot be overstated. LCDS' financial future is secure, because Gene organized and ensured the healthy growth of our endowment. We are grateful for his service to our school.

Constance A. McCollough '52 (July 2016)

Eugene H. Gardner Sr. '53 (July 2016)

Eleanor Scott Kirk Achtermann '54 (September 2016)

John Cooper Hubbard '59 (September 2016)

Meriel M. Manix '77 (November 2016)

Emily Segal '06 (December 2016)

Julia Rachel Flood '08 (October 2016)

...
Leslie Blythe P'91, P'01, LS faculty 1987-2007 (January 2017)

Joseph Louis Jones, Jr.- Trustee 1985-1988 (August 2016)

Ethelmae McSparren P'79, P'75, P'82; Trustee 1970-82;

Alumni Secretary 1976-1983 (February 2017)

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