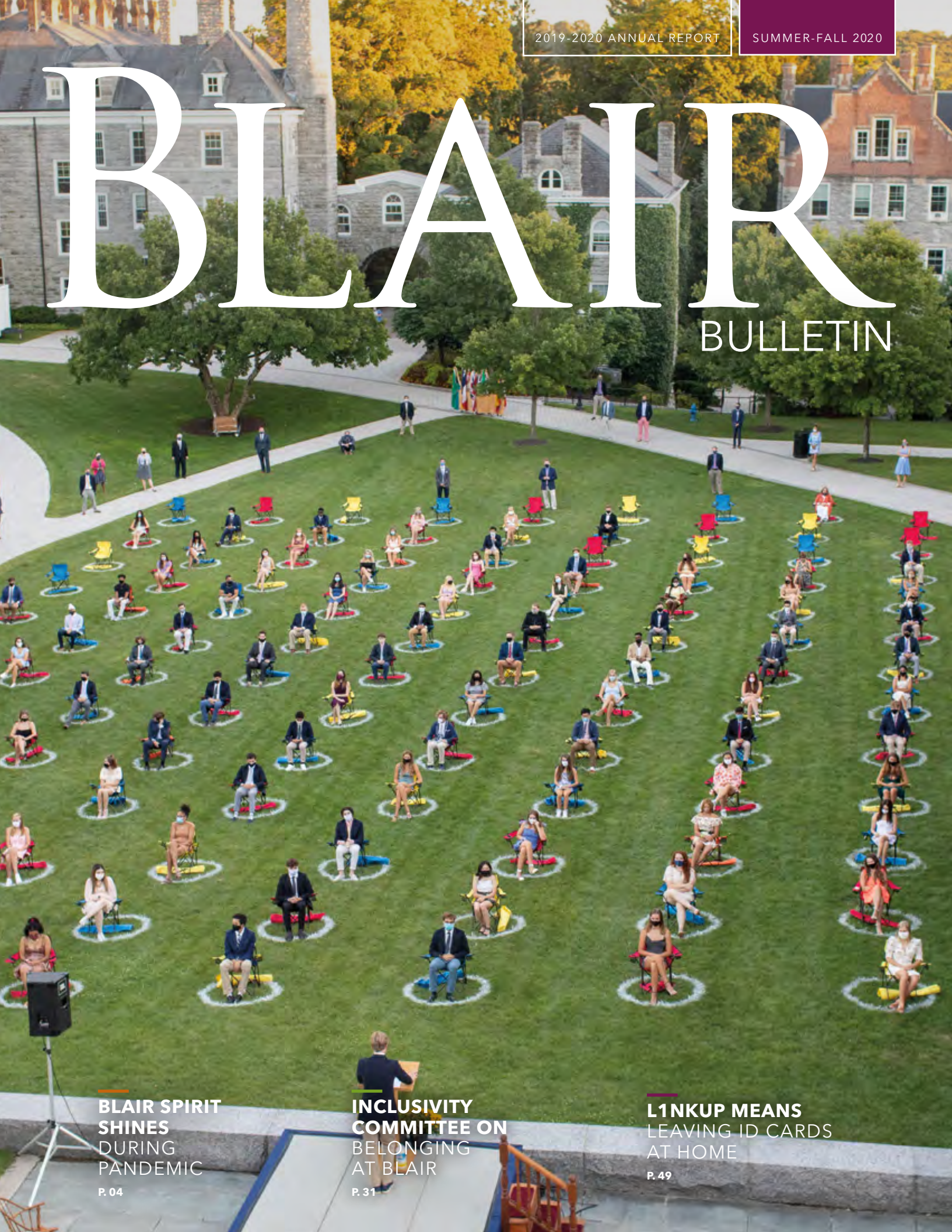


# BLAIR

## BULLETIN



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SHINES  
DURING  
PANDEMIC**

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COMMITTEE ON  
BELONGING  
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# *All In*

## *Blair Academy's Strategic Plan 2018-2025*

*All In* charts an exciting course for the important and inspired work we will undertake as we write the next chapter in our great School's history. Honoring and amplifying our core values of relationship-based learning and superior academic preparation, our Plan focuses first and foremost on people.

Visit [www.blair.edu/all-in](http://www.blair.edu/all-in) to see what lies ahead for Blair.

### **On the Cover:**

Blair's 173rd year opened on August 30 with an outdoor Convocation that brought the community together, both in person and virtually, on the eve of the academic year. The members of the senior class—wearing face masks and seated six feet apart—attended the ceremony, held on Hardwick Lawn. Read more and view a recording of the event at [www.blair.edu/convocation](http://www.blair.edu/convocation).



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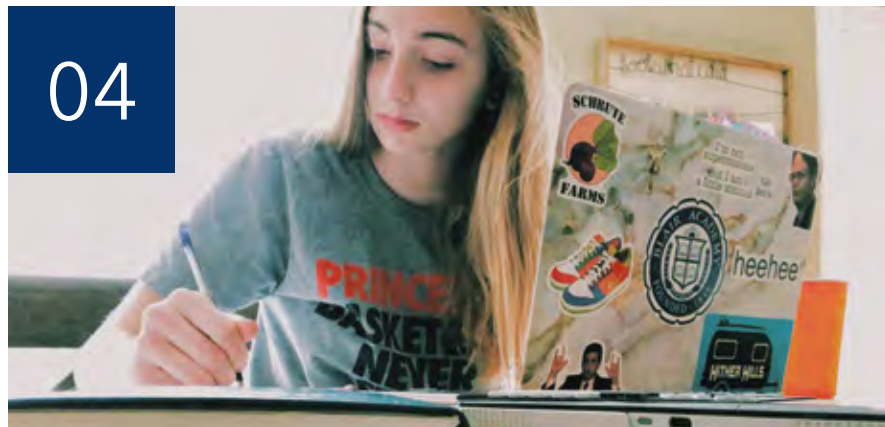
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Blair's 172nd commencement ceremony was a joy-filled celebration of the class of 2020, as well as the first graduation in School history to take place online.



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In this annual feature, Associate Head of School and Dean of Admission Peter G. Curran shares how the admission team brought the "feeling" of Blair to the digital world during the coronavirus pandemic.

# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

## Ava Nothstine '21

**Ava Nothstine '21** submitted a concentration portfolio for Blair's Advanced Placement (AP) photography class that focused on the power of digital editing to change a photo's message or tone. She took this double-exposure photo of her father, **Brandon Nothstine '95**, a paramedic, to capture the various ways her family and others have been affected by the coronavirus pandemic. "This photo highlights three aspects of my dad's identity," she said. "At the center, he is a father; on the left, he is in his normal uniform as a first responder; and on the right, he is wearing a Tyvek suit, his new uniform that protects him from the virus."

View more of Ava's work at [www.blair.edu/ava-nothstine](http://www.blair.edu/ava-nothstine).

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### Staff

**HEAD OF SCHOOL**  
Chris Fortunato

**COMMUNICATIONS STAFF**  
**Suzy Logan '99**, Editor-in-Chief  
& Director of Communications  
[logans@blair.edu](mailto:logans@blair.edu)  
Joanne Miceli, Senior Editor  
& Assistant Director of  
Communications  
[micelj@blair.edu](mailto:micelj@blair.edu)  
Brittany Rockenfeller,  
Communications Specialist  
Heather Sprague,  
Communications Assistant

**CLASS NOTES EDITOR**  
Shaunna Murphy

**CONTRIBUTING WRITERS**  
Dr. Hannah Higgin  
Joyce Lang  
**Wyatt Long '16**  
Nathan Molteni  
**Ryan Pagotto '97**  
Leucetia Shaw

**CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS**  
Douglas Benedict  
**Zora Bissell '21**  
**Beverly Da Costa '21**  
**Duc Dinh '22**  
**Jaylin Hartman '23**  
**Carson Honor '21**  
**Ava Nothstine '21**  
Tyson Trish

**ATTENTION:**  
Send address changes to Blair Academy Bulletin,  
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### A NOTE ON TABLE FEET

The story on table feet in the winter/spring 2020 *Bulletin* referenced **Arthur Hamlin 29's** account of the program's establishment in *Blair Academy: A Sesquicentennial*

*History*. A handful of alums let us know that table feet dated to the mid-'50s, a few years earlier than Mr. Hamlin indicated. Another alum remembered scholarship students serving as dining hall waiters into the early 1960s, beyond the year Mr. Hamlin reported (1960) that waiting on tables became a task shared by all students.

Thank you for sharing your memories with us! Blair's librarians are delving into the archives to see if there is information beyond what is recorded in the *Sesquicentennial History*. Access to archival material is limited due to COVID-19 safety precautions, but we'll report back if anything definitive comes to light. In the meantime, if you would like to add your memories of serving as a table foot to Blair's archives, please email them to library assistant Kate Skeffington at [skeffk@blair.edu](mailto:skeffk@blair.edu).





## As I write my final Head of School note,

my pride in the members of the Blair family has never been stronger. Throughout the many challenging events we have experienced globally, nationally and as a community in 2020, our students, teachers, staff members, parents, Trustees and alumni have demonstrated unwavering spirit and courage. Most importantly, I am proud to have witnessed among Buccaneers of every age, background and experience a willingness to keep trying—trying to learn, to take care of one another, to stay hopeful and to stay connected—regardless of what the world has thrown our way.

This fierce determination to never stop trying is one of three tenets that has come to define the “Blair way” for me, a way of being and doing we aspire to achieve every day. A commitment to standing up for each other and, likewise, a commitment to *sitting down* with each other complete the “Blair way” triad, and as I opened the School’s 173rd year at Convocation, I affirmed that each tenet is vitally important at this moment in our history.

The Blair community is a beautiful mosaic of individuals. When we come together as a family, we are not meant to lose our authentic and different selves nor assimilate into a single Blair culture. Instead, we are meant to discover our true selves and stand up for our own truths as independent thinkers, no matter how those truths diverge from those of others.

Even as we stand up for our own truths, though, we Bucs have each other’s backs—and *that* defines us more than anything else. That makes Blair not just a learning community but also a family. And family, as the pandemic has reminded so many of us, is everything. Families can offer the bonds of trust that enable us to learn, explore and achieve our potential. Families are imperfect, but they are also a promise—to push you to grow, to lift you up, and to be there for you. That is the promise of this School. That is the Blair way at its truest core: standing up for our own truths, standing up for each other and standing together, no matter what.

Author and philanthropist Chris Gardner wrote: “Strong people stand up for themselves. Stronger people stand up for others.” I certainly believe that to be true, but I also suggest that many of the *strongest* people are those who are willing to *sit down* with others, especially those with whom they passionately disagree, so that they can deeply and humbly listen and better understand their stories.

Here at Blair, we have created many opportunities for members of our community to sit down together and see, experience and understand one another. Despite the new normal of the pandemic, such opportunities continue, in person and virtually, in classes, at advisor gatherings, in Roundtables and Skeptics, and outside, among hundreds of circles spaced six

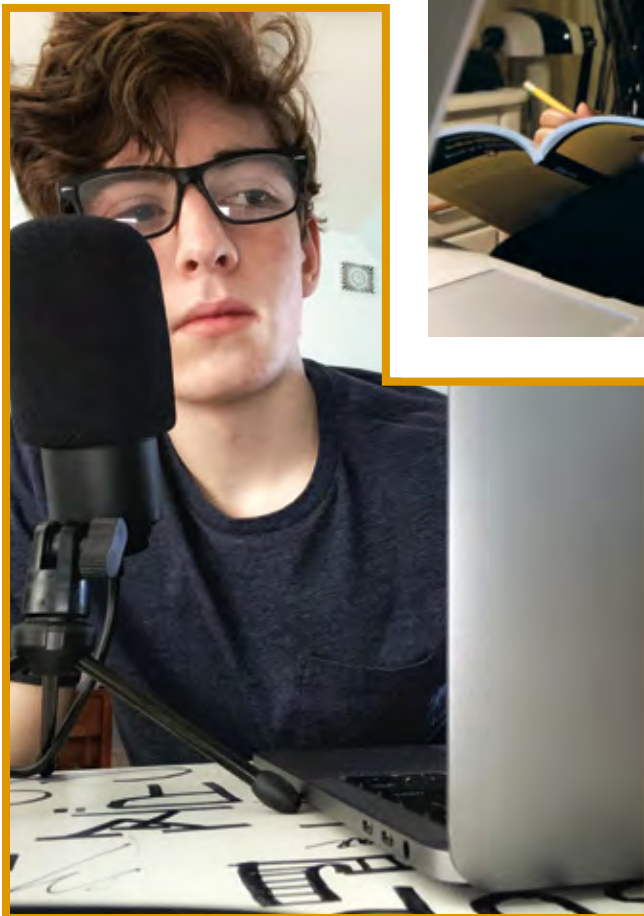
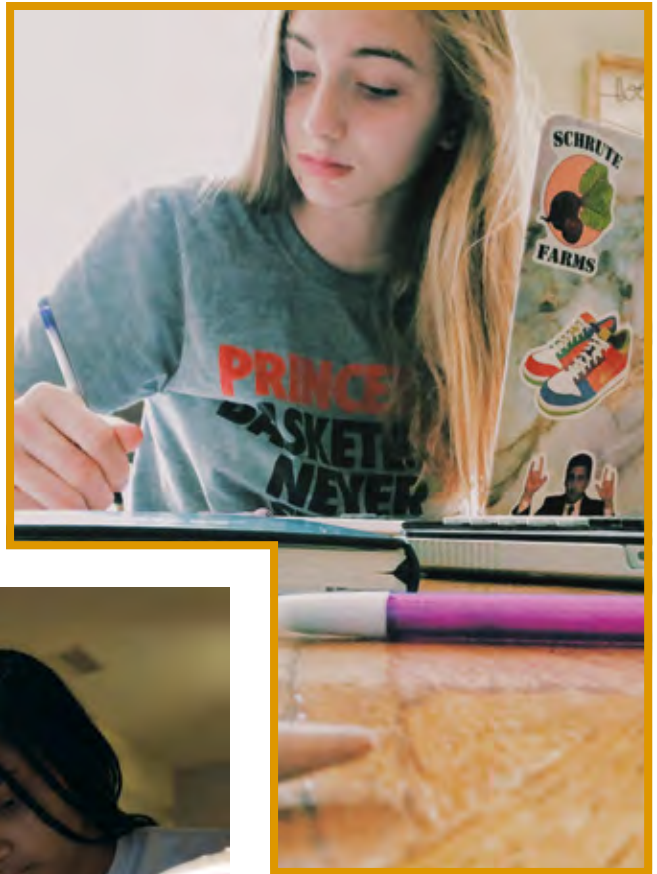
feet apart. Through these opportunities and more, we will continue to rise to the challenge of sitting with and learning from one another, respectfully, and with genuine curiosity and love as members of this family.

Indeed, we will never stop trying to stand up for each other as a School and to sit with one another as a Blair family. That is the Blair way, and I am grateful to have experienced it with all of you.

In my first address to Blair’s faculty in 2013, I encouraged our community to do two things: aggressively own the best parts of who we truly are and humbly embrace a commitment to learning, growing and evolving into the school our students need us to be. I have been blessed to serve this extraordinary institution that has modeled these commitments in ways that honor everything that Blair stands for.

As Erin, Matt, Katie and I return to the Boston area and I begin my next independent-school leadership journey, I am forever grateful to every student, parent, faculty and staff member, alum, Trustee and friend to Blair for welcoming my family into the Blair family. It has been an honor to stand with, beside and for every one of you who continue to honor the best of “dear old Blair.” Over these more than seven years, I have aspired to fulfill my promise to our dear friend, **Jack Bogle ‘47**—to take care of his “little school on the hill” and make Blair “a little better every day.” Doing so in friendship and partnership with all of you has been a gift and an honor, and my deep and abiding love for Blair will endure, ever always. Go BUCS!

**Chris Fortunato**  
Head of School



# TRADITION

&

# INNOVATION

## Drove Blair's Response to the Coronavirus in Spring 2020

**T**he coronavirus pandemic swept the nation and the globe in the spring of 2020, leaving an unprecedented loss of lives and livelihoods in its wake. As we collectively endeavored to “flatten the curve” of transmission of the disease, daily life changed markedly in communities worldwide, including, of course, at Blair Academy.

Here in Blairstown, campus was uncharacteristically quiet from the end of March to the end of May, as students remained at home following spring break. The spring athletic season, the Orchestra and Singers' debut concert at Carnegie Hall, trips to Peru and Greece, and numerous other events that students and faculty had long anticipated were canceled, but with determination and grace, the Blair community persevered. Academic

classes moved online, and distance learning became the new norm. Blair community members stayed connected through online versions of events, club get-togethers, School Meeting and more. Even graduation went virtual, with a tradition- and joy-filled celebration of the class of 2020 that took place online, with the promise of in-person festivities to mark the milestone at a later—and safer—date.

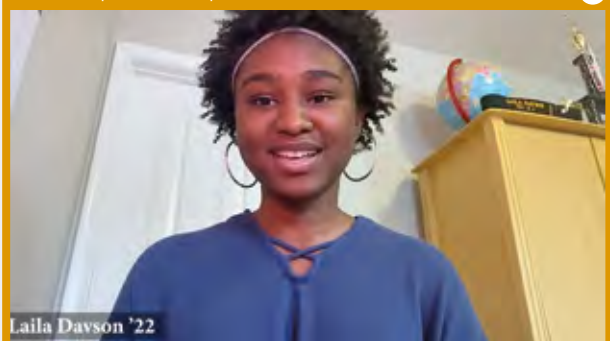
No one had anticipated such a spring when Blair opened its 172nd year in September 2019, but students, faculty and staff members, with indomitable spirit, rose to every challenge. “I could not be more proud of all the members of our Blair family, whose resilience, care for and commitment to one another shone throughout the spring,” said Head of School Chris Fortunato. “We made

history, blazing new paths of learning and connection born out of necessity, yet we stayed true to our culture, our mission and our people. Blair will be Blair no matter what comes our way, and I have no doubt that we will come out on the other side of this pandemic stronger and more grateful than ever for all of the things that make our community so special.”

Here, we look back at how the School community came together to navigate the uncharted territory created by the coronavirus in spring 2020. Innovation and the upholding of beloved traditions are writ large in this chapter in Blair's history, as are courage, kindness and unwavering dedication to the School's educational mission.

—**Suzy Logan '99** & Joanne Miceli





## Learning from Afar

As the global situation around the novel coronavirus continued to evolve in the waning days of winter 2020, Blair's administrative team closely monitored developments and considered how best to guard the safety and well-being of community members. The School announced its decision on March 11 to delay students' return from spring break until at least April 17 and implement a distance-learning plan. Three weeks later, with New Jersey and the metropolitan New York area facing a rapid spread of the disease, Mr. Fortunato emailed the community with the news that distance learning would continue indefinitely—as it turned out, through the entire spring semester.

Distance learning was a new proposition for Blair, but faculty members, on very short notice, dove into the challenge of creating virtual academic and extracurricular experiences that retained the essence of the in-person Blair experience. Dean of Academics Nathan Molteni explained the new program to families in the "Blair Academy Guide to Distance Learning," where he clearly laid out schedules, expectations and more (*read Mr. Molteni's reflection on distance learning on page 10*).

In the handbook's introduction, he also reminded students that, even though they would be learning more on their own, Blair and all its resources were still there for them. "We might not be in classrooms together or walking by the magnolia tree as it first blooms, but the same faculty and friends you leaned on to navigate the day-to-day of life at boarding school are still just an email, text or video conference away," he wrote. "We all hope to stay closely connected through the coming months in a variety of ways—some scheduled and others more spontaneous!"

## Traditions Connect the Community

As the spring semester unfolded, staying closely connected was a top priority community-wide, and Blair faculty members and students came up with innovative ways to accomplish that goal. For example, Director of Counseling Ally Thomas and former Director of Counseling Lisa Acker developed a weekly wellness newsletter in which they offered tips for maintaining good physical and mental health along with wellness photos and essays submitted by students and teachers. Boys' varsity basketball coach Joe Mantegna hosted Zoom sessions that brought his current and former players together for conversation and camaraderie, and varsity softball coach **Carolyn Conforti-Browse '79** orchestrated an online workout challenge, through which team members connected with one another,



stayed in shape and raised funds to support out-of-work umpires in the local community.

Beyond these and other new initiatives, Blair family members also stayed close to one another through traditional events that, even though they were virtual, remained quintessentially Blair. Weekly Society of Skeptics lectures, moderated by former history teacher Martin Miller, PhD, brought a captivating slate of speakers to the community for discussion and Q & A. Likewise, Mr. Fortunato facilitated four Head of School Roundtables, during which participants grappled with issues surrounding the pandemic.

Students and teachers also tuned in for regular updates at Monday and Friday School Meetings, participated in the annual Gratitude Chapel by submitting videos of thanks, and watched top 10th-grade orators

compete in the Sophomore Speech Contest. They enjoyed a variety of fun and informative online sessions during the annual Senior Seminars, which, this year, were open to students of every grade. Finally, as the semester drew to a close, the Blair community came together from their homes around the world to honor students' outstanding achievements at two virtual prize assemblies and celebrated the class of 2020 during a virtual commencement ceremony (*read more about online graduation festivities on page 27*).

Blair's fine and performing artists especially rose to the challenge of staying connected despite physical distance with virtual versions of the Student Art Exhibition, *Twelfth Night* and *Men in Boats*. The Spring Concert went digital, too, as student musicians recorded their parts for each work from their homes, and director of instrumental music Jennifer Pagotto

and director of vocal music Ryan Manni created virtual compilations of each ensemble. The audience heard—and in some cases, with accompanying video, saw—the final result during the virtual concert on May 15.

For senior instrumentalists **Cameron Grant '20** and **Daniel Heo '20**, performing the Orchestra's signature piece, Klaus Badelt's "Pirates of the Caribbean," was a highlight of the virtual concert. "I've played 'Pirates' many times during my Blair career, but this was taking it to a whole new level," Cameron said. Daniel hoped that hearing "Pirates" brought Blair family members from all around the world together as one community. "For me, working with peers and teachers half a world away at a time like this has shown me Blair's dedication to not only making sure that we get a great education, but also to creating an unforgettable experience by making memories together," he said.

## ● ● ● Spring Concert





## Blair Lends a Helping Hand

When the School moved to distance learning, members of Blair's extended family came together in myriad ways to support each other and the members of their communities. Computer science teacher Michael Garrant and **Nick Callan '23** borrowed 3D printers from the Chiang-Elghanayan Center for Innovation and Collaboration's maker space to help fabricate face shields for front-line healthcare professionals and swabs for COVID-19 testing. Community members raised money to support organizations helping people in need around the world and across the United States, including **Patrick Plum '22**, who designed sweatshirts that promote the value of physical distancing and donated the proceeds from their sale to the Southampton Hospital Foundation in his hometown of Southampton, New York. A Blairstown food pantry also benefited from a donation from the Blair community: Once it became clear that students would be away from campus indefinitely, faculty and staff members gathered nonperishable food items left in dorm rooms and donated them by the truckload to the local pantry.



Computer science teacher Michael Garrant.

"Blair students sure had a lot of snacks, and we are grateful to them for supporting our local community in this way," said Associate Head of School **Ryan Pagotto '97**.

To support local hospitals in desperate need of personal protective equipment, the School donated hundreds of medical-grade masks. Determined to brighten the spirits of residents at local elder-care facilities, dozens of students, alumni, faculty and staff responded to Mr. Fortunato's "Stay at Home" photo challenge, submitting an array of beautiful pictures that were shared with residents who greatly appreciated the art and beauty of the images (*see some of the photos submitted on pages 14-17*).

Perhaps most poignantly, as the number of COVID-19 cases in New Jersey peaked in April, Mr. Fortunato personally reached out to the Blair alumni, parents and friends working in the field of healthcare and to first responders and military service members to thank them for their work on the front lines of the coronavirus crisis. "I was deeply humbled by their stories of commitment and sacrifice," he said. "Words can hardly convey the gratitude and pride we feel for their acts of service, selflessness and



**Patrick Plum '22.**

sacrifice. They embody the best of Blair, our collective love and courage, and the authentic willingness to truly be all in." (*Read more about Blair family members on the front lines of the COVID-19 fight on page 18.*)

## Growing Through the Distance-Learning Experience

At the close of the spring semester, several teachers and students reflected on the challenges as well as the opportunities and silver linings they experienced during the weeks of distance learning. Fine arts department chair Kate Sykes, who taught classes in sculpture and ceramics, acknowledged that at the outset, she felt a real sense of loss over how the shift to online learning would impact her students' artistic goals. However, she approached the design of her virtual classes with a sense of empathy for what kids were experiencing, not to mention a healthy dash of innovation, since none of the Chiang-Elghanayan Center studio's tools, materials or equipment would be at hand.

"It was a test of my own creativity and ability to impart the idea that art-making need not be narrowly defined," she said, describing how she offered students strategies for using materials commonly found at home in their sculptures, such as dough made from salt and flour, aluminum foil, paper-mache and found objects. Ultimately, she felt that their work seemed even more expressive in some ways, since students' creativity had been tested and expanded through the use of different materials and processes, as well as through lessons that heightened their exposure to others' creative processes.

"After 17 years of teaching, creating a new course from scratch in a







# BLAIR'S VIRTUAL CURRICULUM & COMMUNITY

## Preparing a Space: How Experiences with Distance Learning Make for a Stronger Blair

BY DEAN OF ACADEMICS NATHAN MOLTENI



Looking back on a spring spent in a very different Blair than we've all come to know, we can't help but appreciate the way distance learning affirmed and amplified the strengths of Blair faculty and students, even in the face of new and unexpected challenges. Distance learning was not the close of the year that any of us would select to pursue, yet it was through the perseverance of Blair faculty and students that we not just managed the spring, but also were able to engage in intentional,

purposeful learning together across the curriculum.

From this experience, we take a number of essential lessons into our future classrooms, both for the short-term disruptions of the current year and for ongoing improvements to Blair's academic experience. But we are also reminded of what we value so deeply about learning in a residential community after so profoundly feeling the absence of our beloved physical spaces last spring. Some pleasures come from the intentional design of a loved and lived-in classroom space—the accent furniture, the walls reflecting the identity of the teacher and the learning of the students side by side. For others, it is the opportunity to build connection from the cues and engagements in physical space—the two-minute side exchange between teacher and student or peer to peer that deepens the conversation, the chance for students to collaborate and benefit from each other's learning with few barriers. We perhaps take for granted the opportunity to casually engage in

our physical spaces—to have no barriers of time difference or technology to work around. There are always barriers to learning that we must work through, but rarely are they so demonstrably present in the day-to-day.

So, as we return to the physical classroom space this fall, Blair is enthused to recommit itself to relationship-based learning and re-engage the informal layers of learning and experience that pair so well with the core skills and content knowledge in our curriculum. Much of an education deals with the act of "meeting;" meeting new ideas, meeting your classmates in discussion and conversation, simply meeting in the classroom each day. And, it is our goal, as faculty, in these spaces we prepare, to meet students where they are and help them discover a path to where they wish to go.

One thing we learned from this past spring is that even though all of these meetings can still occur virtually, they seem to offer us less of the restorative energy that strengthens our community life. We can still have Google Meets,

but, in the absence of the physical classroom space, our shared ownership and experience take different, more circuitous and certainly less familiar paths. While we should never let the status quo or the familiar be the enemy of the good in our approach to education, it is also clear to us that being physically together is at the center of what matters in a Blair education. In times when we cannot do so, our relationships and resilience will get us through until the opportunity comes again to be in our favored spaces.

As we prepared to meet brand-new members of the Blair family this fall, we carried forward the aspects of learning that helped us feel more connected in times of distance this spring. Video explanations, exhibitions of learning, Flipgrids, Pear Decks and so many more new tools deepened our learning during the coronavirus pandemic. Faculty and students alike learned that their capacity for organizing and learning in a virtual space exceeded their initial expectations. We all adopted a learner mindset in approaching unexpected challenges.

And, from these experiences, our beliefs in the power of what constitutes learning at Blair are only strengthened. Regardless of the methods or opportunities available, at its heart, learning at Blair will always start with how we meet one another and open ourselves to new ideas and new relationships. Doing so together is something too valuable to take for granted once we have known otherwise, and so, in addition to all the technical skills we've gained, we also carry forward a deeper appreciation for physical presence and togetherness into this new academic year.

## How We Built Community During the Coronavirus Pandemic

BY ASSOCIATE HEAD OF SCHOOL **RYAN PAGOTTO '97**



On March 17, just days after the World Health Organization declared coronavirus a pandemic and Blair announced a delayed return from spring break, I wrote to our student body with my vision for ways that we would sustain our sense of community for the undefined period ahead of us. I promised students, among other things, that I'd still do shout-outs during Monday School Meetings; that the Senior Class Council had big plans for Friday School Meetings; that the much-loved

Gratitude Chapel would still take place in some form; and that the student life office was planning virtual activities, competitions and senior seminars.

I also mentioned the virtual dress code (leggings and sweatpants permitted), Saturday classes (not happening during distance learning) and the option of bringing your dog to online class sessions. My intent was to create as much normalcy and predictability as possible. During periods of uncertainty or instability, adolescents crave a sense of familiarity and continuity. I think we all do. And that became my guiding vision in the early days of the pandemic. I knew that our faculty would rise to the occasion by doing what they do best: connecting with students one-on-one or in small groups as advisors, coaches or dorm parents. I knew that our students would continue to connect with their friends and classmates in ways they were already doing—through FaceTime, Snapchat, text messaging—and that prefects would stay connected to their “prefectees.” But there would have been an emptiness or void if we did not provide the shared experiences, images or community messages that are normally a part of Blair life.

Those messages and experiences—everything from my perennial announcement about bears on campus to Mrs. Sykes' weekly celebration of “art stars”—became part of our virtual Monday School Meetings. A few seniors shared ideas with me early on, and I'm grateful to all those faculty who helped provide School Meeting content. Why wouldn't we find a way to honor retired history teacher Martin Miller for all he's done for the Society of Skeptics program? Why not find a way to acknowledge math teacher Latta Browse's row in DuBois Theatre for their “perfect attendance” at School Meetings? How could we do a fake Rules and



Discipline Committee announcement? These shared experiences, perhaps small, deepen relationships and the connective tissue between and among students and faculty and help build our sense of community.

The virtual model for School Meetings also provided an opportunity to do things differently. We wouldn't normally have Associate Dean of Admission **Teddy Wenner '96** do a bread-baking demonstration or Assistant Director of Athletics **Brian Antonelli '93** do a self-defense course to close out School Meeting, but these were easy to do via video submission.

The other role that events like School Meetings, the Gratitude Chapel, Alumni Roundtables or Skeptics talks served was to bring our faculty and staff together, albeit virtually. Our staff members normally do not attend School Meetings or Chapels due to space limitations and their own office responsibilities, but I think many of them appreciated the weekly opportunities to feel more connected despite distance from campus.

For our residential faculty who spent most of their time in their homes or classrooms, in front of their computers and connecting with students, a sense of community came through during daily trips to Insley porch for grab-and-go meals. For a period of time in late March and early April, it may have been the only time that a faculty member saw a colleague. Physically distanced chats and catch-up conversations became the norm and gave everyone a live, daily point of human connection. And I know that faculty members helped each other by delivering meals when

*“These shared experiences, perhaps small, deepen relationships and the connective tissue between and among students and faculty and help build our sense of community.”*

– ASSOCIATE HEAD OF SCHOOL **RYAN PAGOTTO '97**

a health concern, a conflicting advisee meeting or even a newborn baby kept a colleague at home.

Perhaps the most consequential moment of community connectedness came during our “drive-through” graduation event. We wanted, first and foremost, to provide a special, celebratory and culminating moment for our seniors and their families, but its planning and execution brought our faculty and staff together for a common cause. The festive feel of that afternoon was palpable, and I was not at all surprised to see the visual demonstration of the Blair way: *working a little bit harder to create an extra special experience for others.*

Along similar lines, I noted in the March 17 communication that students would likely get to know their teachers in ways they had not previously. I know that many advisors and faculty members felt a deeper connection to some students as conversations were not limited by the Blair schedule, and the pandemic provided ample fodder for reflection and meaning-making in ways that our presence within the Blair “bubble” may not have done. For me, I felt a connection to our students, faculty, staff and parents

when they reached out in response to a School Meeting shout-out or announcement. I also feel as though I know 60 or 70 community members just a little bit better through the song recommendation they shared for my daily Instagram post or the reasons behind their recommendation.

My March 17 message concluded with, “as so many things in our world are grinding to a halt, we will press onward. We will build community in ways we’re already practicing, in ways you’re far more accustomed to doing than I am, and we’ll do it in a way that’s authentically Blair.” The senior exit interviews revealed an appreciation for the way that Blair pressed onward, for the way their teachers kept showing up and did their best to make the most of the situation. We couldn’t have done it as well without the seniors who kept a positive attitude despite the loss of so much they had anticipated. So I’ll close by sending gratitude and appreciation right back at them. We cannot build community and carry forward the best of the Blair culture as effectively without the partnership of our students ... particularly our seniors. The class of 2020 will have its own place in the Blair history book, and I thank you all. □

# A LOOK BACK AT SPRING 2020

## Virtual weekly touchpoints:

16

School Meetings & Chapels

5

Society of Skeptics lectures

4

Head of School Roundtables

Images shared by extended Blair family for uplifting presentations created for local nursing homes

Dozens!



64

daily Instagram posts of campus photos & song recommendations on blairbeatscovid19 (the Spotify playlist created by Mr. Pagotto)

3

online Parent Town Halls hosted by Mr. Fortunato



2

virtual Prize Assemblies

85

diplomas delivered in person to graduates within driving distance

33



faculty members who participated in Operation Diploma Delivery

132

diplomas conferred by advisors during virtual commencement

65



graduates drove through campus following virtual commencement to the applause & cheers of faculty & staff

3

performances by Blair musicians via video or webinar

20



miles run by Ms. Wilson, Mr. Compton, Mr. Goggins & Mr. Ryerson over the course of 20 hours as a tribute to the class of 2020

2

dramatic productions shared virtually



16

advisor meeting blocks

Advisor-advisee meetings  
**Too many to count!**

115

care packages sent to new students by the admission office



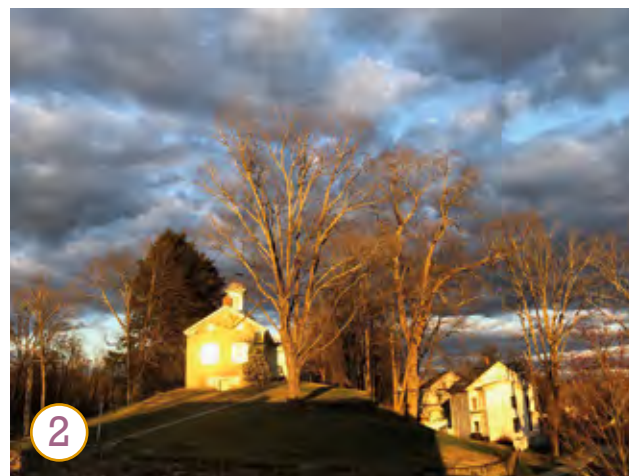
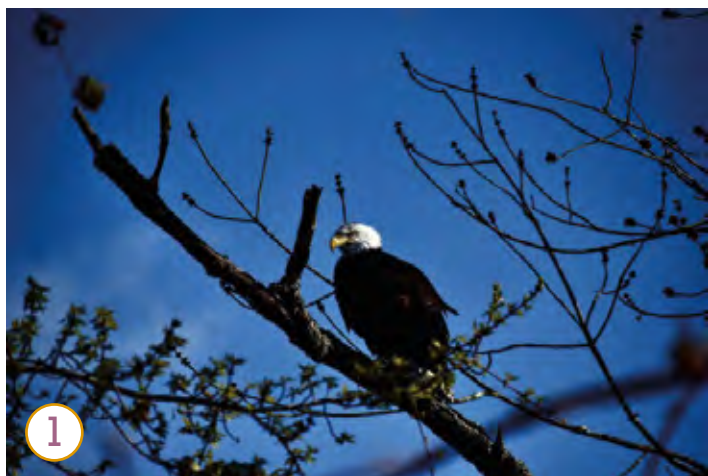
34

hours of learning per class from March 26-May 22





# HEAD OF SCHOOL COVID-19 PHOTO CHALLENGE



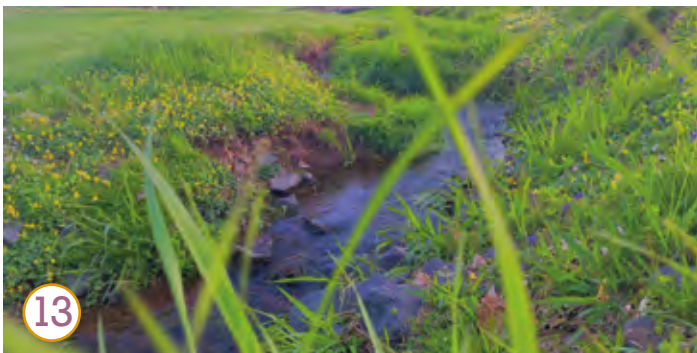
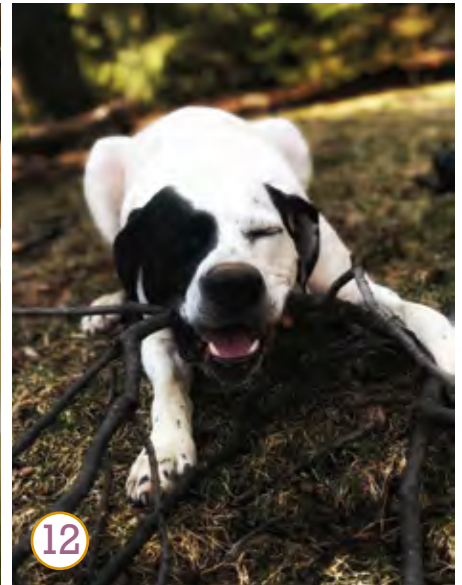
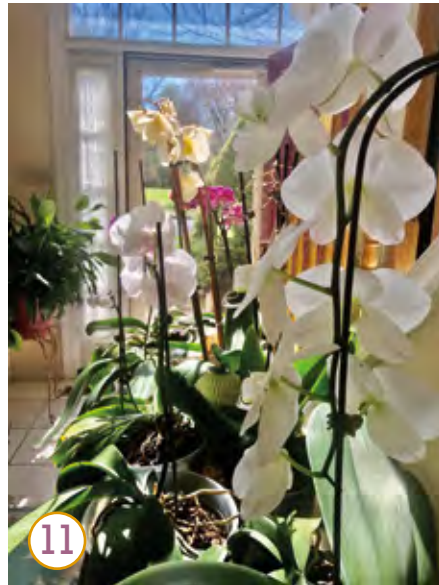
At a time when COVID-19 cases were peaking in New Jersey, Head of School Chris Fortunato invited students, alumni, faculty and staff to participate in a photo challenge for a good cause: Dozens of Bucs of class years from 1954 to 2020 submitted photos they found to be sources of inspiration, calm and hope, and Blair created slideshows of those images for residents of local nursing homes and assisted-living facilities.

"Our goal was to brighten residents' spirits during this unsettled and challenging time with a kaleidoscope of pictures from all over the world," said Mr. Fortunato, who

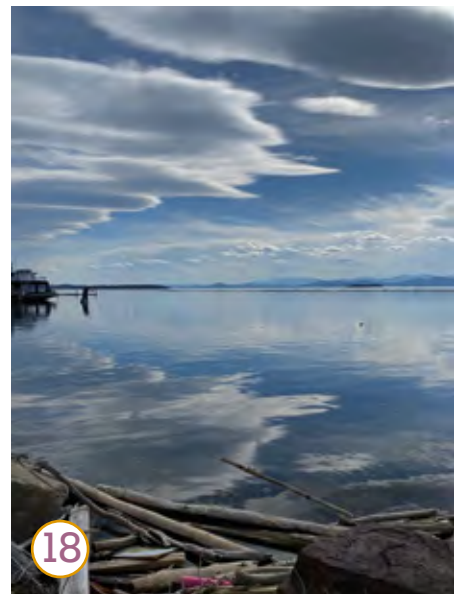
selected 20 challenge participants at random to receive gifts from Blair's bookstore. The School also donated more than \$2,000 in the winners' names to New Jersey food banks struggling to meet the needs of local families during the coronavirus crisis.

During a time of social isolation, it is perhaps no surprise that nature—and pets!—were among the most popular subjects of those hopeful images. In this spread, we share some of these shots. To watch a slideshow of all photos submitted by the extended Blair family, visit [www.blair.edu/photo-challenge](http://www.blair.edu/photo-challenge). ■

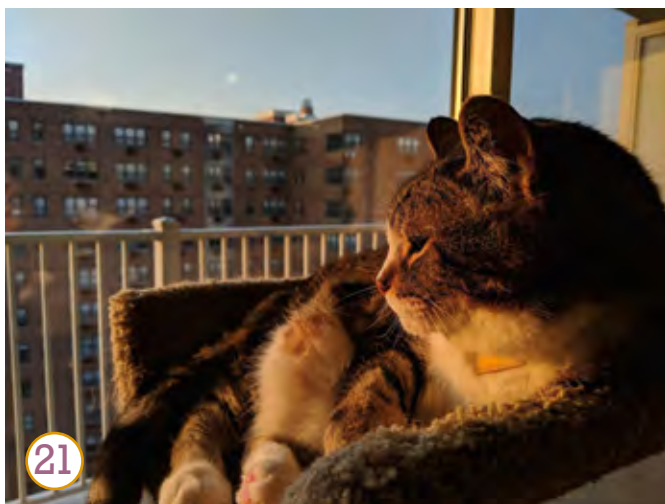




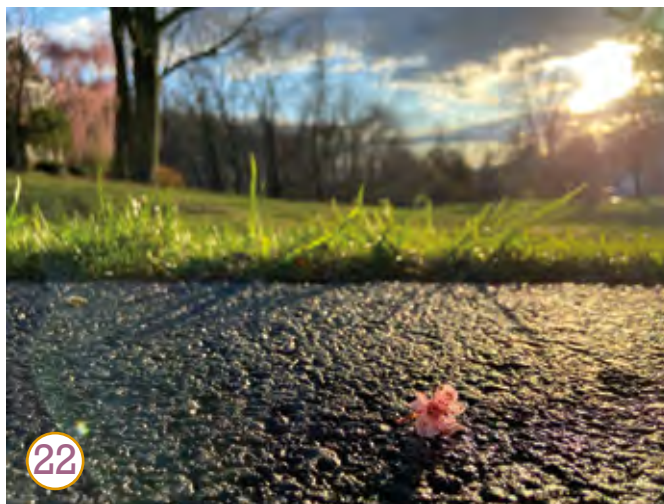




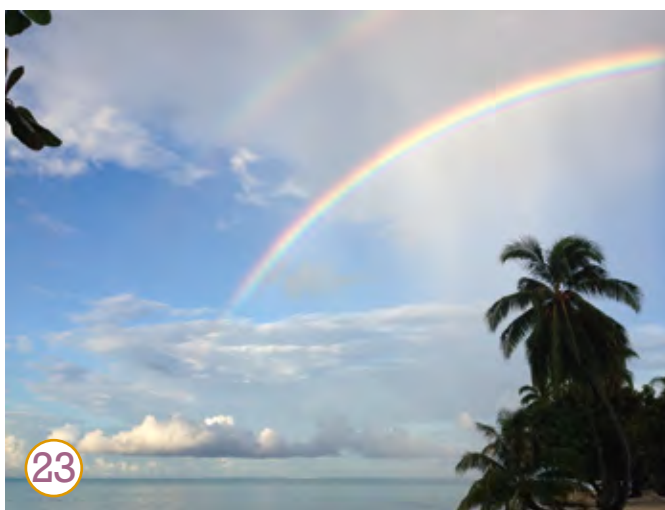




21



22



23



24

## Faculty & Staff

- 1 Joanne Brandwood, *history teacher*
- 2 Joyce Lang, *language department chair*
- 3 Kaye Evans, *English teacher*
- 4 Chris Fortunato, *Head of School*
- 5 Colleen McNulty, *director of annual giving*

## Students

- 6 **Carson Honor '21**, Tuxedo Park, N.Y.
- 7 **Caroline Koblick '21**, Corte Madera, Calif.
- 8 **Yuchuan Gan '22**, Beijing, China
- 9 **Archer Benedict '22**, Long Branch, N.J.
- 10 **Rintaro Mori '23**, Setagaya-ku, Japan
- 11 **Beverley Da Costa '21**, Macungie, Penn.
- 12 **Ilyssa Gibson '22**, Columbia, N.J.

13 **Ava Roche '21**, Skillman, N.J.

14 **Hei Chun Wu '21**, Shanghai, China

## Alumni

15 **Jonathan Jonckheer '07**, Netherlands

16 **Jonathan Jonckheer '07**, Netherlands

17 **Jonathan Jonckheer '07**, Netherlands

18 **Noreen M. Britt '84**, Boston, Mass.

19 **Lucy Drinkwater '15**, Charlotte, N.C.

20 **Barry Parker '63**, Grand Isle, Vt.

21 **Henry C. Herbol '10**, Ewing, N.J.

22 **Rachel Franklin '00**, Rockaway, N.J.

23 **David Allen '65**, Ripon, Calif.

24 **Annika Rollock '14**, Boulder, Colo.





# HEROES & HELPERS

**BLAIR FAMILY MEMBERS SHARED IMPRESSIONS FROM THE FRONT LINES OF COVID-19**

As the coronavirus swept the globe last spring, the pandemic impacted every member of the Blair family but perhaps none more compellingly than those on the front lines of battle against the deadly virus. Head of School Chris Fortunato emailed a letter of thanks to the healthcare workers, first responders and military service members among the School's alumni and parent ranks, expressing the Blair community's deep gratitude for their service and tremendous sacrifice.

"In these trying and unprecedented times, I am humbled by the selflessness with which you and your colleagues are caring for and supporting communities across our nation and around the world," he wrote. "I hope you know how much every

member of your extended Blair family deeply appreciates and recognizes your commitment to putting the health and well-being of others first as you no doubt make significant personal sacrifices to do so. We honor and applaud you."

Mr. Fortunato invited these intrepid alumni and parents to share their experiences, and many did, painting a sobering yet hopeful picture of the work in which they and their colleagues were engaged in the latter days of April and early May 2020.

Here, we share excerpts of their words with the Blair family—along with our profound thanks to them and all the heroes and helpers who are giving their all in the fight against COVID-19.

# Shyam Subramanian P'21 '23

**PULMONOLOGIST | SAN RAMON, CALIFORNIA**

I am an intensivist, usually the last frontier of hope for almost all patients who are critically ill. We are used to staring at death in the white of its eyeballs and, over time, are seldom fazed by its ominous potency.

This is different.

These patients come alone. Isolated and terrified with no family near. There is neither a comforting hand, nor the warmth of an embrace, nor the reassurance of a smile, nor even a touching tear in a loved one's eyes.

This is different.

These patients find themselves in a vacuous void, surrounded by masked, draped warriors fleeing in and out of a desolate cell, their faces as veiled as the invisible virus within.

This is different.

A worried family blows kisses on a lifeless FaceTime screen, placed in protective plastic, as a patient is placed into a medical coma on a ventilator.

This is different.

There is no respite for their desolate isolation even in death, it would seem, nor much dignity. No goodbyes, no family gathering around in prayer and parting. Sequestered, even as they are laid to rest.

This is different.

I see this every day.

I also see every day, though, that there is one thing more formidable than the ferocity of this invisible virus, and that is the indomitable fortitude of the human spirit. I have never been more proud of my team members, of the purpose, poise

and piety of these gallant gladiators who don't flinch as they flex in the face of fatality.

Thank you again to the entire Blair family, and your communities, for all your efforts at helping those at the front lines in so many ways. I want you to know that we, in the healthcare community, not only value and cherish but also draw great strength and vigor from all of your collective prayers, blessings and benedictions.





# Jessie Wilburn '04

PA-C | WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

I am a physician assistant. I spent April and early May volunteering my time at a medical homeless shelter in Worcester, Massachusetts. The medical shelter was established to serve as a temporary location for isolation and quarantine for homeless individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 but did not require hospitalization. At its peak, the medical shelter housed nearly 70 residents.

I did not have the typical front-line experience of many other medical providers.

I, alongside a number of other volunteers, cared for a population wary of doctors, uncertain of why they were being relocated, and acutely concerned for the safety of people and belongings left behind. If reliably housed, these individuals would have quarantined in their own homes for the requisite 14 days before continuing along in their lives.

We spent our shifts monitoring vital signs and talking to our residents to ensure no one needed more significant care than we could provide with our limited resources. We helped residents self-administer their home medications, delivered meals, ensured all had access to showers, and handed out clean clothes. We evaluated and treated their non-COVID-19-related illnesses and problems and lent out our plastic-bagged cellphones to help residents call loved ones. We hospitalized some for acute alcohol withdrawal and started others on suboxone for opioid addiction treatment. We bargained and bartered for supplies from the field hospital next door to keep an oxygen-dependent patient in our facility with his significant other. We educated on proper hand washing and hand hygiene and the newfound importance of wearing a face mask in public. Most significantly, though, we comforted those who were scared of the unknown or struggling with depression and addiction.

As difficult as it was to work shrouded in gown, N95 mask and face shield for eight-plus hours each shift, with minimal resources at my disposal, it was a privilege to work with this population. Our residents were, by and large, kind, funny and compassionate individuals. And, for a rare moment in medicine, I was able to treat the entire person without concern for insurance, billing or schedules.

Thank you for the all that Blair continues to do to support its students, faculty, local community (one that I spent the first 18 years of my life within) and alumni, spread far and wide.



# Fred Hargett P'22

**EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT & CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, NOVANT HEALTH**

**CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA**

As CFO of a regional not-for-profit healthcare system, I want to especially spotlight others on my team who are caregivers on the actual front lines, delivering remarkable healthcare on a daily basis. I have watched as our nurses and physicians show up to work every day, regardless of the status of the virus, to be there for their patients. We're fortunate in North Carolina not (yet) to be a "hot spot," but it has impacted us all. The stories coming from the New York metro area are eye-opening, and there are true heroes made every day in your community.

Since the first week of March, it's been "all COVID-19, all the time." My time has been spent sourcing and acquiring personal protective equipment (PPE) for my team from a worldwide supply chain that simply wasn't prepared for this pandemic. We prided ourselves on our "just in time" inventory models and quick inventory turns; now we all find ourselves

working with 3D printers to make face shields, reprocessing N95 masks with hydrogen peroxide misters and using other innovative solutions developed as a result of this pandemic.

My personal favorite is a partnership we developed with a local NASCAR racing team. With North Carolina being racing country, we have partnered with a team of engineers that has built—and, in some cases, 3D-printed—all sorts of products for us, including face shields, intensive care unit (ICU) carts and poles, and even respiratory therapy circuits for ventilators. Their "whatever it takes" attitude has been uplifting to our team.





# Lucas Allen P'22 '23

**POLICE OFFICER | WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY**

I have been a member of the Washington Township (Morris County) Police Department for more than 20 years, but this coronavirus pandemic has been uncharted territory as a police officer. My department has had to totally rework almost all of our standard operating procedures to deal with the outbreak. It has been like learning an entirely new job. Currently, it is a balancing act between protecting our officers while responding to and assisting the public.

Sadly, when the lockdown went into effect, I found it reminiscent of the days following the 9/11 terrorist attacks. As a police officer in 2001, I remember watching society stop and everyone holding their collective breath until life slowly started to regain some semblance of normalcy. I feel that recently, after the last month, people are starting to regain their composure. At my department, we have been lucky to receive a plethora of donations. These generous donations have included PPE, food

and supplies. As the days go by, I see more and more residences with colorful signs of encouragement, motor vehicles plastered with messages of positivity and people smiling as they go for their daily walks.

The humanity that society has begun to demonstrate is encouraging and heartwarming. Seeing the local fire departments conducting birthday parades, young children dropping off drawings for our officers, and people donating to local food pantries bolsters my faith in humanity and reminds me why I started my journey as a police officer.



# Frank Ciminello P'22 '23

**PHYSICIAN | SADDLE RIVER, NEW JERSEY**

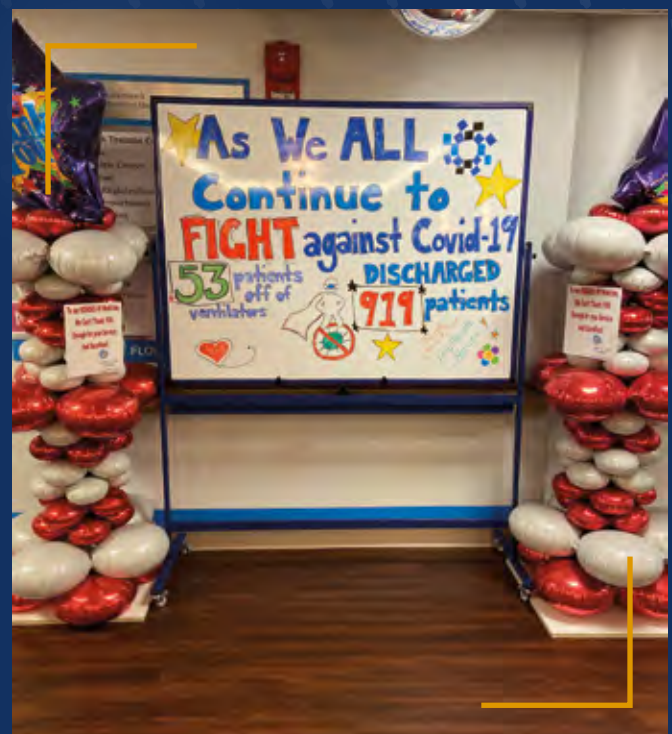
To your questions about providing care as a physician, it's scary but necessary. I think all healthcare providers fundamentally want to help when called upon. It is a calling that is meaningful, and I think most consider a privilege. These, however, are very different times and the ask is great. It is one thing to assume the care of someone's needs and do your best; it is very much another when you are putting yourself in the same danger as the person seeking your care. To extend that one further, to assume that risk for yourself and potentially your spouse and children. It's in this last part where heroism is truly displayed. The courage, compassion and creativeness are something that I personally have never witnessed. My wife, Nicole, and I were both physicians in New York City during 9/11, and I can say without hesitation, this is something very different.

The hospital, where I spend most of my time, is the 600-bed Hackensack Medical Center. It has essentially become an ICU. As a frame of reference, typically there are two to three ICUs, both surgical and medical, with about 40 to 50 patients, two or three intensivists, one nurse per patient, resources aplenty. Today, all beds are critical. Doctors with little or brief training in critical care are now running entire units, nurses covering multiple patients at the same time and supplies at a deficit. Although this sounds bleak, I can tell you that I see only hope and optimism. The medical community at large is stepping up to combat this challenge and exceeding.

As examples of innovation in the face of adversity, the cafeteria that was designed for medical staff and community lunches became a 70-plus bed ICU overnight, thereby increasing the capacity of the hospital to meet the needs of the community. Operating recovery rooms have been converted into COVID-19 units, adding additional resources. Critical

care nurses are now overseeing their own teams of floor nurses to expand the nursing capacity. Likewise, critical care doctors are supervising teams of medical and surgical physicians to expand their reach. Doctors and nurses are helping with the day-to-day needs of the units by stocking shelves, moving equipment and answering phones as employees fall ill.

This week, the hospital has empty beds for the first time in a while. This again demonstrates what innovation and desire can accomplish when put to the task. Wishing you and the Blair community at large the best, and look forward to seeing you soon. ■





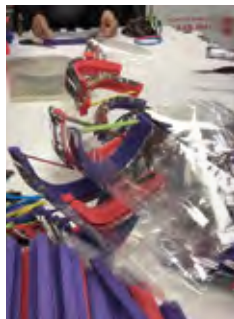
## J.P. McFadden '94 & Family Helped Keep Healthcare Workers Safe from the Coronavirus

When Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia was running out of face shields to protect its emergency room workers amid the coronavirus pandemic last March, employees were asked to try to come up with an alternative until an expected shipment arrived.

**J.P. McFadden '94**, Einstein's network director of construction, brought the problem to three top-notch innovators: his children, Seamus, 11, Carly, 10, and Ruairi, 7.

Working from a picture of an actual face shield, the McFadden family, including Mr. McFadden's wife, Katie, prototyped a substitute device in a single evening using pool noodles, stretchy headbands, clear vinyl page protectors and duct tape. In a matter of days, hospital maintenance staffers had crafted more than 1,000 of the McFadden-designed face shields, and they were being used in the emergency department and throughout the hospital to keep healthcare workers safe from the highly transmissible coronavirus.

The story of outside-the-box thinking and caring for others caught the attention of Philadelphia-area media outlets. In an Action News segment that aired on March 27, community journalist Ashley Johnson described the face-shield-making effort as a "colorful, all-hands-on-deck mission to save the lives of healthcare workers at Einstein Hospital" and credited the McFadden children as the surprise "masterminds behind all of this."



A sample of the face shields fabricated by Einstein Medical Center staff members using the McFadden family's prototype.

A few days later, writer Peg DeGrassa published a story in the *Delaware County Daily Times* that explained how hospital staff members took the McFaddens' model, made "a dash for supplies to Staples, CVS and the dollar store," and "created an assembly line around a large table in the carpentry shop" to begin producing the shields. They made 200 on the first day that were immediately put to use in the emergency department, for which



The "masterminds:" (left to right) Seamus, Ruairi and Carly McFadden.

Dr. Ryan Overberger, an emergency medicine physician and medical director for the hospital's emergency response team, was grateful.

"Face shields are used to protect the eyes of healthcare workers. Their previous use was restricted to patients with certain contagious diseases. These days, because of the risk of COVID-19, they're used with every patient who comes into the emergency room, along with masks," Dr. Overberger said. Ms.

DeGrassa reported that he "was especially grateful for the homemade version because he was notified that the anticipated delivery of 5,000 face shields was reduced to 500. 'The supply chain is really disrupted and this is a great example of ingenuity,' he said."



Katie and **J.P. McFadden '94** and their children.

In the days after coming up with their innovative design, the McFadden kids became "more aware of what is going on outside the house and of the shortages," according to their dad, and they were cognizant of the impact their project was having on others. "They asked me if people liked the shields, and if I saw people wearing them," he said. "They are proud that they can help keep people safe." ■

View the Action News segment at:

@ [www.blair.edu/mcfadden-news](http://www.blair.edu/mcfadden-news)

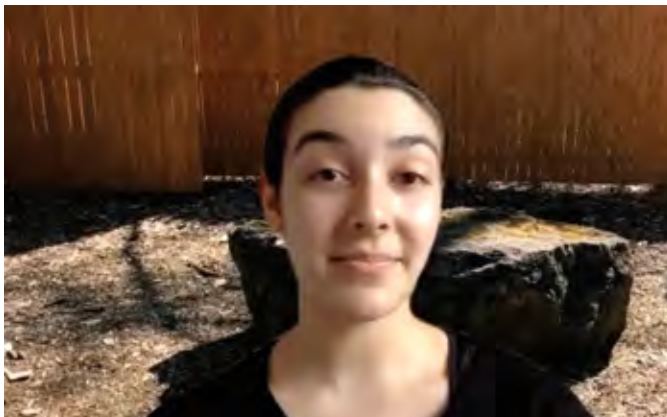
Read the *Delaware County Daily Times* article at:

@ [www.blair.edu/mcfadden-article](http://www.blair.edu/mcfadden-article)

## The Bucs **Take Center Stage Virtually**



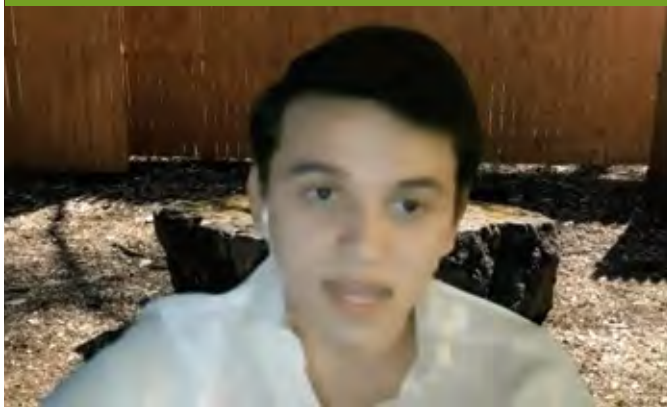
Blair's vocal and instrumental musicians took part in a unique musical event in May when they presented the School's first-ever virtual Spring Concert. The performance celebrated their Blair spirit and determination to make music together, despite physical distance, a pandemic or any other obstacles that might come their way.



*Twelfth Night*



*Men on Boats*



The show went on this spring for the Blair Academy Players, who virtually shared scenes from *Men on Boats* and presented a reading of William Shakespeare's classic *Twelfth Night*. In another Blair first, the actors delivered their spring performances while sheltering in place on three continents.



Blair's fine artists shared their talents with the community during the first-ever virtual Student Art Exhibition in early May. The online event, which celebrated students' resourcefulness and ability to overcome challenges while working at home, included original paintings, films, photography, drawings, graphic designs and 3D pieces.



Film production teacher Robert Hanson took the School's traditional Student Film Festival online, and 20 students of all levels of ability shared their work with teachers and classmates virtually. This year's genre was music videos, and **Thao Nguyen '21** took the top prize for her video of "Vienna" by Billy Joel.

# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020

**BLAIR** Academy's 172nd commencement ceremony was a tradition- and joy-filled celebration of the class of 2020, as well as the first graduation in School history to take place online. Families and friends from around the world came together virtually on May 21 to listen to words of wisdom, honor the achievements of students and faculty members, and celebrate an incredible senior class.

The Rev. Lisa Durkee, Blair's former chaplain and chair of the religion and philosophy department, opened the ceremony with a benediction, before Head of School Chris Fortunato and Senior Class Council members **Aidan Riano '20** and **Robert Donnelly '20** shared words of welcome.

Presentation of faculty awards followed, after which top student prizes were accorded (*please see list of awardees on page 29*).

Class speaker **Seo Yeong (Shauna) Kwag '20** addressed the class with an uplifting message after being awarded the George P. Jenkins '32 Prize. She touched upon her deep fascination with mathematical patterns, as well as her appreciation of the patterns and routines of everyday life at Blair. These routines, including the expectation of a fun-filled, culminating "senior spring," were ripped away by the coronavirus pandemic. Despite what was lost, however, something has also been gained: a newfound perspective of the beauty that goes unnoticed in routine.

"As we all move into each of our uncertain futures, I want to challenge you all to try to discern the patterns that dictate your daily lives," she said as she concluded her remarks. "And once you find that pattern, I hope you can all stop to notice the beauty of it, of its masterful and sophisticated



design, of how you're forming it, and how it's forming you. All patterns—let them be in nature or more in our human lives—are beautiful and worthy of appreciation."

Finally, the moment the class of 2020 was anticipating arrived: the awarding of diplomas. Faculty advisors read the names of each of their senior advisees, acknowledgment of the special relationships that had been formed during students' Blair years. The graduates were invited to share a 10-second video, expressing both their gratitude and farewells to those who made their Blair experience memorable.

Mr. Fortunato then addressed the newly minted alumni, reminding them of the many memories they had created over the course of their years at Blair, which would keep them connected far more powerfully than anything that might separate them, including a pandemic.

"It is appropriate that the class of 2020 should so sharply bring into focus what it truly means to be a Blair student—

and a Blair graduate—and what it means to live the Blair way," he said. "Since I first addressed you as freshmen at Convocation in 2016, you have been the class that, no matter what the world has thrown your way, continues to look up, chooses to build relationships, bridges and paths forward even when the shadows of cynicism threaten to darken our hopes, and remains kind to others, even in moments of hardship."

Senior Class Council member **Lula Mantegna '20** closed the ceremony, but the festivities for the class of 2020 continued into the afternoon as students who lived within driving distance came together on campus for a physically distanced drive-through celebration. Graduates and their families had been invited to drive the loop around campus, which was lined the entire way with cheering faculty and staff members.

Congratulations, class of 2020! ■





## FACULTY AWARDS

**Apgar Award for Teaching Excellence:** Computer science teacher Michael Garrant

**Riether Residential Life Award:** English teacher David Mamukelashvili

**John C. & Eve S. Bogle Teaching Prize:** English teacher Sarah O'Neil

**Headmaster's Faculty Prize:** Dean of Academics Nathan Molteni

**Tedlow Teaching Prize:** History teacher Andrew Sykes

## STUDENT AWARDS

**Selena & James Howard Prize:** *Dylan Robert Benson '20 & Camille Aleksandra Williams '20*

**Harold F. Walker Memorial Prize:** *Corey Stephen Downey '20 & Robert Frederico Rucki '20*

**Lee Rose Memorial Trophy:** *Kathleen S. Devlin '20*

**Headmaster's Prize:** *Aidan Gilmore Riano '20*

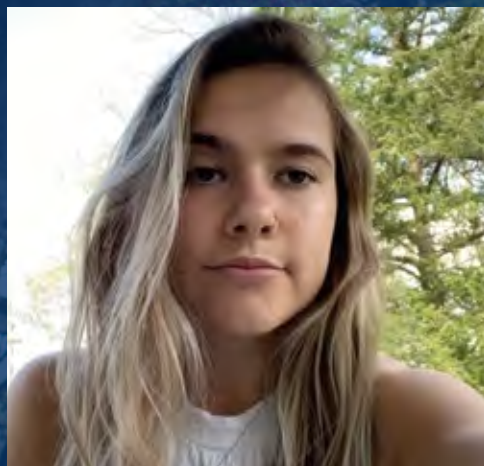
**Blair Academy Trophy:** *Alexandra Leigh Kirby '20*

**George P. Jenkins '32 Prize:** *Seo Yeong (Shauna) Kwag '20*

## APPOINTMENTS TO U.S. SERVICE ACADEMIES

**U.S. Naval Academy:** *Sarah Elizabeth Richardson '20 & Peter McBride Montgomery '20*

**U.S. Military Academy:** *Damon Myles Washington '20*







# College Counseling

## CLASS OF 2020 COLLEGE MATRICULATION LIST

American University (2)	Hamilton College	Tufts University (3)
Amherst College	Hartwick College	United States Military Academy
Barnard College	Harvard College	United States Naval Academy (2)
Bates College (3)	Lafayette College	Universidad de Deusto
Baylor University	Lehigh University (9)	Università Bocconi
Bentley University	Loyola Marymount University (2)	University of California, San Diego
Boston College (2)	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	University of California, Santa Barbara
Boston University	Michigan State University	University of Maryland
Brown University (4)	New York University (2)	University of Michigan (2)
Bucknell University	Northwestern University	University of Notre Dame
Case Western Reserve University	Occidental College	University of Pennsylvania (3)
Claremont McKenna College	Oklahoma State University	University of Rhode Island
Clemson University	Pennsylvania State University (2)	University of Rochester
Colby College (4)	Pomona College	University of Southern California (2)
Colgate University (3)	Purdue University (2)	University of St Andrews
College of Charleston	Rhodes College	University of Virginia (3)
College of the Holy Cross	Saint Mary's College of California	University of Waterloo
Cornell University	Skidmore College (3)	University of Wisconsin, Madison
Davidson College (4)	Stanford University	Villanova University (2)
Drexel University	Stetson University	Virginia Military Institute
Emory University (2)	Syracuse University	Virginia Tech (2)
Furman University	Texas Christian University	Wake Forest University (5)
Gardner-Webb University	The Ohio State University	Washington University in St. Louis
George Mason University	The University of Alabama (2)	Wellesley College
Georgetown University (2)	The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	Wheaton College
Georgia Institute of Technology	The University of Tampa (2)	Wofford College
Gettysburg College (2)	Trinity College (2)	Yale University
Goldey-Beacom College		



# BELONGING AT BLAIR

By members of the Inclusivity Committee

In this essay, three members of Blair's Inclusivity Committee—history teacher Dr. Hannah Higgin, language department chair Joyce Lang and Dean of Strategic Initiatives Leucetia Shaw—share how the Committee is working to expand Blair's focus on diversity, equity and inclusion work.

This time things will be different, right? That's the question May 25, 2020 inspired as the Black Lives Matter movement resurged with fervor, with the coronavirus pandemic in the backdrop, and backed by more than just the care and concern of Black people. On that horrific day, even though there had been so many others like it, the killing of another unarmed Black man in America by law enforcement appeared to become just too much. Many took to the streets to stand up for justice for George Floyd, for countless others and the whole Black community, which has been dehumanized for centuries in this country and around the world. Taking notice and moving out of a state of neutrality or denial became imperative. We all had to take stock of the racism that has plagued society and come to grips with our own part in a very flawed system. Blair was no exception.

Compelled by the global movement for improving and protecting Black lives and in response to community feedback, the Blair Academy Inclusivity Committee, at work since its inception four years ago, has a renewed sense of urgency to expand the School's diversity, equity and inclusion work. In building a foundation for active and radical kindness that engages with the realities around us, as a School, we knew we had work to do.

Providing a clear public statement to the entire Blair community acknowledging the racism that exists on our campus was the necessary first step to approaching things differently. Since that time, throughout the summer and into the start of the school year, faculty, staff and students have engaged in thinking and training about diversity, equity and inclusion, particularly along lines of race. Between the discussion forums and conversations in which we heard from alumni, parents and students and read the stories shared on social media, self education and professional training have stood out as key areas for Blair on the journey of improvement.

In that vein, various members of the faculty took up Dr. Eddie Moore's 21-Day Racial Equity Habit-Building Challenge, engaged in group study of Ibram Kendi's *How to Be an Antiracist*, and ongoing diversity, equity and inclusion training for faculty and staff began. We will also continue participating in diversity, equity and inclusion-related conferences and offering the yearlong Seeking Educational Equity and Diversity (SEED) seminar professional-development program. Many of the courses Blair is planning for the all-remote academic session in January 2021 will have a social-justice focus, and Martin Luther King Jr. seminars will now be Black History Month seminars. In assessing policies and programs, language



in our student handbook has been updated and a statement on diversity, equity and inclusion has been added. School rules and the expectations for reporting on incidents of bias have been adjusted and made more clear as well.

Right at the outset of the 2020-2021 school year, all students were reminded of Blair's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion work during orientation in the form of large-group presentations and small-group discussions. We look forward to our curriculum audit and ensuring that students have exposure to and facility with diversity, equity and inclusion matters, inside and outside of the classroom. Diversity, equity and inclusion are as essential as the academic courses we teach in preparing our students to operate in the world effectively, compassionately and successfully. As an educational community, we are obligated to provide students with knowledge, skill and understanding of diversity, equity and inclusion topics. Competencies related to identity, human dignity and difference are and will continue to be as core as those in math, history, English, language and science.

As classes resume, the weather cools, and the realities of adapting to life during a global health crisis set in, the Inclusivity Committee promises to continually recenter diversity, equity and inclusion work in all of the School's endeavors. Engaging our 500-plus member campus in establishing community norms to adhere to and hold one another accountable for has been a gratifying exercise in making sure we conduct ourselves in ways that we, as members of the Blair community, are capable of being on our best days. At the end of the day, diversity, equity and inclusion are interwoven into the fabric of every system, including the Blair system, because it is about treating people right—with respect, care and empathy.

Neutrality, inertia or lack of awareness around the realities of racism, ongoing dehumanization and injustice have no place in an educational environment. Regardless of the other pulls and necessities that come our way, the Inclusivity Committee will remain steadfast in making sure Blair is part of making things different this time. This must be the case if we are going to honor and do right by the Black students, alumni/ae and parents who reported stories that have spotlighted times when Blair has fallen short while we also stand in solidarity with those beyond Blair who suffer at the hands of injustice. Things have to be different if we want to live up to the critical responsibility of educating and empowering our students to lead in and mold a better world. So, are we *all in, all together*? ■

## About the Inclusivity Committee

Charged, in part, with the execution of the diversity, equity and inclusion-focused strategic priorities of Blair's 2018-2025 Strategic Plan, the Committee comprises 12 members, including School administrators, faculty and Trustees. The Committee exists to promote a sense of belonging in the community, build on the momentum of diversity, equity and inclusion work around campus, and serve as a resource to adults and students for that work.

Key responsibilities of the Committee include serving as a discussion forum and a planning and advocacy group for diversity, equity and inclusion matters. The Committee also supports the development, execution and steering of diversity, equity and inclusion programs and initiatives, including Black History Month seminars (formerly Martin Luther King Jr. seminars), invited speakers, diversity and sensitivity trainings, and evaluation of the campus climate. The Committee meets regularly with the Head of School and now also acts as a body with which members of the community can discuss any incidents of bias. The administrative team will also call on the group for input when considering official school responses to such incidents. Inclusivity Committee members include:

- Dave Facciani, International Student Academic Monitor
- The Rev. David Harvey, Blair Trustee
- Hannah Higgin, PhD, History Teacher
- Joyce Lang, Language Department Chair
- Joe Mantegna, Associate Dean of College Counseling
- Sharon Merrifield, Mindfulness Teacher/Health & Wellness Teacher
- Nathan Molteni, Dean of Academics
- Ryan Pagotto, Associate Head of School
- Andee Ryerson, Associate Dean of Students
- Maria Savettiere, Blair Trustee
- Leucetia Shaw, Dean of Strategic Initiatives (*Chair*)
- Ally Thomas, Director of Counseling

# Bob & Joanne Brandwood



## When Bob and Joanne Brandwood arrived at Blair

Academy in 1985, he was a rookie independent-school teacher, she was an aspiring lawyer, and their first child was on the way. Today, Bob is the senior member of Blair's faculty, Joanne has made a career pivot from the courtroom to the classroom, and they are the proud parents of five Blair graduates: **Elizabeth '03, Kath '05, Steven '06, David '08 and Sarah '09**. What happened in between is a story filled with learning, sharing and love for each other, their family, friends and Blair, the place they have called home for 35 years.

The learning part of the story is not just about what has transpired in Blair's classrooms, although, of course, that is a big slice of it. Thousands of students have delved into the finer points of poetry, prose, literature and writing in Bob's English classes since his first day on the job, while the latest generation of Bucs has studied U.S. and European history with Joanne since she joined Blair's faculty in 2013. Along the way, they both learned a lot about being teachers themselves, surrounded by colleagues whom Bob describes as "fabulous educators." And, of course, Joanne attended New York University School of Law—amid the whirlwind of raising five children and Bob's Blair commitments—and graduated with her JD in 2000.

Sharing is something that comes naturally to the Brandwoods, and they have shared deeply of themselves at Blair and beyond. In the early 1980s, they met while teaching at the same school in rural Botswana, as Bob worked on a local government contract, having been recruited in the United Kingdom by the British Council, and Joanne served as a Peace Corps volunteer. They are adventurous travelers, who shared this spirit with their children

and with Blair students, who have benefited from firsthand accounts of experiences in Europe, Africa, the U.S. South and more. Bob has shared his lifelong love of soccer and swimming as a Blair coach, and Joanne's innate desire to serve others is something she has shared liberally in her work as a legal services attorney for 12 years, as well as in her role as co-coordinator of Blair's community service program.

Finally, there's love. Spend any time at all with Bob and Joanne, and it is clear that love for each other and their family is the bedrock of their lives. And, the fact that they have remained at Blair for 35 years speaks to their love for their colleagues, who have become lifelong friends, their love of the school-year rhythm that affords them time to travel, and their love of the Blair experience that is an integral part of their children's lives and bonds them even closer as a family.

Whether or not you are among the scores of Bucs who know the Brandwoods as teachers, mentors, advisors, coaches, advocates, colleagues or just wonderful people, here we invite you to get to know them better, both inside and "outside the classroom."





Bob Brandwood has taught English at Blair since 1985.

### Questions for Bob:

**Q. This quote from Thornton Wilder sits on your desk: “The whole purport of literature...is the notation of the heart.” Why are these words meaningful to you, and how do they relate to your teaching in Blair’s English classrooms?**

**A.** One of the ways we communicate or connect with each other is through stories. We tell our stories to one another and establish our senses of identity by telling stories. Initially, when we first meet, our stories are brief, but as we become more familiar with one another and trust each other more, our personal stories become deeper and more resonant. For me,

literature explores those stories we tell each other about ourselves. Learning how someone else feels or thinks is key to understanding them, and literature (stories) enables us to understand stories and to understand one another. We bare our hearts when we tell our stories, and literature is the notation of those stories—the notation of our hearts.

**Q. How did you come to coach soccer and swimming at Blair, and what has that experience added to your life?**

**A.** My athletic career through high school and college had embraced both swimming and track/cross country; however, when I arrived at Blair, the combination of my [British] accent, experience and the coaching

needs of the School convinced the administration that I should be plugged into swimming and soccer. I loved swimming and loved working with [former science teacher] Rick Clarke, who was head swim coach for decades. He and I swam with a group of faculty for years almost every day, and we worked together on the pool deck for 24 years. I took over as head coach upon Rick’s retirement and served in that capacity for 10 years. I began my Blair soccer coaching career as the thirds coach; I’ve since coached at every level, both boys and girls, and it has become one of my passions. I love the fall—surrounded by the ravishing beauty of the campus, having fun with young people who want to compete and improve, interacting with



Bob is a familiar face on the Wallace Pool deck.



Joanne Brandwood runs the show on Blair's annual Day of Service.

my colleagues—what could be better? Football IS the beautiful game.

**Q. You're a seasoned global traveler with some great stories to share about your experiences. What have been some of your favorite trips and why?**

**A.** Another of my passions is the literature of the Great War, so having the opportunity to explore the battlefields of Belgium and France was

moving, amazing, affirming. I loved being able to explore classical sites in Greece last year with our son who is working on his doctorate in ancient Greek. Visiting Ethiopia to see our daughter, who was a Peace Corps volunteer there, was a wonderful opportunity to explore a country I knew little about. We also visited our son in Vanuatu in the South Pacific (he, too, was working as a Peace Corps volunteer) and engaged with the

people and experienced their culture firsthand—sharing their daily life, their families, their food—life-changing. There are many more: I remember vividly on my first trip to Italy three years ago emerging from the subway and being confronted with the Colosseum—breath-taking!!

### Questions for Joanne:

**Q. During your law career, you worked as a Legal Services attorney, providing representation to low-income residents of Sussex and Warren counties. What drew you to this line of work and how did it impact your life?**

**A.** From the time I was young, I knew I wanted to work in public service. In high school, I spent my summers doing volunteer work, and in college, my chief extracurricular activities (among other things, I worked with children, volunteered on an alcohol



Bob at Utah Beach during a trip to Normandy, France, in 2014.





In 2016, Bob and Joanne visited their son, **Dave '08**, then a Peace Corps volunteer, in Vanuatu. They are standing in front of Mount Yasur, an active volcano on Tanna Island.



Bob and Joanne met in Botswana in 1982.

hotline and ran a statewide gun control organization) were all sponsored by Dwight Hall, Yale University's service organization. After college, I joined the Peace Corps, and my initial plan was to go to law school following my service in Botswana. Our desire to start our family delayed law school, but in 1997, our youngest, Sarah, went off to first grade, and I went to New York University. I was eventually lucky to find a public interest job close to Blair, and my work representing low-income victims of domestic violence was incredibly rewarding. Bob said I went to law school because I had an overactive sense of outrage, and that might be true. In any case, I loved being a resource for people who needed me, and I admired the courage and determination of my clients.

**Q. Coordinating Blair's community service efforts alongside English teacher Kaye Evans has become an**

**important role for you over the past several years. What are some of the things that you enjoy most about your work in this regard?**

**A.** It is wonderful to see the great work our students do in the community, from gleaning at local farms to fundraising to sprucing up neighborhood parks. I love seeing how enthusiastic the students are, especially when working on projects that they develop. I also love watching students who have never done volunteer work before become excited about helping others. I also love working with Kaye Evans!

**Q. Tell us more about your hobbies as a quilter and archivist of family photos!**

**A.** I am not very artistic, but I started making quilts so I could give friends and family members gifts that you

couldn't buy in a store. In recent years, I haven't had much time for quilting, but it is a wonderful outlet. I also love photographs because they are a visual diary; memories are enshrined in photos, and I guess I am a kind of family historian.

### Questions for Bob & Joanne:

**Q: Your service in Botswana brought you together. Besides each other, what else did you gain from that experience?**

**A:** Horizons widened, experience expanded, understanding broadened, compassion deepened. We made wonderful friends and shared another culture. We also saw a beautiful part of the world and got to see wild animals in their natural habitats—all the while serving people who needed our help. It was simply wonderful. Two of our children eventually joined the Peace



The Brandwood family, under the Blair Arch, in 2012: (left to right) Joanne, Chris Ricca (Liz's husband), **Dave '08, Steve '06, Liz '03, Sarah '09, Kath '05** and Bob.

Corps themselves, and that legacy has meant a lot to us.

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**Q: All five of your children grew up on campus, from the time they were infants until their Blair graduations. What does that shared experience mean to your family today?**

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**A:** We ARE a Blair family in every sense of the word. Our children truly appreciate Blair and what it gave them—

both as a community and as a school. It's been home for 35 years and continues to be so—how could we not be grateful?

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**Q: What is the biggest holiday for your family and how do you celebrate it?**

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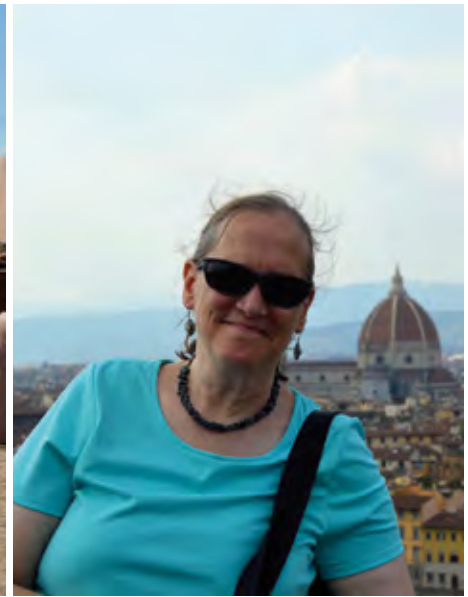
**Bob:** I think Thanksgiving because it is a family-focused holiday. Of course, anytime we can get together for Peddie Day or we have a number of coinciding

reunion years, then we take advantage of those to celebrate together.

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**Joanne:** We love Christmas, and for over 30 years, we have held a caroling party that has become a campus tradition. We sometimes make up our own holidays—one year Bob noticed that, collectively, the ages of the members of our family added up to 200 years; naturally, we had a 200th birthday party!





Bob and Joanne visited Sydney, Australia, in 2015 (top left) and Florence, Italy, in 2017 (top right). The Brandwood family gathered during the summer of 2019 (lower photo): (back row, left to right) Chris Ricca (Liz's husband), **Nick Gordon '05** (Kath's husband), **Kath '05**, **Liz '03**, **Steve '06**, Liz (Steve's wife), **Dave '08** and **Sarah '09**; (front row) Joanne and Bob holding their grandsons, Ben (left) and Sam (right), Chris and Liz's children. The Ricca's baby, Eleanor, arrived in fall 2019.

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**Q: Imagine that one of your grandchildren is getting ready to come to Blair. What advice would you share?**

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**Bob:** Get to know your teachers, talk to them, see them as people, not just educators. Spend time with your classmates and immerse yourself in the beauty of the campus.

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**Joanne:** Work hard but don't forget to have fun. Take advantage of all the opportunities that Blair offers—that's where you will build most of your memories.

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**Q: What is the best thing about traveling? What is the worst thing?**

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**Bob:** Best thing, watching people live. Worst, flying!

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**Joanne:** I love seeing historical places and museums, but I hate jet lag.

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**Q: What class could you teach with absolutely no preparation?**

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**Bob:** Wilfred Owen's poetry, Shakespeare's sonnets, grammar.

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**Joanne:** A class on the Constitution. ■



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## Blair's Research Fellows Delved Into **Importance of Sleep in Adolescence**

When Blair's research fellows set out to examine the importance of sleep in adolescence at the start of the 2019-2020 school year, they never imagined that their work would be interrupted by the coronavirus pandemic. Fast forward to spring 2020, and all eight students who were accepted to the research fellowship program established by Head of School Chris Fortunato and led by English teacher *John Redos '09* were looking at sleep from a whole new perspective—one associated with quarantine and distance learning.

As students prepared to leave Blairstown for spring break in early March, they were juggling three projects that had them collaborating with experts at Cornell Medical School, Rutgers University and Harvard's School of Public Health as they considered sleep quality, the possibility of conducting sleep research in real time at Blair and testing the viability of a sleep curriculum for new Blair students.

"The biggest lesson our fellows learned, hands down, is to not be afraid of a cold email," said Mr. Redos, who joined



Blair's faculty in 2018 and now oversees the School's external partnerships. "All three of our opportunities arose from 'shot in the dark' messages and, while I had a connection to an old labmate currently at Harvard, the other two relationships were forged because of the kindness of individuals willing to give their time to enrich our students' education. Sometimes, having the courage to ask for help is all it takes to create a really wonderful network."

## Research Interrupted

Specifically, the research fellows were working with a professor from Cornell to adapt an existing survey on sleep quality with plans to administer it to faculty and staff on Blair's campus. Before spring break, they had submitted their revised survey to Cornell and were awaiting approval from the school's institutional review board (IRB). The group had plans to visit Rutgers' sleep lab for an orientation with the goal of surveying some portion of the Blair community about sleep habits and quality and possibly using sleep monitors to gather data. And, working with a research assistant at Harvard, the fellows had hoped to host an in-person roundtable for Blair students, teachers and Trustees on the importance of sleep for high school students.

"I was amazed when we received multiple positive responses from the sleep experts to whom we reached out," said **Christina Tan '21**. "I had always been curious about how sleep can affect our daily routines, and I am glad that I learned more about how the lunar cycle influences sleep cycles. This fellowship provided a rare chance for us, as high school students, to dive into extensive resources with the full support of the School and our teachers."

The pandemic forced them to press pause on all of these efforts, but the group's work leading up to the pandemic impressed upon them how important sleep is to well-being.

"Coronavirus meant that many of our plans couldn't come to fruition this year, but we saw how much potential there is for what we were doing to matter," said **Dylan Zhu '21**. "One of our goals was to present to the administration a narrative about what it's currently like to be a student at Blair and to suggest ways to encourage healthier practices among the student body."

Calling the ideation process "fun" and noting that the fellowship experience gave him the opportunity to hone his "scientific research chops," Dylan hopes that he and his classmates will have the opportunity to finish their project in 2020-2021. "It's really important for students and the administration to understand the issue and adjust things to address it," he said. "I was surprised by how many factors go into sleep and how the brain works, and I am especially curious to learn more about brain entrainment and sleep debt so I can better assess my own sleep quality."

For **Grace Higgins '21**, the best part of the fellowship was partnering with a friend to create a real research proposal to share with Blair's Head of School and professional scientists to solicit feedback. "I didn't know much about sleep, but I knew it was important. This was a great opportunity to learn the science behind it and how it affects students and faculty at Blair," she said. "The most surprising thing I learned was that it takes about four days to recover from one hour of lost sleep! Needless to say, I think we all have a lot of catching up to do."

The fellows enjoyed collaborating with Mr. Redos and researchers as their work evolved over the course of the year. "Oftentimes, we forget the importance of sleep in the midst of our busy lives at Blair, so when the opportunity to participate in this program came up, I was excited to be a part of it," said **Miki Wang '21**. "I never realized how detailed and meticulous a research project can be, and working with Mr. Redos was definitely one of the highlights of the experience. His constant

"Coronavirus meant that many of our plans couldn't come to fruition this year, but we saw how much potential there is for what we were doing to matter. One of our goals was to present to the administration a narrative about what it's currently like to be a student at Blair and to suggest ways to encourage healthier practices among the student body."

—**Dylan Zhu '21**

"Sometimes, having the courage to ask for help is all it takes to create a really wonderful network."

—English teacher **John Redos '09**

willingness to meet with us and provide guidance has definitely driven me to become a better research student."

Dylan appreciated Mr. Redos' organization and flexibility, as well as his emphasis on project feasibility. "Mr. Redos set clear deadlines but allowed us a great deal of space for interpretation within them so that we could assert our own voices in our work," he explained.

Being able to branch out and brainstorm in this way gave the fellows a lot of freedom, added Christina. "When sharing ideas in the group, it was absolutely fascinating to see how diverse everyone's interests and approaches are, and partnering with others made the process easier," she said. "It has been such a pleasure to work with Mr. Redos; he sincerely cares about our thought processes. While encouraging our research, he also made sure that our plans were achievable."

### Meaningfully Contributing to Research Realities

This year, Mr. Redos and his 2020-2021 fellows (including Dylan, Miki, Christina and Grace) continue to take an empirical approach to better understanding adolescence and sleep. "Our work is exciting, but also shows how intimidating collaborating with external partners can be," he said. "It's not always easy talking to professors who are accomplished in a field in which we are not experts. However, it is invaluable for students to learn that we are all trying to accomplish similar goals, albeit from different perspectives, backgrounds and experiences."

Miki, Dylan and Grace encourage their peers to look into participating in the research fellowship next year. "If you are interested in learning something new and gaining research experience, it is a great opportunity," Miki said.

"You get a lot out of it if you have the time and motivation to contribute," Dylan added. "It is worth the time commitment because many opportunities you would've never considered will pop up if you look for them. Working as a group, you can push your knowledge to a depth that is hard to achieve on your own."

Grace put it simply: Just go for it. "Whether you have no experience and just want to learn more, or you want to get your foot in the door to create connections with professionals, this is a great, low-stress opportunity," she concluded.

Reflecting on the fellowship he created in 2018, Mr. Fortunato is pleased to see that students are getting a firsthand look at the realities involved in the research process, including limitations and efficacy.

"I want our students to understand the breadth, complexity and depth of what meaningful research looks like," he said. "Research often isn't quick; it is a long game that can take years or even lifetimes to produce results. Our fellows experienced for themselves that they might not immediately see the fruits of their labor but took pride in being citizen researchers who contributed to meaningful work in some way. Understanding that process and their place in it has never been more important, especially amid the coronavirus pandemic." ■

### The Fellowship by the #'s

8

research fellows

3 {

Harvard's School of Public Health  
Cornell Medical School  
Rutgers University

external partnerships

About

4 days

the amount of time it takes to make up  
for 1 lost hour of sleep!



## FAREWELL TO THE STIVALS

Longtime Blair faculty members Lew and Lois Stival said farewell to Blair at the end of the 2019-2020 school year to begin a new chapter in their lives in Florida, where Lew now leads the college counseling office at Ransom Everglades School in Miami.

"Lew and Lois have touched countless lives at Blair over the last three decades. Lew as a college counselor and coach, Lois as a tutor, and both as advisors, mentors and friends to generations of students and teachers," said Head of School Chris Fortunato. "I know I speak for all of us when I say I am grateful for their dedication and service to making Blair the exceptional school it is today, and they will be deeply missed by everyone on our hilltop."

Over their 33 years at Blair, the Stivals served in many roles, including dorm heads of Insley and Mason Halls. In addition to her position as day student coordinator for the last 22 years, Lois planned many Blair events over the years, including the prom, Parents' Weekend, Alumni Weekend and various fundraisers, such as the Blair Parent Auction that was a staple during the 1990s. A former English teacher, Lew headed up the School's college counseling office for most of his Blair tenure and coached girls' and boys' varsity tennis for many years.

When asked what they will miss the most about Blair, they agreed it will be the people. "We will miss all of the students we've come to know and our friends among the faculty and staff," Lew said. "We've worked with some of these people for 30-plus years. I am going to miss my college counseling colleagues, who have made a huge difference in Blair's ability to connect and partner with Blair families and admissions officers at schools around the world."

Looking back over his long career counseling students as they prepared to leave Blair for college and beyond, Lew says he is most proud of how well Blair students presented to colleges and universities. "When I took over, my charge was to make sure that colleges and universities everywhere recognized the quality of Blair kids. We accomplished that and then some."



For her part, Lois will miss Blair day students, who she calls "an exceptional group of kids" and "the backbone of Blair Academy," but notes that she and Lew look forward to reconnecting with them during future Alumni Weekends. They also will miss their Carriage House dining room overlooking Blair Lake, where they spent countless evenings relaxing with each other, students and faculty friends.

But the "big warm weather fans" look forward to starting their next chapter in Florida. "Our kids [**Michael '03, Lauren '05 and Anthony '07**] are all on their own now, so this is the right time to move," said Lois, adding that they are excited to form deep personal relationships with Ransom Everglades students in the same way they did with kids at Blair.

The Stivals shared some parting advice with the generations of Bucs they have impacted over the years before leaving campus. "Don't be afraid to be who you really are and be your best self," Lois said. Lew added: "It has been our pleasure to work here and know you. Don't forget the valuable lessons you learned at Blair and the wonderful opportunities those lessons will continue to make possible for you." The Stivals also encourage any Blair student, parent or alumnus/alumna who wish to stay in touch to email them at [loisstival@gmail.com](mailto:loisstival@gmail.com) or [lewisstival@gmail.com](mailto:lewisstival@gmail.com). ■

## BLAIR BULLETIN WINS INSPIRED MARKETING AWARD



Blair's magazine won a gold inspirED Brilliance Award for magazine feature article writing for the 2019 piece written and published about rival relationships among Blair and Peddie School students, alumni, parents, faculty and

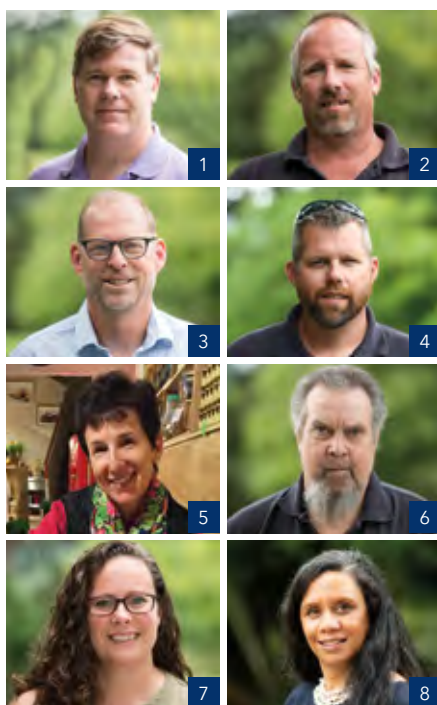
staff. The annual award, which recognizes excellence in private school marketing and communications, commended the two schools for the articles' genesis—they came into being thanks to a *Peddie Chronicle* class notes photo of longtime friends Don Mattucci, Blair class of 1945, and Clarence Kugler, Peddie class

of 1963. The friendship between the South Florida residents who met at a dog park 15 years ago led Blair and Peddie to search for—and find—other relationships between former Buccaneers and Falcons.

The judges also recognized the magazine editors' commitment to joint research and interviews, ultimately creating a feature that connected alumni and families across generations by highlighting 115 years of Blair and Peddie competition and connection. They also cited the articles' structure—"flowing from friends to family to colleagues in a way that kept [them] wanting to know more, creating a holistic approach and emphasizing the positive effects of the rivalry throughout." In the end, they concluded that, by spotlighting rival relationships instead of competition, the two schools created "a fun way to get to the heart of what connects rather than divides us as human beings." ■



To read more of the judge's comments about the joint feature, visit [www.blair.edu/rival-relationships](http://www.blair.edu/rival-relationships).



## BLAIR ACADEMY HONORS VETERAN FACULTY & STAFF

At the start of the 2020-2021 academic year, Blair Academy celebrated and thanked eight faculty and staff members who reached milestone years of service to the School.

Director of technology and chair of the computer science department Sam Adams (1) and maintenance staff member Kyle Thomas (2) were honored for having served Blair Academy for 25 years. Language teacher Tim Devaney (3), grounds supervisor Dan Andrus (4) and assistant director of communications Joanne Miceli (5) were recognized for 10-year service anniversaries. Also celebrating 10-year anniversaries are Jeff Mack (6) of the maintenance team, advancement associate Melissa Sneed (7), and registrar and yearbook advisor Kecia Tillman (8).

Assistant Head of School and Dean of Faculty Lorry Perry thanked the dedicated members of the community, stating: "To have faculty and staff who dedicate so much of their lives to Blair for so many years is a tremendous boon for our school community; these eight individuals contribute so much to Blair through and beyond their roles at the School." ■



## WELCOME NEW FACULTY & STAFF!

Blair extended a warm welcome to its new faculty and staff members at the start of the 2020-2021 school year. Here, we introduce them to the Blair family and share updates on some familiar faces among the faculty who have taken on new roles.



### ENGLISH

**Eric Flora '15** is a 2019 graduate of Princeton University. An English major with a minor in gender and sexuality studies, he earned the university's Thomas B. Wanamaker English Language Prize and graduated with honors. He was a member of Princeton's varsity heavyweight crew team and worked extensively with fellow undergraduates as a residential college advisor, first-year orientation coordinator and as part of the university's Freshman Scholars Institute. Mr. Flora interned as a student life associate at Princeton following his graduation and worked as a paralegal prior to joining Blair's English faculty. He teaches English 2 and resides in Fredon, New Jersey.



Cally Queally earned her bachelor's degree in creative writing in 2020 at Hamilton College, where she minored in psychology and theatre and captained the ski team. She gained teaching and mentoring experience during summer internships at Northfield Mount Hermon School (2019) and the Meadowbrook School of Weston (2018, 2019). Ms. Queally teaches English and coaches the ski team at Blair, and she lives in Kathryn Hall with her golden retriever, Tobe.



### HISTORY

History teacher and boys' crew coach Jared Lippman came to Blair from Wyoming Seminary, where he taught history and served as head rowing coach for three years. He holds a bachelor's degree in history from Hamilton College (2016) and a master's

degree in secondary social studies from the University of Rochester (2017). Mr. Lippman's rowing experience includes a year as assistant men's rowing coach at the University of Rochester, as well as four years as a member of Hamilton College's first varsity boat and a year as its rowing team captain. He teaches modern European history and AP U.S. history at Blair, serves on the Flight Deck dorm staff and lives in Ringe House.



Pam Schulman teaches European history and global issues and serves as Blair's head varsity field hockey coach. She graduated magna cum laude from Middlebury College in 2018, having majored in history. At Middlebury, Ms. Schulman was a member of the varsity ice hockey and varsity field hockey teams for two and four years, respectively, and she served as captain of the field hockey team. She helped lead Middlebury's field hockey team to clinch the 2015 Division III National Championship and was named to the Longstreth/ National Field Hockey Coaches Division III All-American team. From 2018 through 2019, Ms. Schulman worked for Percy, a startup staffing company. In January 2020, she joined Kimball Union Academy, where she taught U.S. history, worked in the student life office and acted as an assistant coach for the girls' varsity ice hockey team. Ms. Schulman lives on Flight Deck.



### LANGUAGE

Classics teacher Lucy Ayers is an alumna of New York University (NYU), having graduated magna cum laude in 2015 with a bachelor's degree in classics and received the department's Bluma L. Trell Prize for

outstanding contribution to the field of classics. She continued her education at the University of Pennsylvania, where she earned her master's degree in classics in 2016. Before joining Blair's faculty, she gained classroom experience as a Latin teacher at Peddie School and Caesar Rodney High School, and previously worked as a paralegal at an intellectual property law firm and as an assistant editor at Scholastic Education. In addition to teaching Latin 4 and 5 at Blair, Ms. Ayers also serves as a rowing coach, a role to which she brings several years of experience. At NYU, she rowed in the women's pair, earning silver medals at the Head of the Schuylkill Regatta (2011) and the New York State Collegiate Championships (2014). A volunteer at Row New York during her college days, she also worked



as a summer rowing coach at the Princeton National Rowing Association. Ms. Ayers lives in Ivy Hall.

Spanish teacher Alexandra Cullen is a 2020 graduate of Bates College, where she double-majored in English and environmental studies and minored in Spanish. While at Bates, she worked with students in public and independent schools during internships, as a classroom volunteer and as part of a middle school food sustainability program. She also worked in the Bates communication office and held a summer internship at *SKI Magazine*. Ms. Cullen studied abroad in Valparaiso, Chile, and spent several months backpacking through South America. She teaches Spanish 2 and Spanish 3 honors at Blair and serves as head coach of JV field hockey.



## MATH

**Paul (Chadd) Clairmont '09** earned bachelor's degrees in mathematics and computer science at Rollins College in 2014, and he is currently pursuing his master's degree in secondary school mathematics education at Columbia University's Teachers College. An experienced programmer, he has worked as a web developer and as a coding instructor for children in grades K to 6. Mr. Clairmont's athletic interests include golf, soccer and tennis,

and he coaches JV boys' soccer and squash. He teaches algebra 2 and statistics and resides in Paul House.



Julia Rowny is Blair's math department chair. She is a 2008 graduate of Kenyon College with a bachelor's degree in mathematics and a 2020 graduate of the Harvard Graduate School of Education, where she earned her EdM in learning and teaching and instructor leadership. Ms. Rowny's experience in the classroom includes 10 years as a math teacher at Hopkins School, where she was also a track and cross country coach. In addition to her duties as department chair, she teaches math and coaches girls' cross country and track. Ms. Rowny is married to fellow Blair math teacher Stephen Sacchetti, and they live in Annie Hall.



Stephen Sacchetti, a member of the math faculty, brings seven years of independent school teaching experience to his role at Blair. He taught at Loomis Chaffee School and, most recently, at Hopkins School, where he coached JV girls' tennis and served as day school teacher residency coordinator for the University of Pennsylvania fellows program. Mr. Sacchetti earned a bachelor of science degree in mathematics at Haverford College in 2011 and a master of science in education (MSEd) at the University of Pennsylvania in 2015. He serves as an adjunct professor at the University of Pennsylvania's Graduate School of Education. In addition to teaching math at Blair, he coaches JV girls' tennis and the debate team. Mr. Sacchetti and his wife, math department chair Julia Rowny, live in Annie Hall.



## COLLEGE COUNSELING

**Niki Applebaum '01** began her tenure as dean of college counseling in July, returning to her alma mater, the place that inspired her career as an educator. Early on, she taught at Middlesex School, Trevor Day School and Peddie School, where she also coached field hockey and lacrosse and choreographed musical



productions. She then moved to the college counseling realm, where her broad experience covers both sides of the admission desk. Ms. Applebaum served as an admissions officer and territory manager for Stanford University, as well as a senior admissions officer and assistant director of financial aid at Harvard University, where she was the founding director of the Harvard First Generation Program. For the past three years, she was co-director of college counseling at the Baldwin School.

Ms. Applebaum earned her bachelor's degree at Brown University (2005), where she double majored in English and American civilizations, and her master's degree in English at Middlebury College (2015). She is an experienced dancer who has shared her talent as a reviewer of supplemental dance materials at Harvard, as an advisor to dance clubs at previous schools, and as a student-choreographer of musicals at Brown and Blair.

Ms. Applebaum advises *The Oracle* at Blair, and she lives in Wayside Cottage with her Japanese chin, Nikko.



Associate Dean of College Counseling Kevin Parsons brings more than a decade of experience in college

admission and college counseling to his role at Blair. Most recently, he served as a college counselor for two years at the Academy of Notre Dame de Namur. Prior to that, he was assistant dean of admission at Princeton University for seven years, having begun his career with stints as an admission counselor for the University of Delaware and assistant director of admissions at American University. Mr. Parsons holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Marist College (2006) and a master's degree in education with a concentration in higher education administration from the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education (2011). He resides in Mason Hall at Blair and coaches track.



Caroline Wilson took on two new roles at Blair in 2020 as an associate dean of admission and a college counselor. She was appointed to Blair's faculty as

an admission associate in 2013, after receiving her bachelor's degree in psychology from Williams College. A member of Williams' varsity swim team, Ms. Wilson was named NCAA Division III Swimmer of the Year in 2013, and she was a 13-time Division III National Champion and a seven-time Division III NCAA national record holder. In 2018, Ms. Wilson earned a master's degree in education policy, organization and leadership studies from Stanford University. She served as Blair's associate dean of students from 2018 until 2020. Ms. Wilson is the head coach of Blair's varsity swim and JV girls' lacrosse teams and serves as dorm head of Locke Hall.



## DEAN OF TEACHING & LEARNING

Dean of Teaching & Learning Amanda Lucas supports faculty as they work to implement innovative and research-

based teaching practices. Having partnered with the Center for Transformative Teaching and Learning, TeachAthena and the College Board, she implements neuroeducation teaching strategies and resource-sharing opportunities for faculty, and supports curricular development with a focus on student-centered practices across departments. A veteran of education since 2005, Mrs. Lucas has taught in and chaired English departments at both middle and upper levels, most recently at The Emery/Weiner School. Mrs. Lucas has been awarded the Rav Preida Award for Teaching Excellence (2019), the Robert Turner Teacher of the Year Award (2014) and a McGovern Master Teacher Award from the Common Ground Institute at University of Houston's Honor College (2015). She obtained her bachelor's degree in English (2001) and her MEd in curriculum and instruction (2014) from Texas A&M University. In the summer of 2021, Mrs. Lucas will complete her master's degree in English from the Bread Loaf School of English at Middlebury College. In addition to her role in the academic office, Mrs. Lucas teaches English 1 and coaches 3rds soccer at Blair. She and her husband, Derek, reside in Hillside House with their Hungarian Vizsla, Toby, and their cat, Ginger.



## DEAN OF STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Appointed to Blair's faculty in 2010, Leucetia Shaw is the dean of strategic initiatives and an associate dean of admission. As a member of the senior administrative team, she works across several domains of the School, including, but not limited to, admission, faculty hiring and support, alumni relations and student life. Additionally, she is a mentor teacher, a student advisor and a freshman-class monitor. During her Blair tenure, she has also taught Spanish at the basic, intermediate and advanced levels, taught Blair LEADS and served on the Faculty Executive Committee. Earlier in her career, Mrs. Shaw held various positions at Saint James School and at her alma mater, The Lawrenceville School. Over the years, she has been involved in inclusivity efforts, student club advising and athletic coaching. Mrs. Shaw completed her undergraduate work in Spanish with a concentration in language teacher preparation at Georgetown University. She went on to earn her master's degree in educational leadership from Columbia University's Teachers College. A native of New York City, she serves as dorm head of Mason Hall and lives there with her husband, Nigel, and two children, **Nia '17** and **Ian '20**.



## DIRECTOR OF COUNSELING

Appointed Blair's director of counseling in 2020, Ally Thomas joined the faculty in 2017 as school counselor, bringing a range of clinical experience. Over the course of her career, she has provided support to youth and their families in school, outpatient, residential and community settings. Prior to coming to Blair, she was the director of counseling services at Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault Intervention Services (DASI) in Newton, New Jersey. Mrs. Thomas earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice at Shippensburg University (2008) and a master's degree in social work at West Chester University (2011), where her graduate research focused on privilege and oppression

and its impact on the client/ therapist relationship. She is a licensed clinical social worker in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and she serves on Blair's Inclusivity Committee. Mrs. Thomas, her husband, fine arts teacher Evan Thomas, and their daughter, Kiley, live on Mohican Road.



## SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Melany Jimenez, Blair's school counselor, received her master of social work (MSW) degree from Rutgers University School of Social work in 2016, following the completion of her undergraduate degree in psychology and French at Rutgers in 2013. She is a licensed New Jersey social worker, who gained experience as a medical social worker in a hospital setting and as a bilingual clinician in the field of domestic and sexual abuse. Prior to joining Blair's faculty in 2020, she worked as a child and family clinician at a nonprofit agency, where she provided therapeutic services for children, adolescents and adults. Ms. Jimenez, who is fluent in Spanish, lives in Lake House with her partner, James, and their dog, Ollie.



## SOCIETY OF SKEPTICS

History department chair Jason Beck became the coordinator of Blair's Society of Skeptics lecture series in 2020. He holds the Dr. J. Brooks Hoffman '36 Chair in American History and serves as a junior-class monitor. Since joining Blair's faculty as director of financial aid in 2001, Mr. Beck has taught Western civilization, intellectual history honors, and AP courses in U.S., world and European history. In addition, he previously served as assistant dean of college counseling, chair of the Accreditation Committee and co-chair of the Faculty Professional Development Committee. After completing his undergraduate work at Vassar College in 1999, Mr. Beck joined the staff there as assistant director of admission. In 2010, he earned his master's degree in classics and philosophy from St. John's College in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He lives on Park Street.





## STUDENT LIFE OFFICE

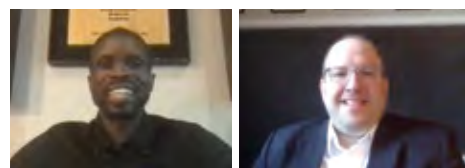
In 2020, Rod Gerdson joined the student life office as an associate dean of students, working closely with the team to provide the best campus experience for students during the week and on weekends. He also took on the role of dorm head for Insley Hall, a dorm of 36 freshmen and sophomore boys. Since joining Blair's faculty in 2004, Mr. Gerdson has served in a wide variety of roles, including biology and marine science teacher, academic monitor for the freshman and junior classes, director of annual giving, admission associate, and dorm head for 60 sophomore and junior boys in East Hall. One of his passions is his annual marine science trip to the Cayman Islands. Mr. Gerdson and his wife, Cassi, Blair's director of admission application management, are the parents of **Kate '20** and **Jack '24**.



Jon DeJesus is the new administrative assistant to the student life office. He holds a bachelor's degree in business management from Bloomsburg University and a master's degree in sports management-intercollegiate athletic administration from California University of Pennsylvania. Mr. DeJesus worked for nine years for the East Stroudsburg Area school district, most recently as child accounting bookkeeper. He also coached boys' basketball at his alma mater, East Stroudsburg North High School, where he led the team to its first-ever District XI Championship and advanced to the Sweet 16 of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association, Inc. (PIAA) state playoffs. Mr. DeJesus has been an assistant varsity boys' basketball coach at Blair since 2017. He and his wife, Saskia, have two children, Gianna and Zaden. ■

## VIEW FALL SKEPTICS LECTURES ON BLAIR'S WEBSITE

The fall Society of Skeptics lineup includes an array of fascinating speakers. Students and teachers tune in to a live private webinar every Tuesday evening, and Blair posts a recording of the presentation on its website the following day. We invite you to view this year's lectures and share this venerable Blair tradition by visiting [www.blair.edu/skeptics-2020](http://www.blair.edu/skeptics-2020). ■



The 2020-2021 Society of Skeptics, under the direction of history department chair Jason Beck (right), opened on September 8 with a presentation by global philanthropist **Luol Deng '03**.

September 8	<b>Luol Deng '03</b> , global philanthropist	"Global Philanthropy"
September 15	Jason Howk, Islam scholar	"The Afghan Peace Process"
September 22	Nishta Mehra, author & educator	"Brown White Black: Living Authentically"
September 29	Dr. James Dickerson, chief research scientist, <i>Consumer Reports</i>	"Science & Consumer Practices"
October 6	<b>Carrie Giddins Pergram '92</b> , professor, American University	"A 2020 Election Preview"
October 20	<b>Emmanuel Bello '04</b> , vice president, Owl Rock Capital	"Careers in Investment & Business"
October 27	Alison Wright, photographer, <i>National Geographic</i>	"Pandemic to Protest: Photos of New York City"
November 3	Election Forum	Young Democrats & Young Republicans Lead Election Night Forum
November 17	Camelia Valdes, Passaic County prosecutor	"TBD"



# AN IDEA BECOMES REALITY

THIS IS



L1NKUP

IT IS OFTEN SAID that the best innovations are born out of frustration. Here at Blair Academy, students are encouraged to create and develop their own solutions to the problems they face around them.

In 2018, **Thomas Engel '20** and **Rob Rucki '20** sat in the Chiang-

Elghanayan Center for Innovation and Collaboration during a Business Club meeting. Brainstorming ideas for a project, other students mentioned their frustration with their Blair ID card, including how often they're misplaced or the inconvenience of pulling them out during the winter.

"One student had the idea of decals on the back of our phones to replace our Blair IDs, but we realized that students do not have their phones with them 100 percent of the time," Thomas recalled. "That's how our business was born."

Later, **John Boellhoff '21**, **Matthew Brooks '21** and **Liam Junkermann '19**





joined the team. L1NKUP, as described by John, is a smart wristband that is programmed into Blair's door-locking system and payment function. The wristband, made of rubber and plastic, is durable and waterproof so it can be worn 24/7.

With their idea in place, the current team of Thomas, John and Rob got to work. After extensive research to determine if a similar product existed (the answer was yes), the team worked with Blair's Dean of Students and Business Club advisor Carm Mazza and Chief Operating Officer Jim Frick to begin the process of implementing the system at Blair.

"It turns out the system is very similar to what Disney World uses in its parks," Thomas said. "We knew the manufacturer already existed, so we just had to establish our business and the programming to work with it."

Under the guidance of Mr. Mazza and Mr. Frick, the team created prototypes of the product. They then

*"It's not often that a group of students is able to work well enough together to make their dream a reality."*

—Dean of Students & Business Club advisor Carm Mazza

worked together to establish their business, including creating their brand, working with Blair's technology office and more. According to the team, the biggest struggle was opening a bank account.

"All three of us are international students, so Mr. Mazza took us to four different banks before we were successful in opening an account," Thomas noted. "It was a hurdle we didn't expect, but it was a great lesson in starting a business."

After a successful trial period, the wristbands were offered for purchase to the Blair community in fall 2019. Mr. Mazza noted how proud he was of the team for their drive to make L1NKUP a reality at Blair.

"It's not often that a group of students is able to work well enough together to make their dream a reality," Mr. Mazza said. "Although I am their advisor, I've taken a step back to let them make their own decisions. They've put endless hours of work into this project."







When asked about their favorite part of the development process, the team noted how amazing it was to see everyone in their element.

"I was more like the thinker, helping to create a business plan to really get us off the ground," Thomas said. "John is our finance guy; he really understood the fiscal responsibility and what we needed to do to make this a reality. Rob is our spokesperson, who also worked in every other area to make sure L1NKUP was successful."

In January 2019, the team attended the annual Blair Academy Finance Summit at Goldman Sachs in New York City. During the summit, professionals from all corners of the finance industry gathered to talk shop and share experiences during a panel discussion moderated by Board Chair Doug Kimmelman P'12 '13 '15 '22. The team had the opportunity to pitch L1NKUP to attendees and discuss their business plan with alumni in the field.

Soon after, the team recorded their first promotional video for L1NKUP. In collaboration with the Blair communications office, they spent an afternoon in the recording studio in the Chiang-Elghanayan Center

for Innovation and Collaboration creating the video, which explained the origin of L1NKUP, its premise and their plan for the future (watch it at [www.blair.edu/l1nkup](http://www.blair.edu/l1nkup)).

The team noted the goal is to expand L1NKUP to include businesses in Blirstown, such as Dale's Market and Gourmet Gallery. To do so, they will work with developers to create a shared system for currency exchange. The team also hopes to bring L1NKUP to other schools in the area for use on their campuses.

As the summer came to a close and the 2020-2021 school year began, the team completed a business plan and a three-year plan, secured financial support from an angel investor, and began the development phase of the software and two apps. They continue to expand the number of people working on L1NKUP and are considering partnering with other schools and

businesses as they turn their attention to scaling and product testing.

"We created a financial plan to present to potential investors, and we are specifically looking for private investors to fund our project in exchange for a percentage of the company," John noted.

"Our ultimate dream is to continue developing this business well after our Blair graduations, with a target of introducing it around the world," Rob said. "With the right support and development, L1NKUP could eventually replace credit cards, ID cards and more."

Although Thomas and Rob graduated from Blair in 2020, the team still plans to work together to grow L1NKUP over the next few years. They may be on different continents, but each member believes that this project will transcend their time spent together in Blirstown. ■

@ L1NKUP is currently available for students and faculty to purchase for \$25 in Blair's school store. To learn more about getting involved with L1NKUP, email Thomas at [thomas@l1nkup.com](mailto:thomas@l1nkup.com) or Mr. Mazza at [mazzac@blair.edu](mailto:mazzac@blair.edu).

# STATE OF ADMISSION

BY ASSOCIATE HEAD OF SCHOOL & DEAN OF ADMISSION PETER G. CURRAN



The 2019-2020 admission cycle was yet another remarkable year for Blair Academy. We received nearly 1,300 applications for admission, the most in our history, and the School is fully enrolled for 2020-2021. Our 460-plus member student body includes young people from 25 U.S. states and 26 countries, and 150 are new to Blair. Each of our students brings unique interests, talents and passions to our community, and I am excited to see how they will make our hilltop campus their home this year.

Clearly, Blair's warm and welcoming community, culture of caring, and distinctive academic and extracurricular programs resonate with families across the globe as they decide where their children will matriculate. In this annual update, I am proud to share some of the many ways—both traditional and innovative—that the admission team brought and continues to bring the one-of-a-kind Blair experience to life for prospective students and their parents.





## Travel & Tours to Virtual Visits

Last fall, our admission officers traveled throughout the United States and to 10 countries, where they met with families and spoke to groups about all that Blair has to offer. They continued that work on campus, too, by hosting 200 families at our Fall Open House in October and conducting daily in-person interviews and tours into the winter months.

All of our in-person meetings came to a halt, of course, with the spread of the coronavirus, but the admission team quickly pivoted to digital engagement. Throughout the spring and summer, we leveraged technology to provide newly enrolled and prospective families online experiences that have been personal, uniquely engaging and quintessentially Blair.

Case in point is our Virtual Revisit Experience, which took place in early April. In a normal year, newly admitted students return to campus—or in some cases, visit for the first time—on Revisit Day to help them decide whether Blair is truly “their” school. Often, students tell me that the gut feeling they got when they saw all the smiling faces on campus, or the conversation they had with a teacher or coach who already seemed to know them, sealed the deal for Blair.

This year, we recreated the Blair community vibe online through live Revisit Experience sessions with School administrators; panel discussions with parents, students and faculty members; videos about Blair life created by students; one-on-one calls with faculty members; and a host of Blair resources that newly admitted students and parents could access with the click of a mouse. We received overwhelmingly positive feedback on the Virtual Revisit Experience, and we’ve continued to bring the “feeling” of Blair to the digital world ever since.

## Ongoing Outreach

Newly enrolled students and prospective families were the focus of the admission team’s creative virtual outreach this summer. We helped incoming Bucs build connections within the community

earlier than ever before through frequent Zoom meetings with prefects and other students, and we conducted numerous one-on-one virtual tours of campus for students who had enrolled but had not had the opportunity to visit. In addition, we paired each newly enrolled student with a current student “buddy,” who could offer advice and share insights about his or her Blair experience.

Prospective students and families enjoyed our virtual Spring Preview, which attracted more than 120 attendees from around the world, and seventh graders participated in “how-to-interview” workshops based on The Blair Leadership Stories Project. We also produced school-specific videos for more than 30 independent schools whose students regularly come to Blair, collaborated with Mid-Atlantic Boarding Schools (MABS) institutions to educate families on the value of the boarding-school experience, participated in countless video calls with individual students and families, and created an exciting and comprehensive digital campus web page, which serves as a launching pad for Blair admission.

I would be the first to acknowledge that the best way to get to know Blair is to visit in person, walk around our beautiful, historic campus and meet the members of our community. However, circumstances over these past months dictated that we find new ways of connecting with prospective and newly enrolled students, and I am proud of the many ways that the admission team and so many members of our community rose to the challenge. I am especially grateful to the alumni and Blair families who assisted us along the way—now, more than ever, your eagerness to share your enthusiasm for the School helps us to attract and enroll students who will make the most of the Blair experience.

Blair’s admission team is excited to get back on the road and to welcome visitors from near and far to campus! Whether or not that is happening by the time you read this, I assure you that we are continually developing new, creative and intentional ways to share Blair Academy with families around the world. We are eager to build upon our successful admission season with another outstanding year for 2020-2021. ■

# WHY BLAIR?

WE ASKED FIVE NEWLY ADMITTED STUDENTS WHY THEY CHOSE BLAIR. HERE IS WHAT THEY SAID:

## *Ethan Lau '23*



"One of the most important factors that led me to choose Blair is its community. Blair's tightly knit

school community made me feel like I could fit in easily with others."

## *Hannah Bazylevsky '22*



"No other school I toured had a community that even came close to the one that I was introduced

to at Blair. Blair truly radiates positive energy, warmth, joy and inclusion."

## *Ella Gaitan '24*



"I want to be a part of something that will allow me to make great connections, academically and

socially, with people I never would have met at any other institution. Blair is the best place for me to grow into the person I want to be."

## *Chris Couri '24*



"Blair is truly designed to give a once-in-a-lifetime experience. From the super fun traditions and tight-

knit community to the outstanding athletic and arts programs and state-of-the-art facilities, there is so much to like when it comes to Blair."

## *Simisola Onakomaiya '24*



"I chose Blair because it is the most well-rounded of all the schools I visited and because of the strong bonds among members of the community."



# BUCCANEERS

The Blair Hammer Award recognizes athletes at every level who demonstrate grit, strength, teamwork, character and effort. Congratulations to the Bucs who received the Blair Hammer Award in 2019-2020!

**Sydney Landau '20**

Sydney's undefeated record, highly competitive spirit and confident leadership were dominant and driving forces behind the girls' tennis team's 2019 success.

**Kendra Payne '20**

A track and field athlete who displayed exceptional grit and discipline while training during distance learning, Kendra was Blair's top pole-vaulter and an impressive hurdler.

**Sanoussi Kane '20**

A football team leader and enforcer, Sanoussi led the Bucs in scoring, rushing and other statistics in 2019.

**Michael O'Connell '20**

Michael was a dominant point guard whose composure in high-pressure situations was important to the varsity boys' basketball team in 2019-2020.

## Blair Academy Recognizes Spring Athletes & Commends Class of 2020 for Legacy of Excellence

by *Wyatt Long '16*

On February 29, Blair Academy's spring sports teams participated in media day, an opportunity to have professional individual and team photos taken before the season got underway. Athletes from every team were given the opportunity to express their personality and camaraderie during the photo sessions. Beyond the opportunity to come together to celebrate their individual and collective accomplishments, athletes from the class of 2020 were recognized by the athletic office and coaches in several other ways through the spring semester.

Sports information director **Rhett Moroses '13** described the importance of the media day to Blair athletics: "As it is at most colleges, Blair's media day is designed to both provide

a memorable experience for Blair athletes and help us gather content for Blair's athletic branding and other media outlets." Along with providing a unique experience that few other high schools offer, media day is a chance for Blair Academy to highlight the high level of talent within its student body.

In addition to the photo op, seniors from each spring team were interviewed about their upcoming season. When asked "What makes a Blair athlete?," many seniors had similar themes in their answers. Competitive, persistent and dedicated were words used often to describe a Buccaneer. Sportsmanship, talent and passion were other qualities that seniors pointed out. Blair's senior athletes constantly practiced



Blair's crew athletes took part in media day. (Back row, left to right) **Kate Gerdson '20**, **Mavric Crotty '20**, **Nate Castimore '20**, **Elizabeth Montfort '20** and **Thomas Engel '20**; (front row, left to right) **Clara Ulivi '20** and **Ari Cobb '20**.





Girls' golf team members (left to right) **Alyx Khuat-Sherwood '22**, **Xiaopei Chen '21** and **Muzi Fang '20** established a legacy of winning.

what they preached throughout their high school careers, in every practice, workout, game and in the countless hours they put into becoming the best representation of a Blair athlete that they could.

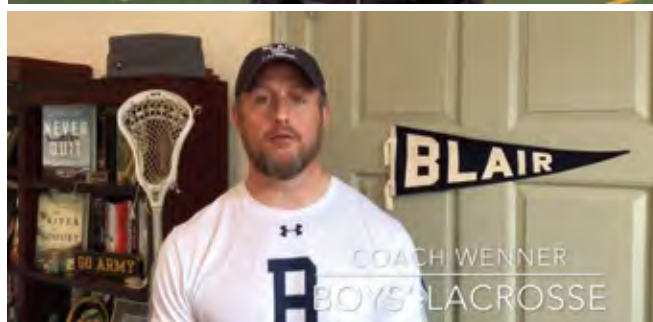
**Cameron Grant '20** had perhaps the perfect response when describing a Buccaneer. "An athlete who, no matter what, perseveres through everything that is thrown his or her way," he said. Although Blair's athletes from the class of 2020 were not able to compete in their final season for the Bucs, they persevered through the challenges presented to them by the coronavirus pandemic and a virtual spring semester.

"The athletes in the class of 2020 achieved a great deal during their time on the hill," said Director of Athletics **Paul Clavel '88**. "Their leadership and dedication to their sports set a high bar for their underclass teammates, and each senior represented what it means to be a Buccaneer on and off the field." The class of 2020, he added, leaves Blair with a combined 171 wins and only 128 losses, nine Mid-Atlantic Prep League (MAPL) titles and four state prep "A" championships.

Blair Academy honored the senior athletes with a farewell video in which spring coaches talked about each senior and noted his or her contributions to individual programs, on and off the field. Mr. Clavel concluded the ceremony, saying: "A big thank you to all the seniors for working hard and representing Blair Academy. Good luck in your future endeavors, and remember, once a Buc, always a Buc!" ■



Blair's athletic department celebrated spring athletes on media day, including boys' track team members. (Left to right) **Morgan Jones '21**, **Etka Ayhan '22** and **Isiah Webster '20**.



View the senior athlete farewell video at  
[www.blair.edu/athletic-farewell](http://www.blair.edu/athletic-farewell).

# TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT



## **William Bao Bean '91, P'23**

Mr. Bean is a general partner at SOSV—The Accelerator VC—an active angel and seed stage investor with \$740 million in assets under management. At SOSV, he is the managing director of Chinaccelerator, the first startup accelerator to launch in Asia and the only accelerator in Asia to have a unicorn go through its program, Bitmex, the #2 crypto exchange in the world by trading volume. Mr. Bean is also the founder and managing director of MOX, the mobile accelerator, which provides startups with free user acquisition of the 80 million smartphone users on the platform. An alumnus of Bowdoin College, Mr. Bean joined SOSV from SingTel Innov8 Ventures, where he was a founding managing director supporting China investments.

Prior to that, he was a general partner at Softbank China & India Holdings, a venture capital firm backed by Softbank and Cisco, leading investments in China and Southeast Asia. Mr. Bean started his career in equity research, most recently with Deutsche Bank, where he was the top-ranked analyst in Asia Internet and China tech, media and telecom, and worked on IPOs for Alibaba, Kingsoft and eLong (Expedia China). Mr. Bean, who in 2012 cofounded the Blair Club of Asia alumni group and served as a panelist at the 2020 Blair Finance Summit in New York City, lives in Shanghai, China, and Miami, Florida, with his wife, Lisa, and their children, **Alexander '23** and Audrey, 13.



## **Maria Lieberman Smalley '01**

Maria serves as a physician assistant (PA) at St. Luke's University Health Network in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, working as a neurohospitalist. She is also the director of neurology education for the 12-hospital system, which includes more than 50 neurology clinicians.

After graduating from Blair, Maria earned a bachelor of science and a master of science in occupational therapy from the University of Scranton. Following this, she worked at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, primarily in oncology and intensive care. She went on to earn a master of science in physician assistant studies at DeSales University.

In 2011, Maria received Blair's Peachey Award recognizing her work as a class representative, a position she has held since 2005, and she served for six years on the Alumni Board of Governors (2006-2012). Maria comes from a long line of proud Buccaneers, including great-uncle **Jack Doern '48**; father **Mark Lieberman '74**; brothers **Thomas Lieberman '02**, **Nicholas Lieberman '03** and **Kevin Lieberman '07**; aunt **Marianne Lieberman '79**; uncle **Michael Lieberman '71** and cousins. She and her husband, Aaron, live in Macungie, Pennsylvania, with their children, Matthew, 7, and Joshua, 1.



# TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT



## ***Emmanuel Bello '04***

Mr. Bello is vice president at Owl Rock Capital, a leading alternative asset manager with deep expertise in credit markets. Prior to joining Owl Rock in 2020, he worked at Goldman Sachs Asset Management for nine years, most recently as vice president in the high yield and leveraged loan credit division. He began his career as an analyst at UBS Investment Bank's Financial Institutions Group after earning his undergraduate degree in economics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he was a Morehead-Cain Scholar.

Since graduating from Blair, the New York City resident has remained closely connected to his alma mater, serving as a Trustee from 2013 to 2019, speaking at the Society of Skeptics and hosting the inaugural Finance Summit in New York City in 2019. Mr. Bello is on the board of New Jersey SEEDS, a nonprofit organization that provides educational opportunities to motivated, high-achieving students from low-income families.



## ***Ashley Thompson '08***

Ms. Thompson is the founder and CEO of MUSH, a food and beverage company based in Chicago. MUSH creates, manufactures and distributes better-for-you products that help people feel, think and do better. The company's first product line consists of ready-to-eat overnight oats in a variety of flavors.

The Chicago resident graduated from Columbia University in three years with a bachelor's in mathematics and economics. She started her career as a trading analyst at Goldman Sachs, where she met her former business partner, Kat Thomas. In 2020, Ms. Thompson shared her entrepreneurial experiences with attendees at Blair's Finance Summit in New York City.

## Miller Family Scholarship Honors Retired History Teacher Martin Miller, PhD

Martin Miller, PhD, retired from Blair in June 2020 following a remarkable 40-year tenure. During his years at the School, he taught at every level of Blair's history program, served as department chair, directed the Model United Nations program, coached cross country continuously for four decades, and founded and served as co-editor of the *Blair Review*. In addition to all of this, he directed the Society of Skeptics program from the mid-1980s on, shaping it into an iconic Blair tradition that continues to engage students and faculty in thoughtful conversation with a fascinating variety of visitors every Tuesday evening.

To honor Dr. Miller for his many contributions to Blair, the School has established the Miller Family Scholarship, named for him, his wife, Micheline, and their children, **David '88** and **Colin '01**. The endowed scholarship will support the Blair education of a deserving student every year, ensuring that Dr. Miller's legacy as one of the School's great teachers continues for generations to come.

"It is especially fitting that we honor Marty with a scholarship," said Head of School Chris Fortunato. "For 40 years, his intellectual generosity, expert teaching, and dedication to Blair students in and out of the classroom were part of the fabric of School life. Thanks to early support, the Miller Family Scholarship will soon be able to help the School continue to welcome students of all backgrounds, each of whom will benefit from their Blair experience as did thousands of students during Marty's tenure."

Fundraising is ongoing for the Miller Family Scholarship, and donors have the opportunity to honor some of Dr. Miller's greatest passions at Blair by making gifts at various levels, including the Society of Skeptics (\$25,000), history (\$10,000), cross country (\$5,000) and four decades of service (\$1,000).

Former history department chair Elliott Trommald, PhD, Hon. '65, was among the first contributors to the Miller Family Scholarship, and his generous gift reflects his esteem for his former colleague. "Marty is a rare teacher, the best I have known," he said, citing Dr. Miller's passion for history, his



Martin Miller, PhD.

impressive understanding of students and his trademark joie de vivre as some of his many special qualities. "In light of all that is happening in the world today, a gift to fund the Miller Family Scholarship is part of the answer to what the future needs. It will give promising students the opportunity to know Marty, at least for a time, and to benefit and grow from his example and influence while at Blair."

For his part, Dr. Miller, who is now officially retired, remains closely connected to the School. He and Micheline live just down the road from campus in Blirstown, and he serves as an occasional history teacher, as well as a School ambassador and featured speaker at virtual "Skeptics at Home" receptions. Dr. Miller is especially pleased that the Miller Family Scholarship—which he calls a distinct honor—may lead to even deeper Blair connections, as he gets to know its recipients and renews friendships with the alumni and families who help to fund it.

"I've always been impressed by Blair's commitment to providing financial aid to a large percentage of the student body, and the Miller Family Scholarship will lend a helping hand to worthy students," he said. "**Jack Bogle '47** comes to mind as the quintessential scholarship recipient who made good—more than good—in the world. Investment in talented young men and women invariably yields unexpected dividends for the individual, his or her family, Blair and the wider society. I can't think of a better way to mark the end of a teaching career." ■

If you would like to contribute to the Miller Family Scholarship, please contact Chief Advancement Officer Craig Hall at [hallc@blair.edu](mailto:hallc@blair.edu) or (908) 362-2032.



## Class of '57 Gifts Monument to Blair's Alma Mater

Blair's alma mater holds a special place in the hearts of students and alumni of all ages. Now, the song also holds a special place on campus, as a granite monument engraved with the "Blair Love Song" stands proudly beside Blair Arch.

The monument is a gift from the class of 1957, whose members fondly recall singing the alma mater during their student days. "It's a memory and a tradition that are very meaningful to us," said long-serving class representative and Alumni Board of Governors member **James H.G. Naisby '57**. "This is a way to honor that memory and our connection to the School."

Mr. Naisby credits his classmate, **Mel Tabak '57**, with having originated the idea for the monument, and Director of Timken Library Ann Williams and library assistants Olga Brazaitis, Holly Newcomb and Kate Skeffington with researching Blair's alma mater, which was not always the same song throughout the School's history. The "Blair Love Song" is the alma mater that appeared in student handbooks from 1942 on, and its original lyrics were written in 1919 by former faculty member Harry Colin Thorpe.

Blair's administrators and advancement team also played a role in the project, giving the green light for the class gift and helping to select a location for the monument. Mr. Naisby has led the ongoing fundraising effort among his classmates and worked with Ken Roberts of Albert H. Hopper Monuments, Inc., to design, fabricate and install the five-foot-tall granite tribute.

The late Chairman Emeritus of the Blair Board of Trustees **John C. Bogle '47**, who dearly loved the "Blair Love Song," also had a voice in the project, according to Mr. Naisby. "Jack was a man who felt that having a connection to Blair's alma mater as an alumnus was very important, and he supported the idea that students should learn the song," he said, recalling how Mr. Bogle loved to sing it with students during his visits to campus. This helped the class of '57's plan gain traction in its early days, and the project's completion gives students a graceful and tangible reminder of their alma mater right at the center of campus.

"The 'Blair Love Song' is a wonderful part of the School's history, and it connects students to campus in a very nice way," Mr. Naisby added. The class of 1957's gift to the School helps to ensure that connection, ever, always. ■





## Graduating Class & Parents Establish Class of 2020 Scholarship

The members of the class of 2020 and their parents shared a fundraising endeavor this year, and their combined efforts met with success. Generous donors, including 100 percent of the graduating class and 83 percent of parents, contributed \$244,407 to establish the endowed Class of 2020 Scholarship, which will help provide a Blair education to deserving students beginning this fall.

“Scholarship aid is a critical need at Blair, as it helps bring students to the School who otherwise would not be able to attend,” said Susan Long, assistant director of advancement for parent relations. “The members of the class of 2020 and their parents came together to create an amazing legacy that will impact the School and its students for years to come.”

Fundraising for the Class of 2020 Scholarship got underway in November 2019 at the Senior Fund Drive kickoff event. As students enjoyed pizza in The Black Canteen, Advancement Student Ambassadors **Kathleen Devlin '20**, **Kate Gerdson '20**, **Cameron Grant '20** and **Olivia Scialla '20**, Senior Class Council members **Corey Downey '20**, **Ari Cobb '20**, **Alex Kirby '20** and **Robbie Donnelly '20**, and Dean of Strategic Initiatives Leucetia Shaw each spoke about Blair's strong culture of giving and the importance of giving back to the school that gave students their start.

The speakers' words resonated with seniors, 76 of whom made contributions or pledges to the class gift during the kickoff event, totaling \$1,268.75 and representing 56 percent of the class.

By graduation, 2020's class gift totaled \$3,813, with every member of the class having contributed.

Senior parents helped spark fundraising throughout the year by offering two challenge gifts. Worthing and Katrina Jackman P'20 matched every gift made to the scholarship dollar for dollar, up to \$5,000, for a total of \$100,000. In addition, an anonymous parent contributed \$25,000 because senior giving reached 100 percent.

“The Class of 2020 Scholarship will help future students attain the same gift of a Blair education that our recently graduated seniors enjoyed,” said Mrs. Long. “I hope that the annual letters they get from the scholarship's recipients will help keep 2020 classmates closely connected to Blair and to one another.” ■



# CELEBRATE THE POWER OF GREAT TEACHERS BY JOINING THE JOHN C. SHARPE SOCIETY



Four legendary Blair teachers who came to the School in 1912: Mason, Gage, Zimmerman & Walker.



Teaching virtually in 2020.

Over the decades, the world outside the halls of Blair challenged the School to remain true to its mission of educating, nurturing and preparing students for success in college and beyond. War. The influenza pandemic of 1918. The Great Depression. September 11, 2001. The Great Recession of 2009. Superstorm Sandy in 2012. Through each of these tests, our faculty pulled together, adapted, answered the call to do whatever was needed and persevered to ensure the School emerged on the other side stronger than before. Like the Blair teachers who came before them, today's faculty are rising to today's challenges.

As you think about shaping your own legacy, please consider making a provision in your will or estate plan to honor and guarantee support for the future educators who will make a difference in the lives of the generations of Bucs yet to come.

For more information about joining the John C. Sharpe Society of Planned Givers contact: Velma Anstadt Lubliner, assistant director of advancement, (908) 362-2041 or [lubliv@blair.edu](mailto:lubliv@blair.edu).



Learn more at [www.blair.edu/planned-giving](http://www.blair.edu/planned-giving).

# AFFECTING THE FUTURE IN POSITIVE & PURPOSEFUL WAYS

*Former Headmaster Chan Hardwick reflects on gift planning and its importance to him and his wife, former faculty member Monie Hardwick, as well as to Blair Academy.*

When we arrived at Blair after a decade of teaching, coaching and educational administrative work, Monie and I had to ramp up quickly to understand all the issues related to the financial side of a private boarding school. Advancement is the umbrella term that includes annual giving, capital giving, endowment building, restricted and unrestricted gifts, and so on. Only after some time did we see that the heart of the most successful nonprofit advancement efforts and a school's financial health lies in a quiet place: planned giving.

Because gifts that came to Blair from bequests or estate plans, rather than from direct solicitations, were often unexpected or received over extended periods of time, it was not always easy to sense the significance or impact that this type of giving would have on Blair's future. However, in 1997, as we approached the end of the Sesquicentennial Campaign, an unexpected multimillion-dollar planned gift arrived, allowing us not only to complete the campaign but also to finish work on Armstrong-Hipkins Center for the Arts. In that moment, the true value of planned giving made itself clear.

If we had not considered our own planned gift before, we certainly realized at that moment that planned giving would be a significant part of how we wanted to support Blair. And, as our situation evolved, we adjusted our planned-giving goals accordingly, always with Blair in the forefront of our philanthropy. Though we care for our own



Chan and Monie Hardwick.

**"A planned gift reaches into and affects the future in positive and purposeful ways. The gift extends, not our lives, but our better selves, our hopes and our values."**

—Chan & Monie Hardwick

educational alma maters—the schools we attended—the largest part of our lives was spent at Blair. Sharpe House will forever be the home where we lived the longest and raised our family, the home we shared with students,

faculty, parents and alumni. Further, Blair's students and teachers were our focus for close to a quarter of a century, with events during our tenure indelibly shaping our professional and personal selves. Naturally, then, it is to Blair that the largest part of our planned giving will go.

For us, the most meaningful part of our Blair work was providing deserving students an exceptional education within a community of dedicated teachers. Thus, the majority of our planned gift is earmarked for financial aid. Over and over, we witnessed how a single life changed by a Blair education reverberated beyond that student, as he or she went on to impact the world in ways we could never have imagined.

Finally, and most profoundly then, a planned gift reaches into and affects the future in positive and purposeful ways. The gift extends, not our lives, but our better selves, our hopes and our values. It is a statement to the future from the past that what we hold important now is important still. ■





“He found a campus of 11 acres; he leaves a campus of over 300 acres. He found buildings few in number, poorly equipped; he leaves a large group of buildings finely equipped for every school purpose. He found a school provincial in type of 100 pupils; he leaves a cosmopolitan school of 300 boys. He found a school of only local repute; he leaves a school famous throughout the country.”

—Albert Myrick Freeman, on the legacy of Dr. John C. Sharpe, Headmaster 1898-1927

The John C. Sharpe Society of planned givers embodies the spirit and ensures the vision of Dr. John C. Sharpe, one of Blair's most influential headmasters. Planned gifts are the cornerstone of Blair's endowment, and membership in the John C. Sharpe Society reflects a special commitment to the School's future.

## Following is a roster of members:

### 1935

Anonymous  
Mrs. Sarah D. Calley

### 1939

**Mrs. William T. Reilly\***

### 1942

Mr. Archer N. Martin II  
Mr. David K. Pansius  
Mr. Jonathan E. Pansius  
Mrs. Robert G. Rouse

### 1943

**Mrs. M. Michael Lobsitz\***

### 1944

Nancy Strickland  
LaFountain, Hon. '44

### 1945

Mr. William Y. Bogle III  
Mr. Richard P. Rubenoff

### 1946

Mr. William R. Hilgendorff, Jr.  
Mr. Herbert J. Siegel

### 1947

Mr. William N. Davies

### 1948

Mr. James K. Meneely, Jr.  
Mr. David D. Wakefield

### 1949

Mr. E. Harrison Eudy, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Neff

### 1950

Ronald E. Philipp, USA Ret.

### 1951

Bob and Lynne Kiley

### 1952

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce M. Dayton  
Mr. William R. Martens  
Mr. Alan R. Mills

### 1953

Mr. William R. Timken

### 1954

Mr. Donald H. McCree, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Hobart  
D. Van Deusen

### 1955

Anonymous  
Robert R. Burn

### 1956

Mr. Myron Ashkenas  
Mr. Peter M. Black  
Mr. Lars T. Carlson  
Mr. Raleigh Chinn, Jr.

**Mr. Nelson P. Cohen\***

Mr. Stewart H. Cole

**Mr. Courtney R. Fritts\***

Mr. John D. Hatfield  
Dr. Herbert M. Tabak

Eric and Suzanne Walther  
Mr. Richard A. Young

### 1957

Mr. and Mrs. James  
H. G. Naisby  
Dr. William G. Ovens, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Melvin A. Tabak

### 1958

Mr. Steven R. Losa  
Mrs. Richard S. Ogden  
Mrs. Zoe S. Pappas

### 1959

Mr. Peter K. Austin  
Mr. Theodore A. Doremus, Jr.  
Mr. C. David Howell  
Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius  
J. O'Kane

### 1960

Mr. and Mrs. Philip  
W. Koebig III

### 1961

Mr. Stephen E. Barr  
Mr. Frank H. Briggs, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Frederick  
W. Everett  
Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan E. Paul  
Mr. Howard E. Steilen, Jr.  
**Mr. Marc W. Suffern II\***

### 1962

Anonymous  
Dr. Samuel R. Barnett  
Mr. Richard L. Doremus  
Mr. Mark Gottesman  
Mr. Willard H. Johnson, Jr.  
**Mr. Dennis Wm. Peachey\***  
Mr. Jon L. Ten Haagen

### 1963

John and Cheryl Alden  
The Hon. John D. Case, Jr.  
Mr. Brian N. Clayton  
Mr. L. Carter Crewe III  
Mr. Durfee L. Day, Jr.  
**Mr. Donald C. Hazard\***  
Mr. Douglas Henderson  
Mrs. Sarah M. Seubel  
Mr. Donald K. Usher, Jr.  
William Staniar and Jennifer  
Wildrick Family Trust

### 1964

Dr. Dennis E. Bradford  
Arthur and Lori French  
**Mr. Andros B. Thomson\***  
Mr. Paul D. Vartanian  
Mr. and Mrs. Frank  
D. Yuengling III

### 1965

Cheryl Clutsum  
Mr. J. Jeff Corwin  
**Mr. William W. Durland\***  
Mr. Robert M. Lay

**Mr. Robert S. Weiner\***

### 1966

Mr. James P. Jenkins

### 1967

Mr. Gregory U. Auger II  
Mr. J. Lawrence Snavely

### 1968

Mr. Arthur T. Ambrose

### 1969

Mr. William R. Bellas, Jr.  
Michael Cormany  
Cleavenger  
Mr. Donald B. Fedor  
Mr. Jay W. Rubin  
Robert Van Stone and  
Marian Darlington

### 1970

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey D. Karp  
Alexander and Jeanne Sloane

### 1971

Mr. H. Craig Stem

### 1972

Mr. Charles A. Butts, Jr.

### 1973

Ms. Rose Mary Herbst  
Mr. James G. Houston  
Mr. Stephen G. Kole  
Mrs. Melinda M. Shumway  
Dr. Andrew Heinze and Mrs.  
Mary Jane Heinze

### 1974

Mr. Alan H. Gardiner  
Ms. Sandra L. Scannelli  
Mrs. Denise Stocker Current  
Warren L. Youngblood

### 1975

Mrs. Jennifer A. Woltjen

### 1976

Mr. John S. Marhefka  
Mr. Keith H. Rauschenbach and  
Dr. Joseph Cassidy, Jr.

### 1977

Mr. Harry D. Gates  
Mr. Richard T. Luzzi

### 1979

Steven and Lin Jastrabek  
Marianne Lieberman and  
Carolyn Grant

### 1980

Mr. Scott D. Jones

### 1982

Mr. William H. Abbott  
Roger D. Gershman

### 1984

Mrs. Kristine C. Lisi

### 1986

Ms. Linda M. Fellows

### 1990

Mr. Ned Montencourt

### 1993

Mr. Hyun Seok Hwang  
and Dr. Katharine  
Miao

### 1996

Ms. Melissa L. Guyre

### 1997

Mrs. Victoria P. Bailey  
Mrs. Christy L. Burkart

### 2003

Dan and Brady Seals

### 2004

Mr. Emmanuel Bello

### 2008

Elliott W. Anderson

### Faculty

**Mr. William W. Finley\***

Mr. and Mrs. T. Chandler  
Hardwick III  
Mr. Philip C. Homes

### Friends

Anonymous  
Mrs. Yolanda Cancia  
Mr. John M. Dempsey, Jr.  
Mr. A. A. LaFountain III  
Mr. Chris Tsiouris, Jr.

### Parents

Anonymous  
Ms. Carolyn M. Buck Luce  
Ms. Suzanne Q.  
Chamberlin, Esq.  
Mrs. Barbara E. Clark  
Mr. Olin A. Cramer  
Mrs. Kenneth H. Crandall, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald  
R. Decker  
Mr. and Mrs. David  
N. Denker  
Richard and Chrysa Graber  
Madison F. Grose and  
Honora A. Grose  
Mr. and Mrs. Nathan  
Hayward III  
Ms. Jane A. Hulick  
Mr. and Mrs. David C. Hull, Jr.  
Mr. Douglas W. Kimmelman  
Dr. and Mrs. Gilbert I. Martin  
Mrs. Stacey Willits McConnell  
Mrs. Colleen McNulty  
Mr. John E. Skvarla III  
Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Solar

### \* Charter Member

The John C. Sharpe Society Advisory Council is an important volunteer effort for the gift planning program that aims to grow Blair's endowment, ensuring the future financial stability of the School. Blair is grateful for the service of the members of this committee, who advise, advocate and advance planned giving at Blair Academy.

Mr. John E. Alden, Jr. '63  
Mrs. Victoria P. Bailey '97  
Mr. Roger D. Gershman '82



## Thank You From the Board Chair

Dear Blair family,

When my son, **Scottie '22**, arrived on campus last fall, buzzing with excitement to begin his sophomore year, it would have been almost inconceivable to consider how much COVID-19 would change our world a mere seven months later. But change it did, and I know every member of our extended Blair family has been impacted in some way by the pandemic and ensuing lockdowns and continuing restrictions on daily life.

I strongly believe that an institution's reaction to adversity says a lot about its character and values. Looking back at 2020, I couldn't be prouder of Blair's response to an unprecedented global public health crisis, pivoting swiftly and seamlessly to distance learning for the remainder of the spring semester and doing so much to maintain the sense of community and caring that makes the School incredibly special. From

twice-weekly School Meetings that gave students a sense of routine to a virtual graduation ceremony that somehow evoked the same feelings as the time-honored, in-person event, it is clear that Blair delivers on its promise of knowing kids well and caring for them deeply, even in these uncharted waters.

I want to thank the members of our senior administrative team for their tireless work to ensure that Blair opened for the 2020-2021 school year safely. Of course, campus life looks somewhat different than in past years as we adopt infection-control strategies that balance our need to allow our kids to be kids and enjoy all that Blair has to offer while doing our best to avoid a COVID-19 outbreak on campus that might lead to another shutdown and a reversion to full distance learning. Despite the fact that we still have some virtual learning complementing in-person instruction, we continue to adapt and adjust to ensure we are offering the same exceptional education for which Blair is known.

Given the turbulent times, I am pleased to report that our financial position remains strong. In fact, Blair achieved its second-best fundraising year ever in 2019-2020, raising a total of \$11 million and allowing us to invest further in our Strategic Plan's priorities and initiatives related to supporting faculty and growing the School's forward-thinking programs. And we remain committed to creating facilities that amplify our educational mission and to building our endowment to better secure Blair's financial future.

Thanks to the generosity of more than 2,000 donors during the last fiscal year, Blair invested \$4 million in campus enhancements, including the Bogle Science Center renovation and

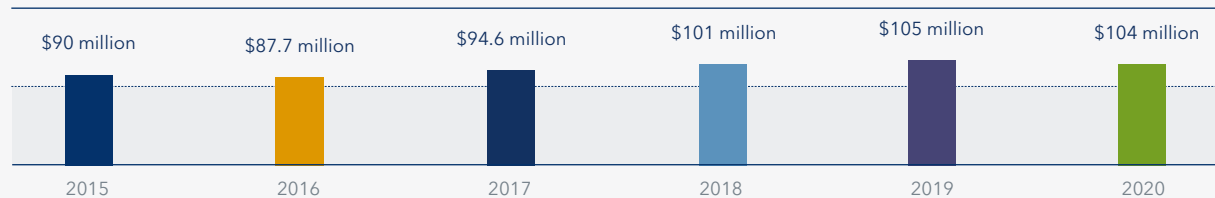
addition, the Chiang-Elghanayan Center for Innovation and Collaboration, the winter sports complex, as well as the construction of Miller House, a new, two-family faculty home overlooking the golf course, and the renovations of Kathleen House and Ciancia House immediately adjacent to campus. These building projects will no doubt go a long way toward recruiting and retaining the talented teachers and coaches we need in our classrooms, on our athletic fields, on our stages and in our dorms. In late summer, we doubled down on our commitment to renewable energy and took our expanded solar array online. Located on Blair's property across Route 94, the solar power system supplements the existing panels on top of Hardwick Hall and now provides a little more than 30 percent of the campus's electricity.

We are also moving closer to beginning work to transform the Park Street maker space to a dedicated crew training center, a project that will allow Blair rowers to work on their skill and strength year-round. The facility, to be completed in 2021, will include an eight-person indoor rowing tank, dedicated weight- and ergometer-training areas, and an office for the coaching staff. Donors also invested an additional \$4 million in future operations of the School (including endowment funds for financial aid) and \$3 million in the Blair Fund's support of critical, everyday needs. We are especially grateful to the families whose generous donations allowed us to establish the COVID-19 Relief Fund, which provides financial assistance to families in need and helps Blair to offset unanticipated technology and faculty training costs.

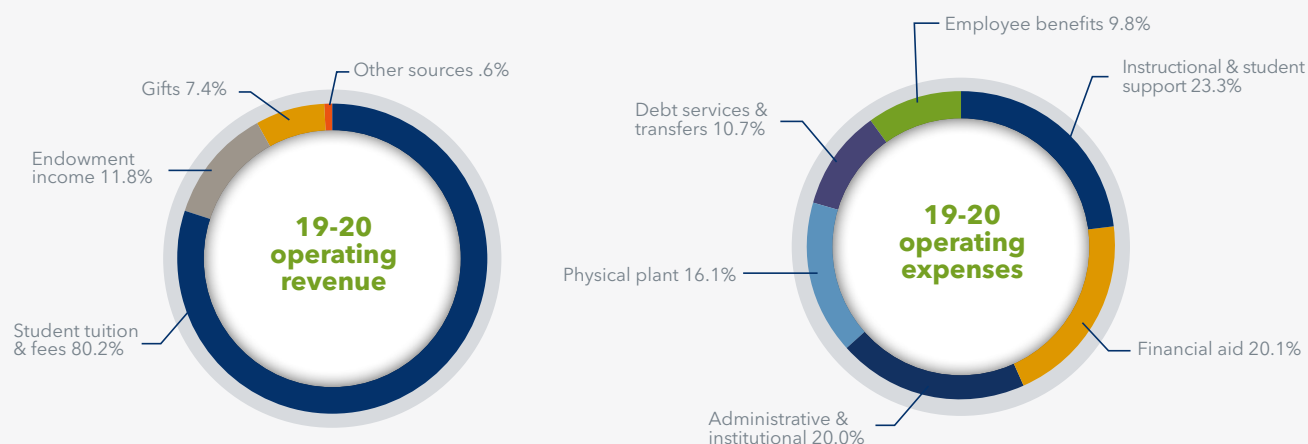
Our Investment Committee continues to position our portfolio in a manner that has largely protected the School



## Endowment Growth



## Revenue & Expenses



during this volatile time, and I thank the members for their ongoing work to invest for the long term. As of June 30, our endowment was \$104 million, and Blair drew 4.6 percent to support its operating budget and many of the additional expenditures incurred by our response to the coronavirus pandemic. We are deeply grateful to our advancement team, which continues to raise funds for our endowment's support of financial aid, faculty professional development and athletic teams, and I have no doubt it will continue to be successful in that important work throughout 2020-2021.

On the admission front, Blair once again received the largest number of applications in School history, and, in September, we welcomed more new students to campus than ever before. This is thanks in large part to our

admission and communication teams, which partnered to quickly adapt to the new realities of a worldwide public health crisis by building a virtual Revisit Experience, launching a virtual campus tour, hosting countless Zoom calls and otherwise doing everything they could to take the personal feel of a campus visit online. I am incredibly proud that the whole community—current parents, alumni/ae, Trustees, faculty and staff—supported those efforts. I am also gratified to report that Blair is fully enrolled for the 2020-2021 academic year.

As proof that even pandemics have silver linings, the need to transform in-person visits to the Blair Room to impactful and authentic online experiences meant we were able to engage with people from all over the world, not just those within a two-

hour drive from campus. As a result, we welcomed more than 100 people from 10 countries to our virtual Spring Preview, an event hosted by the admission office each May for seventh graders that will help better position Blair for success in the coming year.

Once again, I thank each and every one of you for your commitment of time, effort and resources to make Blair the best it can possibly be and to move the School forward in unprecedented times. Witnessing the connection and care that define our community shining so brightly has left me deeply humbled and grateful.

With much gratitude,

**Doug Kimmelman P'12 '13 '15 '22**  
Board Chair

## Endowment &amp; Capital Gifts Received

July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020

<b>Scholarships</b>			
Nicholas S. Battelle '60 Scholarship	\$25,150.00	James R. Kelley Sabbatical	\$100.00
Blair Academy-Far Hills Country Day School Endowed Scholarship Prize	\$100,000.00	Professional Development	\$10,000.00
Bogle Brothers Scholars Program	\$3,345.60	<b>Total Enrichment</b>	<b>\$29,388.30</b>
Bolton Family Scholarship	\$1,000.00	<b>Teaching</b>	
Class of 1951 Scholarship	\$348.00	Class of 1962 Teaching Fellow	\$2,500.00
Class of 1960 Scholarship	\$3,588.00	Class of 1963 Faculty Chair	\$14,731.00
Class of 1962 Scholarship	\$2,500.00	<b>Total Teaching</b>	<b>\$17,231.00</b>
Class of 1964 Scholarship	\$44,225.00	<b>Other Endowment</b>	
Class of 1965 Scholarship	\$1,155.00	Endowed Academic Support	\$185,577.00
Class of 1966 Scholarship	\$2,550.00	John I. Blair Operations	\$5,000.00
Class of 1967 Scholarship	\$1,848.00	Class of 1968 Society of Skeptics Endowment Fund	\$3,250.00
Class of 1993 Scholarship	\$9,440.55	Dalling Wrestling Fund-Endowed	\$5,100.00
Class of 1997 Scholarship	\$250.00	Faculty Compensation Endowment	\$813,267.50
Class of 2019 Scholarship	\$16,304.00	Girls' Basketball Fund	\$20,000.00
Class of 2020 Scholarship	\$244,407.00	Restricted Boys' Lacrosse Fund	\$22,500.00
Anne V. Clayton Memorial Scholarship	\$750.00	Unrestricted Boys' Lacrosse Fund	\$22,500.00
Mollie Howard Conklin '71 Memorial Scholarship	\$2,305.49	Robert L. Marcalus, Jr. '65 Tree Fund	\$100.00
Clifford L. and Joan B. Cramer Scholarship	\$10,000.00	Mazza Student Life Fund	\$8,055.00
Grohowski Family Scholarship	\$35,000.00	J. Ronald McLean Memorial Fund	\$1,576.24
Nate Hayward Diversity Scholarship	\$1,000.00	Ryan Andrews Newton '08 Global Service Award	\$480.00
Henry Heguy Memorial Scholarship	\$2,000.00	Peachey Fund	\$6,862.00
The Holenstein Family Scholarship	\$25,000.00	Sigety Faculty Summer Institutes	\$408,110.01
James and Selena Howard Memorial Scholarship	\$2,155.48	Restricted Squash Fund	\$249.82
George P. Jenkins '32 Scholarship	\$16,000.00	Unrestricted Squash Fund	\$208.15
Willard H. Johnson '62 Scholarship	\$3,750.00	Hobart and Nancy Van Deusen Tennis Fund	\$20,000.00
Kalemjian Family Scholarship	\$5,000.00	<b>Total Other Endowment</b>	<b>\$1,522,835.72</b>
Alfred A. LaFountain '44 Memorial Scholarship	\$15,000.00	<b>Endowment Unrestricted</b>	
Robert M. Lay '65 Scholarship	\$1,848.00	Unrestricted Endowment	\$112,500.00
David T. and Candida C. Low Scholarship	\$5,200.00	<b>Total Endowment Unrestricted</b>	<b>\$112,500.00</b>
Captain August Martin Memorial Scholarship	\$2,000.00	<b>Total Endowment</b>	<b>\$3,941,840.25</b>
Theodore John Martineau, Jr. '84 Memorial Scholarship	\$10,000.00	<b>Capital Unrestricted</b>	
Miller Family Scholarship	\$21,525.96	Capital Unrestricted	\$318,488.98
David A. Ogden '87 Memorial Scholarship	\$62,588.71	<b>Total Capital Unrestricted</b>	<b>\$318,488.98</b>
Olthof Scholarship Endowment	\$25,000.00	<b>Capital Restricted</b>	
Dennis Wm. Peachey '62 Endowed Scholarship	\$10,425.00	Athletic Facility Fund	\$5,000.00
Col. Ronald E. '50 and Barbara M. Philipp Scholarship	\$65,550.00	Bogle Hall Renovations	\$1,374,986.81
Pooled Scholarships	\$25,000.00	Chiang-Elghanayan Center for Innovation and Collaboration	\$1,430,492.90
The Herbert J. Siegel '46 and John C. Bogle '47 Scholarship Fund	\$1,352,924.94	Crew Capital Fund	\$97,590.00
Kurt W. Socha '06 Memorial Scholarship	\$1,150.50	Faculty Housing	\$193,250.00
Gerard and Margery Thomas Scholarship	\$500.00	General Building Fund	\$359,388.98
Wildrick Family Scholarship	\$100.00	Golf Course Renovations	\$1,500.00
<b>Total Scholarships</b>	<b>\$2,157,885.23</b>	New Dormitory	\$10,000.00
<b>Prizes</b>		Pending Donor Designation	\$20,000.00
Marguerite Deysson Habermann Memorial French Prize	\$1,500.00	Unrestricted 2015 Project Fund	\$320,041.08
Headmaster's Prize for Faculty Endowment	\$100,000.00	Unrestricted Project Fund	\$30,015.00
Lee Rose Memorial Trophy	\$500.00	Winter Sports Complex	\$136,000.00
<b>Total Prizes</b>	<b>\$102,000.00</b>	<b>Total Capital Restricted</b>	<b>\$3,978,264.77</b>
<b>Enrichment</b>		<b>Total Capital</b>	<b>\$4,296,753.75</b>
Nevett S. Bartow '50 Fund	\$250.00	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$8,238,594.00</b>
Black Science Fund	\$500.00		
Class of 1969 Faculty Wings Fund	\$18,538.30		



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 Ms. Megan C. Kellogg  
 Mr. and Mrs. John B. Kennedy  
 Dr. Joel Klasfeld and Mrs. Louise Youngson-Klasfeld  
 Mr. and Mrs. Thornton R. Land '58  
 Mr. Mitchell D. Landy '62  
 Mrs. Elizabeth Layton and Mr. D. William Layton '65  
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Lehman '85  
 Mr. Chris Leverich '69 and Mrs. Nancy Bryant  
 Mr. John H. Lewis, Jr. '54  
 Mr. and Mrs. David M. Lieberman '82  
 Mr. and Mrs. Michael J. Lieberman '71

# 2019-2020

*by the #s*

**218**

The number of first-time donors

**\$11,198,167**

Total dollars raised

**32%**

Total dollar increase over 2018-2019

**\$75,424**

Dollars raised through gifts of \$100 or less

**1,707**

The number of \$100 gifts made

**516**

The number of young alumni/ae donors  
(classes of 2000-2019)

**2,031**

Total number of donors

**\$46,535**

Dollars raised by young alumni  
(classes of 2000-2019)

**\$50,610,876**

The amount raised in the last five years

**78**

The number of gifts received of  
\$25,000 or more

**100%**

Percent of the class of 2020 who  
contributed to their endowed scholarship







"I will forever be grateful for the opportunities I have at Blair, a loving and inclusive community that always supports me. Thank you for allowing me to be part of the 'Blair bubble.' My memories of high school will last a lifetime."

—Kara Henry '21

Drs. Andy and Vicki Light  
Mr. Joseph Liro and Mrs. Joanne Hill  
Mr. Christopher Mack and Mrs. Kelley A. Mack '01  
Mrs. Ann M. Mallouk  
Ms. Diane S. Margolin, Esq.  
Mr. and Mrs. Archer N. Martin II '42  
Mr. and Mrs. Jonas R. McDavit '92  
Mr. Benjamin T. McLaughlin '04  
Mrs. Colleen McNulty and Mr. Michael McNulty  
Mr. Prabhat Mehta and Mrs. Ruchi Mehta  
Mr. and Mrs. Stuart G. Miller '61  
Dr. Wendy Bedenko Moore and  
Mr. James Moore, Hon. '93  
The New York Community Trust  
Mr. Patrick Nolan and Mrs. Lisa Marie Nolan  
Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius J. O'Kane '59  
Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan E. Paul '61  
Mr. and Mrs. John Peng  
Mr. and Mrs. David H. Permar '61  
Mr. Guillermo Pineda-Bours '95  
Mr. and Mrs. John R. Plunkett, Jr. '70

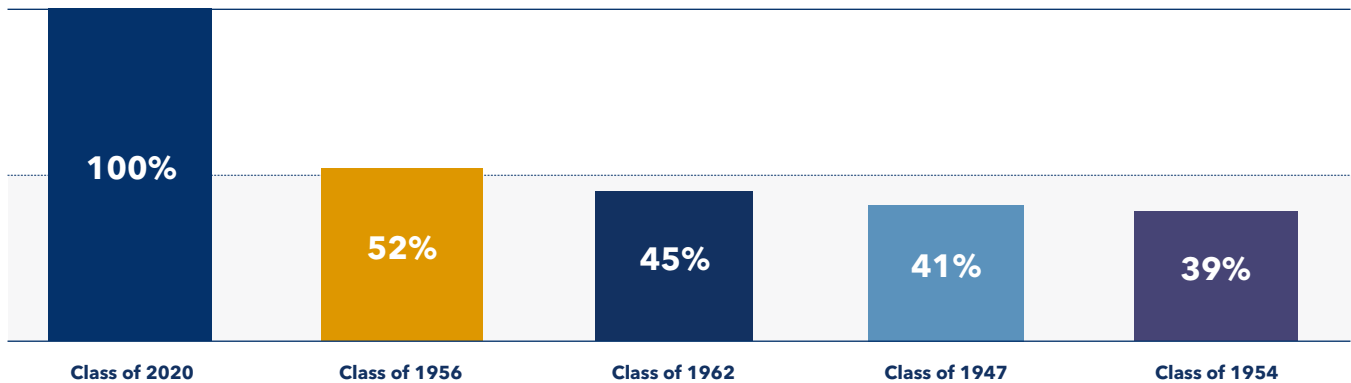
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Plunkett '72  
Dr. Mandy and Mr. Anthony C. Powell '96  
Mr. Robert J. Rand '62  
Mr. James R. Richart and Dr. Deirdre Kramer '62  
Ms. Anita C. Ricketts '88  
Mr. Douglas S. Roberts  
Mr. Lawrence Roche and Mrs. Gina Roche  
Mr. and Mrs. William L. Russell III '59  
Dr. Michael Scripsick and Mrs. Paula Sica-Scripsick  
Mr. and Mrs. David H. Sculnick, Esq. '66  
Mr. Jeff Silbert and Mrs. Michelle Silbert  
Mrs. Ellen Smith  
Mr. Olaf Starorypinski and Ms. Kathryn Leslie  
Mr. Oleg Sterlin and Mrs. Victoria Sterlin  
Dr. Charles B. Stillerman, MD  
Ms. Kelly B. Stillerman  
Mr. and Mrs. Bradford S. Stone  
Storis, Inc.  
Mr. and Mrs. Donald J. Surdoval  
Mr. John L. Sykes  
Mr. and Mrs. Melvin A. Tabak '57

Mr. and Mrs. Creed R. Terry '62  
The Nancy and Peter Thauer Family  
Charitable Foundation  
Mr. and Mrs. Mark D. Thorsheim  
Mr. Lee Ting '97  
Mr. Chris Tsiouris, Jr.  
Mr. Michael van der Veen, Esq. and  
Mrs. Marion van der Veen  
Mr. Andrew Walker and Mrs. Christina Walker  
Dr. Suzanne Walther and Dr. Eric Walther '56  
Watford Holdings, Ltd.  
Mr. F. Albert Weaver '59 and  
Mr. Christopher Norman  
Ms. Grace M. Weiner '11  
Ms. Margie L. Weiner '08  
Ms. Sally Weiner '14  
Mr. and Mrs. Courtney West '64  
Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth W. Whitney, Sr. '42  
Mr. and Mrs. Peter G. Wilds '59  
Mr. Yi Wu and Mrs. Wen Lu  
Mr. Robert R. Young, Jr. '65

Annual & Capital Fund Total	No. of Donors	%	Total Giving
Alumni	1,359	21%	\$2,881,796
Current Parent	327	73%	\$4,730,512
Alumni Parent	138	5%	\$392,480
Friend	306		\$410,436
Estates	3		\$2,649,292
Matching Gift Company	28		\$71,264
Foundation	48		\$3,280,673
Corporation	19		\$275,247
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$13,847,459</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alumni and current parent totals include matching gift company giving.</li> <li>• Current parents who are also alumni are recognized in both categories.</li> <li>• Foundation giving has also been credited to the category of the donor who directed the gift.</li> <li>• Friend totals include gifts from grandparents and former and present faculty and staff.</li> <li>• Note: The numbers in this publication are not audited and are for recognition purposes only.</li> </ul>			



## Leading classes for participation



\* Top-five list includes the classes of 1945 to 2020.

## The Blair Honor Roll—Giving by Class

Listed below are all donors who contributed to either the Blair Fund or a capital or endowed fund during the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

### 1940

Mr. William C. Myers

### 1942

**Class Rep:** Robert M. Fuller

Mr. Robert M. Fuller\*  
Mr. Archer N. Martin II\*  
Mr. Kenneth W. Whitney, Sr.\*

### 1944

**Class Rep:** Robert V. Metz

Mr. Robert Brinkerhoff  
Nancy Strickland LaFountain, Hon. '44\*  
Mr. Richard W. Rowe\*

### 1945 - 75th Reunion

**Class Rep:** William Y. Bogle III

Mr. Ronald A. Engelhardt\*  
Mr. Jack A. MacNair

### 1946

Mr. Andrew Davlin, Jr.\*  
Mr. Philip D. Jennison\*  
Mr. Charles C. Morrison, Jr.  
Dr. John F. Rose, Jr.\*  
Mr. Herbert J. Siegel\*  
Mr. Frank J. Spitalny\*

### 1947

**Class Rep:** Elmer A. Bannan  
Arnold C. Schneider, Jr.

Mr. Elmer A. Bannan\*  
Mr. Donald E. Carey  
Mr. Anthony E. DeMasi\*  
Dr. Laurence W. Goodman  
Mr. Gerald C. Kinne  
Mr. Arthur D. Lane, Jr.\*  
Prof. Christian H. Moe  
Mr. J. Mitchell Reese, Jr.

Mr. J. Brooks West\*

### 1948

**Class Rep:** Martin S. Simon  
David D. Wakefield

Mr. William J. Harvey, Jr.\*  
Mr. James G. Ling  
Mr. James K. Meneely, Jr.\*  
Mr. David D. Wakefield\*

### 1949

**Class Rep:** Arnold T. Koch, Jr.  
Robert A. Neff

Mr. Ralph P. Balzac\*  
Mr. William E. Hopler  
Mr. Howard I. LeVine  
Mr. Robert A. Neff\*  
Mr. Mark H. Schaul, Jr.\*

### 1950 - 70th Reunion

**Class Rep:** Eugene Krohn

Mr. Howard A. Aronson\*  
Mr. Donald E. Freudenheim\*  
Mr. Bruce R. Goddin\*  
Mr. Malcolm R. Maguire  
Mr. John N. Pannullo  
Col. Ronald E. Philipp, USA Ret.\*

### 1951

**Class Rep:** Robert E. Kiley  
Frederick W. Rose

Mr. Donald C. Beck  
Mr. Allan J. Brodsky  
Mr. Bruce K. Byers\*  
Mr. James W. Davison\*  
Mr. Herbert F. Fisher\*  
Mr. G. William Hamilton\*  
Mr. James R. Kelley, Sr., Hon. '51 '89\*  
Mr. C. Thomas King, Jr.\*

Mr. Rodney W. Kruse\*

Mr. Irving C. Pettit, Jr.  
Mr. Dominick V. Romano, Hon. '51  
Mr. Frederick W. Rose, Esq.\*  
Mr. Charles T. Rosen  
Mr. Stan N. Rubin  
Mr. Robert H. Stark\*

### 1952

**Class Rep:** Robert M. Lerner

Mr. David A. Brands, Sr.  
The Rev. Charles L. Cureton III  
Mr. Edward Feldman\*  
Mr. Edwin R. Janes\*  
Mr. Richard A. Kahn\*  
Mr. Robert M. Lerner\*  
Mr. William R. Martens\*  
Dr. Peter W. McKinney\*  
Mr. Alan R. Mills  
Mr. V. Robert Tedesco\*

### 1953

Mr. Randal K. Beck\*  
Mr. Anthony J. Cera\*  
Mr. Winson D. Ewing, Hon. '53  
Mr. Richard Frank\*  
Mr. Alan W. Noyes\*  
Mr. William R. Timken\*  
Mrs. Gladys Van Brederode, Hon. '53  
Mr. James Youngelson\*

### 1954

**Class Rep:** Hobart D. Van Deusen

Dr. Albert R. Casazza\*  
Dr. William S. Dudley\*  
Mr. Bruce B. Haselman\*  
Mr. Paul M. Heagy\*  
Mr. Robert N. Hunziker\*

Mr. John H. Lewis, Jr.\*

Mr. William E. Marcus  
Mr. Donald H. McCree, Jr.\*  
Mr. Donald H. McKeown\*  
Dr. Edwin I. Megargee\*  
Mr. David P. Sleeper\*  
Mr. Raymond E. Soriano  
Mr. Hobart D. Van Deusen\*

### 1955 - 65th Reunion

**Class Rep:** George H. Brooks  
Robert R. Burn  
Gene A. Losa

Mr. William F. Bash\*  
Dr. John A. Beisler  
Mr. Robert R. Burn\*  
Dr. John R. Burton\*  
Mr. Lloyd S. Edraney  
Mr. Robert H. Everson\*  
Mr. Richard V. Huebner, Jr.\*  
James A. Katowitz, MD  
Col. Gene A. Losa, USA Ret.\*  
Mr. Anthony J. Maltese, Jr.\*  
Mr. Thomas S. Martin\*  
Mr. Lance G. Minnick\*  
Col. Robert M. Novogratz, USA Ret.\*  
Mr. John D. Oliver\*  
Mr. Paul F. Paffendorf  
Mr. Neil O. Reichard  
Mr. Anthony C. Rohrs\*

### 1956

**Class Rep:** Nelson P. Cohen  
Courtney R. Fritts

Mr. Peter M. Black\*  
Mr. Richard Bottelli\*  
Mr. Barry I. Budlong\*  
Mr. Douglas S. Campbell

\* Denotes five or more fiscal years of consecutive giving



“The fact that I get to meet and interact with people from so many different backgrounds and cultures is incredible and enriches our learning inside and outside of the classroom. I am immensely thankful for the donors whose magnificent contributions make the Blair experience possible for me and my classmates.”

—*Macarena Borbon Casaus '23*

Mr. Lars T. Carlson\*  
Mr. Raleigh Chinn, Jr.\*  
Mr. Nelson P. Cohen\*  
Mr. Stewart H. Cole\*  
Mr. David R. Conrad  
Mr. Philip S. Detjens\*  
Lt. Col. Courtney R. Fritts\*  
Col. D. Peter Gleichenhaus\*  
Dr. James E. Hansen II\*  
Mr. John D. Hatfield\*  
Mr. Stephen O. Hopkins  
Mr. John P. Locke, Jr.\*  
Hon. Nicholas B. Moehlmann  
Mr. Stanley F. Novaco\*  
Mr. R. Michael Smith  
Dr. Herbert M. Tabak\*  
Mr. H. Robert Tiffany III\*  
Dr. Eric Walther\*  
Mr. Richard A. Young, Esq.\*

#### 1957

**Class Rep:** James H.G. Naisby  
Mr. Edward H. Cliff\*  
Mr. Birkitt G. Drury  
Mr. H. Mason Fackert III  
Mr. John S. Jorgensen\*  
Mr. Philip B. Keenan  
Mr. Edward S. Magee, Jr.\*  
Mr. John E. Minton

Mr. James H. G. Naisby\*  
Dr. William G. Ovens, Jr.\*  
Capt. Donald S. Parsons, Jr.\*  
Mr. Robert C. Pearl  
Mr. Jerre S. Riggs, Jr.  
Mr. Melvin A. Tabak\*  
Capt. Henry S. Woodruff III\*

#### 1958

**Class Rep:** Norman E. Beatty  
Peter J. Cleary  
Mr. Mahlon Apgar IV\*  
Mr. Anthony E. Battelle, Esq.\*  
Mr. Norman E. Beatty\*  
Mr. George C. Castleman, Jr.\*  
Mr. Peter J. Cleary\*  
Mr. H. Henry Elghanayan\*  
Dr. Roger P. Hailes  
Mr. Albert T. Holtz\*  
Mr. Paul R. Hooper\*  
Mr. Charles B. Kalemjian\*  
Mr. Hubbard A. Knox III\*  
Mr. Thornton R. Land\*  
Mr. Steven R. Losa  
Mr. Robert M. Mangual  
Mr. Frederick B. Rollinson II\*  
Mr. Karl A. Wagner, Jr.

#### 1959

**Class Rep:** William L. Russell III  
Mr. Peter J. Anstatt\*  
Mr. Lyle K. Antonides\*  
Mr. Peter K. Austin\*  
Mr. G. Gerard Barnett III  
Mr. Joseph E. Bell, Jr.\*  
Dr. Frederick G. Bergmann\*  
Mr. John H. Dumont  
Mr. Samuel S. Durland CMC,  
CPEng, NER\*  
Mr. Rufus A. Fulton, Jr.\*  
Mr. David C. Gallagher\*  
Mr. Peter L. Gulick  
Mr. Daniel W. Henry  
Mr. C. David Howell  
Mr. James M. Lower\*  
Mr. Cornelius J. O'Kane\*  
Mr. William L. Russell III\*  
Mr. Louis K. Schwarz III\*  
Mr. Robert F. Shaw\*  
Mr. David J. Shotwell\*  
Mr. Nicholas S. Smith\*  
Mr. James W. Tippy  
Mr. F. Albert Weaver\*  
Mr. Peter G. Wilds\*

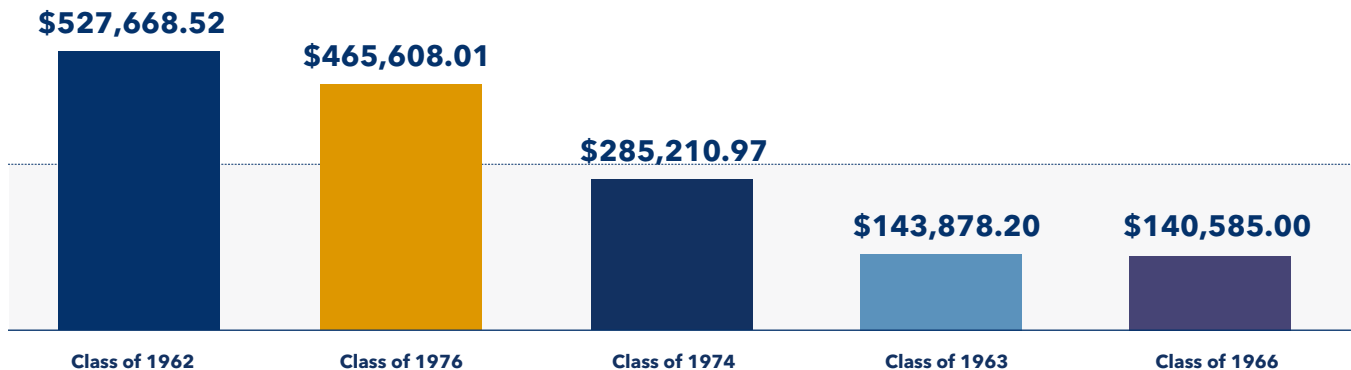
#### 1960 - 60th Reunion

**Class Rep:** Philip W. Koebig III  
William S. Mahood  
John W. Meinig  
Christopher H. Swenson  
Mrs. Dorothy G. Battelle, Hon. '60\*  
Mr. Barry B. Boyce\*  
Mr. Bowman Brown  
Mr. Craig U. Dana, Sr.\*  
Mr. John M. Emptage\*  
Mr. H. James Griffith\*  
Mr. Philip W. Koebig III\*  
Mr. Edward H. MacKay III\*  
Mr. Willard S. Mahood  
Mr. Charles M. Mapes III  
Mr. John W. Meinig\*  
Mr. Thomas C. Roberts\*  
Mr. Arnold H. Selengut\*  
Mr. Christopher H. Swenson\*  
Mr. Geoffrey H. Wood\*

#### 1961

**Class Rep:** Frank H. Briggs, Jr.  
Mr. John F. Ahrens\*  
Mr. Richard C. Bostwick\*  
Mr. Frank H. Briggs, Jr.\*  
Mr. Bruce B. Clark\*  
Mr. Frederick W. Everett\*  
Mr. David A. Garcia\*

## Leading classes for financial support



\* Top-five list includes the classes of 1945 to 2020.

Mr. John W. Gist, Jr.\*  
 Mr. Kenneth N. Gudernatch\*  
 Mr. Stuart G. Miller\*  
 Mr. Jonathan E. Paul\*  
 Mr. John E. Perez\*  
 Mr. David H. Permar\*  
 Mr. Robert L. Schuldenfrei\*  
 Mr. Howard E. Steilen, Jr.\*  
 Mr. Marc W. Suffern II\*  
 Capt. Malcolm P. Taylor, Jr.\*  
 Mr. Emile F. Vanderstucken III  
 Mr. Peter A. Williams\*

### 1962 Class Rep: Mark Gottesman

Mr. Charles T. Akre, Jr.\*  
 Mr. Frank R. Barnako, Jr.\*  
 Dr. Samuel R. Barnett\*  
 Mr. Andrew Berger\*  
 Mr. Brian L. Berger\*  
 Mr. Richard L. Doremus\*  
 Mr. K. Thomas Elghanayan\*  
 Mr. James A. Fox\*  
 Mr. John H. Gibbon\*  
 Mr. Mark Gottesman\*  
 Mr. Harley E. Hoyt\*  
 Mr. Peter S. Humphrey\*  
 Mr. Willard H. Johnson, Jr.\*  
 Mr. Mitchell D. Landy\*  
 Mr. Fernando Marcial, Jr.\*  
 Mr. Robert J. McEwen, Jr.  
 Mr. William J. McKinley III  
 Dr. Donald H. Mershon\*  
 Mr. Charles M. Newman  
 Mr. Dennis Wm. Peachey\*  
 Mr. Robert J. Rand\*  
 Mr. James R. Richart  
 Mr. David M. Simpson  
 Mr. Jon L. Ten Haagen\*  
 Mr. Creed R. Terry\*  
 Mr. Paul D. White

### 1963 Class Rep: L. Carter Crewe III William S. Wildrick

Mr. John E. Alden, Jr.\*  
 Mr. Roger A. Blair\*  
 Mr. William S. Cashel III\*  
 Mr. Brian N. Clayton  
 Mr. L. Carter Crewe III\*  
 Mr. Durfee L. Day, Jr.\*  
 Mr. Lawrence S. Driever, Jr.\*  
 Mr. Thomas C. Dunworth\*  
 Mr. Robert D. Fulton\*  
 Mr. Alan B. Greenstein\*  
 Mr. Donald C. Hazard\*  
 Mr. Douglas Henderson\*  
 Mr. Paul Jacobs\*  
 Mr. Wm. Mitchell Jennings, Jr.\*  
 Mr. Kenneth L. Konner, Esq.\*  
 Mr. Bradford W. Lawrence II  
 Mr. Barry E. Parker\*  
 Mr. Donald K. Piermont, Jr.\*  
 Mr. Thomas Summers, Jr.\*  
 Mr. Robert C. Turner\*  
 Mr. Donald K. Usher, Jr.\*  
 Mr. William R. Widmaier\*  
 Capt. William S. Wildrick, USN Ret.\*  
 Mr. Alan M. Woolf\*

### 1964 Class Rep: Courtney West

Mr. Christopher A. Bengtson\*  
 Dr. Dennis E. Bradford  
 Mr. John B. Brams  
 Mr. Barring Coughlin, Jr.  
 Mr. William B. Cramer, Esq.\*  
 Mr. Ralph A. Eskesen, Jr.\*  
 Mr. Arthur M. French\*  
 Mr. Thomas B. Frystock, Jr.  
 Mr. James B. Heath\*  
 Mr. Clark W. Heckert\*  
 Mr. Franklin A. Hedberg\*  
 Mr. Roderick B. Henderson\*  
 Dr. David E. Johnson, Jr.\*  
 Mr. John V.O. Kennard

Mr. Stephen B. King  
 Dr. Robert L. Nichols  
 Dr. Raymond B. Schaefer\*  
 Mr. Joel Z. Silver\*  
 Dr. William B. Solomon\*  
 Mr. Andros B. Thomson\*  
 Mr. Courtney West\*  
 Mr. R. John Young, Jr.\*

### 1965 - 55th Reunion Class Rep: Don Jay Smith

Mr. G. Jack Bengé, Jr.\*  
 Mrs. Cheryl N. Clutsam, Hon. '65  
 Mr. J. Jeffrey Corwin\*  
 Dr. Steven L. Driever\*  
 Mr. William W. Driver, Jr.\*  
 Mr. William S. Foster IV\*  
 Dr. Richard M. Gladding, Jr.  
 Mr. Harry A. Joelsson-Strohbach\*  
 Mr. Lloyd J. King  
 Mr. James D. Krugman, Esq.\*  
 Mr. John H. Kuhlmann, Jr.\*  
 Mr. Michael E. Lane\*  
 Mr. Robert M. Lay\*  
 Mr. D. William Layton\*  
 Mr. Peter F. Nystrom\*  
 Mr. John R. Paul\*  
 Mrs. Lynn M. Peachey, Hon. '65 '74 '77\*  
 Mr. George F. Phelps\*  
 Dr. Robert W. Pollack  
 Mr. G. Keith Robertshaw  
 Mr. Don Jay Smith\*  
 Dr. Elliott C. Trommald, Hon. '65\*  
 Mr. James P. Trozze\*  
 Mr. Robert S. Weiner\*  
 Mr. Robert R. Young, Jr.\*

### 1966 Class Rep: Christopher L. Barrington David H. Sculnick

Mr. John P. Bartlett\*  
 Mr. Frederick K. Baser  
 Mr. James M. Bennett\*  
 Mr. David H. Bugen\*

Mr. John H. Clark IV  
 Mr. DeFrance Clarke III\*  
 Mr. Frederick Elghanayan\*  
 Mr. Philip P. Gardiner\*  
 Dr. Michael H. Gewitz\*  
 Mr. Galen H. Guberman\*  
 Mr. Stephen F. Gudernatch\*  
 Dr. Alan N. Houghton, Jr.\*  
 Mr. James P. Jenkins\*  
 Mr. Timothy R. Margolian\*  
 Mr. David H. Sculnick, Esq.\*  
 Mr. Jonathan R. Sweet  
 Mr. Donald D. Weir, Jr.\*

### 1967 Class Rep: Gregory U. Auger Barry H. Smith J. Lawrence Snavely

Mr. Howard L. Alden\*  
 Mr. Gregory U. Auger II  
 Mr. Bruce H. Augustadt  
 Dr. Myles E. Gombert\*  
 Ambassador Christopher J. LaFleur\*  
 Mr. Jeffrey L. Mohler\*  
 Mr. Richard Nashner\*  
 Mr. John M. Sandfort  
 Mr. Bruce H. Sergy\*  
 Mr. Jeffrey D. Sherwin, Esq.  
 Mr. Barry H. Smith\*  
 Mr. J. Lawrence Snavely\*  
 Mr. William S. Spraitzar\*

### 1968 Class Rep: Richard A. Rubin

Mr. Arthur T. Ambrose\*  
 Mr. Charles M. Belmer, Jr.\*  
 Mr. Dennis N. Bertland\*  
 Mr. Richard P. Boak\*  
 Dr. Emery Castimore\*  
 Mr. Alfred L. Dennis  
 Mr. William J. Earl\*  
 Mr. Theodore L. Haff III\*  
 Mr. Robert F. Hays, Jr.\*  
 Mr. Charles H. Horn, Esq.

\* Denotes five or more fiscal years of consecutive giving



Mr. Thomas B. Johnson\*  
 Mr. I. Blakeley Johnstone III  
 The Rev. Dr. E. Richard Knox  
 Dr. William Q. Meeker, Jr.\*  
 Mr. Edmund R. Pennock  
 Mr. Jonathan W. Peters  
 Mr. Richard A. Rubin\*  
 Mr. Theodore B. Scherf\*  
 Mr. Jonathan S. Slaff  
 Mr. Mark A. Wadmond\*

**1969**

**Class Rep:** Raymond T. Bohn III  
 Robert N. Jenkins  
 Chris W. Leverich  
 Frederick L. Mirbach, Jr.

Mr. William R. Bellas, Jr.  
 Mr. Raymond T. Bohn III\*  
 Mr. John A. Clark\*  
 Mr. Michael C. Cleavenger\*  
 Mr. Robert N. Jenkins\*  
 Mr. Chris W. Leverich\*  
 Mr. Ronald M. Neumunz  
 Dr. Peter A. Ostrow\*  
 Mr. William R. Polk\*  
 Mr. Lawrence R. Posner  
 Dr. James C. Ritzenthaler  
 Mr. Jay W. Rubin\*  
 Dr. David J. Shulan\*  
 Mr. Robert L. Van Stone\*  
 Mr. Geoffrey H. Walker\*

**1970 - 50th Reunion**

**Class Rep:** Alexander J. Sloane

Mr. Jerrold H. Bamel  
 Mr. Michael D. Hall\*  
 Dr. Richard C. Hunt  
 Mr. Jeffrey D. Karp\*  
 Mr. William H. Loeb\*  
 Mr. Stephen P. Peck  
 Mr. John F. Plunkett, Jr.\*  
 Dr. Robert L. Rosenthal\*  
 Mr. David W. Tilney\*  
 Mr. John R. Van Kirk\*  
 Mr. John A. Webb III\*

**1971**

**Class Rep:** Michael J. Lieberman

Mr. Michael E. Bennett\*  
 Mr. Thomas S. Blankley, Jr.\*  
 Mr. Huxley H. Conklin  
 Mr. S. Whitney Downer IV\*  
 Mr. Stefan A. Kling\*  
 Mr. John G. Layng\*  
 Mr. Michael J. Lieberman\*  
 Cmdr. Thomas J. Martin, USCG Ret.\*  
 Mr. Russell C. Ortman\*  
 Lt. Col. Lester A. Pagano, Jr.  
 Dr. Harvey A. Quinton\*  
 Mr. James R. Rea\*  
 Mr. Danny S. Rosenkrans  
 Dr. Wayne G. Suway\*  
 Mr. Albin J. Zak III\*

**1972**

**Class Rep:** Gregory A. Washburn  
 Pieter H. Woodcock

Mr. Carl R. Cramer\*  
 Mr. W. Richard Davis\*  
 Mr. Robert J. Plunkett\*  
 Mr. John G. Van Sickle\*  
 Mr. Gregory A. Washburn\*  
 Mr. Pieter H. Woodcock\*

**1973**

**Class Rep:** Thomas E. McLean  
 Bonnie A. Nault

Ms. Deirdre M. Garrett\*  
 Ms. Aileen M. Gaumond  
 Mr. Timothy F. Goddu\*  
 Dr. Andrew R. Heinze\*  
 Mr. James G. Houston\*  
 Mr. John F. Jaendl  
 The Rev. Jordan K. Philipbar  
 Mrs. Barbara G. Walsh\*

**1974**

**Class Rep:** Josefina I. Iglesias  
 David B. Lieberman  
 John D. Rea

Mr. William S. Ashton\*  
 Mr. Russell F. Collins\*  
 Mr. James A. Dalis\*  
 Mr. Peter A. Engelhardt\*  
 Mr. A. Jon Frere, Hon. '74

Ms. Eleanor T. Howard\*  
 Mrs. Josefina I. Iglesias\*  
 Mr. David B. Lieberman\*  
 Mr. Mark T. Lieberman\*  
 Dr. Robert M. Liegner\*  
 Ms. Pamela L. Olsyn\*  
 Mr. Robert Ortiz\*  
 Mrs. Lynn M. Peachey, Hon. '65 '74 '77\*  
 Mr. John D. Rea\*  
 Mrs. Cathi F. Robinson  
 Mr. Dominick J. Romano\*  
 Mr. R. Todd Ruppert\*  
 Ms. Sandra L. Scannelli\*  
 Mrs. Denise Stocker Current\*  
 Mr. Gary R. Swartz

**1975 - 45th Reunion**

**Class Rep:** Laura C. Morris  
 Robert G. Sigety  
 Jennifer A. Woltjen

Ms. Anne E. Cramer, Esq.\*  
 Mr. Gregg M. Foster  
 Mr. Harrison B. Gentry\*  
 Mrs. Laura C. Morris  
 Ms. Linda Pettie\*  
 Mr. William V. Quintana  
 Mr. Roy J. Redmond  
 Mr. Robert G. Sigety\*  
 Mrs. Jennifer A. Woltjen\*  
 Mr. Daniel E. Wyckoff

**1976**

**Class Rep:** Cornelius E. Sigety  
 David L. Waddell

Mr. Lawrence R. Baker  
 Mr. Preston P. Davis\*  
 Mrs. Janet R. Harrington  
 Mr. Lester H. Oakes\*  
 Mr. William D. Pinkham III\*  
 Mr. Keith H. Rauschenbach\*  
 Mr. Cornelius E. Sigety\*

**1977**

**Class Rep:** Harry D. Gates  
 Lee Horne  
 Richard T. Luzzi

Mr. Jeffrey A. Adair  
 Mr. Calman J. Ambrosy III\*  
 Ms. Catherine L. Blackburn\*

Dr. David A. Costa\*  
 Mr. Carl D. Gandel\*  
 Mr. Harry D. Gates\*  
 Ms. Lee Horne\*  
 Vice Adm. Colin J. Kilrain  
 Mrs. Patrice Gallagher Maillet\*  
 Mr. Eric T. Maine\*  
 Mrs. Jenny S. Maine, Hon. '77\*  
 Mrs. Michelle C. Maloney\*  
 Mr. Scott E. McKee\*  
 Mr. John Neumann  
 Mrs. Lynn M. Peachey, Hon. '65 '74 '77\*  
 Mr. Hugh M. Richmond\*  
 Ms. Lisa J. Scheller  
 Mr. Henry F. Schmidt IV\*

**1978**

**Class Rep:** Douglas R. Linton III  
 Joseph E. Waddell

Mr. John A. Costa\*  
 Mr. Joseph A. DeSantis  
 Dr. Bruce D. Hostenstein\*  
 Maj. Douglas R. Linton III\*  
 Mr. W. Brandt Nako  
 Mr. Barth E. Rubin  
 Mr. Christian C. Schneider  
 Mr. Dean G. Tanella\*  
 Mr. T. Quinton Taylor  
 Mr. Jeffrey A. Turner  
 Mr. Joseph E. Waddell  
 Mrs. Rita I. Worman

**1979**

**Class Rep:** Kenneth A. Deneau  
 Guy N. Saxton  
 Susanne E. Ullmann

Mrs. Edythe D. Bertoldo  
 Mr. Edward L. Brown\*  
 Mrs. Carolyn M. Conforti-Browse\*  
 Mr. Kenneth A. Deneau  
 Ms. Karen A. Kay  
 Ms. Marianne Lieberman\*  
 Dr. Tamsen I. Thorpe\*  
 Ms. Susanne E. Ullmann\*  
 Mr. Raymond J. Vass\*

## 2019-2020 Alumni Association Board of Governors

The Alumni Association Board of Governors promotes a continuing, meaningful and effective relationship between alumni and the School. The Board of Governors acts as an advisory body to the Head of School, with whom they meet regularly, and focuses on alumni relations, communications, reunion planning and fundraising.

Mr. Robert L. Van Stone '69  
*President*  
 Mrs. Kaitlin G. Maillet Matyasovsky '04  
*Vice President*  
 Dr. Bruce D. Hostenstein '78  
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 Mr. Derek M. Peachey '93  
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Dr. Edwina O. Lizardo Orbe '06  
 Mr. Alex S. Motiuk '08  
 Mr. James H. G. Naisby '57  
 Mr. Daniel H. Smith '09  
 Dr. Tamsen I. Thorpe '79  
 Ms. Evelyn B. Tilney '05  
 Mr. Hobart D. Van Deusen '54  
 Ms. Michelle M. Q. Wu '15



"Having worked on the grounds crew at Blair for 35 years, I have seen campus change a lot, and we work hard to keep it manicured and attractive. All of us are thankful for generous donations that give us the opportunity to add beautiful vegetation and hardscape, as well as the machinery to get the job done. Being able to house it all in the new grounds buildings is a bonus."

—Longtime Blair grounds crew staffer Steve Fields

#### 1980 - 40th Reunion

**Class Rep:** Donna S. Haag  
Katherine T. Henry-Schill

Mr. Morgan D. Borer\*  
Mrs. Katherine T. Henry-Schill\*  
Mr. Paul J. Holenstein\*  
Mrs. Kimberley L. Jessen  
Mr. Scott D. Jones\*  
Mr. Coray S. Kirby\*  
Mr. James P. Maguire, Jr.\*  
Mr. Steven M. Newman  
Dr. Lucienne V. Ronco  
Mr. Jay C. Saunders\*

#### 1981

**Class Rep:** Holly J. Anderson-Bender  
David E. Owen IV

Holly J. Anderson-Bender\*  
Ms. Tracy A. Asselin  
Mr. Thomas C. Fountain\*  
Ms. Suzanne G. Joris\*  
Dr. Martin S. Miller, Hon. '81\*  
Mrs. Sandra L. Olsen Braun\*  
Mr. Christopher R. Orben\*  
Mr. David E. Owen IV  
Mrs. Jennifer L. Piniaha  
Mr. Daryl K. Schaedel  
Mr. Christopher J. Steere  
Ms. Sandra L. Steinvooort, Esq.

#### 1982

**Class Rep:** William H. Abbott  
Marivelle S. Clavel-Davis

Mr. William H. Abbott\*  
Mrs. Kirsten T. Bushick\*  
Mr. Raymond Castellani III  
Mrs. Marivelle S. Clavel-Davis\*

Mr. Roger D. Gershman\*  
Mr. George F. Landegger, Jr.  
Mr. David M. Lieberman\*

#### 1983

**Class Rep:** William F. Blume

Mr. Ronald G. Bowman\*  
Mr. David A. DiGioia\*  
Mrs. Alyson L. Peacock\*

#### 1984

**Class Rep:** Kristine C. Lisi

Mrs. Noreen M. Britt\*  
Ms. Lai Yuen Chiang\*  
Dr. Laura A. Covucci-Sacks\*  
Mr. Edward H. Dawson  
Mr. Todd A. Detrick  
Mr. Peter A. Fehnel  
The Rev. William F. Feus\*  
Mr. Leon D. Greenberg\*  
Mrs. Melissa J. Henderson Koenig\*  
Mrs. Kristine C. Lisi\*  
Mr. Armando Matos\*  
Dr. Liza O'Dowd\*  
Mrs. Susanne M. Pyle  
Dr. Darren K. Sacks\*

#### 1985 - 35th Reunion

**Class Rep:** Amelia C. Wolfe  
Christian K. Wolfe

Mr. Thomas W. Hulick  
Mr. Robert E. Hunt  
Mr. Michael J. Lehman\*  
Mr. James F. Redfern, Jr.\*  
Mrs. Lisa M. Selesky-Nacino\*  
Mrs. Amelia C. Wolfe\*  
Mr. Christian K. Wolfe\*

#### 1986

**Class Rep:** Linda M. Fellows  
Julia K. Santella

Mr. Chi-Kin Chiang  
Dr. Amy L. Covucci-Cornelius\*  
Mrs. Carina C. Davidson\*  
Ms. Linda M. Fellows\*  
Mr. William F. Karn\*  
Mr. Erik M. Kindblom\*  
Ms. Caroline B. Manogue\*  
Mrs. Julia K. Santella  
Mrs. Rada T. Starkey\*  
Mrs. Tina Vandersteel Cressotti\*  
Mr. Mark C. Williams

#### 1987

**Class Rep:** Marnie Raines-Almand

Mr. James R. Anderson  
Mr. Quinten A. Clarke  
Mr. Craig U. Dana, Jr.\*  
Mr. Bruce D. Goettel  
Mrs. Marnie Raines-Almand  
Mrs. Diana P. Schad\*  
Ms. Heather M. Wooding\*

#### 1988

**Class Rep:** Charles H. A. Inkeles  
Matthew R. Hennessey

Mr. Willard A. Anderson II\*  
Mr. Bradford R. Benn  
Mr. Paul S. Clavel\*  
Mr. Daniel M. DiCarlo III  
Mr. Charles H. A. Inkeles\*  
Ms. Anita C. Ricketts\*  
Ms. Rebecca L. Selengut  
Mr. Peter Vlasov and  
Mrs. Philippa Vlasov

#### 1989

**Class Rep:** Chrysta A. Argue  
David T. Low, Jr.

Mrs. Chrysta A. Argue\*  
Mrs. Jennifer J. Bear-Molinoff\*  
Mrs. Tamara C. Duffy\*  
Mr. Joshua B. George\*  
Ms. Nicole Helmstetter  
Mr. Christian G. Kasper  
Lt. Col. William S. Kohmuench  
Mr. Stirling B. Levy\*  
Mr. David T. Low, Jr.\*  
Mr. Shindana B. Montague\*  
Mr. Kevin D. Nofsinger  
Mr. Eugene Pak\*  
Mr. Geoffrey M. Shearing  
Ms. Lesley H. Underwood\*  
Ms. Brenda L. Waardenburg

#### 1990 - 30th Reunion

**Class Rep:** Ned E. Montencourt  
Todd C. Smith

Dr. Danielle M. Buda  
Mr. Jason K. Cashill  
Ms. Janine P. Clifford  
Ms. Singleton A. Cox\*  
Mrs. Cassandra Davson  
Mrs. Andrea L. Fleming\*  
Mr. P. Seth Greer\*  
Dr. Barbara L. Inkeles\*  
Dr. Peter G. Mandaville  
Mr. Ned E. Montencourt  
Ms. Jennifer C. Movizzo  
Mrs. Jill A. Prehodka Coleman\*  
Ms. Anna Ring\*  
Mr. Steven M. Roethke\*  
Mr. Rajesh P. Sinha

\* Denotes five or more fiscal years of consecutive giving



"The best parts of Blair are the people and community. Thanks to Blair donors, I've been able to meet people from many backgrounds and students who wouldn't otherwise have had the chance to come here. I am building everlasting relationships and am grateful for the School's amazing facilities and resources."

—Jaylen Blakes '21

Mr. Todd C. Smith\*  
Mr. Douglas R. Sweeney\*  
Mr. Vincent A. Vesce\*  
Mr. James J. Waterer\*

**1991**  
**Class Rep:** Erin M. Cosgrave  
Meredith Magrone-Wiacek  
Elizabeth W. Webster

Mr. William B. Bean  
Mrs. Tracey L. DeMaria  
Mr. David Leonardis\*  
Mr. Joshua S. Roffman  
Dr. Tiffany S. Russell  
Mr. Alexander M. Scharnberg\*  
Mr. Keith R. Walker  
Mrs. Elizabeth W. Webster\*  
Ms. Elisabeth J. Wenner\*

**1992**  
**Class Rep:** Darryl M. DeMarzio  
Carrie Giddins Pergram

Ms. Susan A. Astheimer  
Ms. Sarah E. Burke Mullins\*  
Dr. Darryl M. De Marzio  
Mr. Theodore J. Doremus  
Mr. George J. Ernst, Jr.\*  
Mrs. Alissa D. Ferry  
Mrs. Carrie Giddins Pergram\*  
Mrs. Eliza R. Gold\*  
Mrs. Heather S. Haldeman  
Mr. Jonas R. McDavit  
Mr. Marcelino E. Menendez  
Mr. Daniel C. Millner\*

Mrs. Heather A. Schneider Flanders  
Mr. Adam Shoenfeld  
Dr. Matthew W. Strobeck  
Mrs. Tasha R. Williams-Arroyo

**1993**  
**Class Rep:** Bernadette M. Clifford  
John J. W. Inkeles

Mr. Sam C. Chou  
Mrs. Bernadette M. Clifford\*  
Mrs. Molly A. Dunne\*  
Ms. Samantha D. Elliott  
Lt. Cmdr. David W. Filanowicz, USN  
Mrs. Melina O. Fisher  
Mrs. Lena R. Geandreaux  
Mrs. Mclane Goard\*  
Mrs. Lauren N. Haley\*  
Mr. Hyun Seok Hwang\*  
Mr. John J. W. Inkeles\*  
Mr. John D. Leonardis\*  
Mr. James M. Moore, Hon. '93\*  
Dr. Ian M. Paterson\*  
Mr. Derek M. Peachey\*  
Mrs. Nicole Tipton\*  
Dr. Christopher R. Wawrzyniak\*  
Mr. Richard W. Wenner\*  
Mr. Walter B. West II

**1994**  
**Class Rep:** Bryan P. Kelly  
John P. Weesner  
Joanne L. Wrzesinsky

Mr. Michael J. Brennan II  
Mrs. Anna W. S. Chou  
Dr. Jessica A. Deede\*

Mrs. Amy L. Del Turco\*  
Mrs. MacKenzie A. Guyer  
Mrs. Chloe A. Holderness\*  
Ms. Rachel L. Koenig  
Ms. Suzanne A. Lombardi\*  
Mrs. Lanisha D. Makle-Ridley\*  
Mr. Richard E. Martin  
Mr. Rodrigo A. Menendez\*  
Mrs. Lynne A. O'Hearn  
Mr. Jared A. Rich  
Mr. Brendan P. Smith  
Mr. Kevin A. Stage-Romano  
Ms. Joanne L. Wrzesinsky\*

**1995 - 25th Reunion**  
**Class Rep:** Stephanie J. Marcial  
E. Courtney Stanford

Mr. Warin L. Epstein  
Mrs. Alexandra F. Foresman Sifers  
Ms. Jennifer B. Harper\*  
Mr. Thomas H. Hart\*  
Ms. Samantha A. Haspel  
Mr. Gordon H. Hull  
Mr. Edward A. Johnson  
Ms. Stephanie J. Marcial\*  
Mr. Edwin S. Neely  
Mr. Brandon D. Nothstine  
Mr. Guillermo Pineda-Bours\*  
Ms. Dina R. Rosen  
Mrs. Liesel J. Schopler\*  
Capt. Caren M. Standfast, USMC\*  
Mrs. E. Courtney Stanford\*  
Mr. SangWon Suh\*  
Dr. Kathleen C. Wawrzyniak Webb

**1996**  
**Class Rep:** Stefanie R. Kuhner  
Summer J. Passannante  
Anthony C. Powell

Mr. Matthew J. Bracken\*  
Ms. Megan H. Brodbeck\*  
Mrs. Christine M. Chapman\*  
Mrs. Melissa A. Erne\*  
Mr. Charles S. Evans\*  
The Rev. Mashod A. Evans, Sr.  
Ms. Melissa L. Guyre\*  
Mrs. Stefanie R. Kuhner\*  
Dr. Tamika M. Lasege\*  
Ms. Kathleen Manning  
Mr. Jeffrey M. McGinn  
Mrs. Sabrina S. Novick  
Mrs. Meghan C. Peachey-Bogen\*  
Mr. Anthony C. Powell  
Mrs. Courtney C. Rathweg\*  
Mr. Aaron J. Rettaliata\*  
Mrs. Jaclyn M. Roecker\*  
Ms. April M. Ruggiero\*  
Mrs. A. Kathryn M. Skrzat  
Ms. Jacqueline D. Smith  
Mrs. Winifred S. Smith  
Mr. Francis A. Volpe  
Mr. Edward T. Wenner\*

**1997**  
**Class Rep:** Christy L. Burkart  
Ryan M. Pagotto

Mr. Aaron Applebaum  
Mrs. Victoria P. Bailey\*  
Mrs. Christy L. Burkart\*



Ms. Tara S. Clarke\*  
 Mrs. Erin F. Dow\*  
 Mr. David A. Goodman\*  
 Ms. Laura J. Inkeles  
 Ms. Natasha Leitch-Huggins\*  
 Mr. Samuel F. Martin\*  
 Mr. Kyle D. V. Mason\*  
 Mr. Brian J. McArthur  
 Mr. Ryan P. McCarthy  
 Mr. Michael E. McDonald\*  
 Ms. Stefanie M. Meilinger\*  
 Mr. Ryan M. Pagotto\*  
 Ms. Kristen A. Tegenborg  
 Mr. Lee Ting\*

**1998**

**Class Rep:** **Brian M. Agresta**  
**Charisse L. Manzi**  
**Jamiyl R. Peters**

Mr. Brian M. Agresta\*  
 Mrs. Sarah A. Apgar\*  
 Mrs. Aisha Gayle Turner\*  
 Mr. David H. Kunes\*  
 Mr. Roy Mizukami  
 Mr. Jonathan W. Percy  
 Dr. Brita Roy  
 Mr. William W. Schwartz  
 Mr. Adam A. Tannir\*  
 Dr. Christy C. Visaggi\*  
 Ms. Sarah B. Wiss\*

**1999**

**Class Rep:** **Megan C. Apgar**  
**Bridget D. Hodakowski**  
**Amy E. Jablonski**  
**Kathryn S. Piotrowski**  
**Mark T. Rosenthal**

Mr. Marcos Alvarado  
 Mrs. Megan C. Apgar\*  
 Mr. Robert D. Apgar\*  
 Mr. Thomas O. Hay\*  
 Mrs. Bridget D. Hodakowski\*  
 Mrs. Amy E. Jablonski\*  
 Mr. Timothy A. Lamb  
 Mrs. Diana P. Lawrence Mashia  
 Mr. R. Hunter Lippincott\*  
 Mrs. Suzy A. Logan\*  
 Ms. Kathryn S. Piotrowski\*  
 Mr. Ramesh K. Reddy\*  
 Mr. Adam V. Sampieri  
 Mr. Neal Santosuosso\*  
 Mr. Robert N. Schwartz  
 Mrs. Samantha VK Sintros  
 Mr. Oliver F. Sterlacci  
 Mr. Michael C. Taddeo-Waite

**2000 - 20th Reunion**

**Class Rep:** **Logan K. Garrels**  
**Andrew D. Peters**  
**Veronica M. Reo**  
**Meredith M. Seidel Wells**

Mr. Mark Dankiewicz  
 Mr. Xavier de Boissezon\*  
 Mr. Logan K. Garrels\*  
 Mr. Paul W. Jablonski\*  
 Mr. Casey W. Krugman  
 Mr. Andrew D. Peters\*  
 Mrs. Meredith M. Seidel Wells

Ms. Christina I. Smith  
 Mrs. Jane M. Spann\*  
 Mr. Justin P. Sullivan  
 Dr. Michael A. Tessel\*  
 Mr. Panos J. Voulgaris\*  
 Mr. Charles L. Washington, Jr.\*

**2001**

**Class Rep:** **Kweighbaye Kotee**  
**Maria Lieberman Smalley**

Mrs. Nicole A. Applebaum-Johnson\*  
 Mr. Justin P. Berutich  
 Mrs. Kristen E. Bogart Salmon\*  
 Mr. Jay C. Garrels\*  
 Mrs. Amanda P. Gentile  
 Mrs. Sally A. Lidinsky\*  
 Mrs. Maria Lieberman Smalley\*  
 Mrs. Kelley A. Mack  
 Mr. Colin Miller  
 Mrs. Ashlyn E. Rector\*  
 Ms. Ashley T. Tanis\*  
 Mr. Richard C. Tompkins

**2002**

**Class Rep:** **E. Meredith Gal**  
**Stephanie A. Garbutt**  
**Chelsea N. Grefe**

Mr. Matthew J. Alario\*  
 Mr. Michael B. Ashton  
 Mr. Gregory E. Baser  
 Capt. Steven J. Benedetti\*  
 Mr. Christopher W. Curcio\*  
 Mrs. Rebecca R. Fehskens\*  
 Mr. Benjamin S. Fertig\*  
 Mrs. E. Meredith Gal\*  
 Mr. Akhil Garg\*  
 Mr. Jeffrey B. Graupe  
 Dr. Chelsea N. Grefe\*  
 Mr. Jason Haas\*  
 Mr. Kyle D. Horne\*  
 Mr. Benjamin A. Kenyon  
 Mr. Thomas S. Lieberman\*  
 Ms. Vanita Mansharamani\*  
 Mr. Colin C. McAdoo\*  
 Mr. Max Meltzer  
 Mr. John J. Noonan  
 Mr. Andrew R. Pearce\*  
 Mrs. Jane P. Poirier  
 Mr. Gabriel R. Vallejo  
 Mrs. Victoria C. Vallejo\*

**2003**

**Class Rep:** **Jessica A. Hess**  
**Brandon D. Lucien**  
**Christine L. C. Nalty**  
**Elizabeth J. Ricca**  
**Sarah C. Soden**  
**Stephanie E. Tucker**  
**Michael E. C. Wilson**

Ms. Neva J. Anthony\*  
 Mr. Alan M. Carr  
 Mrs. Virginia S. Case\*  
 Ms. Ahra Cho  
 Mrs. Lauren A. Collett  
 Mr. Todd F. Haselton  
 Mrs. Jessica A. Hess  
 Mr. Nicholas D. Lieberman\*  
 Mr. Matthew J. Maciag\*

Ms. Rebecca A. McAndrew\*  
 Mr. John M. McGrath  
 Ms. Jessica E. McShane\*  
 Mrs. Christine L. C. Nalty\*  
 Ms. Kate B. Newall\*  
 Mr. Andrew J. Peters  
 Mr. Andre Salerno  
 Mr. Walter Schoen  
 Mr. Daniel G. Seals  
 Mrs. Sarah C. Soden  
 Mr. Michael Stival  
 Mr. Stephen A. Swentzel\*  
 Mrs. Jennifer T. Turner\*  
 Mr. Michael E. C. Wilson\*  
 Mrs. Lindsey Zacharias\*

**2004**

**Class Rep:** **Matthew J. Dwyer**  
**Kaitlin G.**  
**Maillet Matyasovsky**  
**Philip J. Mauriello, Jr.**

Mr. Emmanuel Bello\*  
 Ms. Carolyn R. Davis\*  
 Mr. Zachary I. Hammond  
 Mr. Nicholas C. Hindle  
 Mrs. Caroline A. Interrante  
 Mr. Andrew S. Kaskel\*  
 Mrs. Carly E. Kaskel\*  
 Mrs. Kaitlin G. Maillet Matyasovsky\*  
 Mr. Benjamin T. McLaughlin  
 Ms. Molly V. D. Mesnard\*  
 Mrs. Claiborne C. Moses\*  
 Ms. Alison R. Palmer  
 Mr. Kevin T. Reese\*  
 Mrs. Courtney A. Romyns-Sinegra  
 Mrs. Cristina M. Sciarra  
 Mr. Todd Tamagnini\*  
 Mr. Brent Waddington  
 Dr. Jin-Sae Yoo\*

**2005 - 15th Reunion**

**Class Rep:** **Martha C. McCauley**  
**Christopher J. Gatsch**  
**Mary J. Hall**  
**Kathryn H. Nelson**  
**Julian F. Swayze**

Ms. Staci N. Alario\*  
 Ms. Lauren E. Anderson\*  
 Ms. Deborah M. Clarke\*  
 Ms. Stephanie J. Collens  
 Ms. Sasha Ewan  
 Mr. Christopher J. Gatsch  
 Mr. Robert Gilbert\*  
 Mr. Ross E. Gitomer  
 Mr. R. Tyler Grespin  
 Ms. Brittany A. Haines  
 Mrs. Marian M. Hass  
 Mr. Bradley C. Horth  
 Mr. Ty W. Johnston  
 Dr. Avishek R. Kumar\*  
 Mr. Richard W. Kurth  
 Mr. Justin Lubliner\*  
 Ms. Marion O. McAdoo\*  
 Mrs. Martha C. McCauley  
 Mrs. Faith C. McNeill\*  
 Mrs. Kathryn H. Nelson\*  
 Mrs. Claire C. Noel\*  
 Mr. Matthew A. Pruznick

Mrs. Kaitlyn E. Roncinske  
 Mr. Jonathan R. Slawson\*  
 Ms. Lauren C. Stival\*  
 Mr. Julian F. Swayze\*  
 Ms. Evelyn B. Tilney\*  
 Ms. Jennifer C. Welsh\*  
 Mr. Geoffrey E. Weyl\*  
 Ms. Jessica C. Young\*

**2006**

**Class Rep:** **Anthony Z. X. Eu**  
**Alexander B. Graber**  
**Elizabeth A. Kaskel**  
**Anne E. Newall**

Mr. Kiley E. Austin-Young  
 Mr. Timothy M. Bacon\*  
 Ms. Phaedra Ballard  
 Mrs. Madeline R. Britton\*  
 Mr. Anthony Z. X. Eu\*  
 Mr. Michael V. Guttilla  
 Ms. Kelly L. Hart\*  
 Mrs. Elizabeth A. Hinman\*  
 Mr. Benjamin A. Jayson\*  
 Mr. Daniel E. Kraines\*  
 Mr. Jordan N. Liebowitz\*  
 Dr. Edwina O. Lizardo Orbe\*  
 Mr. Matthew Maillet\*  
 Mr. Corey A. Minerva  
 Ms. Anne E. Newall  
 Mrs. Sarah L. White

**2007**

**Class Rep:** **Kymbia P. Ainsworth**  
**Alison L. Crevi**  
**Margaret L. Harding**  
**Marisa S. Nedderman**  
**Cooper A. Smith**

Ms. Kymbia P. Ainsworth  
 Ms. Gelihsa Arjoon\*  
 Mr. Alexander R. Auger  
 Ms. Angela C. Celeste\*  
 Mr. Alex Cournoyer  
 Mr. Robert B. Cruice  
 Mr. Colin B. Daddino\*  
 Mr. Richard E. DeFino, Jr.  
 Ms. Arlana Egan  
 Mr. Jeffrey W. Ernsting\*  
 Mr. Christopher Z. Eu  
 Mr. Dennis W. Flores\*  
 Mr. Alexander G. Imperatore  
 Ms. Zoe Jameson  
 Mr. Dixon B. Jelich  
 Mrs. Alexandra K. K. Kilgore  
 Mrs. Alexandra R. Lavorato\*  
 Mr. Kevin M. Lieberman\*  
 Ms. Kara Liebowitz  
 Mr. Richard D. Lutz  
 Mr. Craig M. McConnell  
 Ms. Jena Pinkard\*  
 Mr. Michael G. Pouliot\*  
 Mr. Wesley Rosamilia  
 Mr. Kyle S. Ruzika  
 Mrs. Natalya Schluechter\*  
 Ms. Taylor C. Willis

**2008**

**Class Rep:** Dylan K. Evans  
 Alexa M. Gilmartin  
 Madeline A. Hargis  
 Katherine I. Johnson  
 Todd P. Lewis  
 Alex S. Motiuk  
 Ashley H. Thompson  
 Samantha M. Tilney  
 Tina A. Tozzi

Mr. David W. Brandwood\*  
 Mr. Cameron M. Chambers  
 Ms. Emily M. Cherenack\*  
 Mr. Louis R. Cirillo  
 Mrs. Kaitlin E. Deane\*  
 Mr. Dylan K. Evans\*  
 Mr. Matthew C. Gallira\*  
 Ms. Alexa M. Gilmartin\*  
 Mr. Filip M. Gzella  
 Ms. Madeline A. Hargis\*  
 Mr. Lukas Kozlowski  
 Mr. Edward H. Lim  
 Ms. Elizabeth H. Martens  
 Ms. Marissa Mattar\*  
 Ms. Taylor C. McKay\*  
 Ms. Laura A. McNeill\*  
 Mr. Alex S. Motiuk\*  
 Ms. Alexandra M. Patane  
 Mr. Timothy D. Peacock\*  
 Ms. Caitlin Pinkard\*  
 Mr. Victor Saha  
 Ms. Ashley H. Thompson  
 Mrs. Christine H. Thompson\*  
 Ms. Samantha M. Tilney\*  
 Ms. Tina A. Tozzi\*  
 Ms. Margie L. Weiner  
 Mr. Samuel W. Wood  
 Mr. Adam C. J. Ziff\*  
 Ms. Amanda C. Zranchev

**2009**

**Class Rep:** Melissa L. Collins  
 Margaret DeOliveira  
 Raleigh F. Dierlam  
 Janak N. Padhiar

Mr. Philip M. Alvarez-Correa  
 Mr. Patrick M. Clayton  
 Ms. Rachel J. Collens\*  
 Ms. Melissa L. Collins\*  
 Lt. James F. Diddell\*  
 Mrs. Raleigh F. Dierlam\*  
 Mr. James B. Fahey\*  
 Mr. Torin Frey  
 Mr. Corey Jensen  
 Ms. Jenna A. Lubliner\*  
 Ms. Jaime L. Napurano  
 Mr. Janak N. Padhiar  
 Mr. Eric H. Panicucci  
 Mr. Elliot Parauda  
 Mr. Stephen V. Patane  
 Mr. John P. Redos  
 Mr. Daniel H. Smith\*  
 Mr. Alexander W. Starkman  
 Mr. Patrick T. Sweeney  
 Mr. Keefer D. Taylor\*

**2010 - 10th Reunion**

**Class Rep:** Sarah E. Bugen  
 Jin Ryang Chung  
 Michael DeTogni  
 Dillon R. Hoffman  
 Rebecca A. Litvin  
 Brittany T. Small  
 Saul Sparber  
 Neil P. Zimmermann

Ms. Arielle Aikens\*  
 Ms. Hayley A. Anderson\*  
 Ms. Jacqueline E. Carter\*  
 Ms. Jenna N. Catalano\*  
 Mr. Celil N. Cavusoglu

Mr. Timothy C. DeBerry\*  
 Mr. Michael DeTogni\*  
 Ms. Maeve A. Fahey\*  
 Ms. Lindsay Gilbert\*  
 Dr. Henry C. Herbol  
 Mr. Dillon R. Hoffman\*  
 Mr. Keunrak Kang\*  
 Ms. Rebecca A. Litvin\*  
 Ms. Sara P. Loveys  
 Mr. Patrick Maillet\*  
 Mr. Graham N. McConnell\*  
 Ms. Rebecca L. Merrifield\*  
 Ms. Kathryn C. Middleton  
 Mr. Jeffrey D. North  
 Mr. Anuphab Phraewphanarai  
 Mr. Nathaniel A. Reichel  
 Mr. Saul Sparber  
 Mr. Neil P. Zimmermann\*

**2011**

**Class Rep:** Anu C. Akinbamidele  
 Emily A. Collins  
 Margaret B. Hoffman  
 Nicholas M. Hogan  
 Quinn C. McKay  
 Rebecca H. Smith

Mr. Spencer Beriont  
 Ms. Cynthia M. Buchanan  
 Cpl. Scott D. Chamberlin  
 Mr. Daniel V. Cioffi  
 Ms. Emily A. Collins\*  
 Ms. Sydney M. Cordero\*  
 Ms. Claire J. B. Daddino\*  
 Mr. Mikal Davis-West\*  
 Ms. Rebecca E. Dewey\*  
 Mr. Cheng Ding  
 Mr. George H. Erlandson  
 Ms. Eleanor F. Fielding\*  
 Mr. Morgan J. Gardiner

Mr. Taylor C. Greik  
 Ms. Margaret B. Hoffman\*  
 Mr. Nicholas M. Hogan\*  
 Ms. Ashley Iannone\*  
 Ms. Kohiyama E. LaFountain\*  
 Ms. Nicole C. Lem\*  
 Ms. Quinn C. McKay\*  
 Ms. Kelsey A. Stevens  
 Mr. Matthew J. Stocker  
 Mr. Robert A. Sutherland\*  
 Mrs. Alexandra S. Sweeney\*  
 Mr. Eric S. Timken  
 Ms. Kelsey A. Vella\*  
 Ms. Grace M. Weiner

**2012**

**Class Rep:** Meredith A. Berry-Toon  
 Olivia R. Davis  
 Timothy J. Hettinger  
 Ali N. Johnson  
 Max Kaplan  
 Timothy M. Kui  
 Phoebe M. O'Rourke  
 Casandra Peretore

Ms. Meredith A. Berry-Toon  
 Ms. Olivia R. Clavel-Davis\*  
 Mr. Daniel DeTogni\*  
 Ms. Nadia R. El-Erian  
 Ms. Elizabeth J. Fox  
 Ms. Michelle M. Fox  
 Mr. Michael A. Galvin  
 Mr. Jordan P. Grose\*  
 Mr. Malcolm J. MacLeod  
 Mr. Robert J. Manning  
 Mr. Andrew T. C. Marvin\*  
 Ms. Jane A. McConnell  
 Ms. Catherine A. Miller  
 Ms. Emma Moore\*  
 Ms. Phoebe M. O'Rourke

## Great Teachers

The following past and present Blair faculty and staff were honored with gifts this year.

Ms. Nadia Abascal  
 Mr. Samuel G. Adams IV  
 Capt. Brian Antonelli '93  
 Mr. Selden D. Bacon, Jr.  
 Mrs. Rita Baragona  
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**Ms. Kendra L. Payne '20**

Ms. Louise K. Payne

**Mr. Patrick B. Payne '23**

Ms. Louise K. Payne

**Mr. Ethan W. Rackleff '21**

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen E. Shuster

**Ms. Chloe L. A. Rayer '20**

Mr. R. Latta Browse and  
Mrs. Carolyn Conforti-Browse '79

**Ms. Annika E. Rollock '14**

Mr. Peter Rollock and Ms. Elaine Lega

**Ms. Gwen A. Safin '20**

Mrs. Amy S. Bond

**Ms. Peyton E. Schreiber '22**

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Marshall

**Ms. Olivia N. Scialla '20**

Mr. Mark Scialla and Mrs. Kristine Scialla

**Ms. Vivien L. Sheridan '22**

Mr. and Mrs. Watson A. Bowes, Jr.

**Mr. Aidan P. Smarth '20**

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Clarke  
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Higgins  
Mrs. Colleen McNulty and Mr. Michael McNulty

**Mr. Don Jay Smith '65**

Mr. Robert R. Young, Jr. '65

**Mr. Craig A. Stocker, Jr. '08**

Ms. Grace Stocker

**Mr. Matthew J. Stocker '11**

Ms. Grace Stocker

**Mr. Joseph A. Stockhausen '20**

Mr. Joseph Stockhausen and  
Mrs. Deborah Stockhausen

**Mr. James T. Thompson '77**

Mr. Hugh M. Richmond '77

**Ms. Caeley R. Tierney '19**

Mrs. Joyce C. Dreger

**Mr. Kyle R. Tierney '13**

Mrs. Joyce C. Dreger

**Ms. Shannon J. Tierney '25**

Mrs. Joyce C. Dreger

**Mr. Oliver P. Tipton '21**

Mrs. Lorita Tipton

**Ms. Siena I. Tipton '18**

Mrs. Lorita Tipton

**Ms. Jade A. Torres '18**

Mr. and Mrs. Carlos E. Torres

**Ms. Napat Vachirapong '23**

Mr. Therapong Vachirapong and  
Mrs. Sakutip Chanyarukskul

**Ms. Dante G. Valvo '12**

Ms. Virginia Valvo

**Mr. Courtney West '64**

Mr. Christopher A. Bengtson '64

**Mr. Eric Zhang '23**

Ms. Hui Zhang



<b>1941</b>	Kenneth A. Heaton June 8, 2020 Dover, New Jersey	<b>1951</b>	Charles A. Asselin 2020 Greenwood, South Carolina		Jon L. Ten Haagen August 12, 2020 Centerport, New York
	Robert C. McCarthy 2020 Tarzana, California		Emo C. Barney March 23, 2020 Mendon, Michigan	<b>1965</b>	William S. Foster IV August 22, 2020 Levittown, Pennsylvania
<b>1943</b>	Wilmer A. Abbott Jr. April 23, 2020 Ventnor City, New Jersey		Paul D. Jacobs April 16, 2020 St. Helena Island, South Carolina	<b>1968</b>	Leo E. Q. Cerruti April 9, 2020 Oyster Bay, New York
<b>1946</b>	Franklin H. Stern February 2020 Jerusalem, Israel	<b>1953</b>	David W. Paulus Sr. June 26, 2020 Salem, South Carolina	<b>1987</b>	Douglas K. Jones June 2, 2020 Houston, Texas
<b>1947</b>	Arthur D. Lane Jr. March 22, 2020 Summerfield, North Carolina	<b>1954</b>	Gerald A. Bruno May 5, 2019 Wyckoff, New Jersey	<b>2000</b>	Dustin J. Tortu March 17, 2020 Northfield, New Jersey
	David B. Riddagh Jr. September 6, 2020 Melbourne, Florida	<b>1956</b>	John P. Locke Jr. April 19, 2020 Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey	<b>Former Faculty</b>	Patrick T. Boardman January 1, 2020 Aiken, South Carolina
	William F. Shuler May 12, 2020 Dover, New Jersey	<b>1958</b>	Paul R. Hooper February 9, 2020 Georgetown, Texas		Polly Joline April 6, 2020 Barnstead, New Hampshire
<b>1948</b>	David H. Marihugh March 13, 2020 Denville, New Jersey		Victor Pinedo Jr. February 23, 2020 Delray Beach, Florida		Patricia T. Latessa March 17, 2020 Miami, Ohio
<b>1949</b>	Everett B. Dayton May 28, 2020 Davidson, North Carolina	<b>1959</b>	Cornelius J. O'Kane May 7, 2020 The Villages, Florida	<b>Former Staff</b>	Barbara L. Prehodka July 11, 2020 Blair, New Jersey
	Gerald R. Wyman February 20, 2020 Tucson, Arizona		William F. Snyder March 13, 2020 Saratoga Springs, New York	<b>Friend</b>	Howard M. Gooblar May 12, 2020 Wharton, New Jersey
<b>1950</b>	Richard E. Bovard March 7, 2020 Waverly, Pennsylvania	<b>1962</b>	Dennis Wm. Peachey May 15, 2020 Nazareth, Pennsylvania		

## 1941

**Kenneth A. Heaton.** Mr. Heaton graduated from Dover High School in Dover, New Jersey, before coming to Blair. A World War II veteran, he studied at Manhattan College and graduated from Columbia University with a master's degree in 1947. Mr. Heaton was an accomplished athlete in high school and college, and, for much of his career, was dedicated to sports and recreation as

superintendent of recreation for the town of Dover and as assistant director of the Morris County Parks Commission. He was a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), Kiwanis Club (Elks) and the East Dover Field Club and a parishioner at Sacred Heart Church. His survivors include his wife, Joan, two sons and two grandsons.

**Robert C. McCarthy.** Following four years at Blair, Mr. McCarthy matriculated at Princeton University and Cornell University and served in the Navy. He spent many years in the Middle East during his career with Aramco and Atlantic Richfield. Mr. McCarthy maintained ties to Blair and his classmates throughout his life. He enjoyed playing golf and traveling the globe with his wife, Nancy, who predeceased him.

## 1962

**Dennis Wm. Peachey.** One of Blair's most steadfast, beloved and impactful alumni, Mr. Peachey was deeply loyal to the School where he found a home as a new junior in 1960. He returned as a young faculty member and assistant alumni secretary in 1969, and, over the next 37 years, devoted his professional career to his cherished alma mater, helping to lead it through one of the most challenging financial periods in its history.

Mr. Peachey founded the outing club and served as a prefect during his student days, and he was recognized for his leadership and loyalty with the 1962 Headmaster's Prize. He graduated from the University of Denver in 1966 and worked briefly in his native Canada before beginning his tenure at Blair. Mr. Peachey married fellow faculty member, Lynn, Hon. '65 '74 '77, in 1971, and the couple raised their children, Trustee **Derek M. Peachey '93** and **Meghan C. Peachey-Bogen '96**, amid their dear faculty friends on campus.

Appointed Blair's assistant headmaster for finance and development in 1977, Mr. Peachey led the School's business office and development efforts for the next nearly three decades. Among his many accomplishments was the establishment of the Heritage Society (now the John C. Sharpe Society) for planned giving; he is one of

its founding members. Upon his retirement in 2006, Mr. Peachey was accorded Blair's highest honor, the Citation of Merit, which lauded the "architect of our development operation" for helping to "keep the ship afloat when it might well have floundered" and helping Blair "raise the resources and achieve the financial stability that have allowed it to be the School it is today."

Mr. Peachey's enduring friendships with his classmates, former colleagues, and alumni, parents and friends throughout the Blair family are legendary. He was one of the School's foremost ambassadors during his lifetime, and his legacy will be a permanent part of Blair history, thanks to gifts and awards named in his honor. These include the Dennis W. Peachey Alumni Awards, established by the School in 1998 to recognize outstanding efforts by Blair alumni; Peachey Plaza and the Peachey Fund, both of which were given by the class of 1962; and Peachey House, formerly the Dean's Residence, dedicated in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Peachey in 2018.

Mr. Peachey's passions included ice hockey, fishing and skiing. He is survived by his wife, children, daughter-in-law Stephanie, son-in-law Joshua, and grandsons, Lane and Davis.

## 1943

**Wilmer A. Abbott Jr.** "Bill" was a record-breaking swimmer at Blair, as well as a class officer, captain of the track team and winner of the Headmaster's Prize. He enjoyed a 50-plus-year career as a dentist in Atlantic City and Ventnor, New Jersey, and kept active throughout his life as a fisherman, cyclist, runner, squash player, swimmer, skier and rower. Dr. Abbott was a Navy veteran, having served aboard the destroyer escort USS Ebert during World War II. He was a graduate of the U.S. Naval Reserve Midshipmen's School at University of Notre Dame, as well as the University of Pennsylvania and University of Pennsylvania School of Dentistry. Dr. Abbott's survivors include his wife, Geraldine, three children and six grandchildren.

## 1946

**Franklin H. Stern.** Mr. Stern fondly remembered his year at Blair. He was a 1950 graduate of Kenyon College. He is survived by his wife, Ellen.

## 1947

**Arthur D. Lane Jr.** A member of the soccer and basketball teams during his Blair years, Mr. Lane continued his education at Williams College, where he was a member of the class of 1951. He served as an Air Force intelligence officer during the Korean War and worked in the banking industry and as a business owner during his career. Mr. Lane's survivors include his wife, Diana, five children, 11 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

**David B. Riddagh Jr.** Mr. Riddagh shared his vocal talents throughout his life, beginning as a boy soprano and continuing at Blair as a member of the Glee Club and tenor soloist. Following his Blair graduation, he sang and hosted a radio show in Phoenix, Arizona, then served as a chaplain's assistant in Germany during the Korean War. He attended the Munich Conservatory of Music and became an opera singer in Europe and a cruise ship entertainer. Mr. Riddagh is survived by members of his extended family.

**William F. Shuler.** A lifelong resident of Dover, New Jersey, Mr. Shuler was a member of the Dover Board of Education for 52 years, making him the second-longest-serving school board member in the state. He was recognized for his decades of service by the New Jersey and Morris County school board associations and was named public official of the year by the Dover Area Chamber of Commerce in 1993. Mr. Shuler attended Blair for a few months in 1947, having graduated midyear from Dover High School and prior to attending Gettysburg College. Upon his college graduation, he served two years in the Army and then helped operate his family's business, Shuler Tire Service, for many years. One of the founders of the Dover Junior Baseball League, Mr. Shuler was a strong supporter of his children's many interests and activities, as well as a great letter-writer, conversationalist and lifelong student of history. His survivors include his wife, Peg, three children, nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

## 1948

**David H. Marihugh.** A three-year Blair Buc, Mr. Marihugh was an honor roll student, football player and member of the Blue and White Key Society cabinet. He earned his engineering degree at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, proudly served in the U.S. Army and enjoyed a 30-plus-year career as an engineer with Consolidated Edison, Inc. Mr. Marihugh was a member of the National Society of Professional Engineers, the United States Chess Federation and St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church of Denville, New Jersey. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Anne, two children, five grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

## 1949

**Everett B. Dayton.** Mr. Dayton attended Blair for a year before matriculating at Lafayette College. He enjoyed a long career in banking, retiring as vice president/controller's office for what is now Chase Bank. Involvement in his community was an important part of Mr. Dayton's life, and he served as mayor of Boonton, New Jersey, as a member of the Township Committee and as treasurer of Riverside Hospital's annual fundraising fair. Mr. Dayton was involved in the United States Power Squadron during his retirement years in Punta Gorda, Florida. Predeceased by his wife of nearly 60 years, Amy Carol, his three children, six grandchildren and two great-granddaughters survive him.

**Gerald R. Wyman.** Born and raised in Chuquicamata, Chile, Mr. Wyman was a wrestler and soccer team manager during his four years at Blair. He served in the Air Force from 1952 to 1957. After graduating from the Missouri School of Mines in 1959, he worked for many years in the mining industry as an engineer and executive. Mr. Wyman's survivors include his wife of 61 years, Mary, seven children and 12 grandchildren.

## 1950

**Richard E. Bovard.** Mr. Bovard was a Syracuse University alumnus and Korean War veteran. He ran his family's insurance business and volunteered in his community. A jazz aficionado, he was a fine musician in his own right. Mr. Bovard's survivors include his wife, Jane, two children and two grandchildren.

## 1951

**Charles A. Asselin.** A loyal Blair alumnus, Mr. Asselin served on the Alumni Board of Governors and remained connected to the School throughout his life. He was involved in soccer, basketball and baseball during his year at Blair, and he matriculated at Brown University. Mr. Asselin served in Army counterintelligence from 1956 to 1958 before beginning his career in banking, during which he became a senior vice president of Midlantic/PNC Bank. He greatly enjoyed golfing. Mr. Asselin is survived by his wife, Sue, and four children, including **Tracy A. Asselin '81**.

**Emo C. Barney.** Born in Cali, Colombia, Mr. Barney came to Blair after having completed mandatory service in the Colombian army. He matriculated at the University of California-Davis and Michigan State University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in agronomy. Mr. Barney's passion was farming, and he earned numerous awards and accolades for his southwest Michigan farm. He was also a skilled tool and die machinist, and he shared his knowledge and services with his fellow farmers. Mr. Barney is survived by his wife, Nancy, three children and four grandchildren.

**Paul D. Jacobs.** Mr. Jacobs grew up at the Jersey shore and came to Blair for two years. He graduated from Philadelphia College of Pharmacy in 1955, served in the Army for two years and worked as a pharmacist for many years in New Jersey, where he owned three pharmacies, and Pennsylvania. He later obtained his Pennsylvania real estate license. Mr. Jacobs and his wife, Joy, moved to South Carolina in 2000,

where they enjoyed Southern hospitality, golf and traveling. His survivors include Joy, to whom he was married for 40 years, four children, 10 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

## 1953

**David W. Paulus Sr.** Mr. Paulus played football at Blair and served in the Army from 1956 to 1958. He completed his undergraduate work at Bucknell University and earned his master's degree in education at Rutgers University. A public school educator for more than four decades, Mr. Paulus served as principal of Martin J. Ryerson Middle School in Ringwood, New Jersey, for 26 years. He and his wife, Virginia, retired to South Carolina in 2000. Golf and traveling were among Mr. Paulus' pastimes, and he served his community as a Meals on Wheels volunteer and Lions Club member. Virginia survives him, along with two sons and seven grandchildren.

## 1954

**Gerald A. Bruno.** Dr. Bruno was a track athlete at Blair and a loyal alumnus. He matriculated at Purdue University, earning his undergraduate degree and a doctorate in bionucleonics. His distinguished career in the pharmaceutical industry began in 1964 at E.R. Squibb and Sons, where, as director of diagnostics research and development, he patented the first sterile technetium-99m radioisotope generator, a device that altered the practice of nuclear medicine. He became vice president for research, development and diversification at Searle Diagnostics in 1978, and then executive vice president of National Medical Care's medical products division. As an entrepreneur, Dr. Bruno founded Biotrax International in 1985, a mobile diagnostic medical testing company; SL Ventures in 1996, a business investment and consulting venture; and Ethical Alternative Products in 2005, a producer of scientifically based dietary supplements. In 2008, Purdue University's School of Health Sciences



honored him with its Distinguished Alumni Award. Dr. Bruno's survivors include his wife of 60 years, Judith, four children and four grandchildren.

## 1956

**John P. Locke Jr.** Mr. Locke came to Blair for his senior year, during which he participated in baseball. According to the ACTA, his favorite pastime was photography. He attended reunions and kept up with his Blair friends as an alumnus. Mr. Locke served in the Army before attending Davis & Elkins College, graduating in 1963 with a degree in mathematics. He was a financial advisor for 47 years, finishing a career that he greatly enjoyed as a vice president at Smith-Barney in Paramus, New Jersey. His hobbies included building model railroads, collecting coins, traveling and following the stock market, and he loved spending summers with his family in Madison, Connecticut. Mr. Locke's survivors include his wife of 56 years, Nancy, three children and six grandchildren.

## 1958

**Paul R. Hooper.** Mr. Hooper came to Blair for a postgraduate year and remained a steadfast alumnus. After earning his bachelor's degree in business administration at Upsala College in 1962, he worked for many years in the insurance industry, making his mark in South Florida as an expert witness, claims adjuster and paralegal. Mr. Hooper and his wife of 52 years, Kathleen, moved to Georgetown, Texas, following his 2005 retirement. They joined the Sertoma Club of Georgetown, and Mr. Hooper devoted countless hours to serving those with speech, hearing and language disorders. He received numerous awards for his dedication and served as the club's president for two years. An athlete and sports fan, Mr. Hooper also enjoyed murder mysteries, model trains and trucks, and pixel art. Predeceased by Kathleen in 2018, he is survived by his brother, sisters-in-law and nieces.

**Victor Pinedo Jr.** Mr. Pinedo received the Franklin Prize at his Blair graduation for having shown the greatest improvement over his Blair career. He matriculated at Haverford College and worked for his family's beverage distribution business in Curacao for several years before pursuing advanced degrees in psychology with a focus on corporate motivation and leadership. He became president of Corporate Transitions International, an international management consulting firm, as well as a motivational speaker and author of two books. Mr. Pinedo's survivors include his wife, Magaly, and their son.

## 1959

**Cornelius J. O'Kane.** "Neil" was a three-year Blair Buc who played football and ran track. He attended Stevens Institute of Technology and was a sheet metal worker and an avid boater. For 10 years, he was active in the United States Power Squadron in Saddle River, New Jersey. He attained its highest rank as a senior navigator and served as its president for two years. Mr. O'Kane and his wife, Marge, are members of Blair's John C. Sharpe Society of planned givers. They enjoyed cross-country travels in their motorhome before moving to The Villages, Florida. Marge, three children and four grandchildren survive Mr. O'Kane, as does his brother, **John W. O'Kane '61.**

**William F. Snyder.** "Billy" attended Blair for the 1956-1957 school year and graduated from Eastwood High School in Syracuse, New York. He continued his education at the Maxwell School at Syracuse University, The Neighborhood Playhouse School of the Theatre and the State University of New York (SUNY)-Albany, where he earned a bachelor's degree in theatre and music. He enjoyed a long career in the arts, theatre and television, including stints as a television news anchor and reporter, a print journalist, a television and theatre producer, media advisor to Governor Mario Cuomo and director

of communications for Governor Hugh Carey. He retired after serving 22 years as director of SUNY's New York television network. In 2010, Mr. Snyder founded The Creative Place International, Inc., in Saratoga Springs, New York, a not-for-profit theatre arts program for young people and adults. He served as its board chair for 10 years. Survivors of Mr. Snyder include his wife of 58 years, Patricia, three children and four grandchildren.

## 1962

**Jon L. Ten Haagen.** Mr. Ten Haagen stayed connected to his Blair classmates throughout his life and was a member of the John C. Sharpe Society of planned givers. A varsity soccer player and member of the JV swimming and golf teams and the dramatics club at Blair, he matriculated at C.W. Post University and Adelphi University. He served in the Coast Guard from 1964 to 1968. Mr. Ten Haagen was a highly regarded financial planner during his career, and he established his firm, Ten Haagen Financial Associates, Inc., in 1993. He shared his expertise not only with his many clients but also in a host of media outlets, including *The New York Times*, *Newsday* and *News 12 Long Island*. He served as president of the Financial Planning Association of Long Island and secretary of the Pension Council of Long Island, earned numerous professional awards and authored *Charting Your Course Toward a Comfortable Retirement*. Mr. Ten Haagen was a leader in his Huntington, New York, community, serving on the boards of the Townwide Fund of Huntington, the Huntington Chamber of Commerce and the Northport Chamber of Commerce. An avid sailor, he was especially devoted to the Long Island boating community, serving as commodore of the Greater Huntington Council of Yacht and Boating Clubs, a member of the Huntington Lighthouse Preservation Society and co-founder of the Society's annual Huntington Harbor Lighted Boat Parade. Mr. Ten Haagen was the skipper of his

34-foot Sabre sailboat, Owls Nest IV, which won the 2020 Northport Yacht Club Commodore's Cup. Mr. Ten Haagen was predeceased by his father, **Roy Ten Haagen**, Blair class of 1935. His survivors include two brothers and several nieces and nephews.

## 1965

**William S. Foster IV.** Mr. Foster was a deeply loyal Blair alumnus who treasured his lifelong friendships with his classmates. He served on the Alumni Board of Governors from 2008 to 2014, made annual trips to campus from his Pennsylvania home, and helped plan and joyfully participated in 1965's milestone reunions. Mr. Foster was a member of the JV golf, wrestling and soccer teams and the varsity swimming team at Blair. He graduated from Washington and Lee University in 1969 with a bachelor's degree in history and spent his career of nearly four decades in sales, mostly with the Barnes Group. Mr. Foster was a motorcyclist and sports car enthusiast and racer, who won three regional championships in the Sports Car Club of America. He was a member of the Delaware Valley BMW Car Club, Delaware Valley BMW Riders and Neshaminy Valley Antique Motorcycle Club, and he served on the board of the Middletown Athletic Association. Mr. Foster and his wife of 50 years, Ruthanne Kim, enjoyed spending time at their cabin in the Pocono Mountains. Kim survives Mr. Foster, along with their three sons and two granddaughters.

## 1968

**Leo E. Q. Cerruti.** A soccer and track athlete at Blair, Mr. Cerruti attended the American College in Paris. He was a textile designer during his career, and his many pastimes included building and showing custom cars, as well as visiting local hospitals with his therapy dogs. He enjoyed staying connected to his Blair classmates. Mr. Cerruti is survived by his wife, Francine.

## 1987

**Douglas K. Jones.** A one-year Blair Buc, Mr. Jones played football at Wilton High School, Blair and Hobart College, where he was also a member of Sigma Chi fraternity. He enjoyed a long and successful career in the oil and gas industry, and he continued his involvement in sports as a golfer, a fan of the Dallas Cowboys and New York Yankees, and as coach of his daughters' soccer and lacrosse teams. Mr. Jones' survivors include his wife of 18 years, Melissa, their two daughters, and his brother, former Blair history teacher Mark C. Jones.

## 2000

**Dustin J. Tortu.** A track and football athlete during his four years at Blair, Mr. Tortu continued his education at Albright College. He was the co-owner of Chester's Flowers and Entertainment in Absecon and Northfield, New Jersey, and he enjoyed traveling. Mr. Tortu's survivors include two children and his family.

## Former Faculty

**Patrick T. Boardman.** A graduate of Franklin & Marshall College and the University of Pennsylvania, Mr. Boardman was a Blair history teacher and resident master of West Hall from 1956 to 1962. He stayed connected to Blair long after his tenure and enjoyed a career in teaching and private school administration. After retiring to Aiken, South Carolina, Mr. Boardman served his community as president of the AARP chapter, Aiken Republican Club and Mended Hearts. He was the 2011 recipient of the Sertoma International Aiken Man of the Year award for service to humanity. Mr. Boardman attended the class of 1961's 30th reunion in 1991, at which time he became an honorary member of the class. Predeceased by his wife of 66 years, Dorothy, he is survived by their two children.

**Polly Joline.** Mrs. Joline was the wife of the late Laurence T. Joline, a science teacher at Blair from 1963 to 1981. The Jolines are the parents of three Blair graduates, **Carol R. Vanderford '74**, **Alice K. Matheson '82** and **Dayton V. Joline '83**.

**Patricia T. Latessa.** Mrs. Latessa was a graduate of the University of Richmond, where she earned accolades as an Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW) All-American. A dedicated educator, she began her teaching career at Blair as a member of the history faculty from 1983 to 1985. While at Blair, she met and married her husband, former head wrestling coach Robert Latessa, who taught math at the School from 1979 to 1991. Mrs. Latessa earned a master's degree in history at Lehigh University in 1987 and continued her teaching career at Moravian Academy in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and Lakota West High School in Cincinnati, Ohio, where she worked from 1998 to 2011. Mrs. Latessa is survived by her husband and their two children.

## Former Staff

**Barbara L. Prehodka.** Mrs. Prehodka worked in Blair's printing office from 1988 to 2009, and she was a familiar face around campus as she made daily mail runs to the various School offices. The mother of three children, Bethany Paine, **Jill A. Prehodka Coleman '90** and **Bryan J. Prehodka '94**, she enjoyed coaching and volunteering for their many activities. She was a member of the ski patrol at a local ski area. Mrs. Prehodka is survived by her husband of 52 years, John, their children and six grandchildren.

## Friends

**Howard M. Gooblar.** A consulting psychologist at Blair for more than three decades, Dr. Gooblar supported many students and faculty members. He matriculated at the University of Waterloo, Southern Methodist University and the California School of Professional Psychology, and worked as a psychologist at Newton Memorial Hospital before opening his private clinical practice in Sparta, New Jersey, in 1984. Dr. Gooblar was a devoted family man, and his survivors include his wife, Linda, three children and three grandchildren.





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**Questions?**

Contact Colleen McNulty P ’18 ’20, director of annual giving, at (908) 362-2045, or [mcnultc@blair.edu](mailto:mcnultc@blair.edu).





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### Questions?

Contact Shaunna Murphy, director of alumni relations, at (908) 362-2047 or [murphs@blair.edu](mailto:murphs@blair.edu).

