

COMMUNITY

MAGAZINE OF THE BUCKLEY SCHOOL

BUCKLEY GOES GREEN

FALL 2023





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Sherman Oaks, California 91423
www.buckley.org

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French and philosophy teacher Olivier Dalle organized an eco trip to Palm Springs, which included a visit to the Moorten Botanical Garden. Read more on page 20.





Dear Buckley Community,

This has been a year of milestones for Buckley. The occasion of our 90th anniversary gave us reason to celebrate, come together, and reaffirm our values, and we were thrilled to welcome several members of Isabelle Buckley's family to Founder's Day in October. We hosted Buckley's first Climate Conference and South x South Buckley Arts Festival. We also launched a strategic plan firmly rooted in our newly adopted Portrait of a Graduate and foundational Four-Fold Plan. This plan for 2022-2027, *Architects of the Future: Defining, Creating, and Imagining Our World*, reflects our developing social, cultural, and economic landscape and focuses solely on the student experience.

With this plan, along with the wisdom and input of our faculty, administrators, parents, students, and the published thinking of leaders in economics, tech, the arts, and education, we feel that Buckley has hit the just-right balance of rigorous academics and unfolding innovation. Things are moving fast, and how we educate young people is more essential than ever to the future of our world.

For the most part, this means guiding them and challenging them to apply creativity, compassion, and courage to their work. And that will mean something different to every student. In his keynote address at the Climate Conference, alum Mason Lee '20 acknowledged that the call to action can feel overwhelming. "You might feel you have to know everything and ask all the questions," he said. "But if you have just a single idea that can get you excited about the future, that's the important thing."

A single idea in each of Buckley's 830 students' minds, nurtured and encouraged, means *at least* 830 ideas. That's more than enough to make an impact in the world, don't you think?

Alona

Alona Scott
Head of School

FOUNDER'S DAY



On October 7, 2022 Buckley celebrated 90 years! The community came together to honor Dr. Buckley and what would have been her 122nd birthday. Members of Dr. Buckley's family and alumni joined us in the parade and all-school assembly to show their Griffin pride.



The family of Dr. Isabelle Buckley attend the Founder's Day Celebration.
(left to right): Isabelle Simqu, Alix Merkley '75, Blaise Simqu '79



CELEBRATING 90 YEARS



(left to right): (top) Alix Merkley '75, Isabelle Simqu, Isabelle Buckley '77, Blaise Simqu '79, (bottom) Peter Buckley, Jody Buckley O'Riordan '84, members of Dr. Buckley's family



(left to right): (top) Tova Cohen, Jessica Ekeberg Oakes '00, Leigh Stein McNamara '91 (bottom) Lorie Lassner, Nicholas D'Ambra, Ai-vy Miller, Pia Mehta

ATHLETICS

BUCKLEY VOLLEYBALL MAKES HISTORY

In 1978, Buckley's girls volleyball team was named a CIF Finalist, making them the first team to receive this honor since Buckley's opening in 1933.

Flash forward to 2022, and the team marked a new beginning in Buckley's 90 year history after being crowned League Champions, Division 5 Champions of the CIF Southern Section, and Southern Regional Champions.

The team, led by Coach Otis Glasgow and Assistant Coach Rae Basmagian, went on to compete in the volleyball state finals for the first time in the history of the school, earning the honor of being named state finalists!



1978 girls volleyball team poses for a photo after winning their league match. The team went on to compete in the 1978 finals.

2023 girls volleyball celebrate their win after the CIF Southern Regional Championship game.



ALUMNI SPORTS SPOTLIGHT: TONY CAMERON '73

Tony Cameron '73 returned to his alma mater to talk baseball with the boys varsity team and coaching staff. Recently in town to honor his late father, film and television star Rod Cameron at the Gene Autry Museum, Tony toured the campus and learned about the latest renovation projects, which include upgrades to the Lower School and Gilley Field.

A student of the Woodman campus in the final year before the move to Stansbury Avenue in 1974, Tony was a baseball standout, pitching 143 innings with 212 strikeouts, a 17-4 record, and an ERA of 1.91 in his senior year alone. He was named Delphic League MVP, 1st Team All Delphic League, and All CIF 1st Team in 1973.

He was sought after by the MLB while a high school student, but opted to go to college, spending the next four years playing baseball for Pepperdine University and winning 3 WAC Championships, and earning his B.A. in Business Communications. Tony was a 5th-round draft pick for the Minnesota Twins in 1976 and a 6th-round draft pick for the Seattle Mariners in 1977.

His visit to Buckley concluded with meeting baseball coach Christian Lopez and athletic coordinator and assistant baseball coach Harley Faye before speaking with the boy's varsity baseball team and sharing his insights on the importance of mastering the fundamentals and avoiding the allure of taking shortcuts.



Tony Cameron '73 (center) speaks with his teammates Kurt Zimmerman '74 (right), Jack Thompson '73, and Scott Wadsworth '74.

Tony Cameron visits Gilley Field in 2022.



SPOTTED ON CAMPUS

ALUMNI 10K FUN RUN

Alumni 10Kers met at the Buckley gates to participate in a June “fun run,” the final run for the 2022-2023 year. Stay tuned for more information on the fall run!

ALUM VISITS AEROSPACE ENGINEERING CLASS!

Vale Rasmussen '22, a recent Buckley alum and current engineering student at Stanford, visited Gerard Lynch's aerospace engineering class in January to share wisdom about his first year at college.

During his time with the class, when asked about adjusting from high school to college, Vale said, “I think Buckley does a great job of preparing you with college-level thinking. I felt prepared in that way.”



Vale Rasmussen '22 stops by orchestra teacher Vince Houser's classroom while on campus.





(From left) Nick Martin '13, Andrew Davis '11, Brian Daneshgar '11, Justin Dickerson '02, Neil Martin '11, and Sarah Rose '11

ALUMNI VISITS THROUGH THE YEAR

Whether they were home from college touring campus or looking to walk down memory lane, we saw lots of alumni come back to visit and catch up with their former teachers!



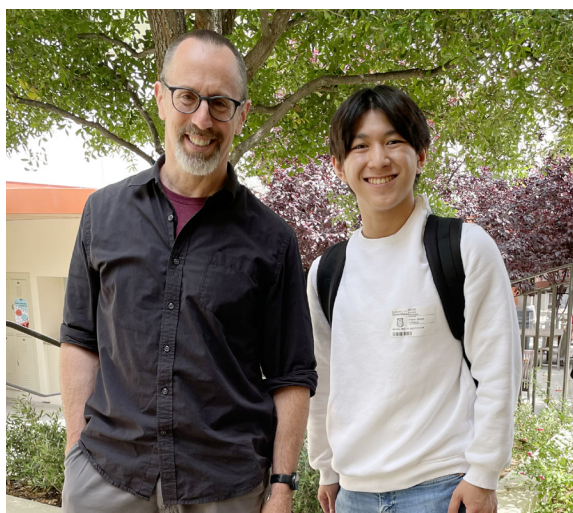
Peter Wainwright '17



Matt Cano and Carys Liebgold '22



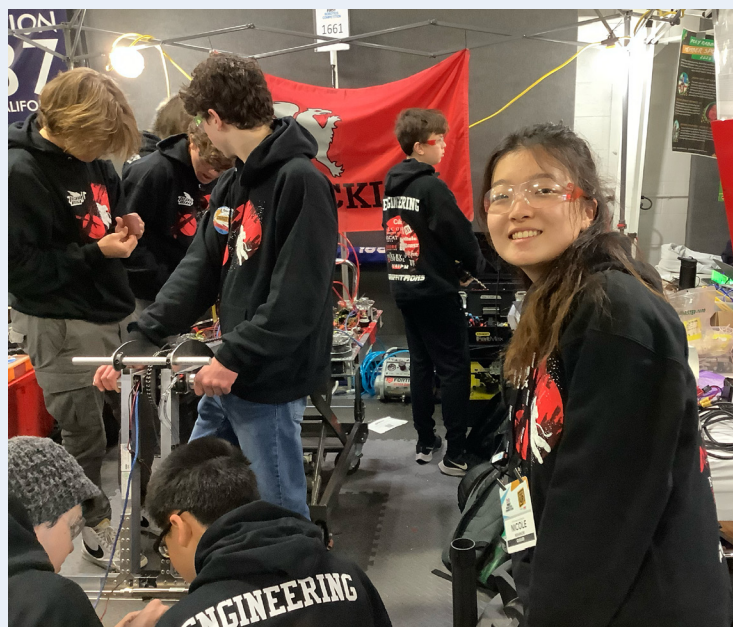
Marie Philman and Abigail Mitchell '22



Paul Minden and Leonard Kakinuma '22

NICOLE NISHIMORI '22 MENTORS ROBOTICS TEAM

Nicole Nishimori '22 continues to contribute to the community by supporting the robotics team, the Griffitrons, as a mentor at competitions and speaking with students in AP Environmental Science and AP Biology about college. Nicole now attends the University of Southern California.



FORMER CASTS OF *OUR TOWN* RETURN FOR 2023 PRODUCTION

Ahead of opening night for the spring drama, a special preview for faculty, staff, and alumni brought the community together. Members of the cast and crew of the 1985, 1997, and 2012 productions watched in awe as the 2023 cast delivered a tear-jerking performance of the script they had once memorized and staged. This special event brought together generations of cast and crew members who contributed to Buckley's theater program, helping to support the new generation of talent at their alma mater.



(From left) Tami Woldman '84, Craig Weakley '85, and Sandi Logan '82 attended the faculty/staff and alumni spring drama preview for *Our Town*.

COLLEGE-AGE ALUMS BRUNCH AT BUCKLEY

Before heading back to college, young alums returned to campus to catch up with teachers, students, and each other and share stories of life beyond Buckley.



Andrew Choi '20, on campus for the young alumni brunch.



Bobby Manella '19 (left) with Mr. Vincent Houser, Nicole Nishimori '22, and Emily Kim '22



From left: Jennifer Spector-Townsend '21, Rianna Greene '21, Jem Burch '21, Emerson Rosenthal-King '21, and Henry Wiener '21

IN TOWN AND WANT TO VISIT CAMPUS?

Email the alumni office at alumni@buckley.org to schedule a time!

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT!

ALUMNI WORKING IN THE INDUSTRY SHARE TIPS AND INSIGHTS

On February 16, 2023, alumni and current Buckley students gathered in the CCA for an evening of professional networking in the entertainment industry. The event included a lively discussion from a panel of alumni and was followed up with a Q&A. This powerhouse lineup of diverse alumni shared their professional experiences and business acumen on how they stay one step ahead in demanding and dynamic industries.

The panel, moderated by casting director **Sandi Logan '82** and Warner Music Group Senior Creative Sync Executive **Elaine Sir**, included:

Sam Farrar '96: musician, songwriter, music producer

JJ Klein '87: Senior Vice President, Current Programming FX

Networks

Charlie Skouras '01: talent agent

Maurissa Tancharoen '93: Writer, producer, actress, co-showrunner of "Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D."

Randall Winston, Trustee: producer, director, showrunner of "Shrinking"



ALUMNI SERIES
WORKING
ENTERTAINMENT



JJ Klein '87

Sandi Logan '82

Claine Sir

Randall Winston, Trustee



Thursday, February 2, 2023



BUCKLEY

**THROUGH RESEARCH, TRIPS,
GARDENING, PODCASTS, POETRY,
AND MORE, STUDENTS EXPLORED
THE HUMAN IMPACT ON THE
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL WORLD**

Buckley students have been embracing environmental literacy, often by literally getting their hands dirty. An array of new courses and programs now provides opportunities to research, present, experience and yes, garden as part of the new strategic initiative to “educate students about the interdependent relationship between the environment and humankind through the lenses of innovation, advocacy, and justice.” It also calls us to renew our students’ connection to nature by developing programs that take advantage of our beautiful canyon location, including our nature trail, organic gardens, and outdoor classroom spaces.

GOES GREEN



CLIMATE CONFERENCE

Buckley's first annual Climate Conference featured **a keynote address from Buckley alum and current Brown University student Mason Lee '20** and videos, presentations, and original art [about environmental change] from dozens of Buckley students as well as from neighboring schools.



CLIMATE CLASSES

The new Upper School course Tipping Points requires students to **ask questions about the impact of climate change and do their own scientific research.**

In How to Save the Planet, students looked at the **geo-political implications of environmental change.**

GENERATIONAL GARDEN

A new Generational Garden planted by Upper School students in the Lower School garden beds serves as a reminder of how **integrative plant life** can be in our understanding of health, identity, and California history.

THE HEALING POWERS OF NATURE

In this special lunchtime presentation, The Healing Powers of Nature, students shared **original poetry, scientific research, and literary analysis** that explored the relationship between humans and nature.





GREEN WALL

Students planted root balls of **white sage, lavender, rosemary,** and other native plants into pouches of a black canvas tarp to create a Green Wall beneath the Student Publications room.

BIOBLITZ

Starting at the front gate and moving south to the art studios, teams of three students engaged in a Bioblitz, **searching for as many living species as they could find** in an hour.



MIDDLE SCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN COLLABORATION

Students in the new Middle School Gardening elective created an activity for kindergarteners using **rocks harvested from the Nature Trail**.



POP-UP THRIFT SHOP

Bags of donated jeans, sweaters, T-shirts, children's costumes, accessories, and other items helped launch Buckley's first-ever Pop-Up Thrift Shop, held in the CCA courtyard and organized by the **Upper School Climate Action Team and Fashion Club**. Proceeds went to fund green initiatives at Buckley.

PALM SPRINGS

In January 2023, 20 students and four teachers set off for Palm Springs not to golf, swim, or play tennis, but to explore the human impact on nature through **art, history, and culture**.



ALUMS GO GREEN

HOW BUCKLEY FUELED ALUMNI PASSION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

CLAY DUMAS '06

Current job: Founding Partner at Lowercarbon Capital & Partner at Lowercase Capital

How is your work focused on helping the environment? As a founding partner of Lowercarbon Capital, my work is focused on identifying and supporting the firm's ambitious companies who are working to undo global warming while making real money in the process. I also advise climate nonprofits such as Silver Lining, who are working to avert dangerous climate tipping points. As climate tech's growth has exploded over the past several years, I have shared countless lessons learned on topics from reflecting sunlight to the future of fusion energy with audiences ranging from startup conferences to ARPA-E summits. As Partner at Lowercase Capital, I work closely with founders on product, fundraising, messaging, and policy strategy.

Is there a Buckley experience, teacher, or class that inspired you to be where you are today? I recently had the opportunity to return to Buckley as an alumni guest speaker addressing the incoming National Honor and National Junior Honor Society inductees at the 2023 Induction Ceremony. It was a great reminder of the guiding principles my teachers have instilled in me throughout my Buckley student experience. These values continue to inform my life and my work as an alum, carry me through challenging times, and serve as the foundational footing for everything I do.

GINA GOODHILL ROSEN '03

Current job: Senior Director of Government Affairs for Clean Power Alliance

How is your work focused on helping the environment? My job is focused on advancing policies and laws through the state legislature that achieve various clean energy objectives, as well as helping local governments throughout Southern California meet their clean energy goals. Clean Power Alliance is a publicly owned not-for-profit electricity provider that provides clean energy to more than three million residents and businesses across 32 communities in Los Angeles and Ventura counties. We lead the nation in serving the most customers with 100% renewable energy!

Is there a Buckley experience, teacher, or class that inspired you to be where you are today? I had so many amazing teachers at Buckley, it's hard to choose just one. Mr. Rector helped nurture a passion for environmental protection and was the teacher advisor when I was president of the Buckley environmental club, Ms. Booth taught me to be a persuasive writer and a critical reader, and Mr. O'Brien helped me understand the intersection of policy and advocacy.

ALL ABOUT THE ARTS

FIRST ANNUAL ART SHOW: SOUTH X SOUTH BUCKLEY!

At the very first South x South Buckley arts festival, families and friends of Buckley spent a Friday night perusing art galleries throughout campus which included: a photography exhibit in the CCA, the K-12 Time & Change gallery in the Disney Pavilion, sculpture and 2-D art exhibits in the APA building, and the locker museums, portraits, flight paintings, and storybooks in Lower School.

After visiting the galleries and completing a scavenger hunt, attendees gathered in The Center for Community and the Arts for a movie night at the the second annual Film Festival!



Top: Alona Scott (left) and Tracy Esse (right) join Ellen Mahoney (center) at the dedication of the media studio in her name. Below, trustee Jackie Goldberg '91 makes remarks in honor of her former teacher.



UNVEILING THE ELLEN MAHONEY MEDIA STUDIO

Former Visual Arts Chair Ellen Mahoney nurtured student creativity at Buckley for over 40 years before deciding to retire in 2022. One year later and with the support of Trustee Emerita Tracy Esse, the classroom Mahoney once taught in was unveiled as the **Ellen Mahoney Media Studio** in a celebration attended by alumni, faculty and staff, and students.



Aria Z. '33



Wiatt O. '34



Chey H. '26



Lower School students transform their lockers into artwork, bringing unique creative perspective to the theme "Time & Change."



Abby P. '25



A photo essay on plastic water bottles by Middle School photographers, first shown at the Buckley Climate Conference.

ALL ABOUT THE ARTS



Matthew Goldman '23



Connor R. '27



Sister Sister by Khadija N. '24



Asmara W. '32



Jasmine T. '32



Rose H. '28



Sam U. '24



Anish M. '30



Andrea B. '26



Jane Sacon '23



Student mosaic glass displayed at the SxSB art show.

BUCKLEY CLEANED UP AT THE 2022-2023 SCHOLASTIC ART & WRITING AWARDS!

Scan the QR code for a list of award winners and to view their winning work.



ALL ABOUT THE ARTS

IN THE CENTER FOR COMMUNITY AND THE ARTS

OUR TOWN: A REFLECTION

by communications intern Miles G. '25

After months of rehearsals, three weeks of tech, and five performances, *Our Town*, the second and final Upper School theatrical production of the year, finished with joy, celebration, and tears. The cast and crew of *Our Town* brought Thornton Wilder's classic about growing up in a small town to life.

"Production week was so emotional, with it being the final show at Buckley for nine of us [seniors]," said recent alum Ellie Abdo '23.



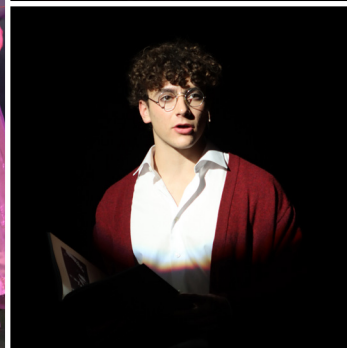


INTO THE WOODS: AN "UDDERLY" SUCCESSFUL PRODUCTION!

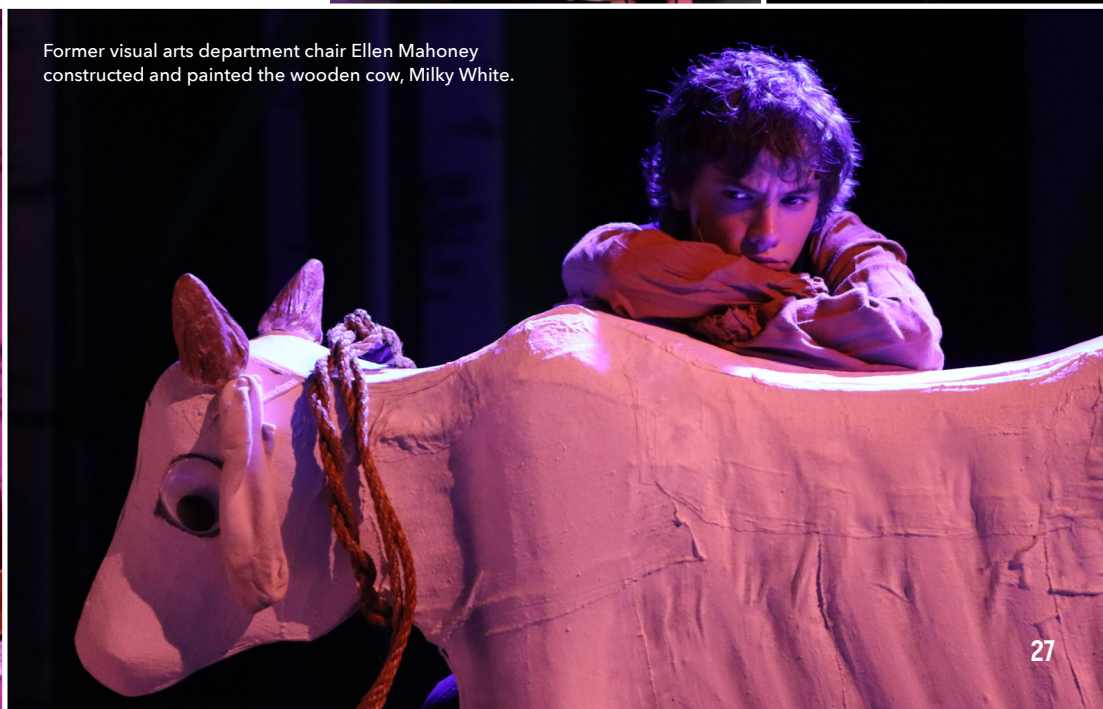
by communications intern Miles G. '25

This year's fall musical, *Into the Woods*, written by Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine, played four sold-out performances and one faculty preview—that's more than 1,100 audience members!

More than 50 students from Middle and Upper School worked on the show. While the cast was on stage performing and hitting all the right notes, the 14-person tech crew was tasked with making sure the shows ran smoothly and the actors looked and sounded great.



Former visual arts department chair Ellen Mahoney constructed and painted the wooden cow, Milky White.



ALL ABOUT THE ARTS

TWO MIDDLE SCHOOL CASTS DAZZLE IN ONE-ACTS

by communications intern Miles G. '25

The two Middle School shows, *The Cinematic Life of Darcy* and *Box*, focused on the life of middle schoolers from two different standpoints.

The Cinematic Life of Darcy follows Darcy as she goes through the troubles of middle school and plays out different movie-like scenarios in her head.

Box focused on the metaphorical boxes that we put ourselves into during school.

"Since I am new to Buckley, I wanted to honor the Buckley tradition of performing two one-act plays for their spring production, but I wanted to choose two plays that I had never directed or seen before so I could create something original with my student cast and crew," said Jeanne Simpson, director of the Middle School productions.



CHORUS, BAND, AND ORCHESTRA STUDENTS TAKE THE STAGE FOR ANNUAL CONCERTS

The spring concerts were a culmination of the hours of practice and hard work students put into their craft. Audience members not only experienced the talents of students, but also heard original pieces from students during the chorus concert. Zoha P. '25 performed "Outsider" and Gia S. '27 performed "Picture Perfect Fine."

Zoha and Gia collaborated with Performing Arts chair and choral teacher John Touchton to teach their original works to the Upper and Middle School choruses respectively.



FEM AND ISM: ACTIVISM THROUGH DANCE

by communications intern Miles G. '25

This year's dance concert was a reflection of the powerful conversations students had in their classes revolving around female empowerment and other personal topics. Born out of these conversations was this year's theme—Fem and Ism.

Upper School and advanced Middle School dance classes worked with faculty members Laura Bamford and Angela Moran to choreograph dances reflective of the theme exploring the "isms," or discriminatory beliefs, ideologies, and behaviors that attempt to limit rights, silence voices, and oppress not just women but other marginalized groups as well.



DEI WRAPPED!

2022-2023 COMMUNITY SERVICE IMPACT

SABINE ABADOU '89,
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF DEI AND
K-12 SERVICE LEARNING COORDINATOR

VOLUNTEER PARTNERSHIPS:

311 OPPORTUNITIES ATTENDED
62 ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTED

2,391 HOURS VALIDATED

CLASS OF:

'25: 1,513h 49m '27: 301h 27m
'26: 383h 10m '28: 55h 30m

7 COMMUNITY DRIVES

Your charitable efforts can inspire your friends and family to also give their time and efforts to causes close to their heart. It could even bring about a family-wide effort to support a charity or charities that have special significance to you. Thank you, for your yearlong efforts to center the marginalized and bring hope to those in need.

BUCKLEY'S DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

1

FILM SCREENING

October 26: Hosted a digital screening of *The Territory*, a film about the fight by the Amazon's Indigenous Uru-eu-wau-wau people against the encroaching threat of deforestation

1

LIVE PERFORMANCE

May 12: Hosted Thai dance group, which came to campus to perform for Lower School



14

GUEST SPEAKERS

EQUITY, PROGRAM DELIVERED...

23

DEI ASSEMBLIES, ADVISORIES, & SYMPOSIA

Buckley's Symposium Series

LATINX HERITAGE MONTH

In Collaboration with the Office of DEI
at the Latinx Unidos Affinity



1

FIELD TRIP

Mid-October: Ninth grade students visited the Holocaust Museum and completed a project with The Butterfly Project

4

CONFERENCES

POCC SDLC in San Antonio, Texas

La Isla at Crossroads School

LGBTQ Educators Gathering, The New Roads

White Privilege Conference in Mesa, Arizona

OTHER RELEVANT TOPICS, TRENDS, & TRIUMPHS

Hosted a training and in-service about transgender issues and gender responsiveness in athletics

Installed dividers in the locker rooms for privacy

+ Developed parent/guardian neurodiversity alliance among Lower School parents/guardians

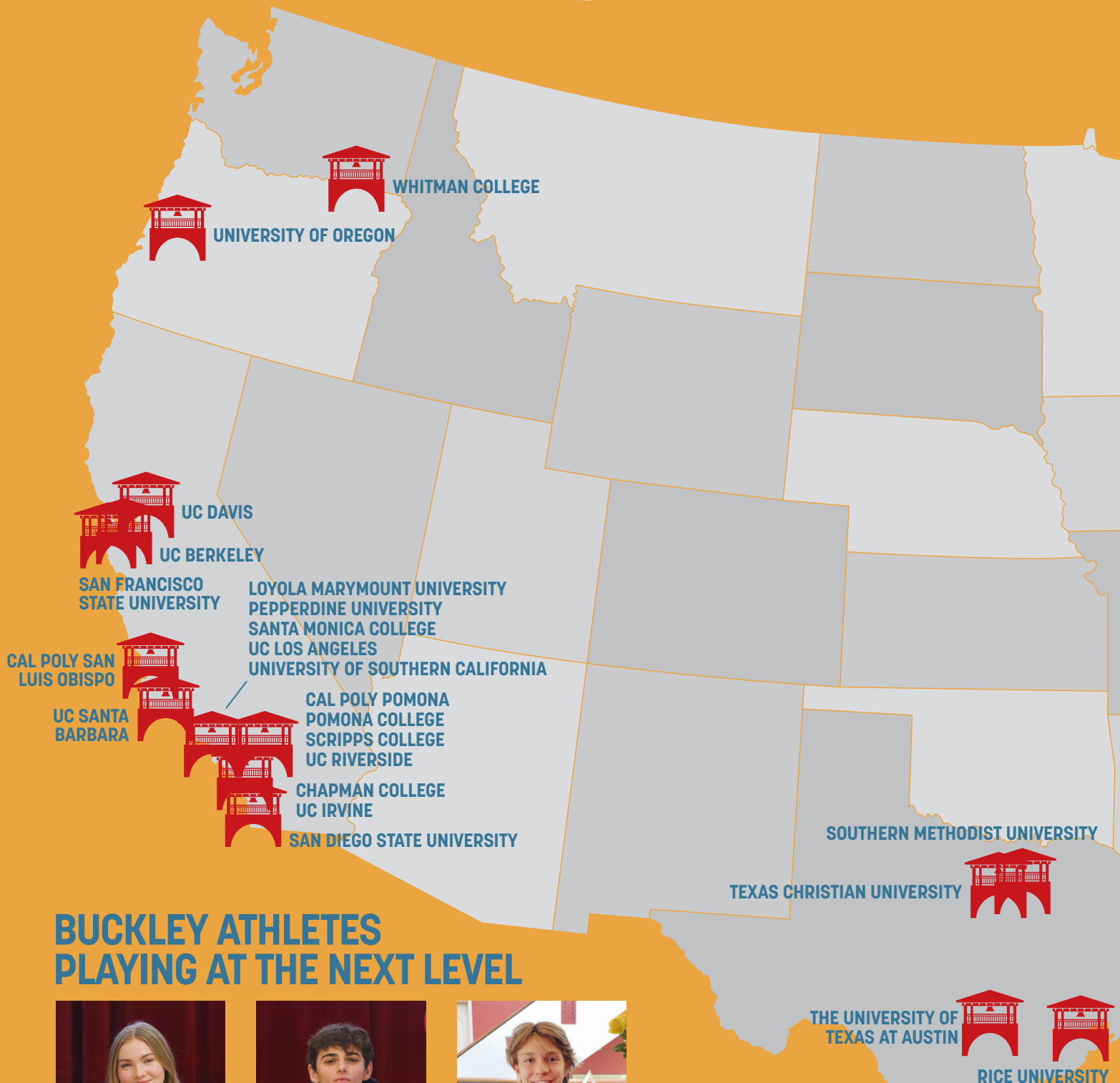
Continued Sharing Our Story program in Lower School

Developed equity literacy program and associated case studies

Encouraged culturally responsive classrooms

Created first multi-racial affinity space Jewish Student Union based on requests from students who approached K-12 Director of Innovative Teaching and Learning Gregg Sacon to be a faculty advisor

COLLEGE COUNSELING



BUCKLEY ATHLETES PLAYING AT THE NEXT LEVEL



ADDISON KLUNDER
Volleyball
Smith College

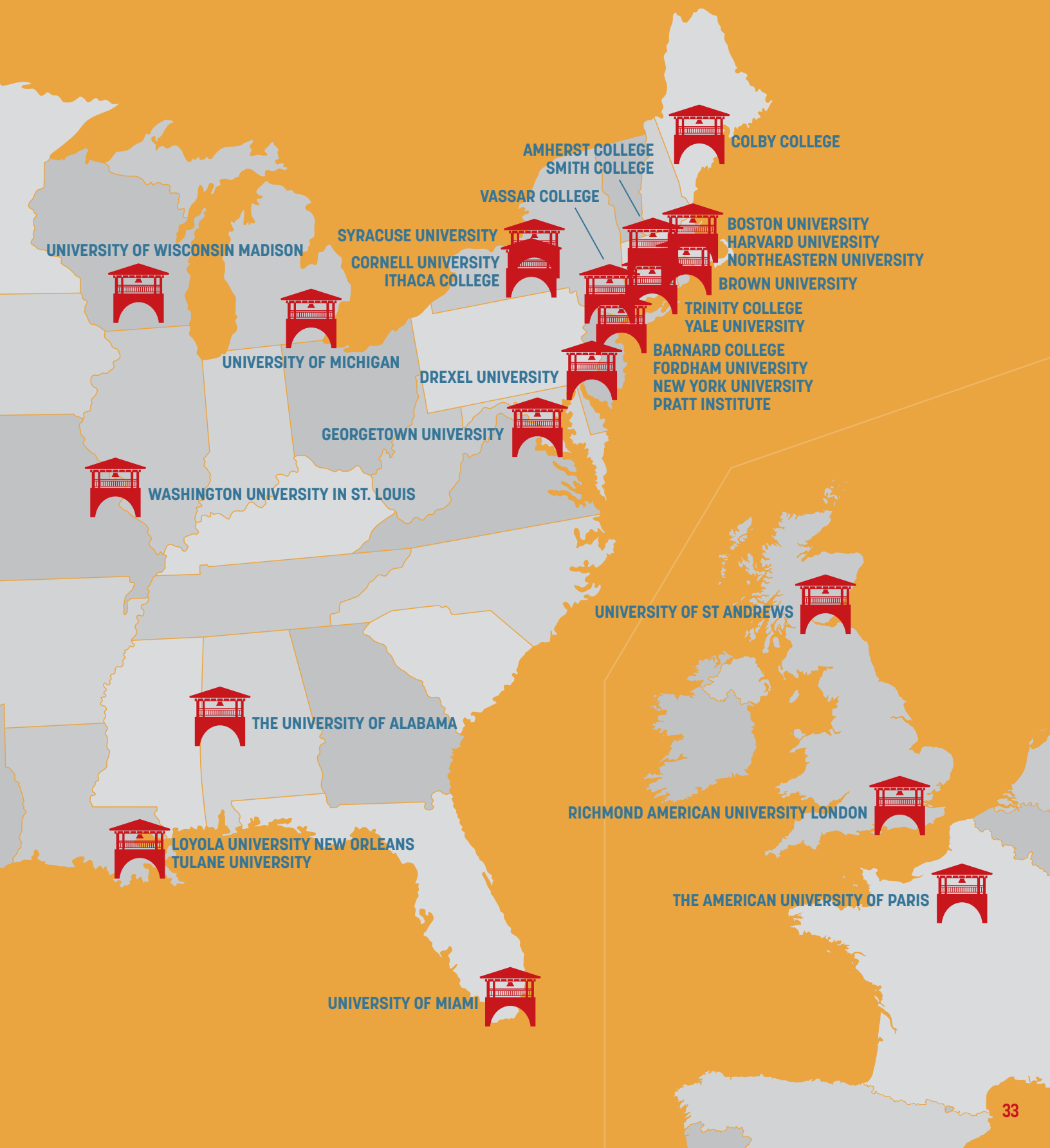


COLIN SCHIERENBERG
Basketball
Whitman College



MARLEY MCKINSEY
Track & Field
Northeastern University

LOOK WHERE THE CLASS OF 2023 IS NOW!



REUNION

LOOKING FOR MORE REUNION PHOTOS?
Scan the QR code to access the full gallery!



1. Tyler Coppin-Carter '13 and Gideon Saidara '13 share a laugh at the cap and gown wall.
2. Class of 2018 from left: Kate Blaylock, Ashley Taylor, Sophie Antebi, Taylor Shabani, and Noah Nazarian.
3. Class of 2003 front row from left: Desiree Afari Rahban, Jessica Krell Gilman, Monique Glosman, Leigh Lehman, and Alexis Adler. Back row: Paul Rubinfeld, Josh Clement, Sasha Giesberg, Skye Stolnitz Wathen, Devran Mustafuglu, Nicholas Bercovici, John Estrada, Alex Boudaie (hidden), Amish Tolia, Jacob Djavaheri, Michael Broukhim, and Francisco Alberini (on stool).
4. From left: Maureen Grace '73 and fellow classmate Koni Rich '73.
5. From left: Rashida Jones '93, Maurissa Tanchareon '93, Denise Kalinowski Tayde Jones '93, and dance teacher Laura Bamford.
6. Class of 1978 from left: Michael Daugherty, Deborah Williams Farinella, and Lawrence Wells.
7. Front row from left: Tony Cameron '73, Deborah Skelly '73 and Binkley Byrnes '73. Back row from left: Mark Falkenbach '73, Eugene Munson '73, Meghan Cameron (alumni guest), Deborah Williams Farinella '78, and Philip Farinella '73.
8. Current and former faculty front row from left: Laura Bamford, Matt Wittmer, Deborah Mayer Goldberg, and Neal Roden. Second row from left: Kerry Kulisek, Donna Barranco, Joanne Ryan, Ellen Mahoney, Tami Woldman, Robert Martinez, and Rae Basmagian. Back from from left: Byrd Millie, Juan de la Cruz, and Gary Fowler.
9. Griffin Besser '13, Ross Esse '13, and Robert Farb '13.
10. Francisco Alberini '03 and John Estrada '03.
11. Class of 1993 front row from left: Melinda Hakim, Ciji McBride, Lauren Briody Reynolds, and Rashida Jones. Back row: Nazanin Kanani Esagoff, Maurissa Tanchareon, Jessica Cohen, John McDavid Lehman, Eugene Acosta, Denise Kalinowski Tayde Jones, Vivian Gindi, Ran Pink, Josh Binder, Patrick Field, Sunil Bhuta, and Dory Ben-Ami.
12. Class of 2008 front row from left: Emily Arlook, Eli Goetzman, Rachel Kaplan, and Charlie Yedor. Second row from left: Tara Sowlaty, Jackie Sparagna, Caroline Goldfarb, and Jamie Silverstein. Back row from left: Tommy Alberini, Shawn Broukhim, Theresa Ryan, Jeff Stern, and Kayla Foster.
13. From left: Danny Domínguez '13, Carl De Joya (alumni guest), Andrea Mackey '13, Alexia Saleh '13, and Jason Lipton (alumni guest).







1. From left: Greer Bronson '13, Samantha Breen '13, Nausher Walia '13, Reid Womack '13, Alexander Fatykhov '13, Anthony Garcia '13, Andrew Bernstein '13, and Josh Rotter '13. 2. Former classmates Jessica Krell Gilman '03 (center right) shares a hug with Desiree Afari '03 upon arrival. 3. Class of 2013 front row Seated: Isabella Astor, Julianne Goldmark, Emma Jacobs, and Madeline Baldi. Second row seated and standing: Emily Irani, Alexa Benudiz, Maddie Meltzer, Paris Baillie, Nick Martin, Andrea Mackey, Sam Breen, Danny Dominguez (leaning forward), Greer Bronson, Marlen Grussi, Jackie Cheban, Ally Borghi, and Griffin Besser. Third row standing: Andrew Prajogi, Julia Arias De Liban, Daniel Primachenko, Anthony Topsfield, Andrew Bernstein, Jonah Zarrow, Ross Esse, Alex Penhasian, Kevin DeCorso, Kevin DeCorso, and Alexia Saleh. Back row standing: Gideon Saidara, Ben Beatty, Jarrett Weiss, Nausher Walia, Ryan Rodef, Robert Farb, Tyler Coppin-Carter, Alex Fatykhov, Reid Womack, Rami Pinchasi, Josh Rotter, and Steven Simantob. 4. Class of 1988 from left: Rory Calhoun, former math teacher Joanne Ryan, and Dewey Pillai. 5. From left: Noah Nazarian '18, former athletic director Kerry Kulisek, Steven Simantob '13, and Gideon Saidara '13. 6. Class of 1973 front row from left: Eugene Munson, Binkley Byrnes, Tony Cameron, Mark Falkenbach, and Konrad Schrier. Second row from left: Deborah Skelly, Tracy Wong, and Andy Maree. Back row from left: Randall Sellers, Robert Arkin, Philip Farinella, Lowell Reed, Carl Zimmerman, Brant Reed (class of 1972), Ben Merkel, David Seid, and former baseball coach Gary Fowler. 7. From left: Kevin White '83, Andrew Parker '83, Bertrand Syre '83, Lisa Millimet Tabor '83, and Robert Kesler '83. 8. From left: Fionna Brennan (alumni guest), Emily Irani '13, and Anthony Garcia '13. 9. Class of 1983 front row from left: Susie Yang Pai, Kevin White, Andrew Parker, Robert Kesler, and Rick McConnell. Back row from left: Ashley Scott, Cristina Ales Neggazi, Lisa Millimet Tabor, Bertrand Syre, Pamela Hathaway, Stacy Mendelson Robinson, Mindy Rose, and John Kippen.

SAVE *the* DATE

ALUMNI

2024 Reunion

SATURDAY, JUNE 8

5:00-9:00 P.M.

*Live music, photo booth, campus tours,
photo archive display, specialty cocktails,
hors d'oeuvres, milestone photos*

LETTER FROM THE ALUMNI OFFICE

GOLDEN GRIFFINS CLASS OF 1973

Robert Arkin
Keith Auck
Alan Beck
Vivian Beevers
Kim Briggs
Jonathan Byrnes
Anthony Cameron
Leslie Clark
Shelly Cohen
Ann de Forest
Mark Falkenbach
Philip Farinella
Gary Filosa
Dru Forthmann-Rea
Cydney Goldberg
Maureen Grace
John Greene

Andrea Grefelt
William Hale
William Hedgcock
Christian Larson
Lawrence Levine
Kirk Lewis
Peter Mangurian
Joseph Markham
Ginnie McGovern
Benjamin Merkel
Eugene Munson
Roy Nelson
Suzanne Pedley
Lynn Porter
Lisa Purdum-Phelps
James Rea
Lowell Reed



Takane Shimura
Eric Sandrich
Konrad Schreier
Randall Sellers

Taia Siphron
Deborah Skelly
William Stennis
John Thompson

Francine Van De Vanter
Nina Young-Pheifer
Tracy Zen
Carl Zimmerman



This year was a long-awaited return to a full slate of in-person programming for our Griffin community thanks to the hard work and dedication of our alumni engagement board! Alumni were invited to join us on campus for performing arts preview events such as the fall musical *Into the Woods*, and the spring drama *Our Town*, as well as the return of alumni sports day and the alumni basketball game. We brought our alumni networking night to the CCA with an engaging panel of alumni in the field of entertainment, and welcomed alumni speakers back to campus for our inaugural Climate Conference and the National and Junior National Honor Society inductions. New this year was the launch of *The Griffin Club*, a series of alumni happy hours taking place across the LA region in the winter and spring.

This programming is the direct result of the boundless energy of our entire alumni engagement board and the unwavering commitment of president Grant Chang '89 and vice president Chad Lasdon '97. More to come!

We hope to see you soon at an upcoming alumni event.

Go, Griffins!

Joyce Jones
Alumni Director

2022-2023 ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT BOARD



Marina Afshar '99



Dory Ben-Ami '93



Grant Chang '89



Austin Chen '91



Danny Dominguez '13



Alex Eshaghian '94



Madison Kaplan '11



Adam Krajchir '82



Aram Garikian '11



Eli Goetzman '08



Sabrina Goldfeder '19



Marlen Grussi '13



Candice Lapin '95



Chad Lasdon '97



Davina Massey '91



Dominic McClure '04



Leigh Stein McNamara '91



Jessica Ekeberg Oakes '00



Paulina Quintana '90



Jae Siercks '04



Elaine Sir



Safia Smith '19



Christina Tasulis Williams '80



Maurissa Tancharoen Whedon '93

CLASS NOTES



ROBERT BROWN '66 plays guitar at his church All Saints-by-the-Sea in Santa Barbara, CA, performs at public and private events in the Santa Barbara area, and co-founded the musical duo Mission Canyon, where he plays acoustic guitar and sings most lead vocals. His musical partner Pat Hackney plays mandolin, fiddle, and guitar, and sings harmony in Mission Canyon. His most meaningful musical experience is leading the children of All Saints Parish School in Santa Barbara in song at weekly Children's Chapel for the last nine years.



SARIT SWANBORN '87 was recently named South Pasadena Unified School District Teacher of the Year! Sarit has worked diligently for years to develop and implement a truly innovative elementary school arts education curriculum, inspiring so many of her students to regard art as their favorite class.



DORY BEN-AMI '93, current member of the alumni engagement board, recently married Laura Quiceno on March 28, 2023.



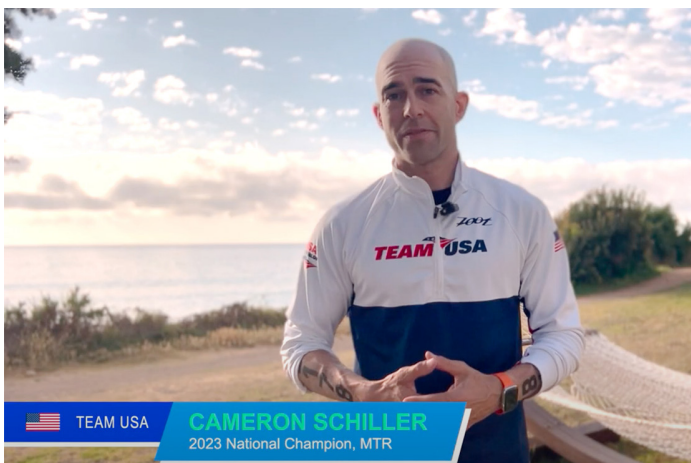
JEN KOONDEL DAVIDSON '93 and husband Mark welcomed son Samuel (Sam) Earvin Davidson on Friday December 31, 2021.



DR. JENNIFER WEXLER '97 is happily living in London with her husband, Dr. Sam Nixon. Both are archaeologists for the British Museum and are published authors and lecturers. Jennifer's highly regarded show, *The World of Stonehenge*, was on exhibit last summer at the British Museum.



BELINDA (WILLIAMS) DAUGHRITY '02 and husband James welcomed their first child, James Mitchell Daugherty, Jr. in July of this year. In addition to being a new mom, Belinda has co-authored a new textbook titled *Autism Spectrum Disorders from Theory to Practice: Assessment and Intervention Tools Across the Lifespan*. She is Assistant Professor in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology at California State University, Long Beach and was recently awarded tenure and promotion at CSU Long Beach. She became the second full-time Black faculty member in the department of speech-language pathology to earn this distinction since the department began granting degrees in 1954.



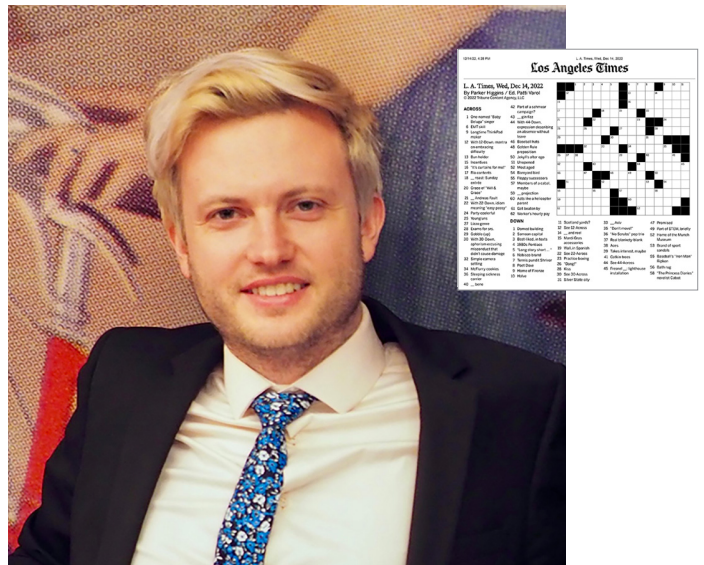
CAMERON SCHILLER '98 recently competed in his first World Triathlon Championships—Long Distance for Team USA in Ibiza, Spain in May. He is a 2023 National Champion, Du MTR.



CLASS NOTES



MAX GAD '03 is a construction defect attorney in Denver, CO. He and his wife, Lauren, welcomed a baby girl, Emma, in 2022.



PARKER HIGGINS '06 is a cruciverbalist (a person skillful in creating and solving crossword puzzles), recently publishing a crossword for the December 14, 2022 edition of *The Los Angeles Times*. Not new to the puzzle-crafting game, he also published a crossword for *The New York Times* in June of 2022. But Parker's most recent puzzle published in December was the first for his hometown paper.



AARON GALE '06 in pre-wedding celebration mode with fellow Griffins from his class, including Parker Higgins '06, Jessica Levine '06, Clay Dumas '06, Jeff Roggin '06, and their spouses and families.

MISSING OUT ON ALUMNI NEWS AND UPCOMING EVENTS?

Update your email address at alumni@buckley.org and stay in the know!



JESSICA STRASSMAN '08 has recently joined the TikTok Music team in Los Angeles as a Label Partnerships Manager after working on the LIVE Creative Partnerships team for the past 8 months.



RUTH MADIEVSKY '09 married her college sweetheart, Adam, in 2020, and recently welcomed their first child, Aria. Ruth also published her first novel *All-Night Pharmacy*, a USA Today bestseller.



SAFIA SMITH '19 completed a 10-week summer program as a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Intern at the National Football League's (NFL) NYC-based headquarters in the summer of 2022. Most recently, Safia graduated with Latin Honors from Spelman College with a Bachelor of Arts in English and a minor in Film Studies and Visual Culture. This summer, she will begin her professional career as an agent trainee for United Talent Agency.



ASIA NELSON '11 recently enrolled at MIT Sloan School of Management to pursue an MBA, Class of 2023. She recently finished her first year in the program and received a Selected Professions Fellowship through American Association of University Women (AAUW) for her second and final year.



COOPER KLINE '22 has continued his upward tennis trajectory at Carleton College by finishing his freshman season with a 16-4 singles record and 2-0 doubles record, and being awarded all-MIAC conference honors. Coach Sherman should be proud!

COMINGS AND GOINGS

MOLLY WOODEN RETIRES



After five years in the Admission Office as the associate admission director, **Molly Wooden** retired from Buckley this June. Molly and her husband Andrew came to Buckley in the summer of 2018 when he assumed the role of interim head of school for the 2018-19 school year. Working primarily in Lower School admissions, Molly also became known throughout the community as a ninth grade student advisor, car door opener during morning drop-off, and a regular presence at student performances and events. Having grown up the child of a head of school in Richmond, Virginia, Molly embarked on a career in independent schools that included working in admission and college counseling at Hotchkiss and Choate Rosemary Hall, as a major gift officer at Yale University, and as director of admission and financial aid at the Bosque School in Albuquerque, which she and Andrew helped found in 1994. Future plans include serving as a trustee at Dennis Friends Foundation and setting up a new home in Santa Fe, New Mexico. We'll miss you, Molly!

SHELLY SCHROTH MOVES ON



Director of Advancement **Shelly Schroth** announced her departure from Buckley in June 2023 in order to focus more on family. Shelly started at Buckley in 2016, immediately springing into action to organize the opening of The Center for Community and the Arts, a multi-day event that coincided with the fall musical *The Addams Family*. In her time at Buckley, Shelly also helped to build up the alumni program, including the Alumni Engagement Board, and developed the Griffin Relief Fund during Covid, to help those in the community who needed financial assistance during the pandemic. An L.A. native, Shelly attended Flintridge Sacred Heart Academy in Flintridge and holds a BA from UC Berkeley and an MBA from USC. We wish Shelly the best of luck in her next chapter and new endeavors.

PLEASE JOIN US IN WELCOMING THE FOLLOWING ADMINISTRATORS TO BUCKLEY

JANA MOHAMMED, Assistant Head of Middle School

JIM OSTERHOLT, Interim Director of Advancement

MINJUNG PAI, Interim Assistant Director of DEI

ANTHONY SHIN, Director of College Counseling

2022-2023 IN MEMORIAM

BUCKLEY MOURNS THE LOSS OF THESE MEMBERS OF THE GRIFFIN FAMILY

ALUMNI AND FORMER STUDENTS

DAVID BUCKS '71

LAWRENCE G. SHULMAN '71

BRUCE STEVENSON '73

KAREN MAIR '78

D. SCOTT HIGGINBOTHAM '79

ANNA SHAY '79

GEOFF THOMPSON '90*

FORMER FACULTY

JUDITH DROTAR, English, foreign language, and history

*Non-matriculating student



"The kids loved Ms. Humphrey. She remembered them by name throughout the years. She inspired curiosity and always gave big hugs."

– Leslie Goetzman, alumni parent and trustee emeriti

KITTY HUMPHREY

On July 17, 2023, the Buckley community lost a beloved Lower School science teacher, Kitty Humphrey. Known for her kindness and humor, Kitty gave the scores of students who passed through her room a passion for science and nature.

When she came to Buckley in 1992, she founded the Tate Science Center in Lower School and grew the program from there—right through this past spring, when she saw the completion of the new Lower School Science Lab.

Kitty was committed to creating a sense of belonging in her classroom. Her shelves and walls are full of books and posters highlighting the achievements and life stories of under-represented groups. In Kitty's classroom, children see themselves and their families reflected in the curriculum.

Respectful, wise, compassionate, and always funny, she was a pleasure to work with. Those who knew her will forever remember her by these qualities, along with her dedication to teaching and students, many of whom would come by to visit her after moving on to the Middle and Upper School or graduating.

Kitty is survived by her two daughters, Heather and Lower School associate science teacher Holly. It's not an understatement to say that Kitty Humphrey will be profoundly missed by us all.

KEY DATES

NOVEMBER 20 - 24 Thanksgiving Vacation

DECEMBER 18 - JANUARY 1 Winter Vacation

MARCH 25 - APRIL 5 Spring Break

MAY 31 Commencement

JUNE 8 Reunion

JUNE 12 Lower School Closing Day

JUNE 13 Middle and Upper School Closing Day

2022-23

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From the Archives:
Recognize a familiar face? Buckley students, faculty, and staff
participate in an off-campus service learning day in 2007.