

The Magazine of Friends' Central School

QUAKE! WORKS

11:3 Spring 2020



BIDDING FAREWELL TO BELOVED
FACULTY & STAFF MEMBERS

FCS'S CHAMPION TREES
by Doug Linton '68

REVITALIZING THE HONOR STATEMENT
by Jim Rosengartent



QUAKER WORKS

The Magazine of Friends' Central School

ON THE COVER

Members of the cast, musicians, and crew of the Upper School winter play, *Love's Labor's Lost*, surround beloved Drama Director Terry Guerin, in this her last major production at Friends' Central. **See page 10 for a Q&A with Terry Guerin and Tiffani Gavin '91.**



FRIENDS' CENTRAL SCHOOL

Head of School

Craig N. Sellers

Editors

Lisa D'Orazio
Director of Communications

Clare Luzuriaga
Director of Publications

Layout

Clare Luzuriaga

Contributors

Lydia A. Martin
Director of Strategic Initiatives

Luke Nowell
Digital and Social Media Specialist

Colette Kleitz
Chief Development Officer

Linda Waxman Wasserman '75
Director of Alumni/ae Affairs

Jim Davis

Archivist & Development Associate

Kim Emmons-Benjet
Director of Leadership Giving

Matt Cohen
Director of Development Services

Melissa DiNofia-Bozzone
Director of Annual Giving

Danielle Gershkoff '06
Development Associate

Photography

Victoria Bastian, Michael Branscom, Matt Cohen, Lisa D'Orazio, Jay Gorodetzer, Emma Lord '21, Clare Luzuriaga, Paola Nogueras, Luke Nowell, Alexa Quinn '98, Mark Tassoni, Spencer Thorne '22, Josh Verlin

The Upper School fall musical, *Les Misérables*, was an ambitious and breathtaking production. (See page 8 for more FCS fall and winter performances.)



FEATURES

10 Terry Guerin to Begin Her Second Act

12 Teaching, Coaching, Mentoring - The Many Talents of Keino Terrell

14 Expert Teacher & Advisor Brad Morris Retire

26 Friends' Central's Champion Trees

by Doug Linton '68

28 On Their Honor - FCS Students Revitalize Honor Statement

by Jim Rosengargen

DEPARTMENTS

2 Opening Comments

Letter from the Head of School

4 Campus Log

18 Visitors to Campus

20 Athletics

31 Notes from Friends

42 FCS Discovered with Jim Davis

Celebrating Anniversaries at FCS

We welcome any comments, letters, photographs, and suggestions for future issues. Please send all communications to communications@friendscentral.org.

Friends' Central School

1101 City Avenue
Wynnewood, PA 19096
communications@friendscentral.org

Connect with us on social media

facebook.com/friendscentral

twitter.com/friendscentral

instagram.com/friendscentralschool

youtube.com/friendscentralschool

Read past issues of Quaker Works at
friendscentral.org/publications



PLEASE RECYCLE

2019-2020 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Philip E. Scott '73, Clerk
Fariha Khan, Vice-Clerk
Paul Halpern, Treasurer
Merlin Muhrer, Recording Clerk
LiRon Anderson-Bell
Betty Bard
Quinn Bauriedel
Tami Benton-Condiff
Roger Chiang
Elizabeth Cohen '83
Jon Harris
Laura Jackson '65
Juan Jewell '68
Kimya Johnson

Kristin Kimmell
John McKinstry
Chinwe Onyekere '94
Alex Rolfe '01
James C. Wright
Peter Arfaa, *Emeritus*
Barbara M. Cohen, *Emerita*
Hillard Madway, *Emeritus*
Joanna Schoff '51, *Emerita*

2019-2020 ALUMNI/AE BOARD

Olivia Gillison '10, *President*
Taylor Lee '08, *Vice President*
Janice Decker Frohner '60, *Secretary*

Jeffrey Brody '98
Bess Collier '96
Lauren Collier '99
Alejandro Franqui '03
Jared Grove '95
Julie Biron Maletz '05
Clio Mallin '96
Latifah McMullin '99
Alexander Unkovic '08
Joshua Wasserman '02
Jessica Zeldin '88

Letter from the Head of School

Dear Friends,

Amidst this disconcerting “new normal,” it is almost impossible to recall that just a few weeks ago we were on campus together, participating in all of our regular activities, looking ahead to a busy spring and early summer, and imagining the usual rites of passage and celebrations. We are processing the sadness that comes from acknowledging that our school life has fundamentally changed for this moment. At the same time, we recognize – perhaps more than ever – that it is important to celebrate what we have accomplished and know that we’ll be back soon.

The following pages are, therefore, a look back on the fall, winter, and early spring at our beloved School. They are an opportunity to lift up a broad range of accomplishments – academic, athletic, artistic – of our fabulous faculty, student body, and, of course, our wonderful alumni/ae, many of whom have submitted Class Notes (see pages 31-38). Together, they speak to wonderful memories of their time at FCS.

This issue is also a chance to reflect on our outstanding staff and faculty members, including those to whom we’ll be saying goodbye at the end of this academic year. This is, in large part, the “teacher” issue, and we invite you to read about many of our faculty and staff members, including Terry Guerin, Brad Morris, Dwight Dunston ’06, and Keino Terrell. There are also contributions by faculty member Jim Rosengarten, writing about the student-driven Honor Statement; Doug Linton ’68, describing the “Champion Trees” on our City Avenue campus; and Jim Davis, with his “FCS Discovered” piece exploring FCS celebrations through history.

The FCS community remains very aware of the many people, including our own community members, who are struggling from the effects of this epidemic. We are very grateful to those who donated to the FCS Community Response Fund, the proceeds of which will be used to help us support our hourly workers and FCS families who may need additional financial aid.

As part of that effort, we have decided not to print a physical copy of this particular issue of *Quaker Works*, and instead to share it online, so that we can reallocate costs usually associated with printing and postage to emerging financial aid needs.

Wishing peace and wellness to all,



Craig N. Sellers
Head of School





In early spring, Tanya Muse '02 and her class (KA) explored the Harlem Renaissance. They took a class trip to Harlem and put on a fabulous performance, inspired by the music and culture of the Harlem Renaissance. The Upper Jazz Ensemble, directed by Carl Bradley, visited Lower School to provide the accompanying music.

Campus Log

For more School news, visit
friendscentral.org/news



World Kindness Day at the Lower School

November 13 was World Kindness Day, also known as Cardigan Day in honor of Fred Rogers. KB and 4B students, with the help of four Middle School buddies, made “kindness rocks” to place around school to spread kindness. Many students wore cardigans to show their love for Mr. Rogers.



School Diversity Leadership Conference

Eleventh grade students Isaiah Waddington, Kiyah Thorne, Lily Hu, and Elliott Gross traveled to Seattle, WA in December to participate in the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) Student Diversity Leadership Conference.



5A Brazilian Market

In December, Lower School classes learned about the products that come from the rainforest in a fun, interactive way when they visited 5A’s Brazilian Market. As part of their study of the Amazon, 5A staged a market with produce – including mango, passion fruit, coffee, and chocolate – from the rainforest, offering tastes to everyone who came to spend their reals (Brazilian currency).



Middle School student volunteers preparing for the Home & School Association’s 2019 Holiday Cheer service event, which hosted 23 children and their chaperones from Families Forward Philadelphia

DECA District Competition Accolades

In December, 16 Upper School students qualified to compete in the DECA State competition; over half of the FCS attendees ranked in the top three in their category. In February, the 16 students headed to Hershey to take part in the State competition, where they all represented FCS well. Rebecca Wusinich '20 made it to the top three in Role Play in Marketing and Communications. She also took second position overall in Marketing and Communications.



World Affairs Competition Winners

Upper School students Anna Volpp '20, Jane Whellan '20, Lindsay McCammon '23, Faiza Carey '23, and Allison Whellan '23 participated in the World Affairs 2019 International Student Summit on Information and Democracy in December. Anna was awarded Honorable Mention Student Leader, and Jane won the Outstanding Student Delegate award.



Liberty Place Concert

In keeping with annual tradition, in December, the Upper School Orchestra entertained shoppers with a Holiday Concert at Liberty Place.



Grade 6 Science Fair

In January, grade six students presented their fabulous Cell/DNA science projects, which included stop motion, Wevideos, digital posters, and Scratch animations, with many projects built in the FCS Makerspace.



(Pictured from left) Math Modeling Captain Victoria Wang '20, Lucas Klein '20, Dabin Seomun '20, Julie Plunkett, Jonathan Roach '20, and Ben Lehrer '20

International Accolades for Math Modeling Teams

This school year, 32 Upper School students participated in the 22nd Annual High School Mathematical Contest in Modeling (HiMCM)*. Friends' Central was one of only three schools in the United States held up for international recognition, with one FCS team scoring in the top one percent in the world and another team making it into the top seven percent! Special recognition goes to the young mathematicians whose efforts landed them in the top one percent of all competitors: Lucas Klein '20, Dabin Seomun '20, Jonathan Roach '20, and Ben Lehrer '20. The following students scored in the top seven percent: Yixin Hu '21, Yiran Wang '21, Lan Yang '21, Meilan Wang '20, Esmé Yanowitz '22, Xinyi Su '21, Kai Davidson '22, and Xinxin Zhang '21. Congratulations to all and to their wonderful faculty advisor, Julie Plunkett! These students have been invited to participate in the International Mathematical Modeling Competition (IM2C) later this year.

National Merit Finalists

In February, six seniors, Elisabeth Forsyth, Jade Halpern, Ben Lehrer, Rachel McCabe, Tristan Szapary, and Jane Whellan, were named National Merit Scholarship Program Finalists. These students are among some 15,000 Semifinalists (out of over 1.5 million applicants) from across the country now designated as Finalists. They will continue in the competition for some 8,000 National Merit Scholarships.



(From left) Ben Lehrer, Elisabeth Forsyth, Jane Whellan, Rachel McCabe, Jade Halpern, and Tristan Szapary



Middle School Baker Triumphs

FCS seventh grader Avner Schwartz '25 was a contestant on Food Network's *Kids Baking Championship*, which began airing on January 6, 2020. Avner's creativity, baking skills, and ability to work under pressure took him through six episodes! A highlight for Friends' Central was the moment when Avner stopped to help a fellow contestant facing difficulties.

His commitment to service also showed when he hosted a bake sale in the Ardmore Farmer's Market in February with proceeds benefitting local charity Simon's Heart.

Avner, who has his own baking business, Gingee Says, began baking when he was four years old!



International Students Enriching the FCS Community

This school year, there are 33 international students – hailing from China, South Korea, and South Africa – who are part of the FCS community. We welcome and value the talents and perspectives our national and international students bring to our learning environment.

Pictured here are some of the various events that have taken place this academic year involving our international students, including a fabulous Lunar New Year Assembly, hosted and performed by international students in January 2020.

(Pictured, clockwise from top left) The orientation lunch in September for international students and families; new international students explore the FCS campus; having “s’mores” (a typical American marshmallow treat) with Head of School Craig N. Sellers and Assistant Head of School for Academic Program Mariama Richards; Game Night in November 2019; enjoying a lunch in Philadelphia for Lunar New Year with Craig N. Sellers, Katy Oh, Coordinator of International Student Education and Programs, and Mariama Richards; *(bottom row)* a few highlights from the fantastic Lunar New Year Assembly in January 2020



丰富FCS社区的国际学生

本学年，FCS社区里共有33名国际学生分别来自中国，韩国和南非。我们欢迎并且重视当地和国际学生为我们的学习环境所带来的才能和观点。

图片中是本学年迄今在校举办有关国际学生的各种活动，其中包括于2020年1月由国际学生所主持和表演的精彩中国春节大会。

（从图的左上角顺时针方向）9月的国际新生和家长们的新生培训午餐会；国际新生参观FCS校园；与学校校长Craig N. Sellers, 和副校长Mariama Richards 一起享受“s'mores”（一种传统的美国棉花糖点心）；2019年11月的游戏之夜；与校长Craig N. Sellers, 国际学生教育和计划负责人Katy Oh, 以及副校长Mariama Richards 在费城共进春节午餐。（下排）2020年1月中国春节大会里的一些精彩演出2020



Campus Log: *FCS on the Stage*

This fall's fabulous Middle School play, performed in November to delighted audiences, was *The Music Man, Jr.*, an adaptation of the Tony Award-winning Broadway show, full of classic songs.



This year's Middle School Winter Concert included excellent instrumental and choral performances.



The Middle School Dance Team put on a fantastic performance this winter, sporting tshirts designed by Violet Babb '24 (design at left).



Les Misérables, this fall's Upper School production, was a breathtaking tour de force, featuring an outstanding ensemble of Upper School performers.



The Upper School Winter Concert brought together instrumental and choral groups for a fantastic evening full of talent.



Tapping into the seasonal spirit at the Grades 3-5 Winter Concert (photo by Emma Lord '21)



Beautiful, festive singing at the K-2 Winter Showcase





Vicky Liu '20 and Prima Lingua and Latin teacher Margaret Somerville '83 paid a visit in January to the Lower School to teach fifth grade Prima Lingua students about writing in Chinese and in ancient Greek.



(Pictured from left with faculty advisors Robyn Richmond and Anna Schall) Sammy Darling '21, Dior Rodgers '21, Sean McGoff '22, Casper Hoffman '21, and Andrew Bukas '22 attended the Quaker Youth Leadership Conference in January. The conference theme was Spirit-Led Activism: Embracing the Tension.



Romeo & Juliet Main Building Staging

Students in Laurel Burkbauer's eighth grade English classes used the beautiful balcony in the back of the Main Building to stage part of the balcony scene from *Romeo and Juliet* in January.



Kindergarten students displayed their posters at the Lower School's annual MLK Day Assembly.



Terry Guerin to Begin Her Second Act

After 30 years of teaching and leading the theatre program, Terry will be leaving FCS.

FROM THE MOMENT she stepped onto campus, Terry Guerin has been fearless – never shying away from a show because it pushed the envelope or because it was something that high school students had never before performed. In her over 30 years of teaching English and drama at FCS, Terry has been a luminary, profoundly impacting the lives of countless students and colleagues and taking Friends' Central's theatre program to new heights. She leaves behind a monumental legacy of which students and alumni/ae are proud to have been a part.

As we honor Terry and the impact she has had on Friends' Central, we sat down with Terry and one of the former students from her first drama class, Tiffani Gavin '91, who is the Manager of the Marquis Theatre in NY, for a Q&A.

Tiffani: I was a sophomore when you came to FCS, and I had to petition to be in your class. I remember hearing that this great new teacher was coming and being so excited, but then being told I couldn't take this class because I already had an art class. But I wanted to take a class with you – I was so excited! I barely remember my freshman acting class, but I vividly remember being in your class, especially doing a scene from *Fences* by August Wilson.

Terry: Oh wow, that's right!

Tiffani: What I loved about your class was that you knew what each of us had to offer. You let us explore, but you had a sense of what we could do even before we did. And you saw in us where we needed to be pushed. There were just no limits to what we could do or learn in your class and the roles we could play. In your class, I felt like I could do anything – work on whatever was interesting to me. You were open to whatever we were interested in trying, and I was never afraid. I think that's what makes a great drama class and drama teacher – to be in a classroom where you're not afraid to fail, to try things. It was a safe space where we all grew and learned and is an incredible part of us becoming who we are and being able to go out in the world and not be afraid.

Terry: I'm thrilled to hear that. It makes me so happy to think that was going on in 1989 and 1990 because I was really young. I do feel like all the things you said are really important to make theatre. There's that James Baldwin quote that captures it best, I think: "The place in which I'll fit does not exist until I create it." The same holds true for the space in which we trust each other to create.

I was brand new in 1988 and 1989 and thinking let's do *West Side Story*, and I still have fond memories of putting that show together. It was my first show, and I remember thinking Tiffani would be great as Anita, and Chad Johnson '91 as Riff. He was in the performance piece we did as a fundraiser for Action Aids and Ty Stiklorius '93 – and Walker Gilmore '91 were in both pieces as well – and I remember everybody from that experience, it was great. The whole thing was just so special.

Tiffani: Another thing I remember about *West Side Story* was getting the worst case of strep throat that year.

Terry: I remember that! I also have fond memories of Julie Nathanson '91 as Velma. I just remember it being so much fun.

Tiffani: It was such a mix of people – not just theatre people – full of people doing a show for the first time. Some of them just wanted to be a Jet or a Shark. It was really great. I met people I probably otherwise

wouldn't have met because it was the kind of show that everyone wanted to be a part of. I love that. Thought it was so much fun and such a great show. I could not thank you and Mr. Davis enough for giving me the shot to do that show – it was one of my fondest memories of performing. And to still be friends with my theatre compatriots all this time is amazing.

Terry: After all these years of doing this, there's a part of me, when I'm in class sometimes, where there's a group of kids working at the piano doing a Beach Boys song, and I think there's just no substitute for this. I plan to stay in theatre, but there's no substitute for that joy – seeing young people cooperate together – it's just magic. It's not the same as working with people who are "professionals." There's something about it that's just hard to match – the power of the young body – the way youth can just launch into the air – with no fear – and being weightless – it's just the most amazing thing. When I think about that, I get sad. But there's a lot I'm looking forward to, as well.

Tiffani: I hope that the level of excellence, the bar that you've set, remains because what we were doing in high school was so different from what kids at other schools were doing. What other high school was performing *The Elephant Man* or *Foreigner*?

Terry: I was with a friend and reading [*Foreigner*], he talked me into choosing it for our first show – the cast was fantastic with you, Jim Christie, Julie – so many more. I've only

repeated three shows, and that was one of them – we performed it again in 2011.

The Elephant Man was gorgeous – what a beautiful production. Jim Davis put up photos from *The Elephant Man* in Shallcross Hall, and it brought back great memories.

Tiffani: I never knew [*The Elephant Man*] as a play; I only knew it as a movie. Now, every time it shows up on Broadway, I have to see it.

I didn't do the play because I was doing a sport, but I always did the musical. And whatever shows I wasn't performing in, I went to see them. We were just doing very challenging, interesting things at FCS when you were there. And when others were doing *Grease* for the 10th time, we were doing the real deal with a professional director. As performers, parents were shocked. My mom was a music teacher before an elementary school teacher, and when she saw *West Side Story*, she was blown away. She couldn't believe her kid could do that, that these high school kids were so amazing.

Terry: We also did *Angels in America* ("WOW!"), and Julian Shapiro-Barnam '17, who played Prior, was with his family on vacation, and who did he run into but Tony Kushner. When we were doing *Angels in America*, I wrote to every person I knew in NY theatre to please tell Tony we were doing this show. So Julian started talking to him – telling him that he had just played Prior in his high school production, and Tony said, "That was your high school?!" So word did get to him.

Tiffani: So, what's your plan, now that you're starting your second act?



Tiffani Gavin '91

Terry: There's a lot to consider. I really want to be a supporter of theatre in Philadelphia. I just did a reading, actually, and it was so much fun. It was the first time Paul and I had acted together since 1984, and it was way more fun than I ever expected it to be. I'd like to work with new plays, supporting theatre and Shakespeare in education in Philadelphia. I'd like to help with curriculum development for teachers who want to teach Shakespeare in performance.

Jim Davis, FCS Archivist and former Chair of the FCS Arts Department, recalls, "Terry Guerin came to FCS in 1988. I remember her interview well, as she shared her love for musicals and how she was eager to stage some of the best examples of the American Musical Theatre tradition. Very passionate was our Terry! We decided to wait a bit, as undertaking a musical her first year was a steep climb. So the next year, in 1990, we took the plunge with *West Side Story*. Big production, large cast (including Tiffani Gavin!), and major success. She had the kids – and me – from that show. Brilliant director, passionate arts educator, truth-telling faculty member are all facets of Terry and what she brought to the School and to me." QW

Visit [FCSfeatures.org](https://fcsfeatures.org), *Friends' Central's* online magazine, to read this and other articles.



1991 Drama Class with Terry Guerin (front right) and Tiffani Gavin (back row, center); The October 2014 FCS production of *Angels in America*; In January 2020, Terry was recognized on stage at the Pig Iron Theatre Company's production *Stranger Pigs* for her "tireless advocacy and work over the past 17 years as a board member, chair of the School launch committee, and friend of Pig Iron." Through her connection, Terry has brought Pig Iron Theatre members to FCS over many years to hold workshops with drama students.

Teaching, Coaching, Mentoring, Leading: The Many Talents of Keino Terrell



Keino (at right) teaching members of the Class of 2014 back in the fall of 2009

Middle School Assistant Principal and English teacher Keino Terrell has been a beloved fixture at Friends' Central for over 20 years; however, beginning this summer, he will be moving on to his next endeavor, as Director of Middle School at Germantown Friends School.

For 23 years, FCS has been benefiting from Keino's incredible strengths as both an educator and a leader. He came in as a Language Arts teacher and became Diversity within his third year, while simultaneously teaching and coaching Upper School Varsity basketball. It was a tall order straddling so many roles, and it was also indicative of just how many talents Keino brought to the community.

"It would be hard to overestimate the impact that Keino's had on Friends' Central students and on the School as a whole," said Middle School Principal Alexa Dunnington Quinn '98, reflecting on her colleague of 17 years.

"When I think about all the positions I've held here – teacher, coach, Diversity Director and Middle School Dean of Students among other administrative positions, and now as Assistant Principal – they've all been different,

and it's allowed me to see the School from so many different lenses. I wish that for other people," said Keino.

"Part of what I'm most proud of here," he continued, "is really driving and pushing the School to understand the position of Diversity Director in a different way. When I first started here, our schools were trying to figure out how those diversity positions were going to work; they were still in their infancy." FCS has since hired a full-time Director of Equity and Multicultural Education, Erica Snowden, who will be joining the School this summer.

Keino worked with Simone Gibson '17 to bring the first Student Diversity Leadership Conference to the School in 2015. Entitled Different Voices, Same Vision, the conference, which has been held annually since 2015, is designed, according to its Mission Statement,

"to bring independent and non-independent schools together in a safe setting where students learn from and have conversations with each other about diversity issues." Under Keino's mentorship, Simone was awarded the Princeton Prize for Race Relations and the Widener Leadership Prize in recognition of this important work.

Keino also spearheaded the Middle School's affinity group program, explained Alexa Quinn. (Students participate in affinity groups based on particular aspects of their identity, such as gender or religion.) "We're in – I believe – year nine of having affinity groups in the Middle School, and now you see a lot of schools that have affinity groups. That was not the case nine years ago. We were ahead of the curve, and that was due to Keino - his passion and his influence on our programming."

"It would be hard to overestimate the impact that Keino's had on Friends' Central students and on the School as a whole."

- Alexa Dunnington Quinn '98

Other important contributions Keino has made to the Middle School include starting and maintaining Students of Culture, which not only acts as a student group to engage with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion but has also been a structure used to develop student leaders; changing the structure of the culminating 8th Grade Showcase to individual projects that allow each student a moment to shine; and creating a Meeting for Leaving Ceremony that celebrates each 8th grader.

"Keino's a wonderful administrator; he is able to keep all the balls in the air and get things done," said Alexa, "but what really stands out to me is his deep and genuine caring about kids. He uses the phrase, 'Students need to know that you're *for* them,' and he has always worked really hard to make sure kids know that he's for them, even when kids have made big mistakes or missteps. He makes sure students understand that they are not defined by their imperfections or their mistakes, and I think students truly feel and appreciate that. He's also been wonderful about helping students to navigate all of the personal identity and friendship work that happens in Middle School."

As a teacher, it's fair to say that Keino has a reputation for having high expectations of his students. "We're blessed to have students that can handle some structure and rigor," he explained. And his perspective is that the students want it. "They want us to take away some of the guessing game and to say to them, 'This is what you're actually capable of.' I've always had that approach to teaching, especially around writing. Of course, it's not a one-size-fits-all for learners, but ultimately, I always find comfort in the fact that I get college kids who come back and tell me, 'You know, I still use some of your writing lessons.'"

Alexa also shared that it's a measure of the influence that Keino's had on students – as both a teacher and coach – that so many of them, once graduated, stay connected with him. Among those graduates is FCS Assistant Director of Admission and Athletic Specialist Mike Cook '02. "There aren't enough words to describe Keino's impact on my life," said Mike. "He was my basketball coach and continues to be a mentor to this day. He made sure that we knew our value and gave us all someone to look up to. Seeing an African American man navigate our community the way that he did was inspiring and let me know that if basketball didn't work out there are other avenues to success."

For the last five years, Keino has been earning a Doctorate in Educational Leadership at Temple University. "More importantly," he explained, "I have done a lot of research concerning how marginalized students build social capital. I have used this to serve students and this community in myriad ways. My dissertation topic, which I will defend in the fall, looks at how perceived racial incidents impact teachers of color retention in independent schools."

The profound impact Keino has had on FCS over so many years will continue to be felt in countless ways by the School and its community. We wish him all the best as he transitions to his new role. "I am so grateful to Keino for his impact on our school," said Alexa, "and I know that he will continue to care very deeply about Friends' Central and all of the people in it." **QW**

Excerpted from the full article, published in FCS Features, Friends' Central's online magazine. [Click here](#) to read the full article.



Nelson Hammond, beloved City Avenue Campus Safety Officer, was featured in The Philadelphia Museum of Art's magazine in December. For 30 years, Nelson has been a member of the Art Museum's Protection Services team, clearly bringing the same warmth and enthusiasm to the Art Museum that we enjoy on the FCS City Avenue campus!

Expert Teacher & Advisor Brad Morris Retires

After a 35-year career in the FCS Upper School math department, Brad Morris will be retiring this spring. It's a stretch to think of the word "retirement" applying to Brad, who exudes enthusiasm and energy, along with his trademark sense of humor. Interviewing Brad, his true love of teaching in all its aspects shines through. His impact on the School and its students will be felt for years to come.

When Brad first came to FCS in the 1985-1986 school year, he described it as an exciting moment, with a large influx of new teachers joining him around the same time. "It almost felt like we were taking over the place. It was great to be part of that; we were all young and energetic and idealistic. We wanted to change the world, and we were passionate about teaching."

While some of the youthful energy may have faded, what he has acquired he said, since those days, is a level of wisdom that "took

a while to accrue." And some perspective – particularly on kids. "Everyone's a unique individual, true, but you see enough kids over the years to recognize that they're all the same, in a way. They're kids. And they're not finished products; they're maturing at different rates."

In Brad's 35 years, he has taught virtually every math course. He considers Statistics, which he has been teaching to seniors for many years, his favorite course. "Statistics allows me to be creative in writing curriculum. There's so much data out there and so many ways to approach it, and it's changing all the time, so it can be topical and relevant. In an election year, we can do a lot of work around polling and margin of error, prediction, for example."

"I really like geometry too," he added, "because it's the place where kids get exposed to formal logic, as it applies to mathematics. It's also a ninth grade course, and the ninth graders are really fun to work with, especially juxtaposed with

the seniors; it's two ends of the spectrum, both of which are unique and fun in their own right."

In addition to math teaching, Brad has been the faculty advisor for both Mock Trial and Debate clubs for many years and has thoroughly enjoyed watching FCS students excel at both. He brought the Mock Trial program to FCS 15 years ago, and Mock Trial teams have qualified for the national competition twice and made the playoffs most years. In this his final tenure as advisor, Brad has seen Debate club reach unprecedented heights – with the FCS teams taking two of the top three spots to qualify for the Pennsylvania High School Speech League (PHSSL) State Championships this spring, a feat that he has never seen in any school in his experience.

FCS Debate club uses Parliamentary-style debate, where three-member teams argue either for or against a resolution. "I continue to be amazed," said Brad, "at how well-thought-out



Brad Morris with 2019-2020 Debate Team members (*front row, from left*) Anna Volpp '20, Ryan Jokelson '20, Jade Halpern '20, Darren Mims '20, Harper Will '21, Sophia David '21, Lindsey Schweitzer '20; (*back row, from left*) Ibraheem Ahmad '20 and Lucas Klein '20

“What made Mr. Morris so special was the impact he had, possibly without knowing it. Every day, he greeted all of his students with a smile and with friendship.”

- Austin Margulies '16

and well-reasoned these kids are with these resolves, how much research they put into them, how they're able to divide up the topic into subtopics and assign those subtopics to each person on the team and come together with a cohesive argument as well as a rebuttal to the other side's points. It's very impressive.”

FCS has consistently done well at both Debate and Mock Trial competitions. When asked to speculate on this, Brad responded, “I think it's because of the way Friends' Central conducts its academic program. It's not a formulaic program, it's a program designed to get kids to think. And that lends itself perfectly to these kinds of activities and clubs. We are training kids within history class, lit class, science class, etc., to think – to think on their feet, in many cases; to take in different points of view, to analyze, to reason, and to respond.”

Without question, Brad, as faculty mentor for both clubs, has been instrumental to their successes over so many years. Lily Snider '16, a former member of an FCS Debate team that took second place at the State Parliamentary Championship in 2016, shared a message for Brad.

“BradMo – I can't think of a more iconic man to be the leader of my parliamentary debate experience at FCS. Bringing our team to states was one of the highlights of my entire high school experience, and we could never have done it without your mentorship. Thank you for creating a space that I will always look back on with the utmost fondness and pride.”

Austin Margulies '16, another former student and Mock Trial and Model UN team member shared, “What made Mr. Morris so special was the impact he had, possibly without knowing it. Every day, he greeted all of his students with a smile and with friendship. I know I had many bad days made much better by his kindness.

“I started every single day of my four years in high school with Mr. Morris in homeroom. He started all of those days with a great conversation, an interesting thought, or even just the simple wish for his students to have a great day. ... When I look back on my time at FCS, above all, I remember him as a great friend.”

It's clear that Brad remains enthusiastic and committed to teaching, even as retirement rapidly approaches. “My goal is to go out on top. And I feel like I am. I don't want the students to see somebody up there who looks burned out. I want to keep – if not the same exact youthful energy I had 35 years ago – at least some facsimile of it, salted by a certain level of experience and wisdom that I didn't have back in the day.”

Upper School Principal Beth Johnson reflected on her colleague, “Whether teaching a class, working with advisees, or overseeing clubs, Brad brings joy to everything he does. Countless alumni, current students, and colleagues will miss his expertise and sense of humor.”

Although Brad will be missed, fortunately he plans to stay connected to FCS, participating in alumni/ae gatherings and other events.

We wish him all the very best! **QW**

Visit FCSfeatures.org, Friends' Central's online magazine, to read this and other articles.

New Director of Annual Giving – Melissa DiNofia-Bozzone

Friends' Central welcomes Melissa DiNofia-Bozzone as Director of Annual Giving. Melissa brings over 20 years of professional experience in the field of education, both in higher education administration and school fundraising. Her advancement work has been grounded in both the independent and parochial school environments.

Melissa most recently served as Director of Advancement for Faith in the Future Foundation, initiating the start-up of advancement operations for the four Schools of Special Education in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Melissa can be reached at mdinofia@friendscentral.org or 610.645.5420.

In Support of Scholarships

Through the Friends Education Equity Collaborative, a partnership with 20 Pennsylvania Friends Schools, FCS donors can convert state tax dollars into financial aid dollars with the EITC program. It's a powerful way to multiply the impact of your gift. Contact Kim Emmons-Benjet, Director of Leadership Giving, at 610.645.4499 or kbenjet@friendscentral.org to learn more.



“We’re thrilled to be able to support FCS through the Friends Collaborative. EITC donations go directly to the students who need it most, and after tax credits and deductions, our donation is effectively matched 16-to-1. It sounds too good to be true, but it’s not!”

- Rachel and Alex Rolfe '01

“We are grateful to be able to support Friends’ Central financial aid through the Friends Collaborative. We want to share access to the wonderful education our children experience at FCS with more students. Donating to the EITC program helps us amplify our gift to be many times what it would be otherwise.”

- Amy and Rob Geary, P '32, P '33

“Our family didn’t hesitate for a moment when we had the chance to support Friends’ Central School through the Friends Collaborative. We were so happy to be able to support the mission of Quaker education that our first grade twins, Ava and Ethan, get to experience every day. It is a joy for us to see the enthusiasm for learning that our twins exude by having the opportunity to experience FCS. Knowing that through the Friends Collaborative we are directly able to provide this same FCS experience to students who need it most is beyond gratifying.”

- Dana and Seth Goldblum, P '31

“As parents of two FCS lifers who are now alums, we have experienced the value of a Friends’ Central education.

“As a member of the Board, I have chosen to make FCS a personal philanthropic priority, and participation in the Friends Collaborative has enabled us to be even more generous in our support of the School through EITC.

Importantly, the funds we contribute are designated for financial aid, which helps make a Friends’ Central education accessible to talented students who might not otherwise be able to afford to attend the School.”

- Betty Bard & Jay Adelsberg P '15, P '19

Dwight Dunston '06, Coordinator of Equity and Justice Education, reflects on the growth of equity and justice programming at FCS



It has been amazing to be in this role for the past three years at FCS, collaborating with folks at each division and on staff to help build a cohesive, integrated program for all students at FCS. One of the things that's been most exciting is my collaboration with Al Vernacchio and Robyn Richmond supporting our Lower School students to build a positive relationship with different aspects of their identity (gender, race, religion, to name just a few) knowing that students from our Lower School who eventually graduate from our Middle School and Upper School do a lot of work around this as they learn to be in authentic relationships with themselves and their peers. It felt very important to support the cultivation of the language, tools, and skills necessary to help our students to live healthy, whole lives.

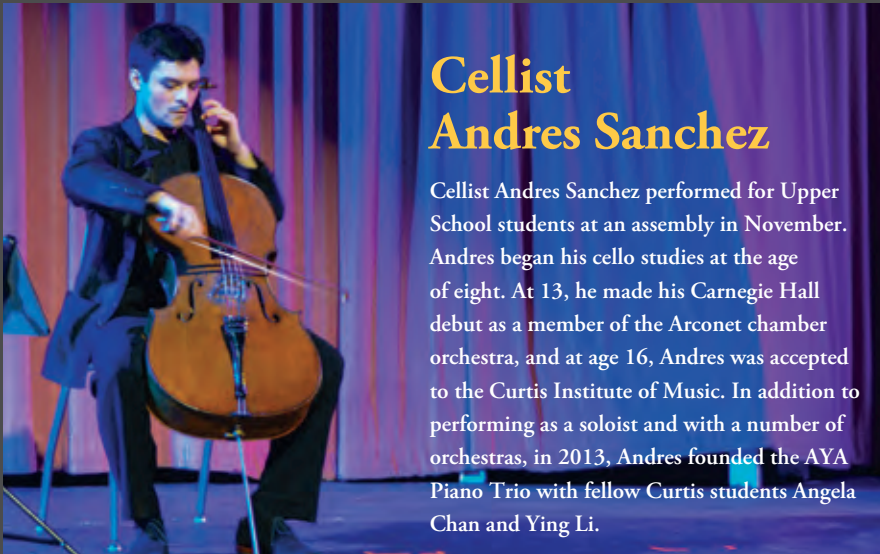
The other thing that I've been so grateful to help steward is our Justice Core Team. For the past two years, we've invited some amazing speakers to campus who have spent time with students at each of our divisions, creating this unique "classroom" space that allows our students to be learning, growing, and problem solving with one another. Our students had the chance to hear from adults living boldly and fully into their truth and have been able to share their own vision for a better world with our Distinguished Visiting Justice Leaders, Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha (2018-2019) and Dr. Steve Larson (2019-2020). This program would not have been possible without the effort of so many community members here, and I'm so glad that I got the chance to be a part of a community where folks were bold, passionate, compassionate, and visionary and were committed to help bringing this program to life! [QW](#)

(Pictured above at left) Dwight Dunston '06 introducing FCS's 2018-2019 Distinguished Justice Leader Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha; *(top right, pictured from left)* Dwight Dunston with Assistant Head of School for Academic Program

Mariama Richards, Dr. Hanna-Attisha, and Head of School Craig N. Sellers; *(bottom right)* 2019-2020 Distinguished Justice Leader Dr. Steven Larson and Dwight Dunston meeting with Middle School students in February

VISITORS TO CAMPUS

FCS welcomed authors, artists, musicians, and leaders who enriched our community this fall and winter, including the following:



Cellist Andres Sanchez

Cellist Andres Sanchez performed for Upper School students at an assembly in November. Andres began his cello studies at the age of eight. At 13, he made his Carnegie Hall debut as a member of the Arconet chamber orchestra, and at age 16, Andres was accepted to the Curtis Institute of Music. In addition to performing as a soloist and with a number of orchestras, in 2013, Andres founded the AYA Piano Trio with fellow Curtis students Angela Chan and Ying Li.



Pig Iron

In December, Pig Iron Theatre Company paid a visit to Terry Guerin's drama class to hold a workshop with students. (See page 10 for more on Terry and Pig Iron Theatre Co.)



Author Vashti Harrison

Vashti Harrison visited the Lower School in November to celebrate the publication of her inspiring book *Little Legends: Exceptional Men in Black History*. Vashti is an illustrator, author, and filmmaker. Her other books include *Little Dreamers: Visionary Women Around the World* and *Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History*. Harrison also illustrated the books *Sulwe* by Lupita Nyong'o and *Hair Love* by Matthew A. Cherry. *Hair Love* won a 2020 Oscar for best animated short film.



Conductor Kevin Vondrak

In January, Conductor Kevin Vondrak held three workshops with Upper School vocal groups, helping them prepare for the Main Line A Cappella Competition. Vondrak is assistant conductor and artistic associate of the Grammy-winning new music choir The Crossing. Vondrak is a Chestnut Street Singers colleague of teacher Michele Zuckman.



Brian Hoppy

In December, Lower School parent Brian Hoppy came to speak to the FCS Sustainability Club. He talked about his work as Chair of Lower Merion Township's Environmental Advisory Council, and he discussed ways in which FCS Sustainability Club members can help/volunteer with LM Conservancy.



FCS Alumni/ae Board Members

For Senior day in December, FCS Alumni/ae Board Members (*pictured above from left*) Lauren Collier '99, Jeff Brody '98, Olivia Gillison '10, and Bess Collier '96 came to speak to students about their respective professions.



Shades of Yale A Cappella Group

As part of an East Coast tour, Shades of Yale, one of Yale's premiere a cappella groups, performed at an Upper School assembly in January. FCS alumna Noelle Mercer '17 (*pictured center with microphone*), a member Shades of Yale, expressed how happy she was to be back on campus. The audience enjoyed the phenomenal performance.

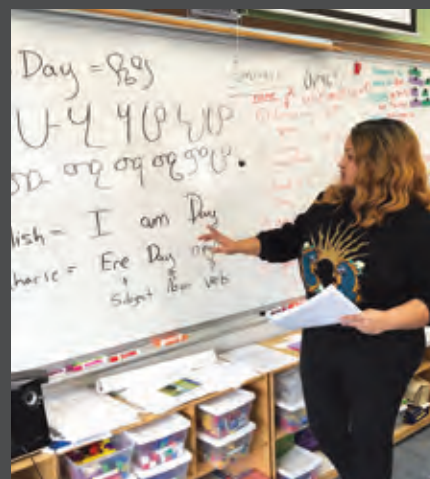


Mary Gay Scanlon

U.S. Congresswoman Mary Gay Scanlon paid a visit to 5B's Refugee Awareness event in early March. Fifth graders guided guests through language-based games, handed out educational pamphlets, read stories about the lives of refugees, and led an interactive robotic simulation in order to increase the understanding of challenges faced by refugees.

FCS Parent Teaches Amharic

In February, current parent Day Yohannes kindly took the time to visit 5th grade Prima Lingua to teach Amharic, the Semitic language that is the official language of Ethiopia.



Dr. Steve Larson

Dr. Steve Larson met with Middle School students in February, when he returned to campus to continue working with students in his role as 2019-2020 Distinguished Visiting Justice Leader.



2019-2020 Distinguished Visiting Scientist Helen White: Friday, May 1, 2020

Athletic News



Girls' Indoor Track champions
Photo by Greg Wilkinson



FCS Boys' Sprint Medley Relay team
Photo by Greg Wilkinson

Girls' Track Wins Pennsylvania Track & Field Coaches Association (PTFCA) State Championship

This winter, the Friends' Central girls cleaned up in the team competition, capturing the state championship with 55 points – 24 points clear of second place. The Phoenix scored 26 points on relays alone, taking the DMR win and silver medals in the 4x800 and 4x400. Their depth was on display on both the track and field. Lydia Russell '20 finished the indoor season ranked PA#1 and US#10 in the 2 mile (10:35.18 ran at Ocean Breeze Invitational). The Sprint Medley Relay (4:11.08 - Lavino Relays in Lawrenceville, NJ) was ranked PA#1 and US#12 and Distance Medley Relay (12:07.89 - Public School

Invitational at the Armory, NYC) was ranked PA#1 and US#9.

- excerpted from the March 3, 2020 [PennTrackXC article](#)

Boys' track set a School record of 3:24.92 in the 4X400M and Diego Spielman-Rodriguez '21 broke an 11-year-old record (Ivo Milic-Srkalj '09) by running 4:20.04 in the mile. The Sprint Medley Relay (Noah Thomas '22, Alex Veith '20, Ryan Ellison '21, Diego Spielman-Rodriguez ranked PA#1 in the Sprint Medley Relay in 3:38.22 set at the Lavino Relays in Lawrenceville, NJ in January 2020.

FCS Varsity Boys'/Girls' Swim Teams Win FSL Championship



In March, Friends' Central excelled at the FSL Championships. It was the 17th consecutive win for the boys' swim team and the 4th consecutive (12th title in the past 15 years) for the girls' swim team.

The girls secured the win following the second place finish in the 200 free relay (Elisabeth Forsyth '20, Anna Volpp '20, Sofia Moran '23, and Maddie Anderson '20) with a time of 1:46.13, just under three seconds off the George School pool record set by FCS in 2017.

The boys' meet came down to the final event of the day, the 400 free relay. The Phoenix flew past Moorestown Friends to win the event by nearly five seconds to claim their 17th consecutive crown. After sophomores Spencer



Main Line Boys' Athlete of the Week: Edward Holland '21

Ed Holland '21 was named Main Line Boys' Athlete of the Week for the week of January 6, 2020. The 6-foot-4 junior guard/forward is averaging more than 17 points per game and 8.7 rebounds per contest for the Phoenix (7-5 as of Jan. 6). As a sophomore guard last winter, he led Friends' Central (14-12) in scoring (14 ppg), averaged 6.5 rebounds per game and received All-Friends' Schools League honors.



Main Line Girls' Athlete of the Week: Hope Lane '23

Hope Lane '23 was named Main Line Girls' Athlete of the Week for the week of February 17, 2020. The freshman swimmer won three events at the FSL Championships – the 100 free (in which she set both a school and pool record), 200 free (in which she set a pool record), and 400 free relay (team set a pool record). She also was part of the 200 medley relay team that placed second at the FSL Championships. At Easterns, she finished 7th in the 100 free, setting a school record and was the only freshman to make the finals.

Thorne and Holden Kopcsik and eighth grader Finn Hilliard built the cushion, it was sophomore Ethan Cohen who completed the final laps to clinch the win.

- excerpted from the March 15, 2020 [Main Line Media News article by Eddie Levin](#)

Middle School swimmers (Finn Hilliard '24, An Huynh '24, Clara Behling '24, and Connor Simpkins '24) set a new FCS record in the 200 Freestyle Relay in 1:44.58. Finn Hilliard owns three individual records for FCS MS Swimming: 200 Free 1:56.27, 100 Free 53:03, and 50 Back 28:73.



Avery Lewis with
Coach Brandon Shell

National Champion Avery Lewis '24

Congratulations to outstanding athlete Avery Lewis '24 who, in February, won the 55m race at the Colgate Games in a US #5 time of 6.99 seconds! Avery is now a Five-time Colgate Women's Games' record-holder. Officials have called Avery one of the nation's fastest girls her age every year since her seventh birthday!

Fall Varsity Athletic Awards

The following athletes received the Most Valuable Player Award for their respective fall sport: *(left to right)* Diego Spielman-Rodriguez '21 (cross country), Caroline Blackman '20 and Izzy MacFarlane '20 (tennis), Maddie Anderson '20 (water polo), Lindsey Schweitzer '20 (field hockey), Anna Volpp '20 (tennis), Jared Lonner '21 (soccer), Lydia Russell '20 (cross country), and *(not pictured)* Ben Meyers '22 (water polo).

The following athletes received the Most Improved Player Award for their respective fall sport: *(left to right)* Cooper Johnson '23 (water polo), Fotini Mourelatos '22 (water polo), Leah Anderson '21 (field hockey), Jai Smith '22 (soccer), Madison Gilchrist '22 (field hockey), Pat Ryan '21, (soccer), Anthony Cianfrani '20 (soccer); *(not pictured)* Grace Decatur '20 (tennis), Lavinia Wang '22 (cross country), and Jace Anderson '23, (cross country).



FCA Excels at Central York Invitational

Friends' Central Aquatics (FCA) turned in some notable performances and won the December 2020 Central York Invitational Meet. Approximately 700 athletes and 31 teams were in attendance at this Middle Atlantic Swimming event hosted by Central York Aquatics at the Central York High School Natatorium.

"What a fantastic way to start the fall/winter season," said FCA head coach Iain Anderson. "We brought 115 swimmers to this meet and everyone stepped up in a total team effort – winning events, qualifying for Junior Olympics, Senior Championships, and too many PRs to count in the process – ultimately enabling FCA to outscore other powerhouse clubs."

- excerpted from the Dec. 10, 2019, [Main Line Times article](#)



Senior Fencing Star

In November 2019, Tristan Szapary '20 won out of 300 fencers competing in the North American Cup in the U20 epee division in Milwaukee. This result, combined with a bronze medal at Summer Nationals, earned him a place on the USA national team in December. At nationals, he finished third out of 231 international competitors and was the top American in an under-20 Epee Junior World Cup. Congratulations, Tristan!



Most Valuable Player
Award Winners

Winter Varsity Athletic Awards

The following athletes received the Most Valuable Player Award for their respective winter sport: (*left to right*) Blake Roshkoff '20 (squash), Madison Smith '22 (basketball), Edward Holland '21 (basketball), Anna Volpp '20 (swimming), Ethan Cohen '22 (swimming), Elisabeth Forsyth '20 (swimming), Jackson Snider '20 (wrestling), Thea Volpp '20 (squash).



Most Improved Player
Award Winners

Most Improved Player Award winners were (*left to right*): Kahmai Clark '22 (basketball), Damon Core '22 (squash), Jai Smith '22 (basketball), Phoebe Dubb '22 (swimming), Mohammed Gueddi '21 (wrestling), Cooper Johnson '23 (swimming), and Amina Rouine '23 (squash).



Spirit Night 2020

ALUMNI/AE ATHLETES IN THE NEWS



Dartmouth student **Lorna MacFarlane '17** received the 2019 Women's Soccer All-Ivy League Honorable Mention in November.



Field hockey goalie **Maddie Henry '16** was named the Ivy League Defensive Player of the Year. Henry is the first to earn the honor for her college, Cornell, since 2015.



Mustafa Shakur '03 returned to Friends' Central in November to speak to current FCS basketball players. Mustafa is a professional player for the Oklahoma City Blue. He played college basketball for the University of Arizona and has previously played professionally in Europe, Lebanon, the NBA D-League, and the NBA.



Stuart Warshawer '99 competed in season 10 and was a course tester for season 11 of American Ninja Warrior (ANW.) Before COVID-19, Stu was waiting to see if he would get cast on season 12. ANW been postponed indefinitely. Stu is the principal at KIPP Cooper Norcross Academy in Camden, NJ.

Jackson Snider '20 Finishes His FCS Wrestling Career in Triumph

Jackson Snider '20 finished his FCS wrestling career with 97 wins, going undefeated in the Friends Schools League and 31-5 overall. Jackson finished 4th overall in PAISWT (State competition.)



Middle School Rock Climber Heads to Nationals

In February, Jaz Grant '25 headed to the Youth Bouldering Nationals rock climbing competition in Oregon. She was one of only 50 climbers in the country to have qualified in her category. Congratulations, Jaz!

Stay tuned for an upcoming feature on Class of 2020 College Commitments!



Your IMPACT Starts Here

Your support of Friends' Central School, now, more than ever, allows our students to reach their full potential to become compassionate leaders in an ever-changing, global society. Our commitment to teaching and learning, both on our campuses and virtually, has never been stronger. Please support the Friends' Central Fund today!

Direct your gift for:

- Greatest Need
- Student Programs
- Financial Aid
- Faculty Professional Development
- Arts
- Athletics



Invest in Friends' Central
www.friendscentral.org/gift



Friends' Central's Champion Trees

BY DOUG LINTON '68

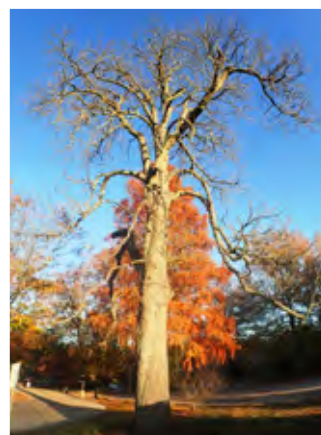
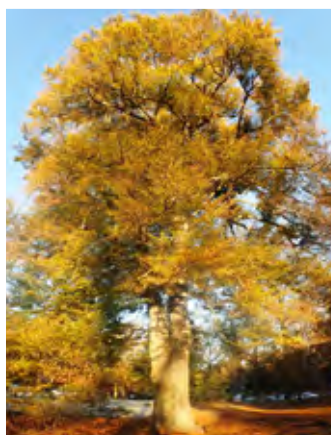
Ever since Friends' Central moved from Center City to its current location on City Avenue in 1925, the School has been aware of its fine collection of trees. In fact, back when the campus was home of the Wistar Morris Estate, the landscaping was planned by Frederick Law Olmsted, the famous landscape architect who designed the plantings in New York's Central Park. Although many trees have been removed over the years to make way for buildings and athletic fields, his signature tree, a fern leaf beech (*Fagus sylvatica 'Asplenifolia'*) has remained located near City Avenue adjacent to the updated softball field. Last fall, this tree was recorded to be the second largest of its kind in the state. It was also determined that our burr oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*), which is located outside the Middle School, ranks number six in the state and is believed to be over 300 years old, which makes it a William Penn tree. Our sweetgum (*Liquidamber styraciflua*), located on Felsen Common outside our dining hall, was rated fourth in the state. Finally, our horse chestnut (*Aesculus Hippocastanum*), located between our main parking lot and City Avenue, ranks

among the top 10. A champion tree is one that has the most points determined by its circumference at breast height, its height, and its spread of its canopy.

Many of our trees have been planted in memory of alumni/ae, in honor of various events, or as gifts from graduating classes. The first tree planted when Friends' Central moved to City Avenue was a seedling of an English oak, planted by Head of School, Barclay Jones in the late 1920s. The oak still stands in a prominent space on the first island in our parking lot closest to the entrance.

Our vast collection of trees numbers around 180, with about 50 different varieties. Today, all trees planted on campus are native to Pennsylvania and offer a wide variety of seasonal interest. Friends' Central's vibrant collection now has given the School the official accreditation as an arboretum and offers our community a living botanical laboratory. *QW*

For more information on these and other trees, visit bitly.com/viewtrees.



(Clockwise from top left) Friends' Central's fern leaf beech; our burr oak; the sweetgum on Felsen Common; the horse chestnut; Doug Linton (at left) giving a tour of Friends' Central's arboretum at Reunion 2016; a view across Felsen Common in early autumn showcasing the beauty of the City Avenue campus

On Their Honor – FCS Students Revitalize Honor Statement

BY JIM ROSENGARTEN



Members of the Friends' Central Upper School Honor Council: (from left to right) Claire Pillar '23, Sarah Leonard '23, Calvin Mustokoff '22, Zhi Hao Liu '20, Anna Gullace '22, Evan Sweitzer '20, Lili Bidlo '22, Rebecca Wusinich '20, Sarah Wusinich '22, Marcus Chiang '23, faculty advisor Jim Rosengarten, and Dev Gupta '23

Over the course of the past year and a half, Friends' Central's Honor Council has been discussing and revising the Honor Statement at Friends' Central. The Honor Council is an Upper School club comprising students in grades 9-12 whose task is to help the FCS community "act with integrity and treat others and our shared environment with respect," as the Honor Statement attests.

The Honor Statement was created in 2013 after several months of research and meetings with students, faculty, and administrators. Last spring, current Upper School students in the Honor Council decided it was time to revise some of the guiding questions that follow the Honor Statement.

One revision made was addressing the guiding question around the testimony of Peace. The Honor Council did not want to create the impression that conflict is to be avoided in the name of peace, but rather that conflict ought to be healthily embraced as a means for growth and movement toward truth. Addressing the

guiding question around Equality, the Honor Council noted that our understanding of the difference between equity and equality has grown at FCS, and that the word "Equity" more reflected the desired spirit in the community, so the word "Equity" was added to the heading preceding the "Equality" guiding question. Other revisions were made, as well.

The Honor Council received rich feedback from the faculty and students after presenting the revisions to faculty at their fall in-service and to students in fall class meetings. Surveys were sent out to students and faculty with final revisions made after considering the feedback. Receiving overwhelming support for the revisions, the statement was sent to the printers for the new honor statements to be printed.

The Honor Council hopes that these revisions and the presentation of new posters around the school will help the community grow as it continues the work of embracing the values that arise from the Quaker ethos on which our school was founded. QW



Honor Statement

As a member of the Friends' Central community, founded on Quaker principles, I will act with integrity and treat others and our shared environment with respect.

Stewardship: Am I caring for our community's shared spaces and resources, or do my actions degrade them?

Peace: Am I helping to foster a safe environment for authentic and diverse expression? Do my actions make room for needed yet difficult interactions?

Integrity: Is my work reflecting my own learning, or have I taken ideas from another person without crediting them? Am I respecting the property of others? Am I respecting myself?

Community: Am I collaborating in the spirit of inclusivity to strengthen our community, or am I excluding others and detracting from our shared mission?

Equity/Equality: Am I treating others the way I wish to be treated? Am I treating others the way they wish to be treated? Am I aware of the diversity of needs in our community? Do I support and amplify needs that are not properly acknowledged, including my own?

Simplicity: Am I fully in this moment, or am I letting things and tasks distract me from what and who are present in this moment?

*Honor Statement as revised by
Honor Council, winter 2020*



FRIENDS' CENTRAL SCHOOL

Friends' Central

REUNION 2020

POSTPONED

Join Us Next Year!

SATURDAY, MAY 8, 2021



REUNION 2021

will be celebrating Classes

'50 '55 '60 '65 '70 '75
'80 '85 '90 '95 '00 '05 '10 '15

and

'51 '56 '61 '66 '71 '76
'81 '86 '91 '96 '01 '06 '11 '16



We will also be celebrating the
175th ANNIVERSARY
of our dear alma mater!

175
1845 2020

FRIENDS' CENTRAL

It'll be worth the wait!

Notes *from* Friends

Share Your Alumni/ae News

Friends' Central School encourages all alumni/ae to share news in the "Notes from Friends" section of *Quaker Works*. Send us your photos! Digital and print photos are accepted. Photos will be returned upon request. To contribute, email communications@friendscentral.org or write to Editor, *Quaker Works: The Magazine*, Friends' Central School, 1101 City Avenue, Wynnewood, PA 19096. (All alumni/ae notes are edited for length, grammar, and content.)



1943

Dorothy Dangerfield writes, "After receiving the request from FCS to share my news to be included in the spring issue of *Quaker Works*, I started thinking about my experiences at FCS. I was shocked when I realized that, in September of this year, it will be 90 years ago since I walked into the kindergarten room for the first time! How excited I was to be there. I could not understand why some of my new classmates were crying. The room was full of wonderful things: a young-child-height water fountain, a playhouse that we could walk into, and a very large fireplace surrounded by tiles made for children were some of the attractions. I had fallen in love with the huge table sandbox. Eddie Nicholson and Betty Eliason were among the classmates. The three of us survived 13 years at FCS, graduating in the Class of 1943."

William Gray Thomas reports that he was the President of Basketball Club of South Jersey from 1962 to 2018.

1947

J.Richard Relick shares that, "I am an octogenarian, and at this point, I am not sure how many of the famous Class of 47 are still walking around. I have retired to Cuenca, Ecuador in the Lower Andes, where I have been living for the last six years. However, I do spend a fair amount of time in the U.S. in Park City, Utah and Belfast, Maine. I have had the good fortune of going down the Amazon in a river steamer and traipsing through the jungle. I also spent time in the Galapagos Islands and have gone through the Panama Canal. Ferro Del Fuego in Argentina is still on my bucket list.

One interesting note is Clayton Farraday is the man that influenced my travel bug along with some other graduates of FCS when we spent two summers doing Canada and Nova Scotia."

1954

Elizabeth Osborne held an exhibition of her paintings at the Locks Gallery in Philadelphia last November and December.

Sue Saunders Clark writes, "my husband and I moved to Shannondell (a retirement facility) last summer and are thoroughly enjoying living the pampered life. We still do enough traveling to justify keeping our passports current, and

I am very lucky to still be able to maintain my law practice. I correspond with **Roberta Cannon Crouse** sporadically and would love to hear from other classmates. How about a mini-Reunion someplace fun?!"

1955

Allan Mackey is "spending the winter months in Hilton Head, South Carolina to get away from the snow and ice of winter in Vermont. My sister, **Betsy Mackey Smith '59**, lives here all year round, so we get to challenge each other's memory about growing up – movies, music, and other trivia. I still chat with classmates **Ted Pounds**, **Sally Deming Love**, **Jayne Tolson**, and **Middy Minster Larson** from time to time.



Pete Drayer '57 and Andy Stifler '57 enjoyed a wonderful get-together in February.



Betsy Markland Schwartz '59 riding horseback in the Indian Ocean

1959

Betsy Markland Schwartz “enjoyed a wonderful bike trip with friends this past September in the country of Malawi. Additionally, there was a three-day visit to Zambia for four different safaris into the bush at South Luangwa National Park and a culminating five-day trip to my 165th country, Mozambique! A special highlight there was riding horseback, bareback, in the Indian Ocean!”

Roberta Sandra Latshaw McCarthy is pleased to note that “my daughter **Melanie Jo McCarthy-Frick '94** was recently appointed Principal of an Elementary School in Drexel Hill, PA.”

1965

Susan Schwartz Goodrich shares that, “it is wonderful to continue seeing FCS friends all these years later. The strength of those formative year relationships is amazing. All I have to do is hear a voice, and I know who it is – like family!”

Belle Brett reports that, “in July, I had an exhibit of my collages and watercolors inspired by my novel, *Gina in the Floating World*, at the Great Bay Gallery in Somers Point, NJ. I was thrilled that classmates **Jon Moore**, **Susan Schwartz Goodrich**, and **Adrienne Roos Jones**, along with partners Hank and Cecil, came to see the exhibit and hear my book talk.

Rick Burgess received the Pierre Gloor lifetime achievement award from the American Clinical Neurophysiology Society at its Annual Meeting in February 2020 for his work in electroencephalography and magnetoencephalography (both are subspecialties of Clinical Neurophysiology). Dr. Burgess, a neurologist at the Cleveland Clinic, is the immediate past president of the American Clinical Magnetoencephalography Society and is responsible for authoring several of the Society's Clinical Practice Guidelines.

1969

Linda Smith Unland writes, “although I did not graduate from FCS, I spent 11 years there and have so often wondered how many of my former classmates are and what they have done in their lives. I would just like to say hello to all of my long lost friends. We live in the Teton Mountains in Idaho and don't get back east often, but I appreciate those years I spent at FCS and its Quaker foundation.”

1970

Sherry McVickar notes, “My grandmother, **Alice McIlwee**, graduated from FCS in 1907, and my mother, **Alice Legge**, graduated from FCS in 1936.”

Chuck Gregory continues to be very active in church and community. He sings in choir, serves on vestry, and is on the board of a multi-neighborhood

Memories & Reflections

by 2020 reunion alumni/ae

“Getting a smile and warm greeting each morning from Martha at the front desk”

– **Donna Hayes Edwards '55**

“Wonderful teachers and an exceptional Class”

– **Benjamin Freeman '55**

“Seeing my three sons graduate from FCS – a family tradition”

– **Mildred Minster Larson '55**

“In 7th grade, being taken to the Academy of Music to do the children's chorus in *Carmen*! Being introduced to ancient Egypt! Learning to play hockey”

– **Ruth Stubbs Denlinger '55**

“When John Burrowes, our beloved and courageous English teacher, stood up at weekly meeting and railed against our culture's changing our Christmas holidays into a consumer frenzy and losing the meaning

of the celebration of the birth of Christ. He closed his remarks by saying, ‘Have a baubly and bangly Christmas,’ The next morning, his desk was filled with Christmas ornaments. He took this response with great humor. Lots of love there.”

– **Allan Mackey '55**



FRIENDS'
CENTRAL
SCHOOL



Susan Schwartz Goodrich '65, Belle Brett '65, Adrienne Roos Jones '65, and Jon Moore '65, along with partners Hank and Cecil



Susan Schwartz Goodrich '65 (pictured above at right) reports, "We took a cruise around French Polynesia in fall 2018 and met an FCS alumna named Marina Simon '13 (center), traveling with her mother, Soma. Marina was wearing shorts with the FCS logo, so we struck up a conversation, which led to some delightful meals with them. You never know when an FCS connection will pop up!"



Matthew Drutt '80

alliance in Fort Lauderdale. He and his wife Lorraine have been married for 36 years; they've had many furry critters at various times and currently enjoy their pet rat, Mary. Chuck also sings in a local band, Sundays at Five.

1971

Elizabeth Fried shares that, "in November I was elected to my second term on the New Rochelle City Council!"

1977

Kitty Keith writes, "Hello to all my old friends! I'll be retiring from teaching English soon and have been taking classes to become an integrative nutrition health coach. It is nice to have something meaningful to do in retirement."



Elizabeth Fried '71



Conrad Turner '76 and Drew Vaden '76 recently met up Maryland, and they "thought of" former teacher Jim Davis while they were riding!

1980

Matthew Drutt reports, "After disappearing off the face of the earth in 1979, one year ahead of graduation, I've decided to reconnect for the 40th anniversary of our graduation in 2020. If you'll have me."

1985

Jon Vaden reports, "after a decade in California, I've just relocated to the Tampa Bay area with my family to start working as the director of marketing for Tampa International Airport or, as we like to call it, 'America's Favorite Airport.' I'd be delighted to connect with other FCS alums in the Tampa Bay area."



Hadassa Ra'aya, granddaughter of Jackie Margolis Bitensky '86



Lisa Kay Solomon '89

1986

Jackie Margolis Bitensky is "proud to announce the 1st birthday of my Granddaughter Hadassa Ra'aya, born on March 2, 2019."

1987

Tonya Evans shared in the summer of 2019, "I can FINALLY share the news. I've accepted the Dean's offer to serve as Associate Dean of Academic Affairs (at University of New Hampshire's School of Law), beginning July 1. I will have a reduced teaching load to focus on administration for at least the next two years. I am excited about the role and look forward to this next stage of my career in the legal academy."

Mark Levy is a "real estate developer and owner, overseeing national acquisitions for Hilco Redevel-

opment Partners, active nationally in redeveloping obsolete infrastructure into vibrant new uses. The firm growing exponentially, with lots of focus on cities such as Philadelphia. I'm spending personal time between DC and South Florida."

1989

Lisa Kay Solomon shares, "in addition to teaching new courses on futures at the Stanford d.school, I will be presenting a new experience called Designing the President at SXSW Festival this coming March. The Chief Program Office of this global conference called it one of the most interesting ones to watch (see: bitly.com/LKS-SX-SW). Materials will be available to all voters and all educators in time for the 2020 Presidential Election." (Note: Alumni/ae News notes were submitted prior to March 2020 so may not reflect Spring 2020 events)

1992

Perri Shaw Borish is "excited to share the news that my son joined FCS as a ninth grader in the fall of 2020!"

1993

Mike Blum recently became a Licensed PA Real Estate Broker.



Mike Blum '93

1995

Andrew Scharff reports that, "this February, I'll take my fourth trip as part of my little Clown the World project. Every year, I take a short trip to another country and do a bunch of free shows for school, children's homes, retirement homes, or community groups. It's like my own personal Clowns Without Borders (yes, that's actually a thing.) The trip will take me to Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana. The website is rough, but feel free to check it out: clowntheworld.com"

1998

Tom Robson is Associate Professor and Coordinator of Academic Programs in the Millikin University School of Theatre & Dance. In December 2019, he released the book *Performance and the Disney Theme Park Experience: The Tourist as Actor*, a collection of scholarship analyzing Disney theme parks through the lens of performance theory, co-edited with Dr. Jennifer Kokai of Weber State University and published by Palgrave Macmillan press.



Perri Shaw Borish '92 and her son



Andy Scharff '95 performing as part of his Clown the World project

Memories & Reflections

by 2020 reunion alumni/ae

"I often reflect on the Quaker experience and realize how much it shaped me as an adult person. I married an Episcopal priest, but my years at FCS greatly influenced so much of my life."

- Sandra Slevin Lockhart '60

"My memories include how important each one of us was to the faculty and how much I changed during my years. After graduation, I realized my acceptance and experiences formed the basis for my increasing self-confidence."

- Bruce Babcock '60

"Being selected as an exchange student to Friends' Central from my Munich High School was a tremendous privilege. Who, back in the 1950s, had the opportunity to cross the Atlantic and spend one year in the US? And more than that, at FCS! It was a 'landmark' in my life, rich in experience and friendships still lasting 60 years later."

- Inge Stark Olivero de Rubiana '60

"I learned a work ethic and made some very special friends while at FCS!"

- Judith Deemer Roseland '60

"My grandchildren over the years have asked if I was bullied at school. I delight in telling them 'No.' I didn't know what bullying was in high school. I appreciated that classes were small so I could know everyone. The teachers were great; my favorite was Mrs. Werner. I'm still in touch with friends now. The building still resonates with me as a living part of history, as part of the underground railroad! The 'house' itself was also part of my love of all special buildings of old!"

- Susan Phillips Henning '60

"The year I spent in Graefelfing, Germany as an FCS exchange student was the most memorable experience of my high school years. It influenced my life in many ways. Obviously, it influenced my career. I taught German for 30 years in public schools in Pennsylvania and five years in New Jersey – a career for which I felt much passion. However, more than that, it broadened my horizons and gave me self-confidence and determination to overcome obstacles which have been assets throughout my life."

- Janice Decker Frohner '60

"Opening the heavy front door of the Main Building every morning and seeing Martha behind the switchboard – knowing that I was now beginning another day at FCS and all was well"

- Laura Jackson '65

"All these years following graduation, it's my memories from our regular five-year reunions that stick with me! I have made friendships at these reunions that go way beyond the friendships I had in my FCS years, and I am very grateful."

- Annabelle Brett '65

"All the wonderful plays we put on in grammar school and especially the play in which I starred as Eloise at the Plaza"

- Jane Friedland Richards '65

"A special experience? It would have to be when Sherry McVickar '70 and I were cleaning out the costume room and came across two very raggedy old American flags. We remembered that they could not just be disposed of as other trash. We recalled having heard that old flags needed to be burned. So that's what we did; we took them outside and burned them. Unfortunately, we were seen and our well-meant flag burning was suspected of being a demonstration of some kind. We had a heck of a time explaining that we were NOT protesting anything, just disposing of two old moth-eaten flags! ;{"

- Carol Cooper '70

"My experience at Friends Central (14 years) was central to my childhood and adolescence. I made friends there whom I am still proud to call friends. I loved the atmosphere and the teachers."

- Sarah George Figueira '70

"I have many memorable moments. Most of all I appreciate the wonderful teachers I had and the quality of the education I received. There is a memorable experience with every class. There are memorable moments with my classmates, each of whom added greatly to my character in the long run."

- Linda Lerch DeLisio '70

"Driving up and down City Avenue with Nora and Martha (and sometimes a few others) – between classes, of course!"

- Margaret Pennypacker Caulfield '75

"My years at FCS were some of the happiest of my life. With the supportive, kind, family-style environment, I blossomed as a student. I am thankful that I was able to be a part of FCS."

- Susan Michael Rogers '75

"FCS was a wonderful two-year experience. With FCS as an influence in those critical high school years, I have been able to have a wonderful work life, with many years spent in Quaker education as well in schools where the Quaker point of view was accepted and cherished."

- Grant Jacks '75



Casey Cipriani '01's son,
born in September 2019



David Gershkoff Slusky '02 testifying before the Kansas Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee in support of Medicaid expansion in Kansas



Jerome Mopsik '02 and his wife, Emily, welcomed their daughter Lillian Jenifer on August 13.

Memories &

"Firstly, the phenomenal learning environment; secondly, emotional relaxation of Meeting for Worship"

- Robert Rhea '80

"Taking many of the photos in our yearbook, which will always provide memories of the Class of 1980"

- Joshua Klein '80

"My memories of my time at FCS as a student, parent, teacher and coach have been very special. The memories are full of peace, happiness, growth, and love in a community that will always be in my heart!"

- Robert Folwell '80

"So many! The memory that is most indelible is Frank Groff. In Middle School, I believe 7th grade, our class paid tribute to Mr. Groff. We selected the Cat Stevens (Yusuf Islam) song "Father and Son" and collectively thanked him for his care and kindness throughout our Lower School experience. Even though our energies were directed towards Mr. Groff, the planning and execution of this tribute was a bonding experience that brought us all together."

- Joyce Horikawa '80

"I'm a K-12 lifer, so there are tons. Life lessons from field hockey stay with me today and helped me when I served in government! I guess a special memory is of Mr. Ely, holding his hand in front of your face, counting as you searched in your head frantically for the answer to the question he was asking about *Crime and Punishment*."

- Sarah Mendelson '80

"The good friends I made and maintained, the outlook it provided, and the fond recollections of the Xmas recitals; Meeting for Worship and the sporting events"

- Ernest May '85

"During spring break of our junior year, Mr. John McCollum took a group of the junior class to London, England in preparation for the British Literature class that we would take during our senior year. It was the first time that I had been on a trip without my immediate family. I had an excellent time seeing Shakespeare's Stratford-upon-Avon, watching the play *Evita*, and sightseeing all the beautiful places of London. It is a trip that will always hold a special place in my heart."

- Janice Chu '85

Reflections

by 2020 reunion alumni/ae

"I am thankful for having an excellent education at FCS and for all the wonderful lifelong friendships I have made."

- Patrick Lord '90

"Not a specific memory, but many made possible by such an amazing group of teachers and friends"

- Cleo Azariadis Kelly '90

"Great experience playing basketball in 12th grade despite a subpar record in terms of wins and losses"

- Ian Bennett '95

"The teachers were always kind and supportive. My classmates were always creative and open."

- Yvette Hope '00

"Jazz band with Mr. Bradley :)"

- Joanna Miller Hayden '00

"Because I have young kids, I've been thinking a lot about my Lower School experience at FCS. I have such fond memories of our stargazing night with Mr. Grove; we looked forward to it for weeks and were so thrilled by the telescope, being out at night with our friends and teachers, and the hot chocolate.

How lucky to be taught in an environment that understood and prioritized experiential learning!"

- Tara Ramchandani '00

"I have so many; it is hard to choose just one! Academically, I think about the experience of Polis 8, Mr. V's fake-out final exam, and the countless productions I did with Terry. The emotional and social development that happened for me at FC is what feels the most special to me though. The friends I made there are my best friends to this day, and the sense of community that I experienced was foundational."

- Emma Steiner '00

"I have countless special memories, but I'll never forget going with Terry Guerin and the drama major class to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. It was such an experience. In fact, I'll never forget finding out that we were going. The class had no idea that Terry was planning to get us into the festival while we were working on *Fires In the Mirror*. And I can still remember the elation and disbelief in the room after she told us that we would be performing at the Fringe in Scotland. It was such a happy moment, and there were so many at FCS."

- Taiwo Whetstone '00

Alumni/ae News

2001

Casey Cipriani reports, "Bought our first house in Westchester, NY in February 2019! Welcomed baby boy #2 in September 2019! Still an entertainment journalist, working mostly with *Bustle* and other freelancing. I was very sad to hear of **Mike Schiller's** passing. He was such a fun and kind guy and an amazing musician. He'll be in my memory forever.

2002

David Gershkoff Slusky testified before the Kansas Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee in support of Medicaid expansion in Kansas.

To quote news coverage of the event:

"David Slusky, a health economist at the University of Kansas, said nearly all of the 342 studies of Medicaid expansion have been overwhelmingly positive.

"Research, Slusky said, shows expansion lowers the mortality rate for people ages 55 to 64 by a factor that adds up to about 72 deaths per year in Kansas. Additionally, expansion improves household finances as evidenced by reduced bill collections and poverty rates."

Jerome Mopsik and his wife, Emily, welcomed their daughter Lillian Jenifer on August 13. Life as a family of three is going well. Jerome continues his work as a financial advisor and Emily as a second grade teacher in Saratoga Springs, NY.



Madelena Rizzo '10 married Thomas Fernandez on September 6, 2019



Kyle Tuversen '15 is currently serving as a Peace Corps Volunteer in the South Region of Cameroon

2003

Mary Crauderueff shares, "I was selected as the first Visiting Quaker Archivist for the new Africa Quaker Archives that will be at the Friends Theological College in Kaimosi, Kenya. I spent a month there in Jan/Feb to work with African Friends on this project, preparing the space, talking about future buildings, doing trainings, and building excitement around this new archives."

2010

Madelena Rizzo was married to Thomas Fernandez on Friday, September 6, 2019, at Pomme in Radnor, PA. "It was a magical evening full of joy and love, and we are so grateful for the family and friends who helped us celebrate, and who continue to support us as we grow together."

2015

Kyle Tuversen reports, "I'm currently serving as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Cameroon, doing community health education. I arrived in mid-September for three months of training and was sworn in/moved to my site at the start of December. I'm located in the South Region of Cameroon in the beautiful jungle hills, where I'll serve for two years! I'm doing capacity building work related to the prevention of malaria, HIV/AIDS, and malnutrition."



Lindsay Talemal '16

2016

Lindsay Talemal shares, "after I graduate college from Northeastern University this year, I will be coming back to Philadelphia to attend Temple Medical School! I am more than happy to be moving back to where it all began and where my interest in the sciences was piqued – at Friends' Central."

Memories & Reflections

by 2020 reunion alumni/ae

"Shout out to FCS Athletics – the teammates, coaches, practices; I have had a lot of pride lately in talking to others about those experiences. Thankful for many opportunities FCS allowed me to have, but my athletic moments stand out right now."

- Lawrence Murray '05

"I loved Open Period in Lower School! I also have so many happy memories from the Pumpkin Fair."

- Madelena Rizzo '10

"All my favorite moments involved teachers that I still keep in touch with today. Recently, I was reflecting on my excursion to Costa Rica in 2009 to learn about solar power and teach science projects to younger elementary school kids. That was one of my first adventures outside the US without my family, and I think it did a lot to fuel my passion for travel learning today."

- Olivia Gillison '10

"Everything about Writer's Workshop with Ms. Novo!"

- Gwendolyn Lewis '10

"Ms. Novo's Writer's Workshop class was the best class I ever took in any school I ever went to. It really gave me the freedom to explore different kinds of writing and just my own thoughts and how I dealt with the world."

- Max Dweck '10

"I loved Mr. Rosengarten's Intro to Philosophy. The curriculum was incredibly engaging and it gave me a new perspective of the world around me. Still one of my all time favorite classes (and teachers!)."

- Sophia Ritt '15

"My favorite part about being part of the FCS community is having the ability to go back to campus and teachers still remember you and give you a warm welcoming!"

- Allison Weissman '15

"Friends' Central is where I had the opportunity to take Spanish classes that changed the course of my college studies and ultimately my life, for the better. The teachers at FCS saw leadership potential that I could never see myself, which encouraged me to lead community service trips throughout my college experience. I feel grateful every day to have attended FCS Upper School. :)"

- Anna Sorensen '15

IN MEMORIAM

Dorothy Baker
Bernice Brady
Dietrich Brubaker '06
Nancy Hammond Caragher '50
Barbara Jess Charlson '55
Terry Cooper
Steven Dolores
Nancy Fitts Donaldson '43
Staci Gittleman '91
Murray Gorson '74
David Hardin '55
Kenneth Kirchhofer '62
Glenn Landis
Diana Foote Lawrence '37
Nancy Smith Lesure '40
Nick Lyons
Louise Wilde Miller '60
Betty Driscoll Moore '42
Barbara Anderson Morris '40
Julian Newman '09
Theodore Reinke '48
Michael Schiller '01
Michael Schulte '60
Frances Conti Sellers '50
Barbara Stein Sickles '52
Jack Simon '14
Richard Sperry '60
Bobbie Thomas
Mary Trapnell

BERNICE BRADY

Bernice taught music at Lower School from 1965-1974. A graduate of West Chester University (then West Chester State Teachers' College), Bernice and her good friend, Doris Johnson, (also a WCSC graduate) were two thirds of the music department at that time and together, set high standards for music education. Doris and Bernice interviewed me in 1972, and I remember well being nervous, as I knew little of independent school education, but I was also impressed by their musicianship and commitment to teaching. I felt welcomed and reassured at the same time. Only after I was hired, for which I was grateful, did I learn I had taken a government class with her husband Tom – at WCSC again! Small world!

Looking back on some of Bernice's programs, one cannot help but notice the diversity of music and the high expectations she had of her students. She was an accomplished pianist and could play a wide range of music – much of it by ear.

After FCS, she went on to become a church organist and conducted the Exton Chorale. Her musical gifts served the community of White Horse Village for many years.

She is survived by her daughter, Laila (Patricia) '75 and predeceased by her son, Kevin '72. I was honored to be asked to speak at her 90th Birthday party, which gave me an opportunity to pay tribute to this kind and talented woman.

BY JIM DAVIS, ARCHIVIST & FORMER TEACHER
Plans for Bernice Brady's memorial service, hopefully in the next few months, will clarify as the national situation unfolds. Please [click here](#) periodically for updates on the memorial service and for her current obituary.



STEVEN DOLORES

Steve first came to FCS in 1981 as a carpenter and worked in this capacity until 1987. He returned to the School in 1997 to take on the position of Plant Manager, and he remained with us until he retired as Director of Facilities Management in 2016.

Former Head of School David M. Felsen reflected back on Steve's FCS career. As David explained, student enrollment expanded during Steve's tenure, and the growth required new and more up-to-date facilities. Among the projects which Steve oversaw were a new Upper School classroom building, an athletic center and new tennis courts, a Science and Technology Center, a campus green, an outdoor track and playing fields, a maintenance building, a major renovation of Shallcross Hall, and a new Lower School Science facility.

"Steve was a most valuable member of a strong team. He worked with the architects and builders and subcontractors, always representing Friends' Central's best interests. Nothing got past him. Those projects transformed the School and are part of his remarkable legacy," said David. "I should also note that his high standards and keen eye saved the School a bundle! He turned out to be one of the very best hires I ever made."

David Felsen, who maintained a strong friendship with former colleague Steve added, "I trust the School will never forget him and that his family and friends will be comforted by warm memories of an incredibly fine man."

Steve is survived by his wife, Gina, and his children and grandchildren.

WRITTEN WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF FORMER HEAD OF SCHOOL DAVID M. FELSEN



ROBERTA THOMAS

Madame Thomas, as she was known by her students, taught French at FCS from 1970-1975. She was a much beloved and committed teacher.

Bobbie, the name by which the faculty knew her, was a humorous and formidable presence in the faculty room. In the era of the Vietnam War and Nixon, she could be counted on to share her opinions freely. I remember lively, spirited discussions in Room 25.



A New Yorker by birth, she studied at the University of Rochester, the Sorbonne, and Wesleyan. The arrival of her son Jesse, who was born deaf, spurred her to become a passionate advocate for the rights of the hearing-impaired. After Friends' Central, she went on to teach at Montgomery Community College, and serve as the Alumni Director at Arcadia University. She was an accomplished pianist and lover of the arts.

Bobbie is survived by her children Jesse Trask, Noel Trask '78, and Amanda Trask '80.

BY JIM DAVIS, ARCHIVIST & FORMER TEACHER

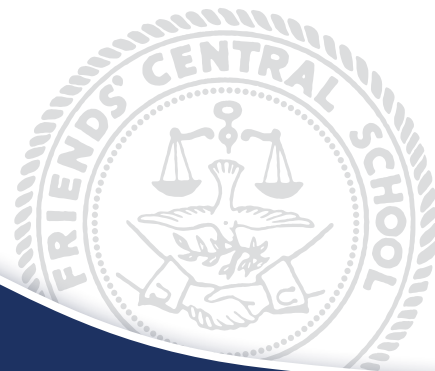


Celebrating the **CLASS OF 202**



FRIENDS' CENTRAL SCHOOL

0



Celebrating Anniversaries at FCS

BY JIM DAVIS, ARCHIVIST & FORMER TEACHER

Birthdays are generally welcomed and celebrated by the young, sometimes less enthusiastically by those of us who are aging. Institutions, however, are invariably happy to mark such events. They remind us of our accomplishments (another year!). But they also remind us of the promise of the future and challenge us to maintain the legacy until the next anniversary.

FCS is close to celebrating a major milestone, our 175th, during the 2020-2021 academic year. There is a name for this birthday – actually, many names, as there is much disagreement here. Since there is dispute about this, and since none of the names are easily pronounced or remembered – *septaquintaquinguecentennial?* *Dodransbicentennial?* – can we all just agree to use the number?

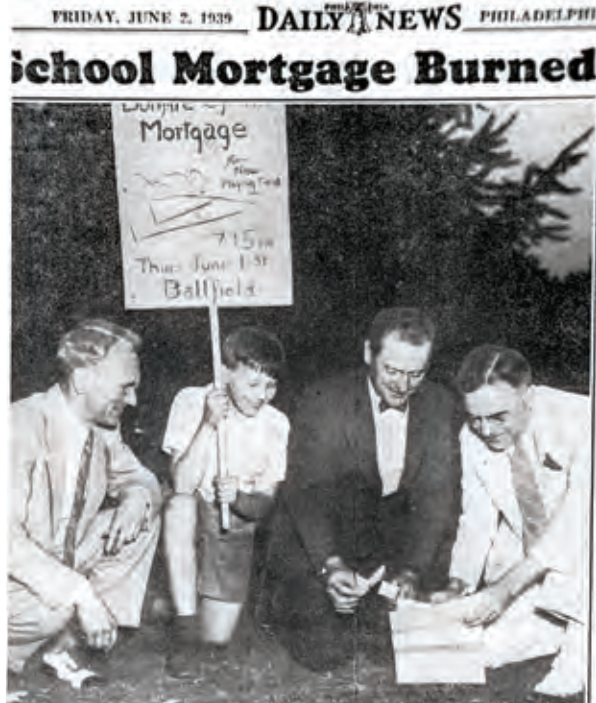
In looking through our archives, I find several interesting documents relating to our anniversaries over the years. Working backwards, the last major celebration was our 150th, marked during the 1995-1996 school year by a yearlong series

of assemblies, dinners, academic symposia, and a day spent at the Quaker Meeting at 4th and Arch Streets with speeches, most notably by Clayton Farraday '32 and Ed Rendell, then Mayor of Philadelphia (*pictured below at right with former Head of School David M. Felsen*).

The 150th year began in the fall with an All-School gathering inaugurating a year of festivities. (*For a video of the kick-off, visit bitly.com/FCS150A.*) There were speeches, of course, food, of course, and music I had written for the occasion – a fanfare built on the notes “F,” “C,” and “Eb,” which in German reads as “Es’ FCS!” (*Visit bitly.com/150Fanfare to hear the piece.*) The morning culminated in an All-School photo, with the entire community arranged to form the numbers 150 (*pictured below at left*).

Juan Williams, well-known journalist and author of *Eyes on the Prize*, was a speaker at the academic symposium titled “150 Years and Climbing: Where do We Go from Here?” in which he delineated his memories of his Quaker education





(Clockwise from top left) *Home Cookin*, a series of dramatic presentations of skits and poems directed by Terry Guerin, showcased the talents of students as part of the Sesquicentennial (150th) celebrations; *Philadelphia Daily News* on June 2, 1939 reported Friends' Central's ceremonial burning of the paid-off mortgage on the purchase of 3.5 additional acres for athletic fields; the 1939 "mortgage burning" taking place just outside the Main Building; artist Tom Sonnenberg working with students on a mosaic to mark the 150th anniversary – the mosaic now hangs outside the Middle School building

and challenged us to continue our mission. (For a video of the symposium, visit bitly.com/FCS150.)

The 150th year continued with workshops, a gala dinner, the creation of a "sesquicentennial mosaic" (see picture), an evening of plays written by teachers, students and alums called "Home Cookin" (see picture) directed by Terry Guerin, and even the publication of an FCS cookbook! So that year, we were enlightened, entertained, and fed!

Friends' Central's 100th anniversary in 1945, in the wake of the end of WWII, was largely marked by the promotion of the "Centenary Fund." Begun in 1936, the fund named among its goals the creation of a Student Abroad Plan, the purchase of the skating pond, the acquisition of three and a half ad-

ditional acres (achieved in 1939 – see pictures of mortgage burning), construction of a new Field House, and – sadly unrealized – the building of a Meeting House on campus.

Our 75th anniversary in 1920 was marked by the publication of a short history of the School, including tributes to two prominent figures in the School's history, Aaron Ivins, Principal of the Boys' Division from 1855-1883, and Annie Shoemaker, Principal of the Girls' Division from 1875-1897. Among the gems in this publication is the reminder that the School began in 1845 with two divisions – one for young children of both genders, the other just for girls "wherein should be taught sewing and the other branches of a plan and useful education." This latter division did

not succeed. Another gem is the wry observation that this was because the \$15-a-month salary was not enough to attract and retain teachers, noting "teachers did not work for the love of working in those days as they do now."

Music received its due during the 75th anniversary, with the composition of one of the FCS school songs. Unimaginatively titled, "Friends' Central School Song," it began the list of songs designed to be sung by assembled groups, none of which appear to have stood the test of time.

So, while many of us may have mixed emotions as we turn older, FCS has taken pride in its longevity, its vitality, and its determination to reach that next numerical milestone. Happy Birthday! **QW**



FRIENDS'
CENTRAL
SCHOOL

1101 City Avenue
Wynnewood, PA 19096-3418
www.friendscentral.org



175
1845 2020