SPRING 2022

CONNECTIONS



CINCINNATI COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

KNOWN. NURTURED. INSPIRED.

HOMECOMING AND REUNION WEEKEND 2022

Alumni Reception

Friday, September 23
5:30 p.m.
Tennis Complex

All alumni gather for a special evening featuring dinner and drinks.

Homecoming Football Game

Friday, September 23
7:00 p.m.

Alumni Breakfast

Saturday, September 24
10:30 a.m.
Upper School Dining Terrace

Alumni breakfast honoring the class of 1972 and 50+ year alumni. All alumni are welcome; includes presentation of the Virtue in Action Award.

All events are gratis, courtesy of the CCDS Alumni Association.

Please contact Peter Fossett, associate director of alumni & legacy giving, at fossettp@countryday.net with any questions.

FEATURES

8-12 **Mission in Action**
Combatting a Senseless Tax
Senior Salute: Jade Abu Bakr
Five Facts about Michael Strauss '90

28-29 **CCDX Week**
Benchtop Shower Module
Hosting a Naturalization Ceremony
Follow the Leader – YOU
Wilderness & Remote First Aid

34-35 **The Passing of the Torch**
Board President Transition

60 **Remembering a Beloved Member of Our Community**
Marcella Trice

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CINCINNATI COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

ON THE COVER Veer Patel '33, Crosley Brun '33, and Kaden Fluker '33 celebrate the Character Virtue houses during an end-of-year gathering.

Connections is published by Cincinnati Country Day School. Photos are contributed by alumni, students, parents, faculty, and staff. If you have questions or believe any information to be incorrect, please contact Josephine McKenrick at (513) 979-0215 or mckenricj@countryday.net.

Parents of graduates: If you have been receiving CCDS mail for your graduate at your home address and they have a permanent mailing address elsewhere, please let us know how to best reach them. Please send updated information, class notes, or **address changes** to addresschanges@CountryDay.net or complete the form on our website at www.CountryDay.net/alumni/alumni-news.

Cincinnati Country Day School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, age (40 or over), national origin, ancestry, or military service/veteran's status in the administration of its educational programs and policies, admission decisions, tuition aid programs, employment practices and benefits, athletic, or other school-administered programs.

SOUND BITES



"I worked long days and was so exhausted all the time, but it was really exciting and was such a fulfilling project to take a house and turn it into a school building that was developmentally sound and engaging."

– **Helen Asbury**, founder of Children's Corner (read more on pg. 50)

"I CAN'T WAIT UNTIL PEOPLE SAY THAT MY JOB IS SUPERFLUOUS BECAUSE THAT MEANS I CAN MOVE ONTO OTHER ISSUES THAT WE SHOULD BE SPENDING MORE TIME ON."

– **Madeleine Morales '18** on her work as a menstrual justice activist (read more on pg. 8)

"This has been my favorite team I've ever played on. For me, it's not always about winning; it's about the experience."

- **Sarah Zimmerman '22** after the basketball team's semifinal game at the state tournament (read more on pg. 37)





"Combining our rich history and tradition with the future and what that looks like is an incredibly exciting opportunity. When we hit 100 years, I know this school will be the best version of itself."

– **Tina DiSanto**, incoming board president (read more on pg. 34)

"Cam [Alldred '15] is one of the best athletes I've seen in my 20 years at Country Day. As a three-sport athlete, he shined in football, basketball, and baseball. I am so proud of him and look forward to watching him pitch in the big leagues. He has earned this opportunity with hard work, persistence, and determination."

– **Greg Ross**, associate athletic director, on Alldred being called up to play baseball for the Pittsburgh Pirates (read more on pg. 36)

"HARVARD WAS MY TOP CHOICE, BUT I KNOW THEY HAVE A THREE PERCENT ACCEPTANCE RATE SO I WAS READY FOR THE WORST."

- **Cole Harten '22** on getting accepted to Harvard University (read more on pg. 14)

"She could be firm but loving. I always enjoyed being in her presence and seeing her smile."

– **Lois Rust**, drama teacher, in speaking about Marcella Trice, former head of Lower School and faculty member, who passed away on December 25 (read more on pg. 60)

"Everyone in the CCDX course took a leadership role in one way or another. Throughout CCDX Week, these students recognized their own leadership skills and those of their peers. It was powerful to see."

– **Angela Joiner**, director of EDI & SEL, reflecting on the outcomes of the CCDX course she co-led (read more on pg. 29)



"I remember being very nervous about coming to Country Day in fifth grade. But, looking back on it, I think that was the perfect time for me to start here. I've had so many opportunities to grow as a leader both in and outside of school."

– **Jade Abu Bakr '22** on growing as a leader (read more on pg. 10)

"I think CCDX Week allowed me to express myself and my interests. This type of support is uncharacteristic in most high schools and I'm so thankful I'm now at a place where I can express myself and grow as a teacher and businessman."

– **Will Griffin '23**, led a CCDX course titled "Wilderness and Remote First Aid" (read more on pg. 29)



"I've always wanted to try new things and take on new challenges. Almost all my jobs have been on the teams that are not the easy ones. At SpaceX, we currently have the biggest manifest we've ever had and it's super exciting. SpaceX takes things that people say are impossible and then they do it."

– **Casey Hopple '09**, senior build reliability engineer at SpaceX (read more on pg. 46)



"BECAUSE OF THE SMALL CLASS SIZES AT COUNTRY DAY, I HAVE MADE MANY SOLID FRIENDSHIPS AND BONDS. I'VE DEVELOPED A POWERFUL MINDSET AND SENSE OF SELF-CONFIDENCE. I'VE LEARNED HOW TO BE A LEADER, AND I BELIEVE IN MYSELF."

– **Eugene Burse '22** on how Country Day prepared him for college (read more on pg. 13)

"I like to fish for fun and then document it through my artwork. It made sense to use my sustained investigation to showcase the fish I have caught, the people that I go fishing with, and where I like to fish."

– **Shane Jones '22** on the inspiration for his AP studio arts sustained investigation (read more on pg. 38)



Dear Members of the Country Day Community,

In many ways, it has been a year of transition – a new head of school, a beautiful new athletic facility, a new academic schedule, and our emergence from a constant state of pandemic emergency.

We've come a long way, but we aren't "back to normal" – we are pushing forward. One way that is evident is with the unveiling of Country Day's new mission statement that the board of trustees adopted last summer: creating leaders who, through the discovery of their own abilities, kindle the potential of others and better a dynamic world.

We have been quietly living our new mission all year to ensure it serves its purpose as a call to action rather than mere words on a page. And while we have plenty of exciting opportunities to grow this mission in the future, we can already see that it is authentically embedded within our community. The pages of this magazine show several examples of leadership, self-discovery, collaboration, and service to the world that our mission calls upon us to provide:

Leadership – read how CCDX Week let Country Day students lead cutting-edge, experiential learning projects; or how Zach Corbin's steadying leadership helped the student body thrive during a time of great tumult; or how Country Day became a leader in early childhood education when Helen Asbury founded Children's Corner in 1984.

Self-discovery – read how Jade Abu Bakr '22 pushed beyond her comfort zone and discovered leadership skills she never knew she had; or how Cole Harten '22 discovered his manifold talents for science and technology and humor on his way to Harvard; or how Shane Jones '22 grew into the best version of himself as a scholar, athlete, artist, and fisherman.

Collaboration – read how educators Emily DiMatteo, Rhoda Weston, Amy Thonnerieux, and Tom Powers kindle the potential of students in classrooms, libraries, practice fields, and beyond; or how International Night brought together our community in celebration of our rich diversity of cultures.

Service to the world – read how Madeleine Morales '18 fights for menstrual justice and human rights; or how Michael Strauss '90 works with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development to help provide economic support for countries transitioning to democracy and market economies; or how Country Day's long-standing partnership with Breakthrough Cincinnati expands educational opportunities for under-resourced communities and serves as an engine of social mobility.

Of course, our work is not done. Next year we will develop a new strategic plan that will build on our mission and sharpen our strategic identity to lay the foundation for a second century of excellence at Country Day. And before you know it, our centennial celebration in 2026 will be here.

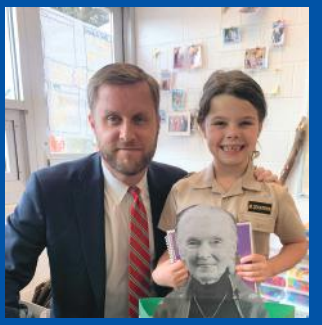
So sit back, relax, and enjoy the stories in this edition of *Connections*, but don't get too comfortable – we're always moving forward at Country Day!

Sincerely,

Rob Zimmerman '98
Head of School







SCAN HERE TO WATCH A VIDEO ABOUT OUR NEW MISSION STATEMENT







"ILLUMINATE" COUNTRYDATE 2022

On February 26, the Country Day community gathered at TQL Stadium for CountryDate 2022.

It was a wonderful night, marked by theatrical spectacles and the chattering and laughter of over 300 guests, reveling in the chance to reconnect. In addition to those present, almost 200 more participated virtually through the online games and silent auction. We substantially exceeded our fundraising goal, raising over $200,000. Thank you to everyone who supported CountryDate 2022!





WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES!

The Country Day Board of Trustees is a group committed to the success and long-term viability of the school. They bring a wealth of talent and experience from our community and give freely of their time and resources. Welcome to our new Board of Trustee members!



Jason Jurgensen

Jason Jurgensen ’95 is chief operating officer of the Jurgensen Companies, which provides infrastructure solutions and materials to the tri-state area. Interstate construction, roadway resurfacing, and airport runway construction are a few examples of typical projects the Jurgensen Companies complete. Jason and his team project managed and undertook much of the site construction on the Brian J. Bortz Family Stadium in 2021.

Jason is responsible for all construction operations. Jason works closely with the company’s other two owners: his brother Jim ’93 and sister Jackie ’98. Jason began working for the family business at the age of 14, working the summer months in the field. At 18, Jason was promoted to field foreman on a construction crew, and after graduating college, he started as a project manager. Jason worked his way through various company positions to his current role as COO.

Jason earned his MBA from the University of Cincinnati and his bachelor’s degree from Clemson University. In his spare time, he enjoys traveling and spending time with his family. Jason lives in Indian Hill with his wife Daphne and three children Chloe ’29, Claire ’29, and JR ’30.



Zofeen Khan

Zofeen Khan was born and raised in Bahrain by parents of Indian/Pakistani descent. She briefly spent time in Karachi, Pakistan during the first Gulf War, immigrated to Canada in the mid-90s, and moved to the United States in 2004 after finishing university.

Zofeen holds a BA in English from Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia and a degree in photography from the New England School of Photography. She now serves as the office and PR/marketing manager at About Face Surgical Arts, her husband’s surgical practice.

Apart from being an active volunteer for several CCDS events, Zofeen dedicates her time helping local Kindervelt organizations, which support Cincinnati Children’s Hospital. She and her husband assist with fundraising efforts that benefit Smiles International Foundation and Free to Smile for children born with cleft lip and palate.

The Khan family has been a part of the Country Day community since August 2019 when their son Mikail enrolled in the Early Childhood (EC) program. Their daughter Liana will join the EC program in the fall.



Tom Langlois

Tom Langlois ’77 returns in the 2022-23 school year for a 5th term on the board. He is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati’s College of Law and is retired from a 30-year career as an attorney with the Ohio Court of Appeals. Prior to attending law school, Tom served as an engineering officer on USS Brooke, a guided-missile frigate.

For 11 years, Tom was an adjunct faculty member at the College of Law where he received the outstanding adjunct faculty teaching award in 2001.

During his prior service on the board, Tom served as co-chair of the school-wide committee that developed Country Day Forward, the school’s 2016 strategic plan. He was also chair of the board committee that drafted the school’s new mission statement in 2021.

In addition to being a current Alumni Council member, Tom has previously served as president of the Alumni Association and was named a Distinguished Alumnus in 2007.

Tom resides in Pleasant Ridge with his wife Elaine. Their son, Thomas ’10, was a Country Day lifer. Tom enjoys gardening, hiking, weightlifting, and playing with his infant grandson.



Dr. Carlton Monroe

Dr. Carlton Monroe is the director of music at St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Terrace Park, Ohio. In addition to leading an active choral program for children and adults, he established and conducts the Bach Ensemble of St. Thomas. He is the also the director of choral activities for the Poco a Poco Music Festival in Streator, Illinois.

As a conductor and music educator he has taught at every level from elementary to college, including positions at Ursuline Academy and Walnut Hills High School in Cincinnati, Miami University (OH), and Georgia College & State University. He received his Doctor of Musical Arts and his Master of Music from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music and his Bachelor of Music Education from Louisiana State University.

He serves on the board of the Burden Foundation, which supports the work of the Burden Museum and Gardens in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He has also served on the boards of the Cincinnati Choral Consortium and was a regional chair with the Association of Anglican Musicians.

He lives in Cincinnati with his wife Jennifer, contrabassoonist with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, and their children Jack ’25 and Catherine ’25. He enjoys golf, sailing, cooking, and writing.



Katie Waterson

Katie Waterson is a co-founder of Waterson Garner, a brand strategy and innovation consultancy focused on growth strategy for large, multi-national brands and start-ups across industries.

Prior to Waterson Garner’s founding in 2013, Katie was the director of strategy and innovation at Capital impact Partners, a Washington D.C.-based CDFI and investment bank funding large-scale low-income social programs, community health centers, affordable housing, and charter schools. Katie’s career as innovator, strategist, and brand-builder for consumer goods, services, and B2B organizations has spanned more than two decades across firms including Motiv Consulting, Peer Insight, Interbrand, Brandstorm, and Zeno Group. Her professional work has resulted in thousands of conversations and experiences with people from every corner of the globe, and she never misses an opportunity to deeply connect with people, listen to their stories, and find the common ground that unites us all.

Katie holds an MBA from George Washington University in Washington D.C., and a bachelor’s degree in journalism and anthropology. Originally from Illinois, her husband Nick, their two sons, Thomas ’30 and Jack ’35, and yellow lab, Rosie, call Terrace Park, Ohio home.



Leo Whitt

Leo Whitt is a managing director at RW Baird in the Business Owner Solutions Group in the firm’s investment banking practice. In 2019, Baird acquired his previous firm, Hilliard Lyons, and previous to Hilliard Lyons, Leo served in senior management positions for a number of private equity-backed portfolio companies in the healthcare and technology industries.

Leo started his career as a CPA with KPMG and Ernst & Young, then joined a client company as CFO, which was subsequently purchased by Greylock Partners, a Boston-based private equity firm. After the sale, Leo moved to Boston to join another Greylock portfolio company, then joined Alix Partners, a leading restructuring firm in New York. Leo moved to Cincinnati to join Hilliard Lyons.

Leo earned a bachelor’s degree in economics from the University of Louisville and an MBA from Vanderbilt University’s Owen Graduate School of Management. Leo serves on the board of founder-led and family-owned private companies throughout the region and southeast.

Leo, his wife Xia, and their son Lex ‘31 reside in Indian Hill.

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MISSION *in Action*



Madeleine, who has been drawn to human right issues since she was a Country Day student, is a menstrual justice activist.



Madeleine encourages everyone to file their own refunds and has created an Instagram account that outlines the easy steps (see QR code to the right).

COMBATTING A SENSELESS TAX

"I can't wait until people say that my job is superfluous because that means I can move onto other issues that we should be spending more time on."

Madeleine Morales '18 is a dual degree student and received a bachelor's in political science from Barnard College this year and will receive a master's in public health with a concentration in public health policy from the Columbia School of Public Health in 2023. An assignment on gender and public policy changed her life.

"We could write about any issue, and I wanted to focus on a contemporary, gendered public health issue," said Morales. "I decided to dig into why certain states have a tampon tax and others don't. It was unlike any other policy analysis I've ever done."

When you speak with Madeleine, her passion is apparent.

"It lights a fire under me every day. This is a human rights issue. Menstruation is not a partisan issue – people on both sides of the aisle can menstruate. We don't talk about it because of the stigma, and this stigma reinforces a physical model of domination. Western Europe is already ahead of us and it's a shame that the United States is behind on providing tampons and pads as medical necessities. It's just a function of life and a biological mechanism. It's quite literally the state of your body and it should not be taxed or taboo."

If you are in disbelief, you are not alone. And there's more.

"Ohio just got rid of its tampon tax a couple of years ago but in Kentucky and Indiana menstruators are still paying a fee to participate in society," continued Morales.

"It's gender-based discrimination. There is a wage gap and this tax is a punitive measure, a regressive tax. This tax is basically saying, 'Your body is an inconvenience and you have to pay for it.'"

But Morales has not just researched and written about this tax. To date, she has taken legal action against four states over their tampon taxes, going through the petition, appeal, and court re-appeal process. Eventually, she had to drop the cases to avoid setting a negative precedent; although, she helped co-lead National Period Action Day and finally got the Michigan legislature to eradicate its tampon tax. Madeleine strongly believes that the dual efforts of policy and grassroots were effective in getting an eradication bill passed.

According to Madeleine, states that tax menstruators collect a combined $150 million, a decrease from $250 million four years ago before some states – like Michigan – passed bills eradicating the tax.

She also works with Period Equality, which helps people take legal action on menstrual issues, and participates in a larger national coalition of period advocacy groups from across the country that are working with various menstrual rights.

“Every time I go through the airport at CVG I file a petition so legislators notice that people care and are paying attention. The intention of filing is to put pressure on the legislation to eradicate the tax themselves, knowing they will always choose to take action on their own before letting you win a suit.”

Morales encourages people to file their own refunds. She recently launched an Instagram page that teaches people how to file their own refund, including language, examples, and the steps necessary to do it in less than an hour.

SCAN HERE TO LEARN HOW TOFILE A REFUND

“My internal fire is always on. I often see things as opportunities not barriers. Because this has never been done before by youth activists I went after it. I can honestly say that Country Day helped give me the confidence and resilience to do what I’m doing today.”



Madeleine co-led National Period Action Day with other youth activists and Michigan politicians.

As a student at Country Day, Madeleine knew she wanted to be a lawyer.

“I was always drawn to human rights issues and justice. Mr. Fossett’s American government class was awesome. And the small class sizes provided the perfect environment to have your ideas challenged. I have to do this every day and getting that practice was really important.”

Country Day prepared her for life in other ways as well.

“The opportunity to try on many hats – from theater to sports – made me fearless in going after what I wanted to and trying new things. Also, the connections we were able to have with our teachers has been so important. After high school, you want to network with professionals and college professors and I was always very comfortable doing so. None of that struck me as weird, but some of my peers in college were not used to that culture because they went to larger schools.”

As a member of Country Day’s Alumni Council, Madeleine said she finds the changes that have happened since her graduation inspiring.

This year, Madeline also presented in Senior Seminar, which is when recent alumni return to campus to provide advice and perspectives to seniors.

SCAN HERE TO WATCH THE VIDEO

“I’m excited for the kids who get to attend Country Day now and in the future. I love how welcoming the school is and I love the direction the school is heading in.”

Morales doesn’t plan to stop pursuing justice any time soon.

Through the Athena Center for Leadership Studies, Madeleine is an Athena scholar and receives funding to pursue additional activism. As a menstrual justice activist, she is featured in a documentary that will debut in 2023 and tells the story of her menstrual justice journey.

“One person can do a lot. I’m 22 and have incited change in two states. I was on the phone with West Virginia’s attorney general’s office earlier this year because I was going to face him in court. Everyone can do one small thing by filing a petition to make a difference. This work matters.”

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MISSION *in Action*

SENIOR SALUTE: JADE ABU BAKR

Jade Abu Bakr ‘22 has made a significant impact during her eight years at Country Day and has accolades to show for it. She received the 2022 Doris L. McAdams Memorial Scholarship from Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, a full merit scholarship from Hampton University, the Ohio Seal of Biliteracy in English and French, the Peter Levinson Award (her junior year), Breakthrough Cincinnati’s M. Adam Howard Award, the Charles F. Yeiser Scholar Award, the Dr. Charles F. Clark Character Award, and the Richard O. Schwab Award. But that’s not all. She’s also a two-time Scholastic Art & Writing Silver Key recipient and a Le Grand Concours/National French Exam medal winner.

Needless to say, she is one determined individual.

Before she left our campus, we caught up with her and asked her to reflect on her time at Country Day.

WHAT STANDS OUT MOST TO YOU DURING YOUR TIME AT COUNTRY DAY?

I remember being very nervous about coming to Country Day in fifth grade. But, looking back on it, I think that was the perfect time for me to start here. I’ve had so many opportunities to grow as a leader both in and outside of school. Some of my favorite memories are school trips, specifically our trip to Cherokee, North Carolina, in seventh grade. I think that was the trip where I was pushed the most out of my comfort zone, and I enjoyed every minute of it.

One of the most rewarding opportunities has been taking on the role of Black Cultural Workshop (BCW) president, which has stretched me the most and allowed me to tap into pieces of myself as a leader that I didn’t even know I had. I’ve also enjoyed being part of our high school cheer team. I had never attended that many games in the past, and to be one of nine girls tasked with bringing the school spirit every day was such a fun experience.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU TO BE COUNTRY DAY’S NOMINEE FOR THE SIMON LAZARUS AWARD?

One of the most significant components of who I am is my dedication to serving our community. Every time I engage in our annual Make A Difference Day or activities outside of school with the Red Cross and Breakthrough Cincinnati, I hope to pay back and thank the village that raised and nurtured me into who I am. Being recognized by the American Jewish Committee, an organization constantly working to help and bring relief to others worldwide, is a true honor. I also know how dedicated our school is to Cincinnati’s community and communities abroad, and I hope to continue that legacy for the rest of my life.

WHAT LESSONS OR SENTIMENTS WILL YOU TAKE WITH YOU AS YOU TRANSITION INTO COLLEGE?

First, I think learning how to balance my academic, social, and professional lives was really important. Second, the academic rigor that Country Day provides will put me in a great position and continue to affect how I manage my studies. Third, collaboration and communication have been fundamental skills I have acquired throughout my academic career. Finally, while living on my own and making more independent moves on campus might be a change, I know that I will be prepared to embrace new lessons because Country Day has taught me how to take on exciting challenges.

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR NEXT YEAR?

In the fall, I will attend Hampton University and major in journalism/communications. Before attending Hampton in the fall, I'm participating in their pre-college program, which means I'll have enough credits to be considered a sophomore in the fall. In the future, I hope to become an international news reporter and maybe even run my own news station someday.

WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR YOUNGER COUNTRY DAY STUDENTS?

You are your biggest motivator. Through the triumphs and the rough patches, it is up to you to say that you will keep going. It is up to you to take those experiences and use them to your advantage to help build your character and your identity. In addition to that, growth is inevitable. I can confidently say that I am nowhere near the same individual I was on the first day of my freshmen year. Then, I would stick to the background. I was quiet and sometimes afraid to use my voice. If you had told me then I'd be giving announcements in Keeler and using my voice as president of BCW and even the Country Day mascot committee, I wouldn't believe you. We have this short period to experience so much change, and I am thankful that I had myself and others around me encouraging me to take leaps that I would not have dreamed of six or seven years ago. Lastly, I would say to continue to experience every emotion that you can, whenever you can, as opposed to holding it in. Live life purposefully.

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MISSION *in Action*

FIVE FACTS ABOUT MICHAEL STRAUSS '90

HE'S ON THE FRONT LINES OF THE ECONOMIC RESPONSE TO THE UKRAINE CRISIS.

Mike serves as the general counsel for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), a London-based multilateral development bank founded in 1990 to provide economic support for the countries of the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe after the Cold War. He leads a team of 160 people as the head of EBRD's legal department. "We're a bank run by 71 nations as shareholders, with the U.S. as the largest. We strive to offer creative solutions to the thorny legal problems that arise, while safeguarding our founding treaty and the values it embodies."

Since Russia invaded Ukraine again in February 2022, Mike's work has revolved day and night around providing legal remedies for shareholders who seek to discontinue investments in Russia and Belarus, while ramping up support for Ukraine's immediate and post-war financial needs.



Peter Strauss '59 (Mike's dad), Mike, Kitty Strauss Rosenthal (Mike's mom), and Matt Strauss '88 (Mike's brother) celebrate his high school graduation.

HIS COMMAND OF THE FRENCH LANGUAGE SHAPED HIS LIFE TRAJECTORY.

Perhaps oddly for someone who works on development in the former Soviet Union, it was his mastery of the French language that led him to work in international development. "The incredibly high level of Country Day's French instruction influenced my decisions in ways that I'm only now realizing." Studying under Abner Génecé – who, according to Strauss, was possibly one of America's best high school French teachers – like many classmates, he left his class fluent. Strauss studied political science at Williams College. "I thought a lot about coming back to Cincinnati and working on issues similar to those my father did [Peter Strauss, CCDS '59, former vice mayor of Cincinnati], but French opened up an entirely different opportunity to make a difference in addressing poverty around the world."

He applied to study international relations at The Fletcher School at Tufts University because "I wanted to be a lawyer engaged on some of the most pressing global questions about competing rights and obligations, and making the world a better place, especially in international environmental policy." That's when life threw him a curve ball. "I got to school and somehow became obsessed with international macroeconomics."

After graduating from Fletcher and then law school at Stanford, he went to London to practice capital markets and corporate law, and although he found the work dull, he learned how to be a lawyer and met some incredibly able and brilliant people. "Eventually, the firm sent me to Paris because they needed American lawyers who could work entirely in French. The work was even more intense, but I had little passion for it, so I spent every free minute looking for a more mission-focused job where I could deploy my new skills more usefully." That's when he got a job as a lawyer for the International Monetary Fund (IMF), working on Iraq's post-war sovereign debt restructuring and other projects at the intersection of international law and macroeconomics, the first step on his career path with the multilateral economic institutions.



Mike, his wife Leslie Thompson, and their dog Champ in Chantilly, France.

HE WAS UNEMPLOYED...FOR ONE DAY.

With the IMF, he managed the legal and institutional aspects of a portfolio of 20 countries, but he didn't feel he was having the impact he wanted. Recruited by the World Bank, he left the IMF to literally work across the street. "It was exactly what I thought I wanted to do. I went back to doing transactions, but I was working for better outcomes, mainly in Francophone Africa. For example, we helped make possible the construction of an enormous port in Senegal; this has drastically improved the country's economic prospects. I could directly see the impact of my work."

After receiving inquiries from the Obama Administration, he left the World Bank to accept a position as a macroeconomic policy advisor in the U.S. Treasury. He advised the Assistant Treasury Secretary for two years and then was asked to represent the United States on the board of directors of the Asian Development Bank in Manila.

Working past the end of the Administration, he left that position in 2018 and was unemployed for exactly one day. "I flew to Hong Kong, where my wife was living. When I woke up that next morning, Fletcher had emailed me to ask me to teach their iconic course on law and development because the former dean was on health leave. This left me commuting between Hong Kong and Boston, which was intense."

HE WAS THE BASSIST IN A BAND DURING HIGH SCHOOL.

"As best I remember, we were the only band around during my years at Country Day. We played for Homecoming, but I was also a guard on the football team, so I remember stressing out about protecting my hands during the game so I could play bass for the dance. I was typically fairly overcommitted." He participated in theater and sports each season, and he was vice president of student government. He also co-founded the Environmental Club in the late 1980s. "We sifted through the garbage each week to pull out the recyclables. Then we set up a contract for their collection." In recent years, he says it has been gratifying to see CCDS advance in three areas that have always been important to him: the environment, service, and an international orientation.

He encourages current students to get involved and have fun. "You need to try to find a balance." To find this balance as an adult, he played in a nerdy funk band – Bonjour, Ganesh! – that ended up headlining at some big venues in D.C. – even playing shows now and then.

HE IS A DONOR TO THE DUNN FUND FOR FACULTY ENRICHMENT.

"I would do anything in a heartbeat if it's connected to the Dunns. Coach Dunn taught me biology and was also my football coach, and Pat Dunn taught me English. They were both stunningly good teachers and equally good people." Strauss says he also gives back because Country Day is in his family. "My Uncle Tony [Carl A. Strauss, Jr. '57] exemplified Country Day's high standards of instruction throughout his decades of teaching, and my niece attends Country Day now. CCDS taught me to write and think critically, which may be the most important skills undergirding everything in life."



EUGENE BURSE '22

Awarded Full Scholarships to Three Universities

When Eugene Burse '22 came to Cincinnati Country Day School in the fourth grade, it was to follow in his mother's footsteps. Now, he is pursuing her path again.

Merle Burse, Eugene's mother, also attended Country Day. She graduated in '86 and then attended the University of Cincinnati on the Darwin T. Turner Scholarship. Eugene received the same scholarship and will be heading to the University of Cincinnati (UC) in the fall.

That decision did not come easy because Eugene also received full-tuition scholarship offers to Case Western and The Ohio State University.

"It's truly a blessing to be in this position, having so many different options on where to go to school," said Burse. "When I reflect on how I've gotten here, it is partly due to my hard work, but I would not be here without my family, friends, and other support I have had along the way."

The Darwin T. Turner Scholarship was established in 1976 to honor Darwin T. Turner, a Black student who, at the age of 16, was the youngest person ever to graduate from UC. The scholarship is based on academic performance and seeks to find candidates that demonstrate involvement, leadership, and advocacy for the diversity and inclusion of marginalized populations.

"Because of the small class sizes at Country Day, I have made many solid friendships and bonds. I am grateful for the ability to create quality and long-lasting relationships rather than an abundance of short-lived connections," said Burse. "I've developed a powerful mindset and sense of self-confidence. I've learned how to be a leader, and I believe in myself."

Eugene plans to major in finance and economics. His goal is to work in the investment industry, and his dream is to own a hedge fund.

"At Country Day, you have the opportunity to surround yourself with so many successful figures from alumni to guest speakers to the general Country Day community. Being part of this community motivates me and has taught me to strive for excellence in everything I do," said Burse.

Now that his time at Country Day is over, Eugene has some advice for younger students:

"My advice for younger students is to find yourself and what makes you happy. Country Day offers many opportunities for students to explore all sorts of interests. Using those opportunities is essential to help enhance your perspective of the world and your future."

PREPARED
FOR THE NEXT ADVENTURE

"Harvard was my top choice, but I know they have a three percent acceptance rate and after lots of weeks of rejection and waitlisting from other schools with higher acceptance rates, I was ready for the worst."

Although Cole Harten '22 might have been ready for anything, anyone that knows him will tell you that his worry was unfounded.

True, for the 2022-23 school year, Harvard University offered admission to only 1,954 students out of 61,220 applicants. But it's also true that as co-president of Honor Council, co-president of the Science Olympiad team, Mock Trial captain, Academic Team captain, golf team player, tennis team member, and as one of the funniest writers his advisor has even known, Cole is prepared for whatever Harvard will throw his way.

"Cole can take the ordinary and write about it in an engaging and sometimes funny way," said Chuck McGivern, associate director of college counseling and Cole's college counselor. "The Harvard admissions rep said that Cole's college essay was the funniest application she read all year. That's saying something."

But Cole is more than a strong writer; he is a well-rounded student who excels in whatever he puts his mind to. His love of language earned him the Martha W. Burton Award in French and he is a Cum Laude Society member for this academic excellence.

At Harvard, he plans on majoring in electrical engineering and possibly computer science.

"I am taking AP computer science this year and really enjoying it; I love the problem-solving aspect of it," explained Harten. "Electrical engineering is closely related to computer science because with one you deal with the hardware and the other you develop the software so you get to see it from both angles."

At the local Harvard Club reception this past spring, Cole ran into a fellow Country Day alumnus who provided him with some reassurance.

"His advice was that I would be much better prepared in terms of writing and being able to think critically and express ideas than most of the other students, at least that was his experience. This is especially important for STEM majors because writing is a critical component that most people don't realize goes hand in hand with things like engineering."

And what advice does Cole have for current Country Day students?

"Get involved, even beyond clubs…although I would recommend all of them. You're only in high school for four years so I don't understand why someone wouldn't join at least one thing. Maybe you don't have to participate in three academic-based clubs like I did, but if you're interested in science, sign up for Science Olympiad; if you like to debate, do Mock Trial; if you like diplomacy, do Model UN. Everyone should find a club that fits whatever you're interested in."

While he's looking forward to the sense of freedom that college life provides while still being in the



protected environment of a close-knit community, he admits that he will probably be homesick and miss his family, friends, and teachers.

"Boston is far away. You can't easily take a two-hour flight every weekend," said Harten.

He does plan on continuing to travel though, even if it's not to Cincinnati every weekend. Last summer he went to Berlin – the inspiration for one of his hilarious college essays – and this summer he is traveling to Peru and Chile.

"He has the leadership and enormous talent to take him wherever he wants to go," continued McGivern.



FINDING MORE THAN A VOICE

Kourtni Hamilton ’22 has a big voice and even bigger dreams. She has been recognized by Kiwanis as an Outstanding Senior, chosen for the TAP HC Health Care Exploration Program, won the National Schmidt Vocal Competition Encouragement Award, and has performed the National Anthem, the school’s alma mater, and many other songs during her tenure at Cincinnati Country Day School.

“Students expand and prosper here at Country Day, and that’s certainly the case with Kourtni,” said Sarah Beyreis, director of college counseling.

Kourtni came to Country Day in ninth grade and made herself known almost immediately, participating in the musical that year.

“That’s my favorite memory from high school – my first musical. We did *Chicago*, and it was my first performance and production here,” said Hamilton. “But I think more than my experience in the performing arts, the most impactful thing to me has been the faculty. They have created an environment where they want us – the students – to succeed. They genuinely care about all their students.”

This year, Kourtni was chosen as Country Day’s nominee for Outstanding Senior at the 66th Annual Kiwanis Student Recognition Luncheon, an event that recognizes deserving seniors from more than 50 public, private, and parochial schools in the Greater Cincinnati area.

“The Kiwanis recognition reminds me of how involved I’ve been here at Country Day. And as I am getting ready to graduate, I feel very prepared for college,” said Hamilton. “I’ve always been a student who has enjoyed school and exceeded academically due to Country Day. So, it’s an honor to represent the school as an example of excellence out of the whole student body.”

Kourtni plans to attend Sewanee - The University of the South in Tennessee next year. She will major in music and minor in business because she hopes to manage a record label one day.

“One of the biggest lessons I’ve learned at Country Day is to never give up. I know it is cliché, but it’s true. There were times when I wanted to give up on assignments or music or a commitment, but because of the support of my friends and my teachers, and most importantly, my mom, I have kept fighting. My favorite quote is ‘Difficult roads often lead to beautiful destinations’ and looking back on my high school experience and how all my hard work has now paid off, that quote sums it all up perfectly.”

ENJOYING A TASTE OF COUNTRY DAY

In the spirit of the Parents' Association's mission of building community and creating connections and in celebration of the diversity within our school community, members of the Cincinnati Country Day School community enjoyed International Night on April 25.

It was truly a Taste of Country Day. Over 300 people enjoyed delicious food from around the globe, with more than 100 dishes representing the myriad cultures of the Country Day community.

Guests also experienced entertainment by Country Day students and community members. With more than 17 performances throughout the evening, acts included an Indian classical dance, a Veena/Bharatanatyam dance, a Filipino dance, a Chinese classical dance, Irish folk songs, a Kathak dance, piano and vocal acts, and many more.

The performances culminated with Head of School Rob Zimmerman '98 leading some of the guests in a Lebanese dabke.

The event was emceed by Aminata Bah '24 and Ambika Sharma '24. Both students wore clothes that represent their heritage, as did many of the guests.

"Tonight, we will enjoy this gift of time together," welcomed Angela Joiner, director of equity, diversity, and inclusion & social-emotional learning. "We are grateful for families who prepared delicious dishes to share, for those who entertained us with their performances, for the Parents' Association for hosting this incredible event, and for everyone in attendance for making this a true celebration of our community."







INTERNATIONAL CINCINNATI COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL NIGHT





BEYOND THE BUCKET HAT

Tom Powers wears a lot of hats on the Country Day campus. From calling football games, track meets, and other athletic events to mowing the fields to coaching middle school football. He's even becoming the self-proclaimed "Country Day Athletics Historian" – you will find Tom all over campus.

We sat down with Tom Powers, sporting his signature blue bucket-style cap, to discuss his unique journey at Country Day and how he keeps all his hats straight.

When did you start working at Country Day?

That's an interesting question. I've been familiar with this campus since 1973 because I went to Summit Country Day, so I played football and basketball in these gyms. I'm actually in some of the old yearbooks (it's true, he is, we have the proof). But back in 2006, when I was at Xavier, getting my master's in secondary education and my teaching license, I did some observing and substitute teaching here. I knew Hirsch [Theresa Hirschauer, head of Middle School] and Greg Ross from my days working at Summit as an assistant athletic director in the early 2000s. Hirsch hired me to be the girls middle school softball coach in 2008. That was my first job here. But then I left. Fast forward to about a year ago, I realized I missed coaching, so I reached out to Coach [Dennis] Coyle to see if there was anything I could do here and I've jumped right back in.

So, you're coaching football, broadcasting, and you're part of the facilities team. What's a typical day for you?

Is there such a thing as a typical day? I work from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in my facilities position – mowing, cleaning up, and directing carline. Then it just depends on the athletics calendar. I helped coach the varsity football team in the fall, so I would head to practice right after school. Now, I call games and meets for spring sports. For example, if we have a track meet, I'll arrive at 7 a.m., work facilities till 3:30 p.m., and then call the track meet till about 9:15 p.m. Then I'm done with my day.

Wow. That's a long day.

It is but I love it. When I was here briefly back in the 2000s, I worked in the athletic department, supervising events, taking tickets, whatever they needed. It's easy to give so much of yourself to a place like this. There's a general sense of community and niceness here. There's a reason people stay here for 30-plus years. There's a reason I came back. It's an excellent place to work. People treat people with respect here. Even the students. I had only been here a week or so, and students are opening doors for me, looking me in the eyes, asking me how I'm doing; they don't know me, but they talk to me. It doesn't get any better than that.

You do a lot here. So, as your "first" year wraps up, what's been the best part about being back here?

Oh, that's easy. Coaching football for sure; that's what it's all about, right? The kids. I'm here to do whatever it takes to help build the program and make it successful. And the thing that I enjoyed about football last year was seeing the team's development. The guys I met at the first practice in early August were different from the guys who left the field in December. And that's what I enjoy – seeing the team mature, when they start to understand what it takes to do what it takes every year. We have the tools, the players, and the coaches to make progress year by year. And that's what's exciting. I enjoy being involved in this athletic program and helping these students succeed. I don't care whether it's a big part as a coach or a small role as person who gets the field ready. If there's something I can do to help, all people have to do is ask.

PARTING WORDS FROM STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT ZACH CORBIN ’22



For college, I will attend… Washington and Lee in Virginia. I received the Johnson Scholarship for Leadership and Integrity, which covers full tuition, books, meals, lodging, everything. I will also receive a stipend that I can use for research or internships. This will be extremely helpful, as I plan to major in bio-chemistry. I also love being involved in politics and being in leadership positions, so I might double major in Spanish or something in the humanities or politics.

To apply for the scholarship I had to… submit a separate application and answer the prompt “describe a photo that is uniquely you.” I wrote about the assemblies I got to lead in Keeler Theater every week. There is this picture of me on stage, so I selected that picture and wrote about how much I love Country Day. From 125 finalists, they picked only 44 people to receive the scholarship. About 7,500 people applied to the school and Washington and Lee only accepted about 450. I feel very fortunate.

Being at Country Day is… the best decision I’ve ever made. It’s been the best eight years of my life. My brothers and I applied to Country Day and another school, but Country Day felt more like home. We all came here at the same time. My first year at Country Day was in fourth grade. If I had any advice for my fourth-grade self, it would be to enjoy it while it lasts. It all goes by so fast.

I definitely stressed… about school. The academic rigor here is no joke but there are always people to help you. For example, my sophomore year I took AP bio with Mr. [Tim] Dunn. It was academically challenging, but it was so much fun. He made me fall in love with science and biology. He wrote one of my reference letters, which is probably a big reason why I got the scholarship.

My favorite thing about senior year is… the people. Junior year was really stressful but senior year is more relaxed. I had time to hang out with my friends. As student council president, I take a lot of pride in making sure everyone feels heard and represented. I had fun working with other people to organize events like dances. We had three dances this year that were really fun. I also enjoyed my time on the baseball team, football team, and the chess club. I volunteered with Matthew 25: Ministries and as part of a tutoring organization. It was an incredible year.

The trip to Cherokee, North Carolina was… my favorite Middle School memory. The Middle School trips in general were just so much fun.

I’m excited to… see the Clap-Out from a different perspective and go to the senior dinner with the faculty. And then there’s graduation. I’m excited about all of it but sad in a way, sad to be leaving.

There is a lot I love about Country Day, but what stands out the most is… the people. My class includes 69 of my best friends. The teachers are out-of-this-world amazing and they’ve always supported me. The administrators have always had my back. Everyone has celebrated good times with me and supported me during harder times. I plan on staying in touch but not seeing everyone every day will be something I will miss.

THE WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, AND WHY OF
DR. CADY SHORT-THOMPSON

Executive Director of Breakthrough Cincinnati



WHO

Dr. Cady Short-Thompson is a lifelong resident of Wyoming, a suburb of Cincinnati, except for a few years when she lived in Hyde Park and then in Michigan, when she worked at Hope College. "When we moved back to Cincinnati, we moved a half-mile from our previous house. It's nice to be home; it's where my family is." She has three kids – Seth (a junior in high school), Skye (a sophomore at the University of Michigan), and Alex (a first-year graduate student at the University of Michigan and a Breakthrough teaching fellow this year). In addition to their three children, she and her husband Steve have an active mutt named BoBo – "she's full of energy."

Short-Thompson holds three degrees from the University of Cincinnati (UC) – a bachelor's and master's in communication and a Ph.D. in political communication. She has 25 years of experience in higher education as a professor and administrator. "I retired from higher education and joined Breakthrough as a second act."

WHAT

Breakthrough Cincinnati is a four-year, tuition-free college preparatory program designed to enhance the education of the underrepresented community. The program is for sixth- through ninth-grade students and over 90% of the participants are retained from start to finish. "It's like fun summer school." Last year, there were 127 participants and this year there are 187 students in the program. "The founders of Breakthrough are from Country Day, and I think that commitment from the very beginning coupled with the widespread support of many faculty, staff, students, neighbors, and donors has made it sort of a family business. If you look across Country Day families, there are a lot of teaching fellows who have worked with Breakthrough throughout the years; it has become part of the fabric of this school community."

WHEN

Hired in October 2021, Dr. Cady Short-Thompson is Breakthrough Cincinnati's executive director. "It's been a blur, but I've loved every minute of it. I love to lead, fundraise, cast a vision, and get involved in the details of strategy and execution. This position combines all the skill sets of my past positions with a mission I believe in."

WHERE

Breakthrough Cincinnati is located on Country Day's campus. This year, the summer program is offered on UC's campus with a couple of the days spent on Country Day's campus. Typically, the program is held completely on Country Day's campus and UC's campus but because of staffing issues, tough decisions had to be made. Next year, Breakthrough Cincinnati will have three sites—CCDS, UC, and North College Hill. All high school juniors and seniors, undergraduate students, and early-stage graduate students interested in education, justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion are encouraged to apply to serve as teaching fellows each summer!

WHY

"I found myself focusing a lot on student success and JEDI [justice, equity, diversity, inclusion] and this position gives me the chance to do what I love and to pivot to non-profit doing what I was doing at the college level but with up-and-coming students. I believe in student and life success for everyone, and Breakthrough has this mission but with a different age group from what I have worked with in the past. Not only do we serve students, but we also grow young, passionate educators with a pipeline into education. To know how to teach and to go into teaching is important, especially now when we have a shortage of teachers. Also, I am excited to see this program in action. First-hand experience is so valuable for me to represent the organization well. It will make all the difference to see the program come to life before my eyes. It's fun to see the beginning and the end – the students come in shy and unfamiliar and they leave friends who feel confident and connected. I just never tire of seeing that transformation occur."

Cross-Divisional Collaboration

8 YEARS IN THE MAKING



The long-standing impact that cross-divisional opportunities have on our students is unparalleled. And while the experiences are memorable for our students, so are they for our faculty and staff.

Teachers typically collaborate across the divisions on learning experiences, but sometimes there are opportunities for cross-divisional collaboration in other areas of the school, such is the case with Sarah Beyreis and Lee Ann Bertsch, who worked together to spearhead the school's ISACS accreditation this school year.

The ISACS accreditation process typically occurs every seven years, but this time around it was eight years due to Covid-19.

Sarah Beyreis is the director of college counseling and Lee Ann Bertsch teaches kindergarten. Even though they work with students on opposite ends of the age spectrum, they agreed that this fact proved to be beneficial.

"There was a lot of give and take between us, and we counted on each other's experiences to provide a well-rounded perspective that I think helped us get to a great place," said Beyreis.

"We may seem like the most unlikely partners because we live completely different lives here despite the fact that we both started working here the same year [2005]," added Bertsch. "But we utilized each other's strengths and complementary skills and I think we – and the school – are better for it."

Lee Ann said that Sarah took lead with editing and the "nitty-gritty" components of the report, while she focused on the logistics.

"Lee Ann made it fun. She created these Cincinnati-themed gift bags and planned everything for the visiting team," said Sarah. "She coordinated an all-school effort and I love how everyone came together to showcase our school."

The accreditation team, which consists of employees from independent schools across the country, visited the school in April after receiving and reviewing a comprehensive report prepared by the school.

"The team's job is not to evaluate us; they're holding a mirror up for us to ensure we're doing what we say we're doing," explained Bertsch. "Creating the report is supposed to be a self-evaluative process in which every department and division has the chance to look and say, 'Are we doing the best we can and how can we improve?'"

After its visit, the accreditation team bestowed on the school a full report, including commendations and recommendations to consider moving forward.

"It was a helpful report that was frank and gave us priorities and outside perspective," said Beyreis. "It was great to hear that they thought we were a great school and that our morale was fantastic, especially considering how difficult the past couple of years have been."

Ultimately, both Sarah and Lee Ann agreed it was eye-opening to be involved in the school's accreditation process. Added to that, it seems a real friendship has formed.

"The amount of time we spent in meetings and weekends together is unreal," laughed Bertsch. "But I love that I understand more of what she does and she understands more of what I do, and we understand each other's divisions better. It's an experience I'll never forget."



The school hosted a reception for the ISACS visiting committee, during which piano students shared their talent with those in attendance.

BRINGING **JOY AND CURIOSITY** TO THE CLASSROOM

If you have not had the chance to say “nǐ hǎo” to Rhoda Weston, you are encouraged to wander to her classroom some time, where you will find student curiosity, engagement, and joy at its best.

Since 2018, Weston has been teaching Mandarin Chinese to our students, instilling in them a command of the language as well as an appreciation of the culture and traditions. Every day and every class is different and she likes it that way.

“I like that there is so much variety at Country Day, and I try to bring that variety into my classroom,” said Weston. “There are also always many things going on at Country Day aside from just the classes. There are great visual and performing arts and it is always nice to see the students competing with their peers in sports.”

In addition to teaching, Weston helps the school welcome students from all over the world as they transition to their new academic home. “I love that I get to know every student and we can share this time together. It’s what makes my job and this school so special.”

Over the past 20 years, she has taught Chinese across greater Cincinnati and has launched successful Mandarin Chinese programs at four schools. Prior to earning her master’s at Xavier University, she ran her own English school and tutoring center in Taiwan.

But she is settled in the Country Day community now.

“My sons, Jack ’21 and Frank ’19, graduated from Country Day and are the third generation of our family to attend the school. My husband, Eric ’91, and his brothers, Dan ’88 and Greg ’85, attended Country Day. My father-in-law, Paul ’58, and his brothers, Alan ’55 and Don ’53, attended Country Day as well. Now I couldn’t imagine myself anywhere else.”

In addition to providing an incredible experience for her students, Weston enjoys playing piano, spending time with her family and dogs, exercising regularly, and traveling.

“I enjoy traveling to other countries and experiencing other cultures. I try to bring that joy and curiosity to my classroom. I hope to be able to travel more soon – it’s such an important way to gain a better understanding of the world around us.”



BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

ONE GOOD BOOK AT A TIME

Lower School librarian Amy Thonnerieux has been instructing students, collecting books, and sharing her love of reading with Country Day students for 15 years now.

"I decided I wanted to be a librarian in a round-about way," said Thonnerieux. "It wasn't until the office I worked closed down and I was living in a town where I knew no one that everything clicked into place. I would go to the public library every day, borrow books and movies, and hang out. Then, one day it hit me and I thought, 'Wait, I want to do this.' So, I moved back to Cincinnati and started applying to work at libraries around town. I'd walk in and ask the person at the front desk, 'This is what I want to do – do you have any entry-level openings?' I ended up getting a job at a small college, and they were fantastic about showing me the ropes. I did that for a couple of years and loved it so much, so I went back to school and here I am."

A day in the life of a school librarian is more than reading books…although that is a big part.

"Every morning, I go around the school with my library cart to collect books from the students to check the books back in and put them away. Then for most of the day I teach classes," said Thonnerieux. "We're always working on reading skills, but we're also doing so much more. Throughout the year, I introduce different books that we have in the library…teach kids how to use the library…teach the kids how to use some of the programs like OneNote…provide the students with introductory coding experience…introduce typing the older students…help the students if they're doing a research project. I also work with the teachers and try to incorporate what they're teaching into something for the kids to experience in a different but applicable way in the library."

Serving as a librarian puts Amy in a unique position in the lower school. While the students transition from one classroom to the next every year, she remains their librarian year after year.

“It’s fun to have the same students each year and then see them in the halls of the middle school and upper school and say hi,” said Thonnerieux. “As a librarian, it’s rare to know all the students at school but because Country Day is a smaller school, I have the opportunity to do so. And not only do I know their names, but I also build relationships with each of them. That is what excites me to come to work every day – the students. I love seeing their passion and joy for everything they do.”





KNOWN. NURTURED. INSPIRED.

Hard Work and Dedication Behind *Working*

By Nick Rose,
Upper School theater
director and speech teacher



Working is a musical not many people familiar with in 2022. A documentary-style musical written in the 70s and updated in 2012, it has many lovely songs which have never made it into our public consciousness. Our students certainly had never heard of it. And it is a testament to our program that despite this, over 20 students came out to participate anyway.



And of those students, what a wonderfully diverse group. We had students of all backgrounds and interests. From baseball players to dancers, seniors to freshmen, students who had never stepped foot on stage before to our veteran actors in Keeler Theater. It was amazing to see such a group of students who otherwise don't interact throughout their days commit to working together.

Our professional support was outstanding! Erin McCamley '07 came in to help get our vocal direction together for the show. Evan DiTullio and his wife welcomed their second child during the process (our first production baby!), and so Jared Hudson came in to take over the technical reins of the production as we neared opening. Stephanie Wietmarschen picked up the baton and led our cast and three-piece band through our final weeks. And renowned area choreographer, Amy Burgess, fit us into her schedule to help with dance and movement for some of our big numbers.

We had a student crew for both backstage and in the lobby. Annalyse Deming and Justin Puckett led our students in building the stage and the backdrop. Daniel Hong and Vic Quintero worked as our stage management team to make sure all parts of the production ran smoothly. Austin Vaughan and Will Schiff created the environmental sounds to carry the audience from place to place across the American working landscape. And Nick Watts coordinated a crew of volunteer ushers and attendants to help run all areas of the lobby before, during, and after the show.

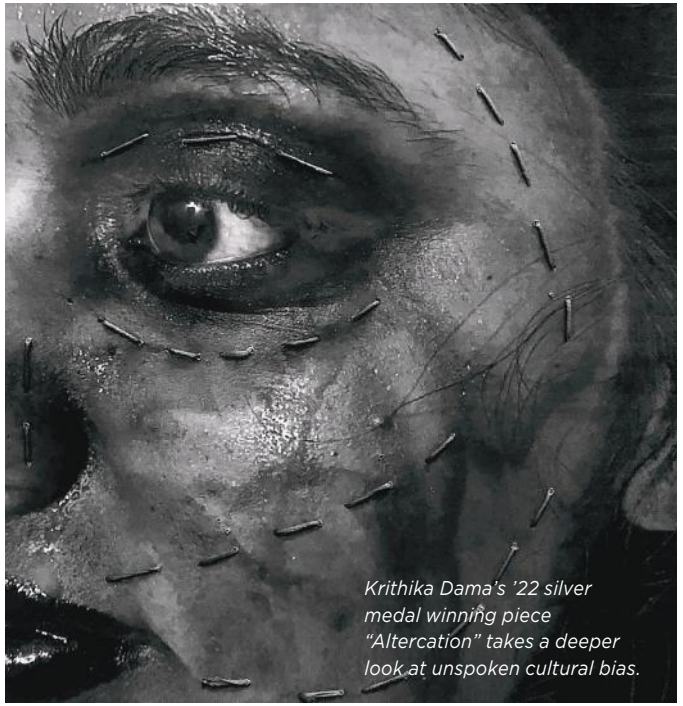
But perhaps beyond the scope of the amount of student participation was the tight-knit bonding that came from the process. I tend to run my productions like an athletics coach, establishing and encouraging strong expectations to their performance as well as to each other. To say this small army of students exceeded my expectations would be an understatement. As diverse as our company was, they created a supportive family amongst themselves. They held themselves accountable personally and to each other. And out of it, friendships which may never have happened during the regular day at school formed on and off stage.

And so, a wildly diverse group of freshmen to seniors came together for three months and formed a family that represented all of our school's virtues. And when it came time to produce the show in front of our community, they took a musical of which they had never heard before and made it sing with life and craftsmanship.

I have never been more proud to know a group of young people.



19 Students Awarded Scholastic Art & Writing Awards



Krithika Dama's '22 silver medal winning piece "Altercation" takes a deeper look at unspoken cultural bias.

We are proud to announce that 19 Upper School students were named Scholastic Arts Award winners, including national silver medal winner, Krithika Dama '22.

Five students received Gold Key awards, including Krithika. Pieces that win the Gold Key are automatically considered for national awards, medals, and even scholarships. The pieces submitted are judged on originality, technical skill, and the emergence of a personal voice or vision.

GOLD KEY AWARD

- Krithika Dama '22 – silver medal winner
- Pooja Kantemneni '22
- Shay Kinebrew '24
- Alex Riemann '24
- Irene Wang '22

SILVER KEY AWARD

- Ellie Barlow '23
- Jordis Martin '24

HONORABLE MENTION AWARD

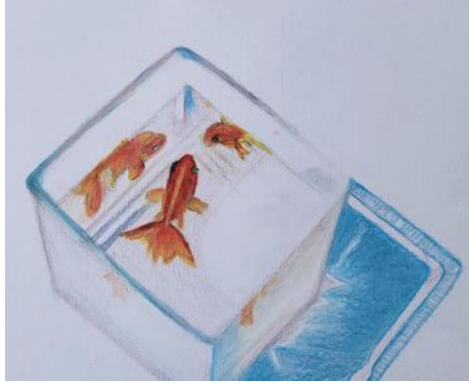
- Hayden Bortz (2 awards) '22
- Sydney Bortz '23
- Oliver Folan '22
- Sarah Fu '25
- Jordis Martin '24
- Sam Nitzberg '22
- Will Schiff '24
- Colin Ray '24
- Caroline Van Landuyt '23
- Alexia Vegas-Lander '23
- Irene Wang (2 awards) '22
- Katie Wang '24

Less than 2,000 works received a national medal, which places Krithika in the top 1% of all submissions. Her winning image represents a piece from her AP sustained investigation on internalized cultural racism.

Since 1923, the Scholastic Arts Awards have celebrated teen artists from across the country. Krithika joins the legacy of notable Scholastic Arts Awards alumni, including Stephen King, Kay WalkingStick, Charles White, Joyce Carol Oates, Andy Warhol, and Richard Avedon.



"Dancing on Ice" by Sarah Fu '25 won an honorable mention



"A Room with a View" by Katie Wang '24 received an honorable mention

"Country Day is incredibly proud of Krithika's accomplishment in earning national recognition and of how she has used her art to explore and express her identity," said Head of Upper School Jenn Weinheimer. "In addition to the vulnerability of this work, her refined technique demonstrates her confidence and skill. Krithika is a quiet – but never a timid – student; her academic accomplishments in AP Spanish, AP calculus, honors physics, and many other courses demonstrate her pursuit of excellence and her unique passions."

More than 100,000 students submitted more than 260,000 works of art for the 2022 Scholastic Awards. The work is selected by some of the foremost leaders in the visual arts for excellence in originality, technical skills, and the emergence of a personal voice or vision.



"Middle Area" by Shay Kinebrew '24 earned a Gold Key Award.

A TRUE TEACHER

FROM THE VERY BEGINNING

When you walk into Emily DiMatteo's classroom, you'll see a huge bookcase filled with enough books to stock a small library. Instantly, you know you're in an English teacher's classroom. The eighth grade English teacher and K-12 English chair at Country Day has always been a true teacher at heart.

"I started teaching in 1995 at the age of six in the playroom of my basement," said DiMatteo. "My younger brother, Eric, was a reluctant student, but I had no problem creating – and then completing – my worksheets when he was unavailable. So, all's to say – I've always wanted to be a teacher!"

Emily attended Summit Country Day School for middle and high school but spent the summer before her senior year of college teaching seventh grade English at Cincinnati Country Day School as part of Breakthrough Cincinnati. She then studied English language and literature and secondary English education at the University of Virginia.



For CCDX Week, Emily leads a 'cupcake wars'-style course during which students learn teamwork, baking skills, budgeting, marketing, and more.

"I always enjoyed reading and writing as a student. My interest in teaching these subjects intensified during college, and then working and volunteering in various schools in and out around Charlottesville, Virginia," said DiMatteo.

When she and her family moved back to Cincinnati from Texas four years ago, she knew she wanted to teach here.

"I jumped at the chance to work, once again, at Country Day! I love the sense of community here. I get to study literature with students, but I also get to run with them at cross country practice and run into them after school as I raise my three Country Day kiddos," said DiMatteo. "Opportunities like CCDX Week give teachers and students a chance to deepen their knowledge and skillsets and interact with each other in different ways. It's a wonderful place to work and a great community to be a part of as a parent and fellow learner."

Though Emily loves reading, don't ask her to pick what her favorite book is to teach.

"I fall in love with books by teaching them, so they're all my favorite in some ways," she said. "But I love studying allegories with eighth graders—*Animal Farm, The Little Prince*, and *The Crucible* are all past and present favorites, and I'm excited to teach *Challenger Deep*, a more contemporary allegory about mental health and wellness, next year."

And her favorite Country Day memory so far? A Shakespearian comedy.

"My first year at Country Day, I taught Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* for the first time. I had taught Shakespeare before, but never his comedies," she said. "I was nervous about how students would respond. Shakespeare's brand of comedy can be challenging to appreciate hundreds of years later. However, we had the opportunity to see the play performed downtown at the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company. Even though the show was a comedy, I cried halfway through the play. But, of course, these were tears of joy. As I looked around and saw my students laughing and enjoying the play, I couldn't help but shed a few tears and realize how lucky I am to experience moments like these at Country Day."



A Country Day tradition - Like many teachers, Emily also coaches during the school year. Pictured here is the middle school cross country team.



As the K-12 English chair, Emily is tasked with presenting English awards in the Middle School and Upper School at the end of the school year.

CCDX

CINCINNATI COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

CCDX is an experiential learning week that began as an outgrowth of Country Day Forward, the school's long-range plan that has launched several initiatives aimed at enriching our students' learning. This year, CCDX 3.0 took place the week before spring break and students from 18 months to 18 years participated.

"CCDX Week is the future of school," said Head of School Rob Zimmerman '98. "It's exactly the kind of thing our school should be doing. We are always thinking of ways we can offer more learning like this throughout the year to make it foundational to the learning experience we provide."

From building and launching rockets to hosting a Naturalization Ceremony or participating in a "Law and Order" courtroom trial, students learned a plethora of new skills during CCDX Week. For months, teachers and students worked hard to develop a variety of classes and projects across all divisions and disciplines.



Students learning basic building skills by participating in the Benchtop Shower Module course.

Benchtop Shower Module

The scope of this CCDX course was to introduce basic building techniques to a small group of Upper School students that had expressed an interest in working with their hands. The main objective of this course was to expose the students to hands-on learning beyond the textbook or curriculum, giving them the chance to implement creative problem solving and fine-tune their hand-eye coordination.

Throughout the week, the students learned practical skills of building and construction. Their culminating project was the installation of a shower stall, including framing, plumbing, tiling, electrical wiring, and drywalling.

"This was an intensely deep dive into the world of design and building technology," explained Eric Day, Country Day parent, owner of Transom Design/Build, and course facilitator. "The aim of this project was not just to expose students to construction; the experience could start a possible career path spark to so many fields – project management, architecture, product design, graphic design, engineering, real estate, industrial arts. Our hope was that by the end of the course, the students would be able to master some new skills to apply around their own homes, understand the career possibilities in the construction industry, and feel more confident in their desire to learn with their hands."

Throughout the course, Day emphasized to the students that they could take what they learn from the course and apply that creative thinking process to other facets of their lives – from class projects to college research papers.

"Knowing that the students now feel more confident in using these unique skills in their everyday lives was definitely rewarding. But the smiles on the kids' faces was the best part of the course for me."

Hosting a Naturalization Ceremony

"Here today there is only happiness."
- U.S. District Court Judge Susan Dlott

This is what CCDX Week is all about – making lifelong memories and learning about moments bigger than us. As part of the third grade students' project on immigration, the school hosted a Naturalization Ceremony in our own backyard. Representatives from Senator Sherrod Brown's Office, Senator Rob Portman's Office, Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, the American Red Cross, and more also participated in this special day. 50 applicants from all over world became citizens in the Carey Family Amphitheater as students, staff, and faculty watched and cheered.



U.S District Court Judge Susan Dlott welcomed one of the country's newest citizens during the Naturalization Ceremony.

Follow the Leader – YOU

Angela Joiner, director of EDI & SEL, said she and Melynda Bowers, our Children's Hospital mental health therapist, created this course offering for Middle School students because "we wanted to create an experience for students that spoke to our new mission."

From Day 1, that is exactly what the course did. On the first day, the students participated in formal leadership training at Camp Kern. For the rest of the course, the students took their learning back to school and created a plan to apply what they learned to an experience on our campus. Their idea was to create a leadership challenge course.

"At Country Day, we recognize that life is full of challenges, and we want students to take advantage of those challenges as opportunities for growth, learning, and leadership," explained Joiner. "Leaders become successful by following, leading, and taking healthy risks, and that is what these team-building activities aimed to accomplish."



Students learn even more about the power of teamwork in the Follow the Leader - YOU course.

The students identified the course location, objective, and team-building activities while having fun outdoors and developing physical and mental toughness. They also created reflection questions the teachers could ask their students after they completed the course.

"Everyone in the CCDX course took a leadership role in one way or another," said Joiner. "Everyone is a leader, and everyone can lead. Throughout CCDX Week, these students recognized their own leadership skills and those of their peers. It was powerful to see."

Wilderness & Remote First Aid

Led by Upper School teacher John Christiansen and Will Griffin '23, this course aimed to teach advanced skills for use in remote emergencies when help from professional first responders may be far away.

"Last year at my semester boarding school in Idaho, I took a wilderness first aid course and that is when my passion for wilderness medicine was ignited," said Griffin. "I learned important lessons about how to manage risk safely in the wilderness and these guiding principles are the main reasons I've stayed relatively uninjured in the backcountry."

So, when Mr. Christiansen approached Griffin about this opportunity, he couldn't resist.

"I wanted to educate some of my likeminded peers and hopefully impress upon them the importance of risk management," continued Griffin. "One of the important skills this course teaches is how to conduct yourself in stressful situations. My goal for teaching this course was to make sure my peers learned how to safely recreate in the wilderness and apply the methods they learned in the course to not do dumb things because of a lack of knowledge."

Griffin said he learned a lot by teaching the course as well. "After the course ended, I felt really fulfilled by accomplishing what I set out to do. I feel confident that I can improve as an instructor and businessman and am excited for the potential this course has. So much so that I contacted my boss at True



Will Griffin '23 sets the stage for practicing remote first aid with a little help from theatrical makeup.

Community, and we came up with a plan for how to run these classes on a more continued basis."

This CCDX course was based on the Boy Scouts of America Wilderness First Aid Curriculum and Doctrine Guidelines and aligned with OSHA's Best Practices for Workplace First Aid Training Programs. It also is not taught anywhere else in the Midwest. As a result, Griffin worked with the school to change that. With the inaugural course offered this past May, Griffin now offers first aid wilderness training once a month on our campus. It is the only place in the Midwest to take this course.

"I think CCDX Week allowed me to express myself and my interests. At my previous school, this type of expression wasn't common and I'm so thankful Country Day has supported me in this process of self-expression. I feel like this course embodies Country Day's motto of Virtue in Action, not only in respect to promoting morally fulfilling skills, but also community service in wilderness education. The inspiring cohort of Country Day teachers has influenced my passion for teaching and has guided me i n gaining an outlet to do so. This type of support is uncharacteristic in most high schools and I'm so thankful I'm now at a place where I can express myself and grow as a teacher and businessman."



COUNTRY DAY'S DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA

Hema Magge '97 is Country Day's Distinguished Alumna for the 2022-23 year. Hema is a senior program officer for the Gates Foundation and focuses on global newborn health. Hema attended Harvard University and then UPenn for medical school. She did her pediatric residency at the University of California San Fransisco, and then a fellowship in health services research in Boston. She then spent the last 10 years learning and immersing in global health and equity working with NGOs in Africa – five years in Rwanda with Partners in Health and then four years in Ethiopia before returning to the United States in March 2020 to work for the Gates Foundation. We will recognize her during Homecoming Weekend in September.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BENCHES

For the last three years, Middle School students have collected, sorted, cleaned, and weighed 533 pounds of bottle caps, which have been transformed into two eight-foot, 250-pound benches.

"These students are investing in their school community. They are learning that mini-steps and micro-actions can add up and make a big difference. I think what's most important is that they are learning resilience, hard work, and celebration."

- Rick Schoeny, Middle School teacher







GIVING DAY *Recap*

On May 3, Country Day held its annual Giving Day, the culminating event in our fundraising year. This year, gifts from current and alumni families, grandparents, friends, and our faculty and staff combined for more than $180,000, surpassing our goal by $30,000. Some were first-ever gifts, others represented second or third gifts in the year, and many included supportive messages to our teachers, staff, and students. Most importantly, EVERY gift helps Country Day to deliver an outstanding education for its students.

Thank you for your continued support!







THE DOWN-LOW ON LO-POE!

Lois Poe Rust is Country Day's Jill-of-all-trades. In her 41 years as a member of the Country Day community, she's been a parent, a teacher, an event coordinator, the director of fine arts, a member of the Parents' Association, and always the life of any Country Day gathering.

Lois first came to Country Day when she enrolled her eldest of three sons in kindergarten. At the time, she did not know she would become so involved.

"I have a background in broadcasting and performing, and I heard a rumor the school needed someone to help with drama classes, so I volunteered and that started my whole career here," said Rust.

Currently, Rust teaches middle school drama, and she is the event coordinator, organizing and planning everything from Parents' Association coffees to International Night to commencement.

"My favorite role so far is what I'm doing now," said Rust. "I love being the middle school drama teacher, I have been doing the eighth grade musical for 35 years now, and I never fail to be so blown away by the students' performances. I always tell them, "if you can do this in eighth grade, you can do anything!"

Even though all three of her sons graduated years ago, Lois stays at Country Day for two reasons - her love for the students and her passion for learning.

"I love the energy middle school students have!" said Rust. "I couldn't ever imagine not teaching them. This is what I'm supposed to be doing."

Lois is somewhat of a student herself, always jumping at any opportunity to learn at Country Day. In 2018, she received the Patterson-Strauss Travel Grant, which funds a summer sabbatical program for senior faculty. She traveled to Malaga, Spain, to work on conversational Spanish and embrace the Spanish culture.

"I love being here because Country Day instills the love of learning in everyone on campus. I look forward to learning something new every year." said Rust. "Whether it's through teaching a sixth grade student or learning about different cultures through planning International Night, I'm involved in many things on campus that truly enrich my life every day."

Five Seniors Named National Merit Finalists, Two Received Scholarships

This spring, seniors Christian Fitzpatrick, Pooja Kantemneni, Victor Nica, Alistair Norwood, and Margaret Sprigg-Dudley were named National Merit Finalists.

"For these five students, their recognition this fall as National Merit Finalists - and the opportunity for scholarship money - is only one of many accolades in their successful academic journeys," said Head of Upper School Jenn Weinheimer.

Pooja Kantemneni and Margaret Sprigg-Dudley were also named National Merit Scholarship Corporation scholarship winners. Sprigg-Dudley, who will be attending Northwestern University next year, was awarded $2,500 and said every bit counts. "It's an exciting achievement and any financial support is useful going into college. It's great to be recognized."

According to the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, approximately 1.5 million high school students enter the program each year and only 96 students in Ohio received scholarships through the National Merit Scholarship Corporation this year.

"All five of these students are members of Cum Laude and have taken some of the most challenging course loads offered at Country Day," said Weinheimer. "In addition, they have participated in various extracurricular programs and have served the school as leaders in the classroom and through clubs, competitions, and athletics. We are proud to call them members of the Country Day community, and we know they will continue to find success in college and beyond."



National Merit Finalists (from left to right) Victor Nica, Pooja Kantemneni, Alistair Norwood, Margaret Sprigg-Dudley, and Christian Fitzpatrick.

Science Olympiad Team Had an Impressive Year Winning 19 Medals at Regionals



Though the team did not win at the state tournament, they had an impressive performance at the regional tournament, finishing 2nd out of 15 teams, earning 19 medals total.

The Science Olympiad team is no stranger to the state tournament. This year marked their 14th year in a row competing at the state level.

The team, led by Upper School faculty members Jon Franzosa, Jill Jaksetic, and Paula Butler, with additional tech support from Jamie Back, had tremendous success this year, coming in 2nd place at regionals in March.

THE TEAM CONSISTS OF:
Drew Bagnoli '22
Krithika Dama '22
Christian Fitzpatrick '22
Marley Handler '24
Cole Harten '22
Daniel Hong '22
Weison Huang '23
Shane Jones '22
Pooja Kantemneni '22
Jordan Lowe '25
Devon Michalski '23
Miki Ozawa '23
Joshua Williamson '23
Kevin Yang '24

"The Science Olympiad is one of the nation's most prestigious team science and technology competitions," said Upper School teacher and Science Olympiad coach Paula Butler. "This year, our students demonstrated their skills and knowledge by participating in 23 events; it's a huge accomplishment."

Medals are awarded for 6th place or better (against 14 competitors) in each event. Some of the events that Country Day students competed in consist of Ping-Pong Parachute, Experimental Design, Detector Building, Environmental Chemistry, and more.

THE MEDAL WINNERS ARE:

First place
Daniel Hong '22
Weison Huang '23

Second place
Christian Fitzpatrick '22
Weison Huang '23

Third place
Drew Bagnoli '22
Christian Fitzpatrick '22
Marley Handler '24
Weison Huang '23
Daniel Hong '22
Shane Jones '22
(three third-place medals)
Pooja Kantemneni '22
Jordan Lowe '25
Miki Ozawa '23
Joshua Williamson '23

Fourth place
Krithika Dama '22
Christian Fitzpatrick '22,
Marley Handler '24 (two fourth-place medals)
Cole Harten '22
Daniel Hong '22
Pooja Kantemneni '22
Jordan Lowe '25
(two fourth-place medals)
Devon Michalski '23
Joshua Williamson '23

Fifth place
Drew Bagnoli '22
Marley Handler '24
Cole Harten '22
Jordan Lowe '25

Sixth place
Drew Bagnoli '22
(two sixth-place medals)
Shane Jones '22
Miki Ozawa '23
Kevin Yang '24
(two sixth-place medals)

Congratulations to all students on the Science Olympiad team for their success this year.

Class trips are back!

Middle school students enjoyed the fifth and sixth grade ski trip, the sixth grade trip to Camp Joy, the seventh grade trip to Cherokee and the eighth grade trip to Washington, D.C. These trips are what make the school experience special and proves learning can happen anywhere.













Country Day Students from all Divisions Find Passion and Success through Dance



Siblings Ali Zimmerman ’26 and Caroline Zimmerman ’30 share a love of Irish Dance. Ali has been dancing for eight years, competing in solo and team events at the regional, national, and international level as a champion. Caroline has been dancing for six years. She has competed in regional, national, and international competitions, including the 50th annual CLRG World Championships of Irish Dance in Belfast this past April, where only the top 1% of dancers qualify to compete. She qualified for the world championships by placing 9th at the US Nationals in Phoenix, Arizona in July 2021.



Katie Wang ’24 is a member of the varsity golf team, an officer for EDI Council, and the founder of the Country Day Asian Pacific Islander Cultural Society. She has also been dancing for eight years. In September, she became a National Dance Champion at the Star System National Competition, as the Top Solo Artist performer.



While Sashti Subramaniam ’28 may only be in middle school, she already holds a world record in dance. Sashti is in the India Book of Records, Asia Book of Records, and the Guinness Book of World Records for holding her place among the most people to perform a choreographed dance via an online relay with 139 other people. To achieve the record, she practiced for six months, sometimes staying up until midnight for rehearsals. She is the youngest member of the 140-person team.

Receiving Recognition for Female Representation in Computer Science



This year, Cincinnati Country Day School earned the College Board AP Computer Science Female Diversity Award, which recognizes schools that are closing the gender gap and expanding access to AP computer science classes and coursework to young women.

The College Board honored schools that have either reached 50% or higher female examinee representation in one of or both AP computer science courses or whose percentage of the female examinees met or exceeded that of the school’s female population. This year, 1,020 schools received this designation, including only 15 in Ohio.

Eight Country Day students took the AP computer science course last year, four of whom were girls. Upper School STEAM teacher and Makerspace coordinator Jamie Back said that the group was one of the most enthusiastic classes.

“The students were always pushing themselves to solve problems, build their codes, and try new things, even if they failed,” said Back. “Not only did they learn a lot, but they had fun doing so, which is an important component of life-long learning.”

Providing female students with access to computer science courses is critical to ensuring gender parity in the industry’s high-paying jobs and driving innovation, creativity, and representation. The median annual wage for computer and information technology occupations was $91,250 in May 2020. However, a code.org analysis of 2017 Bureau of Labor Statistics data found that women represent just 24% of the five million people in computing occupations. In addition, computing jobs are the number one source of new wages in the United States. Although 67% of all new jobs in STEM are in computing, only 11% of STEM bachelor’s degrees are in computer science.

“Everything we do is based on software,” said Back. “If women are not represented in the development of this software, whatever you’re making will miss a considerable portion of the population. Programs are only as good as the people who make them, and we need women in these rooms, developing and testing and making these decisions.”

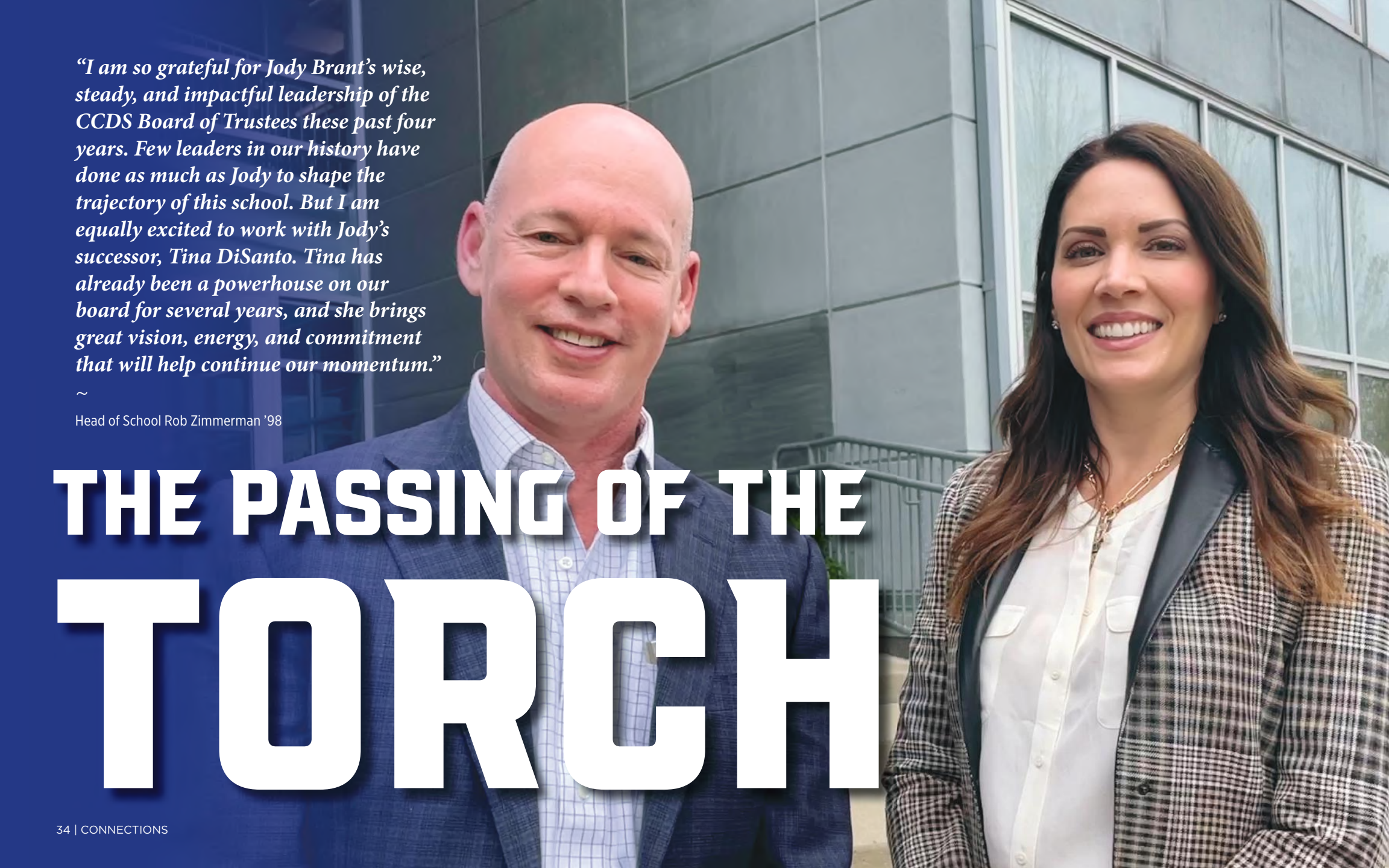
KNOWN. NURTURED. INSPIRED.

"I am so grateful for Jody Brant's wise, steady, and impactful leadership of the CCDS Board of Trustees these past four years. Few leaders in our history have done as much as Jody to shape the trajectory of this school. But I am equally excited to work with Jody's successor, Tina DiSanto. Tina has already been a powerhouse on our board for several years, and she brings great vision, energy, and commitment that will help continue our momentum."

~

Head of School Rob Zimmerman '98

THE PASSING OF THE TORCH



This July, Tina DiSanto will take on the role of Board of Trustees president, and while Jody Brant ’87 is ready for the transition, it is not without a nostalgic look back.

“It’s hard to name one thing that has been the most rewarding,” explained Brant. “I tell people this has been my favorite volunteer role and it’s because of the great people I have worked with and this institution I love. It is also because it involved my kids. All those things overlapping made it the most fun I’ve had in a volunteer role.”

Typically the board president serves three years, but Brant took on an extra year due to the head of school transition and the fact that Head of School Rob Zimmerman ’98 was originally slated to assume the role of board president.

“One thing I am convinced of – especially after these four years – is that if you pull together a diverse group of people who care about the school, you’re going to get the best possible outcome,” said Brant.

His primary goal when he took on the position was to leave the school in better shape than when he started, and he feels that was accomplished.

“Throughout all of the challenges of the past four years, it’s been inspiring to see Jody’s level of commitment,” said DiSanto.

Her goal is to build on the strength that Jody has established.

“The school is on this incredible trajectory that we need to capitalize on by building a strong strategic plan as we head into our centennial. Combining our rich history and tradition with the future and what that looks like is an incredibly exciting opportunity. When we hit 100 years, I know this school will be the best version of itself.”

Brant and DiSanto have been working closely for the last six months to prepare for the transition but have worked together much longer than that. They served as co-chairs for the head of school search committee and both are experienced Country Day parents. And while Brant served on Alumni Council, DiSanto served as speaker chair on the Parents’ Association.

“My favorite thing about Country Day is that it is all encompassing,” said DiSanto. “I didn’t go to a private school, so I didn’t have an experience like this. I’m in awe of the breadth of things students get to experience at school. Kids get to try out a whole bunch of things and are exposed to not just learning and academia but lifelong friendships.”

Jody couldn’t agree more.

“When I think back to when I was a student here, my favorite memories are from my time on the basketball team my senior year. I was not a great basketball player which is an understatement. No one will remember anything I did on the basketball court. I played on the junior varsity team for three years and rode the varsity bench my senior year. We had a great team that year and went 21-3. I felt like I contributed to our success through working hard in practice and supporting my teammates. That year was special because I felt like I contributed to something bigger than myself and I started to learn how to provide leadership to a group even though I served in a supporting role.”

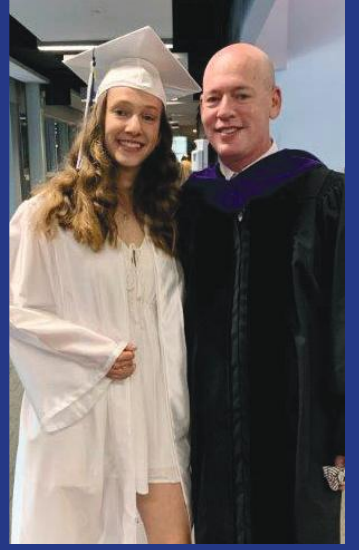
And while he didn’t fully understand how much his time as a Country Day student impacted him until he was older, he is happy knowing his children will most likely arrive at the same conclusion.

“I don’t know if my daughters look back at school as fondly as I do yet, but it has been gratifying to witness their growth and I am proud of the people they have become. Country Day had a lot to do with that. Listening to current students and alumni talk about their experiences at Country Day justifies the time we put into making this school as amazing as possible.”

In looking to the future, Brant has no doubts that the school is in great hands.



Jody and his daughter Samantha ’19.



Jody and his daughter Nora ’21.

“When my family moved to Cincinnati and joined the Country Day community, I knew I wanted to get heavily involved in any way possible, especially at the strategic level,” said DiSanto. “When I was asked about assuming the role of board president, I had concerns about the time commitment but when I thought about where I wanted to spend my time volunteering, I realized it was a gift to serve a school that I feel so passionate about.”

Brant said that DiSanto’s name surfaced quickly in the board committee.

“One of the neat things about this transition is the contrast of what Tina and I bring to this role,” said Brant. “I’m a Cincinnati native and spent my entire elementary and high school career at Country Day. My kids have been here since kindergarten. I come from a legal background. Tina is almost the complete opposite. She comes from a background in customer service and human resources that will bring something different and special to this role. My kids have graduated while her kids are still young. She brings a fresh perspective and voice, and I can’t wait to watch this school thrive under her leadership.”



Greg Ross, Cam Alldred, and Tim Dunn

Country Day Alum Called Up to Pittsburg Pirates

Cam Alldred '15 made his MLB debut on March 12, pitching relief for the Pittsburgh Pirates with a perfect 7th inning and his first MLB strike-out.

Alldred attended the University of Cincinnati on a baseball scholarship and was drafted by the Pirates in 2018. His first MLB game took place against the Cincinnati Reds.

While at Country Day, Alldred was named the Ohio Division IV State Player of the Year in baseball in 2015. He also led the Country Day football team to back-to-back 10-0 seasons and two playoff appearances as the quarterback. In basketball, he led Country Day to the MVC championship and was named Player of the Year and first team all-city.



"Cam is one of the best athletes I've seen in my 20 years at Country Day. As a three-sport athlete, he shined in football, basketball, and baseball," said Greg Ross, associate athletic director. "I am so proud of him and look forward to watching him pitch in the big leagues. He has earned this opportunity with hard work, persistence, and determination."

Swimming and Diving



Ave Hettinger, Annie Gammon, Isabel Ramirez, and Caroline Ramirez in the pool at the state meet.

This season, senior diver Camille Huxol and sophomore swimmers Annie Gammon, Caroline Ramirez, Isabel Ramirez, and Ava Hettinger competed in the state swimming and diving meet.

Camille finished 13th in the finals for diving, and she will continue her diving career next year at Pamona College.

The 200-freestyle relay team, consisting of Annie, Ava, Caroline, and Isabel, finished 22nd out of 49 teams.

Caroline Ramirez finished 9th in the 100 backstroke and 15th in the 50 freestyle.

"For four sophomores, getting to state is a monumental achievement and I know they'll be right back here in 2023," said Nat Tracey-Miller '05, head coach.

2021-2022 WINTER SPORTS RECAP

GIRLS BASKETBALL: Record 21-6
State Final Four, Regional Champions, District Champions, Sectional Champions, 2nd place in the conference

Miami Valley Conference Awards
First Team: *Sarah Zimmerman '22, Grace Barnes '23
Second Team: Megan Zimmerman '24
Honorable Mention: Elizabeth Zimmerman '24, Sam Easter '24

District 16 Awards
Coach of the Year: John Snell
First Team: Grace Barnes '23, Sarah Zimmerman '22, Megan Zimmerman '24
Second Team: Elizabeth Zimmerman '24, Sam Easter '24

Cincinnati Enquirer Awards
Coach of the Year: John Snell
Player of the Year: Sarah Zimmerman '22
First Team: Sarah Zimmerman '22, Grace Barnes '23, Megan Zimmerman '24
Second Team: Elizabeth Zimmerman '24
Honorable Mention: Sam Easter '22

State Awards
Coach of the Year: John Snell
Second Team: *Sarah Zimmerman '22
Honorable Mention: Grace Barnes '23

*Sarah Zimmerman played in the Cincinnati All-Star game and the State North-South game.

BOYS BASKETBALL: Record 18-4
Miami Valley Conference Champions

Miami Valley Conference Awards
Coach of the Year: Greg Ross
First Team: Ashton Snell '22, Jackson Campbell '22
Second Team: Eugene Burse '22, Joe Gibson '23
Honorable Mention: Shepard Snell '24, Bryce Snell '25

District 16 Awards
Honorable Mention: Ashton Snell '22

Cincinnati Enquirer Awards
Honorable Mention: Ashton Snell '22, Jackson Campbell '22

*Ashton Snell played in the Cincinnati All-Star game.

SWIMMING & DIVING:
The girls team finished in 4th place and the boys team finished in 5th place in the conference

Miami Valley Conference Awards
First Team: Caroline Ramirez '24

Cincinnati Enquirer Awards
Second Team: Caroline Ramirez '24, Camille Huxol '22

State Qualifiers
Annie Gammon '24, Camille Huxol '22, Ava Hettinger '24, Caroline Ramirez '24, Isabel Ramirez '24

WRESTLING:
4th place finish in the conference

Miami Valley Conference Awards
First Team: Tristen Davis '23

Cincinnati Enquirer Awards
Honorable Mention: Tristen Davis '23, Bradley Donovan '25, Kyle Collett '23

"One of the great virtues of sports is how it can allow a student to develop – through discipline, teamwork, and commitment – what might not have seemed possible before. Athletics is uniquely powerful in the process of personal self-discovery, often kindled by outstanding coaches."

-Head of School Rob Zimmerman '98



Girls Basketball Team Made Historic Run to State

For the first time in school history, the girls basketball team made it to the OHSAA state final four tournament. After a historic run, the team fell in the state semifinals to New Knoxville 39-29, but it was still a tremendous season.

To get to the state tournament, the team defeated number one ranked Fort Loramie in the regional game. This game was the moment things shifted for Country Day and the historic run truly began. Before the game, Fort Loramie had only lost two games in the season.

"This means a whole lot to us for sure," basketball coach John Snell said after the Fort Loramie game. "Our seniors really stepped up and said, 'Hey, let's do this!' and we just followed along with them. It was something that we really geared up for together and something I'll never forget."

The magic on the court this past season was due in part to the three Zimmerman sisters. Sarah '22, who also played soccer and softball, and her twin sisters, Megan and Elizabeth '24, who also played soccer and lacrosse, pushed each other on and off the court.

"It gets competitive, especially with me and Megan because we are twins," Elizabeth told Spectrum News. "And then with Sarah, she is older so it has always been like she is better but Sarah and I get mad at each other, too. Sometimes there will be some fights in practice, but at the end of the day we are all friends."

The whole Country Day community came together to support the team at the state tournament in the University of Dayton Arena in March. A field trip was organized for middle and upper school students while and staff and lower school students watched from campus. In total, seven buses full of Nighthawk fans made the trip to the game.

"This has been my favorite team I've ever played on. For me, it's not always about winning; it's about the experience," said Sarah Zimmerman after the semifinal game loss. "I feel like maybe on a different day, it's a different result. I could not be prouder of my team and couldn't be happier about how this season went."

New Pole Vaulting Record Set



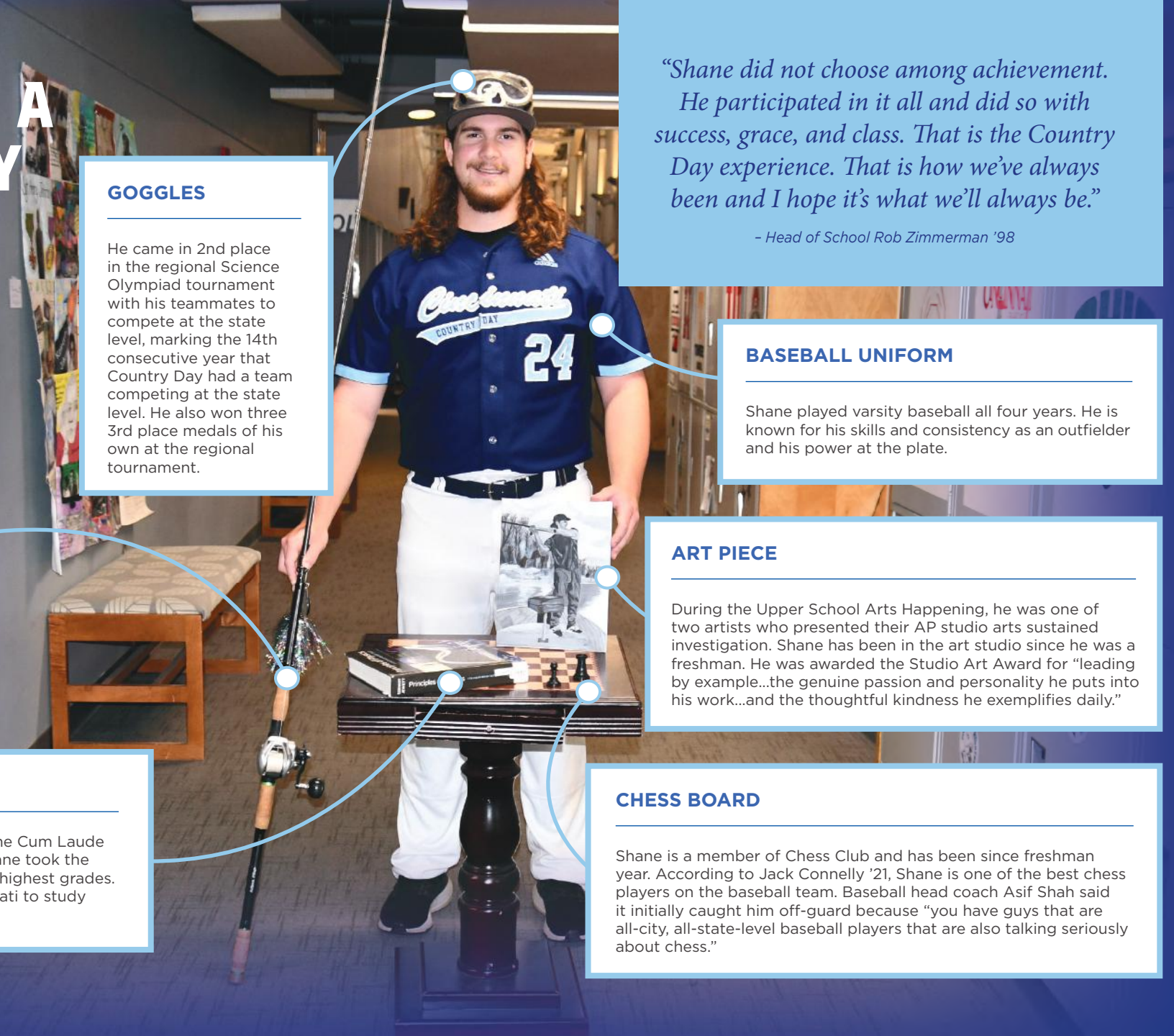
Sophomore Emma Kate Schnieber set a new school record for pole vaulting, clearing 8'9" and beating the previous 8'6" record.

"As her dad and one of her pole-vaulting coaches, I get the unique perspective to see how hard she works at everything she does. Whether it's her commitment to schoolwork or to pole vaulting, Emma Kate is intrinsically motivated and goal oriented."

- Casey Schnieber

PORTRAIT OF A COUNTRY DAY GRADUATE

Featuring Shane Jones '22



"Shane did not choose among achievement. He participated in it all and did so with success, grace, and class. That is the Country Day experience. That is how we've always been and I hope it's what we'll always be."

– Head of School Rob Zimmerman '98

GOGGLES

He came in 2nd place in the regional Science Olympiad tournament with his teammates to compete at the state level, marking the 14th consecutive year that Country Day had a team competing at the state level. He also won three 3rd place medals of his own at the regional tournament.

BASEBALL UNIFORM

Shane played varsity baseball all four years. He is known for his skills and consistency as an outfielder and his power at the plate.

FISHING POLE

"I like to fish for fun and then document it through my artwork. It made sense to use my sustained investigation to showcase the fish I have caught, the people that I go fishing with, and where I like to fish." Shane is usually found fishing with his friend Drew Bagnoli '22 at Caesars Creek and East Fork Lake.

ART PIECE

During the Upper School Arts Happening, he was one of two artists who presented their AP studio arts sustained investigation. Shane has been in the art studio since he was a freshman. He was awarded the Studio Art Award for "leading by example...the genuine passion and personality he puts into his work...and the thoughtful kindness he exemplifies daily."

BOOK

One of 15 seniors to be inducted into the Cum Laude Society for academic achievement, Shane took the highest-level courses and received the highest grades. He will attend the University of Cincinnati to study engineering in the fall.

CHESS BOARD

Shane is a member of Chess Club and has been since freshman year. According to Jack Connelly '21, Shane is one of the best chess players on the baseball team. Baseball head coach Asif Shah said it initially caught him off-guard because "you have guys that are all-city, all-state-level baseball players that are also talking seriously about chess."



Daisy as she reads the letter her eighth grade self wrote to her twelfth grade self.

SCAN HERE TO WATCH THE STATE OF THE SCHOOL VIDEO
(skip to 8:02 to watch Daisy's part in the video)

GETTING TO KNOW DAISY MCCLEAN '22

We sat down with Daisy to get her perspective on a school tradition – the eighth grade letter-writing project. Along the way, we found out some fun facts about Daisy. Read below and take the quiz! (Answers on page 60)

1. Which statement about Daisy is true?

A. She was class president.
B. She was asked to spike a volleyball at Head of School Rob Zimmerman '98 during a video shoot.
C. She received the Outstanding Volleyball Player & Leadership Award from the Ohio Valley Officials Association.
D. She works year-round at Little Miami Brewing Company.
E. She is a slushie expert.
F. All the above.

"I actually did wear heels to a dance so I wish I could tell her [my eighth grade self] that. I love that I started the letter with 'I'm so proud of you' although it made me think – would my eighth grade self really be proud? And I think she would be. I met all her goals and expectations, even if it's not how she pictured it. The acceptance of growth is my favorite thing about Country Day. I couldn't see myself excelling anywhere else like I have here."

2. In the fall she plans on taking a gap year to do what?

A. Teach and work at an orphanage in Uganda.
B. She's not taking a gap year – she's heading straight to the University of Maine!
C. Help with sustainability efforts in Peru.
D. Backpack around Europe to experience new cultures.

3. What was Daisy's reaction when she read her eighth grade letter to her twelfth grade self?

A. "I'm surprised by what I sound like!"
B. "I didn't know I said things like 'slay' and 'grrrrl'."
C. "I never thought I had a cringy phase but now I realize I did...and eighth grade was it."
D. "I didn't realize how boy crazy I was! And I think it's funny that I mentioned Hayden [Bortz '22] on my 'hottest guys in the grade' list because now he's one of my best friends."
E. All the above.

4. What advice does Daisy have for her eighth grade self?

A. Study all the time and don't do anything but study.
B. Have perseverance when it comes to yourself and remember – it's all not really that serious.
C. If you get involved, do so quietly.
D. Compare yourself to others because that's how you'll find out who you truly are.

5. What advice did Daisy's eighth grade self have for her twelfth grade self?

A. Have a party.
B. "I hope you didn't mess it up, but if you did just know you can always change."
C. Go on a road trip.
D. "If you're still 7'9" then wear some heels and slay."
E. All the above.

Charlie Connelly ’23 Selected to Participate in Highly Competitive Senate Page Program

Charlie Connelly ’23 is one of just 32 high school juniors across the country who did not take classes for the remainder of the 2021-22 school year. Instead, Charlie was selected to work as a page for the U.S. Senate in Washington, D.C.

“It’s an incredible opportunity and a huge transition for Charlie, as it would be for any high school student,” said Head of Upper School Jenn Weinheimer. “It is a formative decision that he’s making himself and a moment packed with incredible potential.”

The U.S. Senate Page Program is a national program for juniors in high school interested in exploring a career in politics. Charlie’s father participated in the program when he was a junior, and Charlie is now doing the same.

The page program is highly competitive and rigorous. The student pages are appointed and sponsored by a member of Congress. To apply, students must be juniors in high school, at least 16 years old before the appointment date, and have a minimum grade point average of 3.0.

“Charlie always works hard and uses his time wisely,” said Upper School teacher Jill Jaksetic. “He is the perfect candidate for this position, and he has expressed excitement about his participation in the program.”

“I’m learning so many important and valuable skills,” said Charlie. “I’m excited to come back to Country Day next year and use what I’ve learned in my classes.”

Update: As of time of this publication, Charlie is in the midst of the page program and is succeeding.



Senate pages attend early morning classes based on the courses they would be taking at their schools and then spend their afternoons and evenings as pages. They have limited free time, structured schedules, and no phones.

“It’s an intense program, with a lot of responsibility and trust given to a 16-year-old. Charlie is raising the bar for other Country Day students with this decision,” said Weinheimer.

Some of Charlie’s daily tasks consist of delivering correspondence and legislative material, taking messages for senators, preparing the chamber for Senate sessions, and carrying bills and amendments to the desk.

It’s a fantastic opportunity and one I’m not sure I would’ve pursued without Country Day,” said Connelly. “Being here has helped me push myself to try new things.”

A Middle School Tradition

The annual Pi Day numbers competition takes place every year on March 14th. This year, Delle Zamary ’29 took home the coveted prize of apple pie, bragging rights, and her name on the CCDS Pi Day plaque. Delle memorized 123 of the 100,000 digits of Pi. Who knows what number she’ll reach next year!

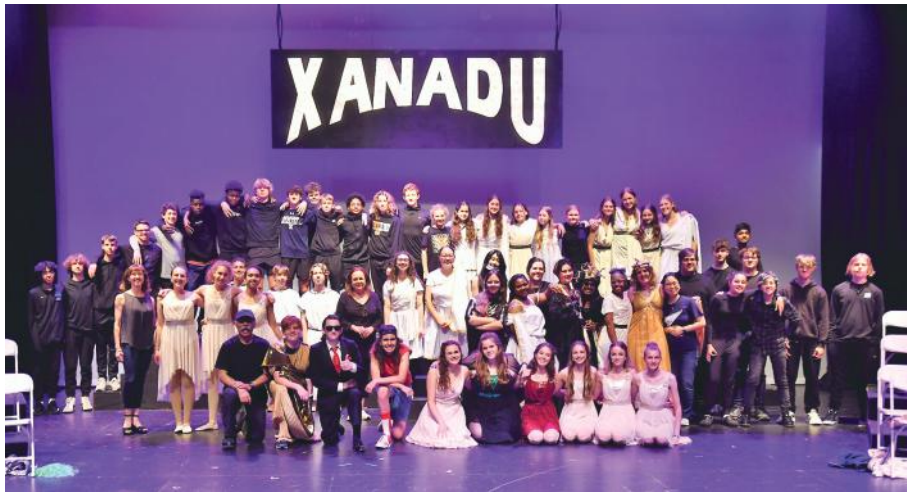


Eighth Grade Musical Xanadu Jr. Takes Country Day to Dream Land

“A place where nobody dared to go...the love that we came to know...they call it Xanadu.”

This spring, an incredibly talented cast of eighth grade students came together to put on Xanadu Jr., a moving and electrifying story of endless fun with legendary chart-topping hits like “I’m Alive”, “Magic”, and “ All Over The World.”

The eighth grade musical is a staple in the middle school curriculum. All eighth grade students participate. Students can choose to be part of the cast or crew or even both. This year the performance was anchored by Joey Mieher playing Sonny Malone and Delaney Gorman as Kitty. Both are strong performers who are no strangers to the stage, having performed with the Middle School band and choir as well as talent shows.



VIRTUE IN ACTION

Service learning is an integral component of the learning experience in all three divisions at Country Day and across all grade levels. Below is a sampling of what our students did last year.

"You have two hands. One to help yourself, the second to help others."

-Audrey Hepburn

IN THE LOWER SCHOOL:

- For second grade, the theme of CCDX Week was Service.
- On May 12, the Lower School held a service learning day. In their Character Virtue houses, they participated in various service projects. Compassion House students cleaned alpaca fur from Tikkun Farm to make clothing. Courage House students made candy bags with notes of encouragement for nursing home residents. Integrity House students worked at the 7125 House to help clean and spruce up the grounds. Respect House students made get well cards for children with cleft palates and made blankets for children in Ukraine. Responsibility House students assembled bags of hope to be distributed to people in need in our communities.

"Here at Country Day, we work to foster respect and compassion for all living things, promote understanding of all cultures and beliefs, and inspire everyone to take action to make the world a better place for people, animals, and the environment. It is important that our students are encouraged to practice their Virtue in Action. We want each of them to leverage these extraordinary opportunities and lessons they experience at CCDS to better the world around them."

- Laura Gunn, director of service learning at the upper school



Over the course of CCDX Week, second graders focused on five days of service related to our five Character Virtues – courage, compassion, integrity, respect, and responsibility. They made windchimes for the residents at Sem Haven Nursing Home in Old Milford. The students used recycled materials and ended the day with making individual flower arrangements and delivering them to various people on campus.

IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL:

- 130 books donated to Queen City Book Bank
- Raised $600 in donations for Ukraine relief efforts



Middle School students at the Turkey Train - a hallmark event of the service learning at Country Day.

In the middle school, the Character Virtue houses, led by eighth grade house leaders, morph into service groups. In August, the middle school ran a donation drive for the Boys and Girls Club of Cincinnati. In November, a dry foods drive for La Soupe. In January, a book drive for Queen City Book Bank, and in February, a Ukraine relief drive.

IN THE UPPER SCHOOL:

- Service Day at 7 different locations across all 4 grade levels
- Wrap-In for the Boys and Girls Club of Cincinnati
- Made sandwiches for Our Daily Bread
- Packaged food for LaSoupe
- Packaged resources and snacks for Operation Give Back
- Engaged in various volunteer opportunities on campus



Through our partnership with LaSoupe, an organization that distributes nutritious meals to food-insecure families in Cincinnati, Upper School students packaged over 50 boxes of food.







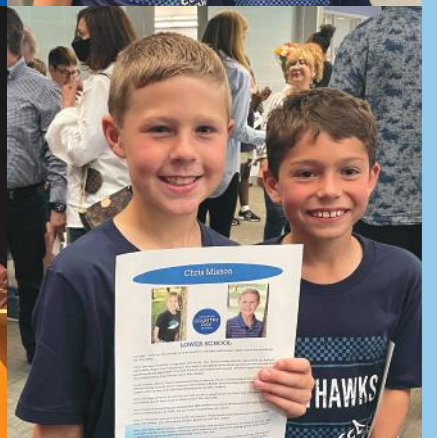


CLASS OF 2030

"I hope you've learned thus far the enormous importance of living the character virtues - responsibility, respect, integrity, courage, and compassion. I hope you find your time in the lower school a wonderful beginning to the next experiences coming in your life. We know how great you are going to be."

-Head of Lower School Mark Morawski





CLASS OF 2026

"Don't be followers. Country Day allows you to find your path, which doesn't have to follow any stereotypes… Do not take for granted the opportunities you have. Be able to look at yourself in the mirror in four years and know that you put forth your best effort… This class is incredibly talented. Stay tight as a group and celebrate the accomplishments with each other."

-Head of Middle School Theresa Hirschauer





















CLASS OF 2022

"Class of 2022, I hope you continue to laugh and smile and enjoy the little things in life just as we've done here. Continue to find the inspiration in each other, and let's never stop inspiring one another and those around us."

-Student Council President Zach Corbin



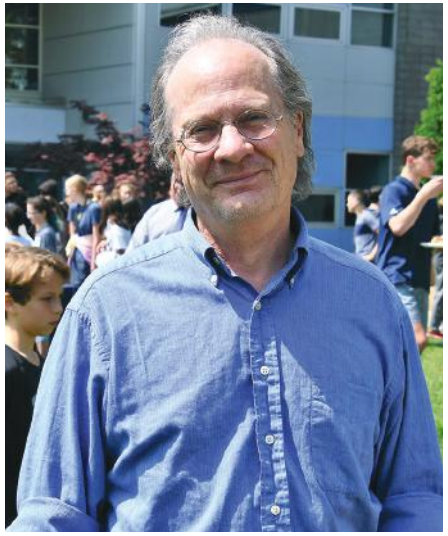






MICHAEL POGUE '71

RETURNS TO JOIN COUNTRY DAY FACULTY



As a long-term substitute teacher for eighth grade English, Michael Pogue '71 joins the ranks of nine fellow Cincinnati Country Day School alumni who now work at the school.

A veteran teacher of 30 years, Pogue talks about why he wanted to return, what he thinks is special about the school, and things he has noticed have changed…and have stayed the same.

What made you want to return?

I retired from public education two years ago and then home-schooled my grandchildren during the pandemic. This academic year was my first one without students in a long time, and frankly, I missed them so when I saw that CCDS had openings for both a full-time and a substitute English teacher, I was curious. I enjoyed my years here as a student, and both my children attended [Country Day] through elementary school. I was curious about what it would be like to come full circle and finish my teaching career here. Early in the interview process, I determined that subbing was a better fit for me than teaching full time, considering my age and energy (I graduated in 1971, after all!).

Where did life take you after college until now?

When I first got out of college [Trinity College & UC-CCM], I went into business as a writer and creative director. After 10 years, I decided to create my own ad firm, which I did for another five years. At age 38 I sold the company and enrolled at Xavier University, where I earned an MEd and my teaching license. At age 40, the Princeton City School District hired me to teach eighth grade English and I stuck around there for 28 years.

What is one thing you've noticed that has changed since you were a Country Day student?

Girls! We were an all-boys school in grades 7-12 back in '71. Also, the student dress code has changed quite a bit! Back in my day, students wore coats and ties, which sounds a good deal swankier than it was. In reality, we each kept our *one* dress jacket and *one* tie in our lockers all year round. They frayed and we smelled. But, of course, with no girls around, who cared?

What is one thing you've noticed that has stayed the same?

Academic standards and expectations have always been an important part of the Country Day experience. The curriculum here pushes students to explore, discover their capabilities, and excel just as it did in the 1960s when I was a Country Day student. Our GOAT class of '71 – with only 40 or so boys – produced seven doctors, seven lawyers, seven teachers, and seven ministers of various faiths. And one Jeff Spain.

What do you think is special about Country Day?

A lot! Small class sizes… truly talented and dedicated teachers and administrators…a caring, kid-centric environment…a collegial atmosphere among all staff…parents who remain involved throughout their kids' education…students who are bright, motivated, and well behaved…and of course, lunch (heck, I'd sub here just to get the lunch!).





CLAPPING OUT OUR SENIORS

One of the most memorable and emotional end-of-year traditions at Country Day is when teachers, staff, and students from all divisions line the sidewalks on campus to clap as seniors walk by wearing spirit wear from the colleges and universities where they will matriculate in the fall.

Before the Clap-Out, student council president Zach Corbin '22 addressed his fellow classmates in Keeler Theater one final time:

"Today is a special day. And it is a special day because me and 69 of my best friends are nearing the end of our journey - our roller coaster ride is ending. We've been through a lot this year, but we've done it together. We've achieved so much, but I am most proud of how we did it together, as one. Today, as the 70 of us walk the Clap-Out path, we are 70 pieces of one strong class. We represent a fierce Nighthawk spirit that will remain forever on this campus."







TO INFINITY AND...



Casey with his parents at his Country Day commencement ceremony.

As senior build reliability engineer at SpaceX, Casey Hopple '09 is used to thinking on his feet and creating solutions as he goes.

"'Extreme ownership' is a SpaceX thing and part of that includes constantly trying to come up with new solutions to new problems," explained Hopple. "SpaceX tries really hard to give you what you need to run. Working as a quality engineer, my job is to make sure we're not doing things so fast that it's not safe. I love my job. Everyone has unending amounts of energy and sometimes it's hard to keep up, but you just keep going. It's definitely not always easy."

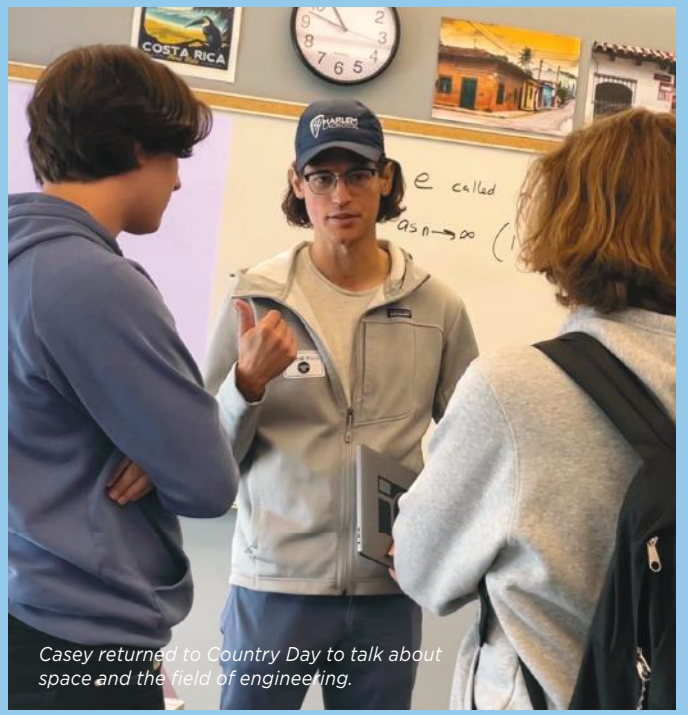
But Hopple has never desired taking on the simple tasks.

"I've always wanted to try new things and take on new challenges. Almost all my jobs have been on the teams that are not the easy ones. At SpaceX, we currently have the biggest manifest we've ever had and it's super exciting. SpaceX takes things that people say are impossible and then they do it. I love being part of a company that believes in pushing the envelope."

In December 2020, SpaceX reached out to Hopple via LinkedIn and asked him if he wanted a job in the Valves Build Reliability team. The timing was perfect.

Prior to working at SpaceX, Hopple worked at GE, which had been his employer since he joined the co-op program through Lehigh University after his sophomore year of college. He was then selected for the GE Edison Program, which is a three-year leadership program in which he obtained his master's degree in mechanical engineering through the University of Cincinnati. During the program, he gained experience on mechanical systems as well as product support and cultivated a foundation of engineering design skills.

"A huge piece that many engineers miss is thinking about how their decisions impact the customer and I got to see that pretty directly. Receiving questions directly from our airline customers helped me understand their pain points and issues."



Casey returned to Country Day to talk about space and the field of engineering.



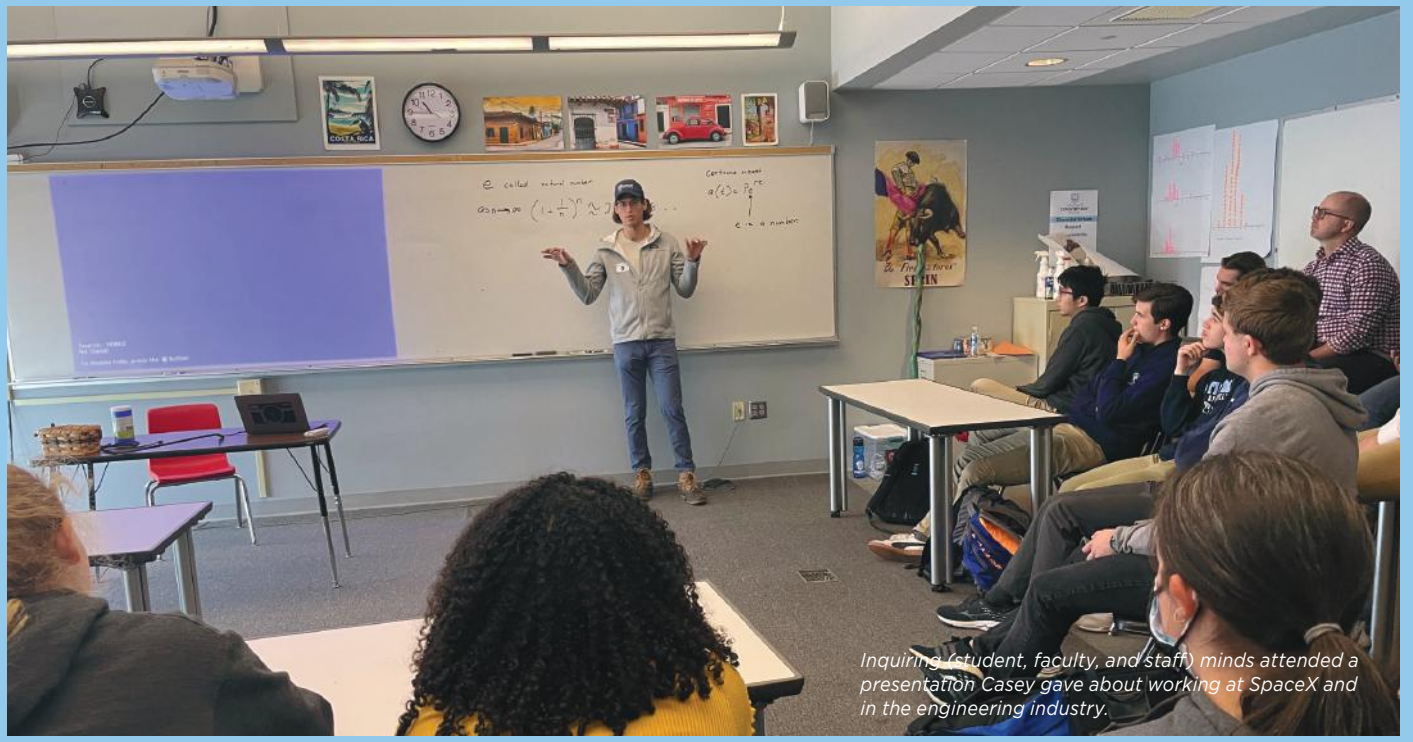
Casey outside of SpaceX, where he has been employed since March 2021.

After the program, he wanted more engineering experience, so he transitioned to the new product introduction side for a military program and worked for the last four years of his tenure at GE designing components for a NexGen fighter engine for the F35.

Hopple said majoring in mechanical engineering at Lehigh and minoring in aerospace was “a blessing in disguise. Mechanical engineering is everywhere and the basis of everything, but I always wanted to get back to the space side of aerospace.”



Casey catches up with Chuck McGivern, associate director of college counseling and Upper School English teacher.



Inquiring (student, faculty, and staff) minds attended a presentation Casey gave about working at SpaceX and in the engineering industry.

In March 2021, he started working at SpaceX.

“The first project that I was able to work on from start to finish was on Inspiration 4, the first full-civilian crew that has ever gone into orbit. It took months to build the pieces that went onto that rocket. It was cool to watch a launch that you helped with, but it was also nerve-racking because you know the inherent risks of space flight.”

During his time at Country Day, Hopple said he felt comfortable trying new things and taking risks because the school provided bumpers. Not only that but also “the faculty had the willingness to facilitate my path and sometimes in non-standard ways, like through class trips that give you a different perspective of the world. Sports were also awesome too – the school gives everyone a chance to jump in and play, and I loved being part of a team. But what I most remember most is that every teacher cared about what they taught so it made it more fun and engaging as a student.”

Hopple also participated in Breakthrough Cincinnati for two summers as a teacher, which he said gave him a broader perspective of the Cincinnati community and the chance to take on a leadership role, as well as appreciate the opportunities available at Country Day.

As a third-generation Country Day lifer, he feels there is a lot the school did to prepare him for his career path, especially by helping him understand the importance of building connections and presenting oneself professionally. Mostly, though, he encourages today’s students to pursue what they love.

“Everybody has different abilities in engineering. Do what you want, do what’s interesting, and don’t let people tell you it’s not feasible or that it’s too hard. We get caught up a lot in ‘what do I need to do to get into this school or get that job?’ and it’s good to set those expectations but don’t lose sight of the things that bring you joy. When you’re interested in something it shows and it becomes super visible when people are hiring you.”

As for Casey’s dream, he wants to be an astronaut one day. He has applied through NASA and will do so again, although his chances might be better with SpaceX. “Elon Musk was talking about needing ballast on future missions and I could be ballast. If I can sneak my way into being an astronaut, that would be amazing.”

And after he reaches the stars and lands back on Earth, we will keep our fingers crossed that he might join the ranks of the family members before him who worked at Country Day. “I was voted in my yearbook as most likely to come back to Country Day to teach, so who knows?”



Bob Buechner '65 participated in basketball, tennis, and golf. He helped lead the basketball team to a district championship. He was one of the top-ranked junior golfers in Cincinnati as well as one of the top doubles tennis players in Southwest Ohio. He was also an assistant boys basketball coach for eight years.

"In terms of having a wonderful athletic career at Cincinnati Country Day School, it was because of the teammates I had and the remarkable athletes they were. I accept this award on behalf of my teammates."

Robert W. Buechner is Chairman Emeritus of the law firm of Buechner Haffer Meyers & Koenig Co., L.P.A. in Cincinnati, Ohio. He is a graduate of Princeton University and the University of Michigan Law School. He has authored six books, published 18 articles, and has spoken at over 1,000 tax, financial, and motivational forums. He served as co-chair of "Champions for Urban Youth" which connects caring adults with inner city children and has served as chair on many organizations.



Chris Griffith '81 participated in basketball and track. He received All-MVC honors and All-City honors in basketball and track. He was a two-time state qualifier in track and placed 4th at the state meet. He held the school record in the high jump for 20 years. The rumor is that he might just be the first Country Day student-athlete to dunk a basketball.

"I found this place, this place that uplifted me and encouraged me to be who I wanted to be. It was more than a school; it was a place to call home. Without Country Day, I would still be Chris, but it would be unlikely that I would be Dr. Chris."

Dr. Marcus "Chris" Griffith specializes in psychiatry and obesity medicine. He is Diplomat of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology and the American Board of Obesity Medicine. Dr Griffith is employed by The Southeast Permanente Medical Group where he serves as the lead physician in the weight management department and practices psychiatry within the Department of Behavioral Health. Additionally, Dr. Griffith serves as a clinical assistant professor at both Morehouse and Emory University Schools of Medicine. Dr. Griffith has given lectures on the local, state, and national levels. He has been the recipient several local and national community service awards and has been involved with many charities.

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

On May 14, 2022, we celebrated our Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony. This year's inductees were all multi-sport athletes during their time at Cincinnati Country Day School.

THE CLASS OF 2020 INDUCTEES ARE:

Max Dietz '10

Chris Griffith '81

Ellie Off Pomeroy '96

THE CLASS OF 2021 INDUCTEES ARE:

Bob Buechner '65

JR Foster '98

Susan Pepper '95

"The bonds that sports help to create are enduring and indelible. Sports is one of the rare experiences in life that can break down divisions, bring people together, and create personal and institutional bonds which are not easily torn asunder."

Head of School Rob Zimmerman '98



Susan Pepper '95 participated in cross country, track, and swimming. She is a Heinichen Award recipient, which is presented to top female athletes at Country Day. She was MVC champion for three years in cross country and track and received All-City honors in cross country and track. She was a two-time state qualifier in cross country and track and placed 6th at the state meet.

"Now that I'm a parent myself, I'm perplexed how my coaches and my own parents had the energy to give so much and show up every day. Through sports, I learned about discipline and hard work and that stuck with me throughout my life – especially with my music."

Susan Pepper is a singer and traditional folk musician who has performed, taught, and studied Appalachian music traditions for nearly two decades. She was co-producer of the Appalachian music film, The Mountain Minor, and has also produced several of her own music recordings. She lives on a small farm in the Blue Ridge Mountains of western North Carolina with her husband, two children, and six chickens. Pepper received a bachelor's degree in comparative literature and a master's degree in Appalachian studies.



Ellie Off Pomeroy '96 participated in tennis, basketball, and softball. She is a Heinichen Award recipient, which is presented to top female athletes at Country Day. She received All-MVC honors and All-District honors in tennis, basketball, and softball. She was named First Team All-State in softball and was a state qualifier in tennis.

"The impact that both Country Day and sports had on my journey is incredible. Sports provided me different experiences with a foundation of leadership and resilience."

Ellie Off Pomeroy leads the marketing team at Every Man Jack, a men's personal care and grooming company. Most of her career has been in marketing, including both large global companies like P&G and smaller, high-growth businesses like e.l.f. Beauty. She attended Dartmouth, where she joined the women's rugby team, rising to captain in her senior year. Ellie lives outside San Francisco, California with her husband and son.





JR Foster '98 participated in soccer and track. He received All-MVC honors and All-District honors in soccer and track and All-City honors in soccer. He was team captain in soccer and was also named MVP.

"Country Day is all about family for me – as soon as I stepped on campus it felt that way. Before coming to school here, I didn't know what opportunities were afforded to you when you go to a school like Country Day. This is my place; Country Day is who I am. It has changed my life tremendously."

J.R. Foster began his professional career in commercial real estate and investment banking with Jones Lange LaSalle, Lehman Brothers, and JP Morgan. He quickly became a trusted advisor to public and private entities across the country for their real estate finance and brokerage service needs. In 2010, he co-founded Robert Louis Capital with fellow Country Day classmate David Hornberger, along with their second entity Robert Louis Group in 2013. In addition to being the CEO of Robert Louis Group, J.R. is actively involved in the betterment of Cincinnati through his board engagement with multiple non-profits. He resides in North Avondale with his wife Ronda and their four sons.



Max Dietz '10 participated in football and baseball. He is a McDaniel Award recipient, which is presented to top male athletes at Country Day. He received All-MVC honors and All-City honors in football and baseball. He was named First Team All-State in football and gained over 5,000 all-purpose yards and scored 58 touchdowns.

"I am grateful to have had the opportunity to be a kid and do things that brought joy and fulfillment…I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for the other people who have impacted my life so much."

Max Dietz specializes in pricing for new and existing business at ICF, a global consulting firm. Prior to ICF, Max worked at GolfNow in a variety of roles, ultimately focusing on strategic pricing for their entire client portfolio. He received a bachelor's degree in political science from Amherst College, where he was a four-year member (and two-year starter) of the Amherst College football program, on teams that finished with a cumulative 27-5 record. Max lives in Arlington, Virginia with his girlfriend and their two dogs and cat.

"Athletics are an essential component of the whole child education we value here at Country Day, and especially its ability to create leaders. A look at our honorees shows that Country Day has always helped to develop not just multi-sports athletes, but also multi-talented leaders."

Head of School Rob Zimmerman '98

CENTENNIAL SPOTLIGHT

Helen Asbury



Helen Asbury is the founder of Children's Corner, the school's first Early Childhood program, which opened in 1984 and effectively made Cincinnati Country Day School 18 months through 18 years.

"I was teaching 1st grade but was looking to do more, so I approached then Headmaster John Raushenbush about this childcare idea. There were big changes in the workplace coming out of the 70s; there were not a lot of high-quality childcare options in Cincinnati. There was a need."

Raushenbush provided her with a small stipend to execute a feasibility study. She surveyed the school community and surrounding neighborhoods and gathered data that confirmed there was a huge interest in a program like what she had proposed.

"John was open-minded and always willing to brainstorm. I loved that about him. He took the data to the board, which agreed that an early childhood program would be a good addition to the existing programming at Country Day."

For the second semester of the school year, the board hired her to build the program...with a few caveats.

"We had to be in the black the first year and we needed to hire bona fide faculty to work with the young learners who would enroll in the program. We wanted to do this right, right from the beginning, but none of us realized how much work it would be."

7125 Given Road went for sale and a board member anonymously purchased the house and leased it to the school; thus, providing a location for the school's first early childhood program.

"I worked long days and was so exhausted all the time, but it was really exciting and was such a fulfilling project to take a house and turn it into a school building that was developmentally sound and engaging."

The executive team, consisting of William H. Hopple, Jr. '39, Joe Thesing, Ralph Klitz, Marcella Trice, Mary Kelly, and Richard O. Schwab '67, met every week.

"We talked through everything, including what the name of the program would be. We wanted the name to convey a place that was nurturing and protective. I threw out the term "Children's Corner" and it stuck. The team thought it was perfect."

From January 1 through late August when Children's Corner opened, Helen and Ralph Klitz worked to hire the faculty and staff and plan the operating and capital budgets. Helen also did all the advertising and admissions interviews and met with the builder.

"The renovation had to be child-proof, durable, cheerful, and affordable. We had to create a calm space away from the group as well as create spaces for movement and large and small group activities...

all while meeting zoning and building codes! It was a wonderful adventure of creative program-solving."

Ann Gelke, who worked full time as a child psychologist and had a four-year-old child and a Country Day 1st grader, helped Helen plan a developmentally appropriate program. She was also in desperate need of childcare and asked for Helen if she would consider broadening the age range of Children's Corner to 18 months to six years old for after-school care and offering a flexible schedule. Helen agreed and that flexible schedule is still a hallmark of our Early Childhood program.

"A lot of schools do not offer this type of schedule. It was something that parents needed then and it's still something that parents need. And there was such great collaboration with our preschool and kindergarten teachers as a result because we were all taking care of the same children."

At the time, there were only a handful of childcare programs in the area, including a wonderful daycare in the Anna Louise Inn, a Montessori program in downtown, and the daycare for P&G employees.

"We were considered the four best childcare programs, but the other three programs existed before Children's Corner, so they kindly offered all sorts of insight. We didn't see each other as competition because there was such a need."

Helen drafted Children's Corner's mission statement, which emphasized child development and emotional wellbeing. Helen



Rob Kreidler, chairman of the Board of Trustees from 1983-85, Helen Asbury, and Ralph Klitz, business manager, gear up for the opening of Children's Corner.



Helen is considered the founder of Children's Corner, which opened in 1984.

noted that at that time, people were generally more concerned about the education of the older students and didn't realize how crucial a developmentally appropriate education was for little kids as well. She also came up with what was a brand-new idea at the time: giving parents a sheet of paper each day that outlined what their children did throughout the day.

"It sounds like it was all fun making the whole program come into fruition and it was but there were hard decisions. Because we were open to incorporating different perspectives from bright, caring people, though, I feel like we truly created an excellent program. The state licensing board couldn't believe how incredible Children's Corner was and it became a model for others."

Children's Corner opened the first semester of the 1984-85 school year. Helen made $22,500 as the director and division head of Children's Corner. There were four teachers and one administrative assistant. Helen held the position as director for three years and then left to obtain her Psy.D. from Wright State University.

"When I was younger and people would ask what I wanted to do when I grew up, 'I want to start a school and be a psychologist' was always my answer. To this day, the fun part is that as soon as I was licensed, I stayed connected to Country Day as a psychologist consultant. It really means a lot that I continue to be a part of the Country Day family. And I think it helps to know the school because when a kid comes to me, I have a sense of the school and who they can ask for help. I love having these connections with Country Day families and teachers."

TO SEE OUR MISSION STATEMENT IN ACTION IN THE ECC, SCAN HERE TO WATCH THE VIDEO

Helen has been connected to the Country Day community for a long time. She attended Country Day for nursery school and kindergarten and then went to the Lotspeich Campus and Hillsdale because Country Day was still an all-boys school at that time. Her father, Taylor "Tuck" Asbury, attended Country Day through eighth grade. Her uncle, Art, sisters, Mary and Janet, and two of her cousins attended Country Day.

"A third of my Hillsdale class is from Country Day. We recently celebrated our 50th anniversary and it was so good to see all of them, to see everyone."

In addition to consulting, Helen does a lot of public speaking across Cincinnati. She is on the board of trustees at St. Rita's School for the Deaf, and she was on the board for JDRF and is still involved as a volunteer and advocate.

"I love doing things in the community for children. This work really matters to me. I always try to be in positions to advocate for kids."

ALUMNI RECEIVE TOP HONORS AT TRINITY COLLEGE



Daniel Nesbitt '18



Jonathan Fan '18

Daniel Nesbitt '18 and Jonathan Fan '18 have recently been named President's Fellows at Trinity College. According to Trinity's website, this year's cohort is a diverse group of 32 scholars, each of whom has compiled an exemplary academic record. Below is a Q&A with these two amazing alumni.

WHAT DOES THIS ACCOMPLISHMENT MEAN TO YOU?

Jonathan Fan: This award is given to the most accomplished student in the major and I feel absolutely humbled to have received this honor. This award recognizes my accomplishment in both academics and contribution to the department, both in service and in scientific research, for the past four years and I feel like my hard work these past years has been acknowledged by the Trinity community.

Daniel Nesbitt: It's a perfect culmination of my four years of hard work at Trinity. The President's Fellows were chosen by the chemistry department faculty so it was really fulfilling to know that my professors regard highly of me.

WHAT IS YOUR MAJOR AT TRINITY?

JF: Biochemistry.

DN: I'm a double major in chemistry and public policy & law.

WHAT KIND OF CAREER DO YOU HOPE TO PURSUE AFTER COLLEGE?

JF: After college, I plan on conducting independent research in the field of chemical biology, either as a tenured professor or a scientist at a pharmaceutical company.

DN: After I graduate from Trinity I will attend the University of Wisconsin–Madison to pursue a Ph.D. in chemistry. After that, I will probably try to work in the industry but I will also consider going into academia in some capacity. I haven't ruled anything out yet.

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU'VE ACCOMPLISHED SINCE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION THAT YOU ARE PROUD OF?

JF: I have published a peer-reviewed article in the journal Analytical Methods. I have received many institutional academic awards such as Vernon K. Krieble Memorial Scholar, American Chemical Society Award in Analytical Chemistry, Dean's Scholar Class of 2022, and the Lisa P. Nestor Chemical Rubber Company Awards. I have also received research awards such as the Eastern Analytical Symposium Undergraduate Student Research Award. I have also had the honor to present my research at various symposiums such as the Eastern Analytical Symposium and the Connecticut Valley Section of the American Chemical Society meeting. I will also be continuing my education at the Ph.D. program at Northwestern University.

DN: I'm co-editor-in-chief of Trinity's only student newspaper, *The Trinity Tripod*.

I was also fortunate enough to contribute to two Covid-related scientific publications through my work at the New York Blood Center, with credits as a co-first author for both studies which were published in the journals PLOS ONE and BMC Infectious Diseases.

I have also received institutional academic awards including the Peter J. Schaefer Memorial Prize in Economics, the ACS undergraduate award for Inorganic Chemistry, and the Lisa P. Nestor Award for Excellence in General Chemistry. In addition, I was named a Dean's Scholar for the Class of 2022 (awarded to the top 20 students in graduating class by GPA).

HOW DO YOU FEEL COUNTRY DAY PREPARED YOU FOR COLLEGE AND THIS PATH YOU'RE ON?

JF: The summer of my junior year in high school, I was fortunate enough to shadow a Ph.D. student at the University of Cincinnati who was doing organic synthesis research. That was my first exposure to conducting research and discovering knowledge through research. Ever since then, I knew I wanted to do the same and contribute to the overall good of the scientific process as a scientist.

DN: I think the most important skill I learned at Country Day was the ability to connect and build relationships with my professors outside of class. A lot of my peers at Trinity were reluctant to meet or speak with professors beyond class time but because I had the experience of fostering great relationships with my teachers at Country Day, I was able to easily connect with my professors. Because of these connections, I had great mentorship and support at college. My relationships with my professors also opened up increased professional opportunities.

WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR CURRENT COUNTRY DAY STUDENTS, WHETHER OR NOT THEY'RE PURSUING THE SAME FIELD AS YOU?

JF: My advice would be to explore your interest and utilize the great resources provided by the teachers and the alumni of country day.

DN: Where you get your undergraduate degree won't really matter too much in the grand scheme of things; what really matters is what you do in undergraduate. I really do think that wherever you go to school, if you do well academically and actively participate in extracurriculars, you'll be able to find professional success in whatever field you choose. Country Day really did prepare us well in that way.

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT YOUR COUNTRY DAY EXPERIENCE?

JF: My favorite thing was the close-knit community and how friendly the teachers are at Country Day. My experience at Country Day highly influenced my college decision process. While applying for colleges, I was also looking at small colleges that would allow me to build relationships with peers and professors.

DN: It's hard to narrow it down to just one thing. I guess if I had to choose, I'd pick taking AP chemistry with Mrs. Butler during my junior year. Mrs. Butler was a phenomenal chemistry teacher and her class really made me realize that I wanted to pursue chemistry professionally.

Daniel is the co-editor-in-chief of Trinity's only student newspaper, ***THE TRINITY TRIPOD***

SCAN HERE to read Daniel's research article in PLOS ONE

SCAN HERE to read Daniel's article in BMC's Infectious Diseases

KNOWN. NURTURED. INSPIRED.

PREPARED TO CHANGE THE WORLD THROUGH MEDICINE



Rishi Gabbita ’21 is ready to change the world. The young alumnus was recently accepted into the University of Cincinnati’s highly competitive dual Bachelor of Science/ Medical Doctorate program. He is researching how to prevent chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), and he has secured a provisional patent for a smart pill bottle device to prevent opioid abuse.

“Rishi sees things differently than his peers or most people his age because he finds rewards in work itself. He values the grit in others, and it is probably because he too possesses that grit inside of him… although he isn’t always aware of it,” said Chuck McGivern, college counselor.

Seeing things differently is precisely why Rishi wants to go into medicine.

“I love medicine. I love that it is a confluence between learning about science, interacting with people, and making a difference in people’s lives,” said Gabbita.

The program Rishi’s been admitted to, called Connections, is a mix of undergraduate and medical school coursework and is early admittance into UC’s medical school. After graduating with a bachelor’s degree in medical sciences, Rishi will be directly admitted into UC’s medical school the following semester.

“I was born and raised in Cincinnati. I’ve been here my whole life. I love everything about it. So, I think the opportunity to stay in Cincinnati and be able to impact the community that has raised me for my entire life is an extraordinary thing,” said Gabbita. “During my time at Country Day, I was as involved as possible. It is essential for the current students to do the same. Whether in organized sports or the classroom, get involved and make connections.”

During his six years at Country Day, Rishi was captain of the Science Olympiad team, started his substantive research on CTE, played competitive squash, and always contributed during classes. Only a year after graduating, Rishi already recognizes Country Day’s impact on his life.

“In terms of adjusting to my college classes, it was very seamless. I learned a lot of soft skills at Country Day that have helped me succeed so much already,” said Gabbita. “Like the skills that you don’t necessarily learn in a classroom, but by being around certain people and being able to interact with professors and adults. The skills I learned through the curriculum and independent environment allowed me to take steps to succeed. When I was preparing for my interview for the Connections program, I was able to lean on those skills, and that preparedness is a huge reason I got in.”

In the future, Rishi plans to continue his work with CTE and make an impact in the world.

“I hope I’ll be able to use my knowledge from undergrad and med school to make a more wide-spread impact on medicine,” said Gabbita. “With the way our world is going towards rapid innovation and rapid change, change is inevitable. So, if you can be the one to make that change, then I think it’s a very worthwhile pursuit. I hope to be one of the people who can make a positive change.”



ATTENTION!

Have great news to share?

Have you moved?

Do you have a new email address?

Still receiving mail addressed to your alumni children, who no longer live with you?

Please help us stay connected by going to www.countryday.net/alumni/alumni-news or scanning the QR code below.

CLASS NOTES

1973

"I was in the class of 1973 but missed my senior year at Country Day when my family had the opportunity to go to Brussels for my father's job with P&G. My undergraduate studies were at Dartmouth College, and PhD-MD work at Case Western Reserve University. After doing leukemia research at the University of Oklahoma and the University of Iowa, I retired in 2020. I currently reside in Iowa City with my wife of 43 years, Dee Dee Stafford, but we spend most of our time in south Chicago to be near my daughter, Kate, son-in-law, Alan Hutchison, and grandson, Malcolm." - Thomas Carter

1991



Jessica Dessner '91 and her spouse Ole Sondresen live in the Piedmont region of Italy and are hosting Ukrainian refugees and raising funds for immediate and continued relief efforts. Jessica has aggregated efforts with other residents in Alba and together they have produced extraordinary outcomes. To date, over 100 Ukrainian families have been provided with support, housing, and everyday necessities because of their efforts.

1994

Julie Tumolo Neawedde '94 provided her expertise via a Teams chat with Paula (Williams) Butler's CCDX course on Applications of Chemistry and Engineering in March, taught with former CCDS parent, Rick Rust. Julie works in research and development for Morgan Foods in Indiana, and she shared her experiences and answered student questions about her career in Food Science. Mrs. Butler said that Julie's presentation was well-received, and it was great to re-connect!



2001

Yasmin Mariam Kloth '01 will have a debut collection of poetry published this fall by Kelsay Books. Ancestry Unfinished: Poems of a Lost Generation explores what it means to be from "here" through the lens of a first-generation American whose parents emigrated to the U.S. and Canada from Cairo, Egypt in the 1970s. The cultural (Egyptian) and ethnic (Lebanese/Syrian) layers of her family memories are revealed in poems through the generations of women—grandmothers, mothers, and daughters—who taught her "how the falucca travels" and how to mourn the losses she knows her own daughter collects each year she's "pull(ed) in a current/further from her heritage." *Ancestry Unfinished* will be available through Kelsay Books and Amazon.

2003

"I am currently on the Board of Trustees for the Society of Presidential Descendants and Board of Directors for National First Ladies Day. We are so very excited as we very recently were able to have National First Ladies Day to be recognized on the National Calendar and will be celebrating this Saturday April 30, 2022. This day is a day of community service honoring all First Ladies or a specific First Lady of the volunteer's choosing. Participants can join the conversation by learning more about the women who've set tradition, supported the president, and became role models for many by reading memoirs, touring museums, or watching documentaries about the first ladies. We are also currently in the process of getting it tagged into legislation to be approved by The House and Senate as a federal holiday." - Patricia Taft

2004



Ashley Durand '04 and husband Andrew Tople and Grandpa Dick Durand '73 welcomed Eliot Richard Tople on April 11, 2022.



2005

Sally Dwyer Hernandez and Javier Hernandez welcomed their third child (and first boy!) on April 29, Oliver "Ollie" Hernandez. He is being smothered in big-sis kisses and mom and dad couldn't be prouder!



Zak Butler '05 spoke to the computer science II class via Teams about cybersecurity and life at Google. "I believe that computer science is helpful in any job because it teaches you how to solve complex problems. Computer science is all about breaking a problem up into small steps that are easily consumable and can be easily communicated to others."

2008



Composer Peter Dayton '08 and Navona Records present "Stories out of Cherry Stems," an album of original vocal chamber music with carefully curated texts spanning multiple centuries. Soprano Katie Procell and numerous selected performers navigate a persistent tension between

simplicity and complexity delicately threaded throughout the program, providing a solid stage for the texts of notable poets Pablo Neruda, Oscar Wilde, and more. The strengths of vocal and instrumental chamber music merge into a cohesive powerhouse in this recording, brimming with sung stories that compliment Dayton's compositional style. Country Day alum Jordi Alonso '10 is featured on the album as well.

2014

Brooks Warner '14 is now an agriculture and natural resources extension educator at OSU.



Jessica Hall '14 and Austin Harden '14 became best friends when Austin joined the Country Day family as a 9th grader. Fate and last names had them at adjoining lockers. Two years as BFFs led to becoming more than friends by 11th grade. Separate colleges didn't hinder their relationship. They particularly loved their study abroad experiences, as Jess lived in London and Austin in Copenhagen during the same semester, giving them the opportunity to meet up in amazing places every weekend. After college, they settled in Charlotte, NC, where they still reside and have two rescue cats. On April 2, 2022, they celebrated their wedding in Charlotte with family and friends, including CCDS alumni and parents. In the photo - bottom row: Kait Harden '15, Kelsey Bardach '14, Lucy Patterson '14, Jessica Hall '14, Laura Harden (mother of the groom); middle row: Lisa Hall (mother of the bride), Evelyn Nkooyooyo '14, Allie Branam, Austin Harden '14, Nicole Willingham, Bobby Bardach, Heidi Bardach, Brynn Fosset; back row: Pam Branam (Country Day parent of Allie Branam) Sam Hall '13, Jack Willingham '13, Luke Hall '13, Peter Fosset '80, Ben Willingham, John Hall (father of the bride), Larry Branam

2018

Derek Stevens '18 virtually stopped by the Upper School computer science II class to share some wisdom and advice as a data scientist at Proctor and Gamble and Ohio State University. His biggest piece of advice is: "No matter what job you are in, you will be better at it if you can work with data."



2020

"I wanted to submit an alumni note about Simon Manzler '20 and Duncan Laird '20 and the Winter Skills Instructor Internship program that they participated in last year with the Timberline Canadian Alpine Academy in Banff, Alberta, Canada. They both completed training and certifications including CSIA/CASI level 1 & 2, Conservation leadership, Risk Management, Indigenous studies, Wilderness Photography and more all while teaching ski school at the Banff resorts. There were some limitations due to Covid however it was a fantastic way for the boys to spend a gap year before college. Simon is finishing his freshman year at the University of Cincinnati majoring in Engineering and Duncan is finishing his freshman year at CU Boulder majoring in Engineering." - Doug Manzler



Melissa Bornovali '20 just concluded her sophomore year at Loyola University Chicago, and during that time she was a senator in student government where she served on the Academic Affairs committee and worked to increase the accessibility of research programs to the student body. She was the treasurer of College Democrats where she participated in a debate to advocate for the ban of assault rifles as well. Melissa has also made the Dean's List every semester at Loyola.





2019 and 2021

Friends from the classes of 2019 and 2021 gathered to catch up over Thanksgiving. Pictured left to right, back row: Sai Nalagatla '21, Jack Wright '21, Franco Valentin '21, Rowan Castrucci '21, Sophie O'Brien '21, Gauri Midha '21, Abby Blum '21, Lauren Hettinger '21, Molly Taylor '21, Celie Hudson '21, and Rishi Gabbita '21; front row: Maggie Wright '19, Jane Reiring '19, Dylan Thompson '19, and Miller Lyle '19

In Memoriam

Submitted by the loved ones of those we will never forget.

Maya Amoils '08

We are terribly sad to let you know that Maya passed away peacefully at home on the evening of January 18, 2022. She did so on her own terms...in peace, surrounded by love, and free of pain.

Maya always lived her life with meaning, purpose, and integrity. Her last days were no different. She was mindful, strong, clear, and purposeful about her interactions. She wanted everyone to know how much she loved them. Two days ago, her friend, famous magician and the most incredible, open-hearted, generous man, David Blaine popped past to give her an impromptu private magic show.

Everyone that really knew Maya felt like they had a true connection with her. Such was her impact on people. She truly connected in a beautiful, eternal way. Her community spanned from those close to her to young adults in South Africa whose lives she had impacted, to friends all around the country and the globe.

Maya was a supernova. She lived a full and fantastic life in her 32 years. If we judge our lives by the depth of love we feel, the good we do for others, and the impact we have on the world, then indeed her life has not been short at all. She has asked us not to cry about her, but to celebrate our lives with the joy, meaning, and purpose she brought. And this we will try our best to do. And we ask you to do the same!

Maya's grace, kindness, and care for others throughout her life, and especially throughout her disease were a testimony to her open heart, her spirit, and determination.

Maya has asked us to start a fund called "Maya's Way" to help young cancer patients navigate the journey as she has. All donations will be utilized to help women under age 40 who are suffering with cancer to receive integrative medicine therapies. The aim is to allow each patient to live with optimal wellbeing, despite their illness.

William N. 'Bill' Andrews '53

William "Bill" Nelson Andrews, Jr. age 85, passed away at his home in Sarasota, Florida on June 28, 2021.

Bill was born on March 2, 1936, in Cincinnati, Ohio to William Nelson Andrews, Sr. and Helen Pogue Andrews. He attended Cincinnati Country Day School and the Hill School in Pottstown, PA. He earned a bachelor's degree from Yale University and continued his education by receiving a master's degree from Northwestern University. During his life Bill resided in Cincinnati, Ohio, St. Louis, MO, Lake Forest, IL, New Orleans, LA and Sarasota, FL.

Bill is survived by his loving sister Helen Templeton Andrews of Cincinnati, Ohio. He is also survived by his son William Stuart Andrews and his wife Dianne Andrews of Sarasota, FL, his daughter Laura Pogue Andrews of Holden, MA and his daughter Elizabeth Andrews Churchill and her husband Robert Churchill of Arlington Heights, ILL. Bill has six amazing grandchildren surviving him, Adrian, Matthew, Connor, Caity, Jack, and Spenser.

Bill started his teaching career at the Taylor School in St. Louis and then went on to teach at the St. Louis Country Day School in Ladue, MO. Bill was not only a teacher but a coach, advisor, administrator, and a mentor to many who passed through the halls of St. Louis Country Day. After almost 20 years at CODASCO, Bill continued his teaching excellence at Lake Forest Academy in Lake Forest, Illinois. His final high school teaching job was at The Isidore Newman School in New Orleans, LA. Throughout all his years teaching, Bill was committed to his students and to supporting, guiding, teaching, and coaching them to success. His greatest passion was teaching his students. He was recognized by his students with dedications of the yearbook made to him in 1979 at St. Louis Country Day, 1987 at Lake Forest Academy and 1994 at Newman School.

After Bill retired to Sarasota, Florida he was actively involved with continuing his second passion of writing by serving on the Board at the Lifelong Learning Academy and teaching creative writing to seniors at the Writer's Workshop Classes (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute).

Bill touched many lives throughout his life and career and will be remembered fondly by so many friends, family, students, teachers, and colleagues.

Apurva Bhattacharjee '15

With great sadness and regret, we share that Apurva Bhattacharjee passed away unexpectedly on September 22, 2021. We mourn the loss of this intelligent, confident, and friendly member of our Country Day family, and send his loved ones all the condolences our hearts can hold.

Janet Weigand Carter

Janet Weigand Carter, 99, died at her home on March 17, 2022, after a slow decline in health. Janet was born on September 25, 1922, in Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin, the daughter of John and Helena (Schwartz) Weigand. On June 3, 1944, she married Roscoe Owen Carter Jr. Between 1946 and 1954 she was blessed with three sons, who survive her: Roscoe Owen Carter III (Margaret) of Stafford, Virginia, Kimbroe John Carter (Anneliese) of Canfield, Ohio, Thomas Heriot Carter (Haraldine) of Coralville, Iowa; seven grandchildren Mathew Carter (Sarah) of Lexington, Massachusetts, Paul Carter (Winifred) of Orion Township, Michigan, Janet A Carter of Alexandria, Virginia, Christopher Carter of Norton, Ohio, Timothy Carter (Jolene) of Tiega Cay, South Carolina, Erika Moore (Grant) of Charlotte, North Carolina and Kathleen Carter (Alan) of Chicago , Illinois; and seven great-grandchildren, Geneva, Owen and Beatrix Carter, Emily and Annabelle Carter, Theodore Moore, and Malcolm Hutchison. After graduating from the University of Wisconsin and marrying Owen, they moved to Cincinnati. In 1977 Janet earned a Master of Education at Xavier University. She worked at Cincinnati Country Day School, Holy Cross High School in Covington, and in Belgium at The International School of Brussels and St. John's School in Waterloo. In retirement she and Owen enjoyed travel, while Janet's greatest joy was visiting with her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Edward Francis Castleberry '50

Edward "Hap" Castleberry, beloved husband of deceased Susan Jane (nee Siddall) Castleberry. Son of dearly beloved John and Constance (nee Alf) Castleberry (deceased). Dear father of Kelly Castleberry of Missoula, Montana; Anne Castleberry, Bizzy (Martin) Driscoll, and Christine (Wayne) Lippert of Cincinnati. Loving grandfather of Kathleen and Clare Castleberry; Margaret, Bryant and Andrew Pund; Jacob and Lauren Driscoll; Lily, Holland and Trey Lippert. Brother of Connie (John) Sullivan of Ft. Wright, KY, brother of John "Jack" Castleberry, Jr (deceased) and Romola "NoNo" Allen of Cincinnati. Passed away Thursday, March 17, 2022, at the age of 90.

Hap attended Summit Country Day School, graduated high school from Cincinnati Country Day School, graduated with a BA from Brown University and received his MBA from Xavier University. He was a member of the Sigma Chi Fraternity.

Hap's mother and father instilled in him a hard work ethic, to believe in your passions and to give back to your community. Hap helped run the family business, Cedar Hill Farms Inc, a local dairy until it was sold in 1963. He started his career as an entrepreneur in 1964. He proceeded to start and to purchase small businesses to grow and to develop. He successfully commanded, developed, and sold more than twelve local companies in his career. (US Building Services, Inc, Coffee Break, Inc, Art Guild Book Bindery, Inc, Ohio Building Services, Inc, Ohio Coffee Services, Inc, E.F. Castleberry & Assoc, Inc, Imperial Adhesives, Inc, T-Shirt City, U.S Abatement Co.) He was very civic minded, and Hap volunteered, supported and marshalled by example over fifteen non-profits, business and academic organizations in Cincinnati. Founder of the Greater Cincinnati Business Hall of Fame was one of his favorite accomplishments. He delighted in helping young boys and girls learn business skills through Junior Achievement of Greater Cincinnati. Hap was a member of the Republican Party and supported the endeavors of the Hamilton County office.

When he wasn't working or volunteering, you could find him playing tennis at the Cincinnati Tennis Club, The Indoor Tennis Club, the Cincinnati Country Club, The Racquet Club or clubs around Cincinnati, Florida and Michigan. His passion for tennis reaped many rewarding and longtime friendships, and hundreds of Winning Trophies; too many to count! He especially enjoyed spending his winters at The Ocean Reef Club and his summers on Walloon Lake with his grandchildren. His mother gave him the nickname "Happy" as a child, but he garnered the name "Hap" by his positive and friendly manner. He tried to create "Hap"iness wherever he hung his hat.

Michael E. Comisar '68

Michael passed away on May 21, 2022 at the age of 71. He was preceded in death by his mother and best friend, Joan Comisar, and father, N. Lee Comisar. He is survived by his loving children, Jason (Jackie) Comisar, Margaux (Mark) Higgins and Max (Angela) Comisar and was the proud and adoring Poppy to six grandchildren - Wyatt and Kendall Higgins, Lily, Carter, and Mira Comisar, and Charlie Comisar. Also survived by his brother, Marc Comisar, dear friend and sister, Vallie (Rodney) Geier, and many cousins, nieces and nephews. He also leaves behind his special friend, Debbie Smith. Michael was born and raised in the hospitality business and spent many years working in the family restaurant. He was an integral part to the continued success of the Maisonette, which was the longest running Mobil 5-star restaurant in the country when it closed in 2005. He was personable, and could start a conversation with anyone, about anything. He left behind a long history of friends and acquaintances that all appreciated his endless quest to bring a smile to your face. Michael loved to read and had a particular passion for history and the Civil War. He was passionate about the things he loved, foremost his family, and enjoyed the finer things in life. For Michael, a trip to the market was an adventure, sourcing the best peppercorns and talking to the butcher about "new" cuts of steak. He truly loved the little things in life, and he shared that love with others.

Frank "Ron" Ditmars Jr. '66

Reverend Frank Ron Ditmars passed away on February 28, 2022, in Nantucket Massachusetts at age 75. Ron attended Country Day for some time. A memorial service was held on April 23 in which tributes were made to his service as a Presbyterian Minister in New Jersey and Michigan as well as a German and Latin language teacher in New York and New Jersey.

Nancy Fogelson

Longtime teacher Nancy Fogelson died in April 2022. She taught at Country Day for over a decade. Below is a message from her son Stephen '83.

My mother started teaching at Country Day during the 1982/1983 school year, which was my senior year. She taught there for many years and kept in touch with several of her students well after her retirement. She even officiated the marriage for one of her students. Lots of my friends took her senior elective course our senior year, and they said they were impressed by her enthusiasm. She loved being the center of attention in the classroom. She cherished her time at CCDS and always said that County Day students were the most talented she had ever taught. She passed away in April 2022 after a period of declining health.

Edward "Ted" Geier '75

Ted transitioned into eternal rest on Tuesday, April 19, 2022. He is survived by his wife, Elisa, his daughters, Gabriele Wright (Dave), Caroline Masur (Jack), and Julia Geier (Brendan). He is the cherished grandfather of Lydia Wright and Annie Masur. He is also survived by his devoted siblings Philip Geier III (Amy), Richard Geier (Sara), and Susanne Peters (Pete). Ted was born on October 18, 1956, in Cincinnati, Ohio to Philip Geier, Jr. and Susanne Geier. He attended Cincinnati Country Day School, received his bachelor's degree from Lewis & Clark College, and an MBA from George Washington University. He worked for 30 years as a financial advisor at Morgan Stanley (formerly Legg Mason).

He was a dedicated member of the community who served on boards for organizations including Community Bridges, Washington Episcopal School, Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School, and Glen Echo Park. Known for his infectious laugh that could be heard from miles away, Ted brought light and joy into any room he walked into. He loved golf, hiking, travel, bridge, walking, and most of all he loved his family. He will be truly missed.

Susanne Geier

Susanne Ernst Geier ("Sudie") died peacefully on Tuesday, February 1, 2022, at her home in Cincinnati, Ohio at the age of 98. Born April 9, 1923, Sudie was one of three daughters of William and Delle Simpson Ernst. She was married to her closest friend, Philip O. Geier Jr. for over 62 years, and is survived by her four children, Philip O. Geier III '66 (Amy) of Santa Fe, New Mexico, Susanne Geier Peters (Pete, deceased) of Cincinnati, Ohio, Richard E. Geier '71 (Sara) of Loveland, Ohio. Her son, Edward S. Geier '75 (Elisa) of Bethesda, Maryland died recently. Surviving also are grandchildren Kate G. Shultz (Steve), Elizabeth S. Geier, Christopher E. Geier (Flannery), Lauren E. Geier '98, Melissa G. Ziegler '00 (Doug), Richard E. Geier Jr. '03 (Lauren), Gabriele G. Wright (Dave), Caroline G. Masur (Jack), Julia S. Geier and great grandchildren Otto, August, Elsie, Dash, Nell, Monty, Will, Grant, Lucy, Gabby, Grace, Lydia, and Annie.

Sudie graduated from the Hillsdale School (now the Seven Hills School), Pine Manor College and the University of Cincinnati, Sudie had two lifelong passions-her family and her community. In addition, she was a devoted Episcopalian and environmentalist.

In 1981, the Cincinnati Enquirer honored her as a Woman of the Year, in recognition of her outstanding contributions as a volunteer and board member of community organizations including the Cincinnati Convalescent Hospital, the Cincinnati Symphony, the Cincinnati Opera, the Christ Hospital, Little Miami, Inc., the Cincinnati Nature Center and the Town and Country Garden Club. In the years since, Sudie continued her involvement in these organizations as well as Camp Ernst, the Hillside Trust and Greater Cincinnati Behavioral Health Services. She also served on the boards of Pine Manor College, the Garden Club of America, the

Conservancy of Southwest Florida, and the School for Creative and Performing Arts.

Sudie loved the outdoors, gardening, travel, entertaining and making friends. She was fully engaged in the lives of her family and will be remembered for her quick mind, energetic spirit, kindness, and generosity.

Frances G. Hofmeister

Frances Hofmeister (nee Gunter) who was born on September 11, 1929, died on March 31, 2022 at age 92. She was the beloved wife of the late Joseph F. Hofmeister and dear mother of Dr. Craig (Dr. Preeti Jaggi) Hofmeister '91 of Atlanta, Georgia and Scott (Brian Wong) Hofmeister '87 of Berkeley, California. She was also the loving grandmother of Annika and Rajan Hofmeister and Damian and Julian Hofmeister and the devoted sister of the late Thomas and William Gunter. Frances worked as a clinical psychologist with a robust practice from the 1960s to the 2010s. She was tirelessly devoted to helping her clients and intrigued by the mysteries, the power, and the complications of human relationships. Her career began with a focus on those struggling within the Catholic priesthood or in religious orders, and she dedicated a significant amount of time during her retirement to advocating for accountability and modernization within the Catholic Church and specifically to working with the Voice of the Faithful organization.

Janice Koncius

Janice Koncius of Indian Hill, Ohio and Struthers, Ohio died March 6, 2022, at age 77. Beloved wife of Algis Koncius, devoted mother of Adam Koncius '96 and his wife Kerri (Boston, MA) and Pamela Long '01 and her husband Creighton '01 (Terrace Park, Ohio) grandmother to AJ, Alex, Nathan, and Aidan, and sister of Thomas Occhipinti (Nashville, Tennessee). She was preceded in death by her parents, Helen, and John Occhipinti. Janice was a graduate of Youngstown State University. She enjoyed teaching second grade and later moved to Columbus to work for the Attorney General. In 1972, she moved to Cincinnati and married Algis in 1974. She was an active volunteer at Cincinnati Country Day School (President of Parents' Association, Board Member, Chairwoman of Country Date), Ronald McDonald House (co-founder and co-chair of Red Tie Gala), and Kindervelt (president) and was involved in many other charities around Cincinnati. She enjoyed tennis, golf, bowling, book club, and Bunko with her friends, adored playing with her grandchildren, and was a loyal and loving friend to many.

Stephen Sloneker Marcum '76

Stephen was born October 28, 1957, in Hamilton, Ohio, to the late Sarah and Joe Marcum. Stephen, 64, died at home on Monday, April 11, 2022, surrounded by his loving family. Stephen had a lifelong love of music, art, and doodling. He created wonderful works of art that are treasured family heirlooms and delighted all with his various piano pieces. He was even in a band called, "OC and the Casual T's." They played on the Courthouse lawn, Stephen on the stand-up bass, Joe Marcum on the piano and Madalyn Lester on the drums. Great fun. Stephen was a devoted husband, father, businessman and community volunteer. He graduated from Vanderbilt University in 1980, where he fell in love with Trudy McGraw, and they were happily married in January of 1981. They moved to Dayton where Stephen attended the University of Dayton School of Law. He graduated in 1983 and moved with his family to Hamilton. Stephen was an excellent attorney with Parrish, Marcum, and Trokhan in Hamilton, Ohio. Stephen is survived by his loving wife, Trudy, and four children, Matthew, Joe, Emma, and Annie (Jon Miller), and two grandchildren, Lulu Miller, and Alfie Miller. Also surviving Stephen are his caring sisters, Cam (Jeff) Lowe, Christy (Mike) Manchester, and Jenny (Milton) Shuffield. And he will be together again with his brother, Joseph Timothy, who passed in 1973.

John C. Miller II '53

John C. Miller II seemed to have led a mostly charmed life. His principle companion since undergraduate days was the smart, beautiful Connie Halverstadt, whom he married shortly after graduation. After teaching at the Punahou School in Hawaii with several other classmates, John looked for the ladder to success with the fewest rungs, as he put it. He found it, joining and then managing the family business, which manufactured mementos for corporations to give to honored employees. He and Connie moved to and from three residences according to the season, Cincinnati (their birthplace) and then more recently Lexington, KY, and Naples, FL and Sun Valley, ID. John was a good golfer and enjoyed reading and contemplating current affairs, looking but not usually finding reasons for hope. When speaking to him, one knew that one had his full attention as he quietly sought to fully understand. At Princeton, he majored in religion, played JV football and golf, and belonged to Tiger Inn. His senior roommates were Knight Alexander, Al French, Duncan Hoxworth, Ted Jones, Ted McClean, and John Osander. John died on May 3, 2022 from dementia and complications from a stroke he suffered in 2009. Besides Connie, he is survived by a daughter and two sons.

Stuart Wade Prall '84

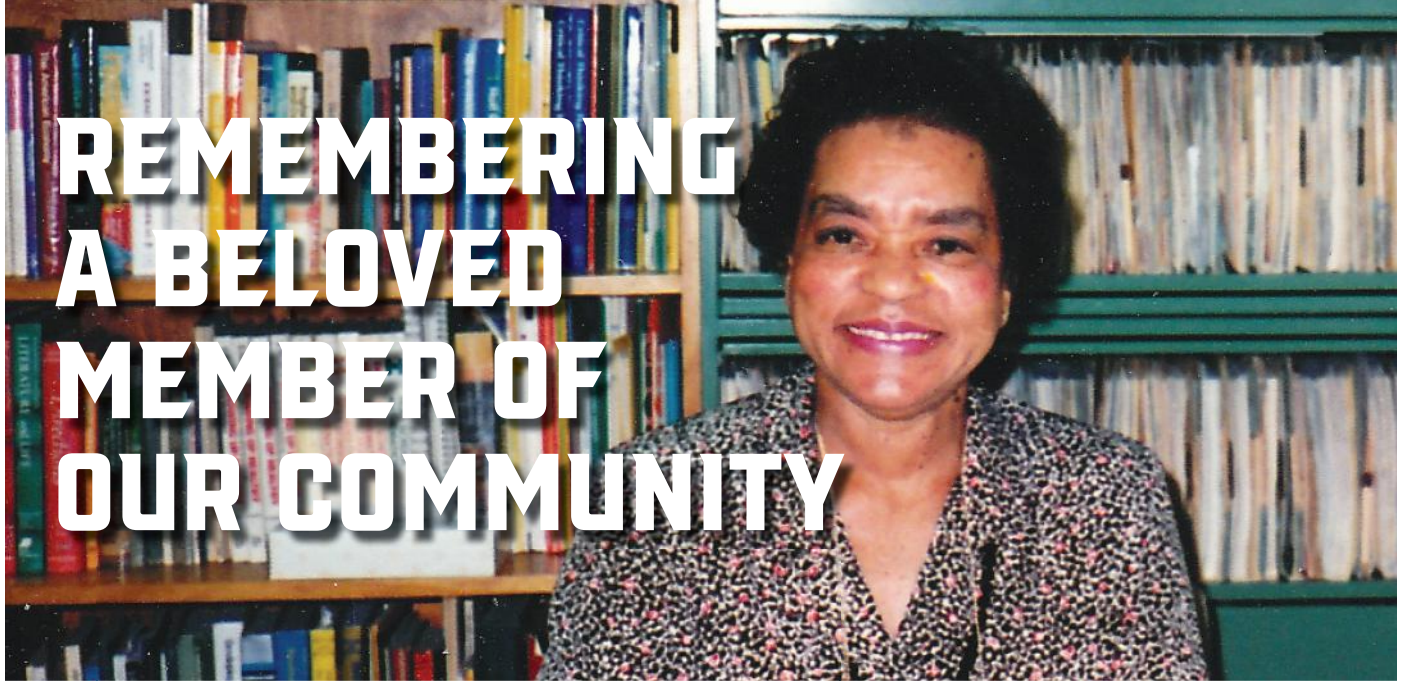
Stuart Wade Prall passed away at Swedish Hospital in Denver on December 4, 2021, in the company of his family.

Andrew Patrick "Drew" Rinner

Andrew Patrick "Drew" Rinner, a resident of Batavia, passed away suddenly on Sunday, March 13, 2022, at the age of 31. He was the devoted and loving husband of Marissa Rinner (nee Smith). Proud father of Lucas Rinner '36, Liam Rinner, and Leighton Rinner. Cherished son of Sharon (Hugh Phipps) Turner Phipps and Andrew Rinner Sr. He also leaves to mourn him; his brother Adam Rinner, stepsiblings: Cody Phipps, Emma Phipps, and Nicholas Phipps, and his grandmother Kathryn Turner. He was preceded in death by his grandparents: Raymond Turner, Robert Rinner Sr., and Claire Rinner.

Marvin H. Schwartz '51

Marvin H. Schwartz passed away peacefully on March 28, 2022, at the age of 89. He was the son of the late Edith H. Lapirow and Dr. Bernard A. Schwartz. Born October 2, 1932, in Cincinnati, he graduated from Cincinnati Country Day School and Brown University. He was a United States Air Force jet fighter pilot, flying F86Ds with the 85th Fighter Intercepter Squadron "The Globe's Greatest" retiring as a Captain. He returned to Cincinnati in 1960 and went to work for his new father-in-law (the late Charles H. Klein) in the printing business. In 1983 they bought a small family-run business, Topicz, which he led to becoming a strong, respected, privately held company in Cincinnati and throughout the Midwest. Marvin enjoyed tennis, golf and especially sailing. He named his boat Machbuster which he sailed in Maine and throughout the Caribbean and the British Virgin Islands. He was a member of YPO (Young President's Organization), Losantiville Country Club, The Queen City Club and The Arundel Golf Club (Kennebunkport, Maine). He leaves his beloved wife of 61 years, Betsy K (nee Klein), daughter, Melissa S. Greenberg '80 (Missy), son Marvin H. Jr (Chip), grandson Adam B. Greenberg, granddaughter Rachael A. Greenberg and brother Ben H. Schwartz '52.



REMEMBERING A BELOVED MEMBER OF OUR COMMUNITY

Marcella Trice, a former head of Lower School and faculty member, died on December 25, 2021. She was 91 years old and surrounded by loved ones during her final days.

"We are grateful for her spirit, compassion, and dedication to our community," said Head of School Rob Zimmerman '98. "She was a beloved member of our Country Day family."

Marcella was a trailblazer. In 1969, she became the school's first Black faculty member, teaching second grade. Marcella was named head of Lower School in 1983, and she led the division until retiring in 1996. During her 27-year tenure at Country Day, she made a positive impact on countless lives and brought joy to all who knew her.

"She made a point of being connected to all the teachers, and this was before we were all attached to technology," said Jean Corbus, former Lower School teacher. "She would stop by in the morning before school started to say hi and she would also stop by toward the end of the day. Not every day, but most days. I felt that took some extra effort, but it was important to her to stay in touch."

Everyone who knew Marcella felt the impact of her presence and leadership.

"She was an incredible mentor and prodded me to ask for more responsibility," said Helen Asbury, who founded Children's Corner, the school's first Early Childhood program. "She was just wonderful and such a great cheerleader."

After retirement, she served on several boards throughout the city, including the Village of Silverton, Cincinnati Opera, FamiliesFORWARD, and Breakthrough Cincinnati. She volunteered with multiple organizations, provided anti-racism workshops for Presbyterian Women, and traveled the world with a classical singing group. The Cincinnati Enquirer named Marcella one of its Women of the Year in 2007.

Wife of the late James Trice, Marcella was predeceased by her daughter Janice on December 24, 2021. She is survived by two of her children, Markus and James '77. James was a Country Day lifer and now resides in the Washington, D.C. area. Both Marcella and Janice were teachers in the CCDS Summer Enrichment Program, which was the precursor to Summerbridge Cincinnati, which evolved into Breakthrough Cincinnati.

"She could be firm but loving," said Lois Rust, drama teacher. "I always enjoyed being in her presence and seeing her smile."

One anecdote from Jean Corbus might just sum up Marcella perfectly.

"She always had some prepared remarks to thank and acknowledge people during our Friday assemblies. At the end she would always say 'And I'll see you back here, bright and early, Monday morning.' It got to be a habit for her to say it. One Friday, some older kids chimed in with her and the room stood still. What was she going to do? Even though she was kind, she could be tough. But what did she do? She broke out into the biggest smile. There was this side of her that was humorous and human and unexpected. From that day forward, it became a ritual for the whole school to say it with her. I know people will always remember her as proper and business like – and she was all that, she had to be as a Black woman in her position. But there was this other side to her that was refreshing and endearing and personal. And I'm glad I got to see that part of her. She was a such a peach."



ANSWER KEY:

1 – F; 2 – A; 3 – E; 4 – B; 5 – E

(From "Getting to Know Daisy McClean '22" on page 39)

Congratulations!

CLASS OF 2022

Jade Aniyah Abu Bakr
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Bijin Basu
Annabel Rebecca Blum
Hayden R. Bortz
Cameron James Bryant
Eugene Howard Burse
Jackson Eugene Campbell
Zachary Carter Corbin
Sarah Kate Coyle
Azim Alvi D'Ambrosio
Krithika Dama
Ryan T. de Beer
Zachary Adam DelBello
Noah Lloyd Duplechan
Payton Isaiah Ebbing
Bailey Aaron Edmonson
Kyle Eller
Adam Grant Evans
Christian James Fitzpatrick
Oliver M. Folan
Casey Alexander Graff
Beck Jeffrey Graham
Fritzis Paul Graham
Kourtni Denise Hamilton
Marissa Ashley Handler
Coleman Douglass Harten
Kirstin Noelle Hayes
Emory Reid Heimann
Reese Matthew Hettinger
Ruoyang Hong
Camille Ruby Huxol
Tamia Nicole Johnson
Shane Jones
Natalie Allyn Kaminski
Pooja. L. Kantemneni
Christopher Andrew Langenbahn
Samuel Stephen Lazarus
Mimi Samantha Liao
Charles James Limmer
James Tobias Lyle
Georgia Masterson
Daisy Grace McClean
Reagan Kellie McMullen
Jada Gabrielle Moorman
Hannah Vu Nguyen
Victor Alec Nica
Samuel Evan Nitzberg
Alistair Li Jing Norwood
Andon Bradley Peacock
Justin M. Puckett
Emma Mae Robinson
Edward J. Ross
Ashton Lane Snell
Silas N. Snell
Christoffel Frederik Jacobus Spies VI
Margaret McAfee Sprigg-Dudley
Zachary Joseph Stacy
Priya Amani Thompson
Isabella Grace Timmerding
Andrew E. Vance
Austin Patrick Vaughan
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Butler University
University of California-Los Angeles
Case Western Reserve University
University of Cincinnati (6)
Columbia University
University of Dayton (4)
Denison University (2)
University of Denver
Duke University
Elon University
Georgia State University
Gonzaga University
Hampton University
Harvard University
College of the Holy Cross
Indiana University (3)
Kenyon College
Lehigh University
University of Maine
Mercer University
University of Michigan
University of Mississippi
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
Ohio University (2)
Ohio Wesleyan University
Pomona College
Purdue University
Rice University
The University of the South
University of South Carolina-Upstate
The University of Tennessee
Ohio State University (6)
University of Toledo
Tufts University
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