

QUAKER WORKS

The Magazine of Friends' Central School

11:1 Summer 2019



REUNION 2019

A trip down memory lane

MEETING FOR LEAVING 2019

Grades five & eight mark their transitions

COMMENCEMENT 2019

The power of community & the inner light

At Reunion 2019, members of the Class of 2004 came together to pay tribute to former classmate Christopher Campbell. A bench dedicated to Chris now lives on the City Avenue campus. Pictured from left at the dedication are: Jennifer Bronson Denholm, Andrew White '03, Ryan Denholm, Amy Ludwig, Jesse Amoroso, Michelle Crowley, Mark Schneider, Christopher Bleakley, Laura Rolfe, Meeran Ahn, Sarah Jacobs Cauterucci, and Katie Morris.

See page 14 for a Reunion recap



QUAKER WORKS

The Magazine of Friends' Central School



FRIENDS' CENTRAL SCHOOL

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Over 300 alumni/ae, family members, and friends returned to FCS for Reunion Weekend 2019.

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ON THE COVER

Julie Plunkett, FCS math teacher and proud parent of a graduate, delivered a lively and heartfelt speech at Commencement. Helped by members of the Class of 2019, she entertained friends and family members with a "function stretch."

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

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Letter from the Head of School

Dear Friends,

This summer issue of *Quaker Works* celebrates a spring filled with the excitement of transitions. Fifth graders rang the Friendship Bell to commemorate their completion of Lower School; eighth graders walked under an arch, celebrating their Middle School careers; and 12th graders gathered on Commencement Terrace to receive their Friends' Central diplomas.



Our 174th Commencement Ceremony, honoring the Class of 2019, took place on June 8. As I looked out at the gathered community of parents, grandparents, family, faculty, and friends, I was filled with gratitude. Ninety-two remarkable young people benefited from the generosity, partnership, and inspiration of this community of supporters. Whether they were “lifers” or joined the Class in Middle or Upper School, our most recent graduates will always share their FCS roots with one another.

I hope that in five years, the Class of 2019 will return to campus to celebrate Reunion – just as hundreds of alumni/ae from Classes ranging from 1944 to 2014 did on May 11. When I greeted these alumni/ae – all from classes ending in 9’s and 4’s – I was struck by their devotion to one another and to Friends’ Central.

There are experiences and lessons that are consistent across generations of Friends’ Central students and alums. First and foremost, FCS teachers have encouraged questioning; they’ve asked for listening and an openness to learning; and perhaps most importantly, they’ve urged students to approach problems with creativity and optimism. Friends’ Central graduates are each part of a tradition that has honored them as individuals and in doing so, created a unity of culture and experience. Every Reunion is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about Friends’ Central graduates, so many of whom can be found throughout the world learning, discovering, leading, and creating – making their communities better places.

Congratulations to the Class of 2019, and welcome to the community of Friends’ Central alumni/ae peacefully transforming the world!

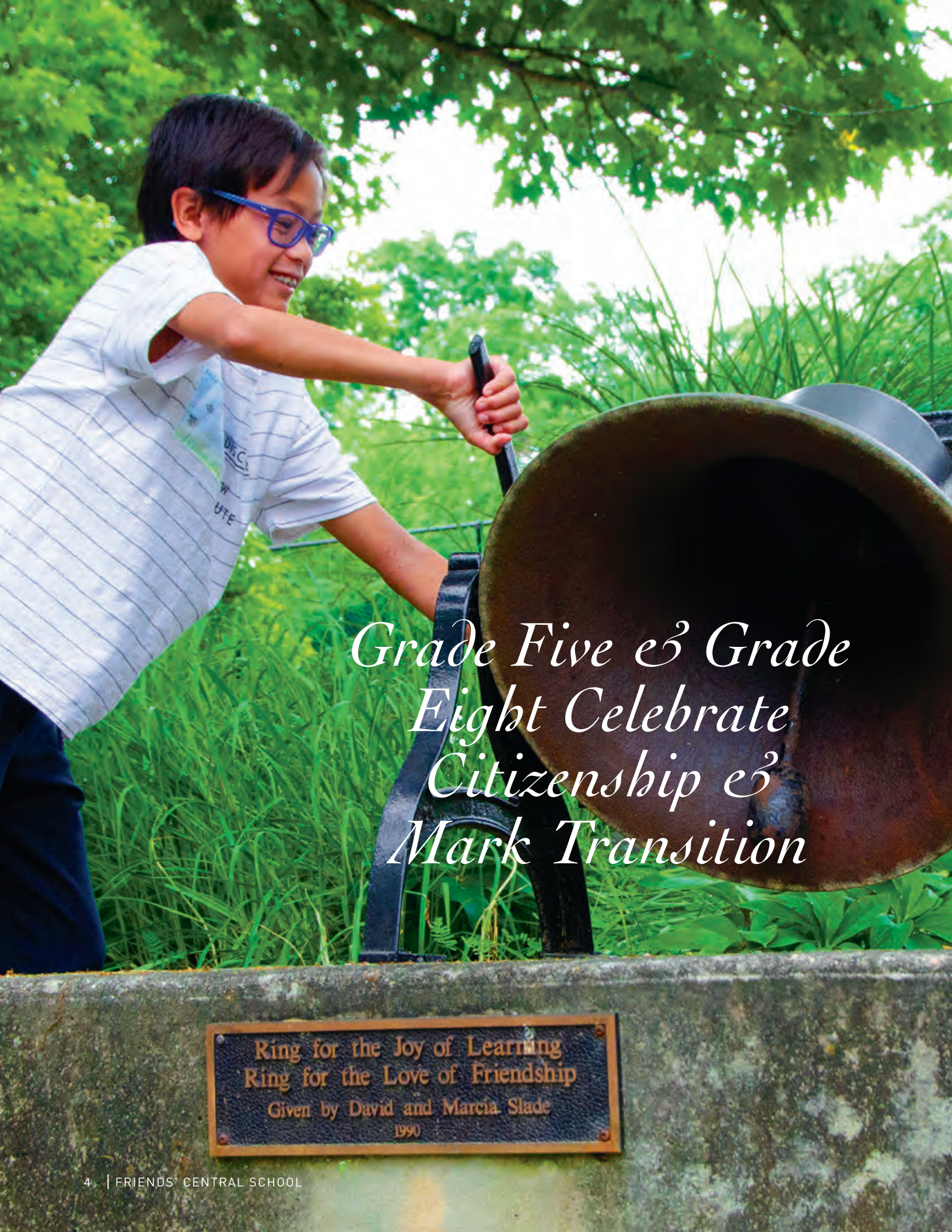
A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "C. N. Sellers". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a light-colored background.

Craig N. Sellers
Head of School





Celebrating the Class of 2019
See page 6 for a Commencement recap



*Grade Five & Grade
Eight Celebrate
Citizenship &
Mark Transition*

Ring for the Joy of Learning
Ring for the Love of Friendship
Given by David and Marcia Slade
1990

THIS PAGE, FROM TOP the Class of 2026 gathers for a group shot after the Bell-Ringing Ceremony; Middle School Citizenship Award winners (*from left*) Gemma Kent, Janie Lytle, Molly Allen, Lauren Coss, Milan Goyal, Julian Abreu, Marcus Chiang, Melania

Diah; Colleen Crowley '23 crosses the threshold at the Grade Eight Meeting for Leaving Ceremony; teacher Jacob Fogel '07 addresses the gathered community **OPPOSITE** Tue Huynh ringing the Lower School Friendship Bell

On the last day of the 2019 school year, the Lower School marked the transition of fifth grade students to Middle School with its culminating Meeting for Leaving. Following tradition, after the Meeting, each fifth grade student rang the Lower School Friendship Bell.

On the same day, the Middle School celebrated its eighth graders at the 2019 Meeting for Leaving, a ceremony during which eighth graders cross a symbolic threshold as they complete their Middle School years.

Middle School Students Recognized for Citizenship

During the last week of school, the Middle School held its annual Citizenship Awards Ceremony, recognizing and celebrating a handful of eighth graders in the Class of 2023 for their contributions as citizens to their school community and to the community at large.

Three awards were distributed, with each award honoring the qualities that are at the very heart of the mission and Quaker values of the School.

The Ida Hill Cahn Award for Peace Through Service was awarded to Lauren Coss and Milan Goyal. The Frank M. Groff Award for Sportsmanship and Friendship was awarded to Janie Lytle, Julian Abreu, and Melania Diah. The Jacqueline Frances O'Neill Award for Enthusiasm and Spirit was awarded to Molly Allen, Gemma Kent, and Marcus Chiang.

Alexa Quinn '98, Middle School Principal, shared "I think of citizenship as the way in which our students practice and live out our school's Quaker values. It's one thing to feel that doing service for others is important, but it's actually doing service for others that makes one a good citizen. Likewise, these awards give us an opportunity to recognize students who have been exceptionally strong or stand-out examples of how we can put our values into action in ways that benefit our school and the wider world." **QW**

To see more photos from end-of-year ceremonies and other events, visit bit.ly/FCSAlbums2019.



Commencement 2019

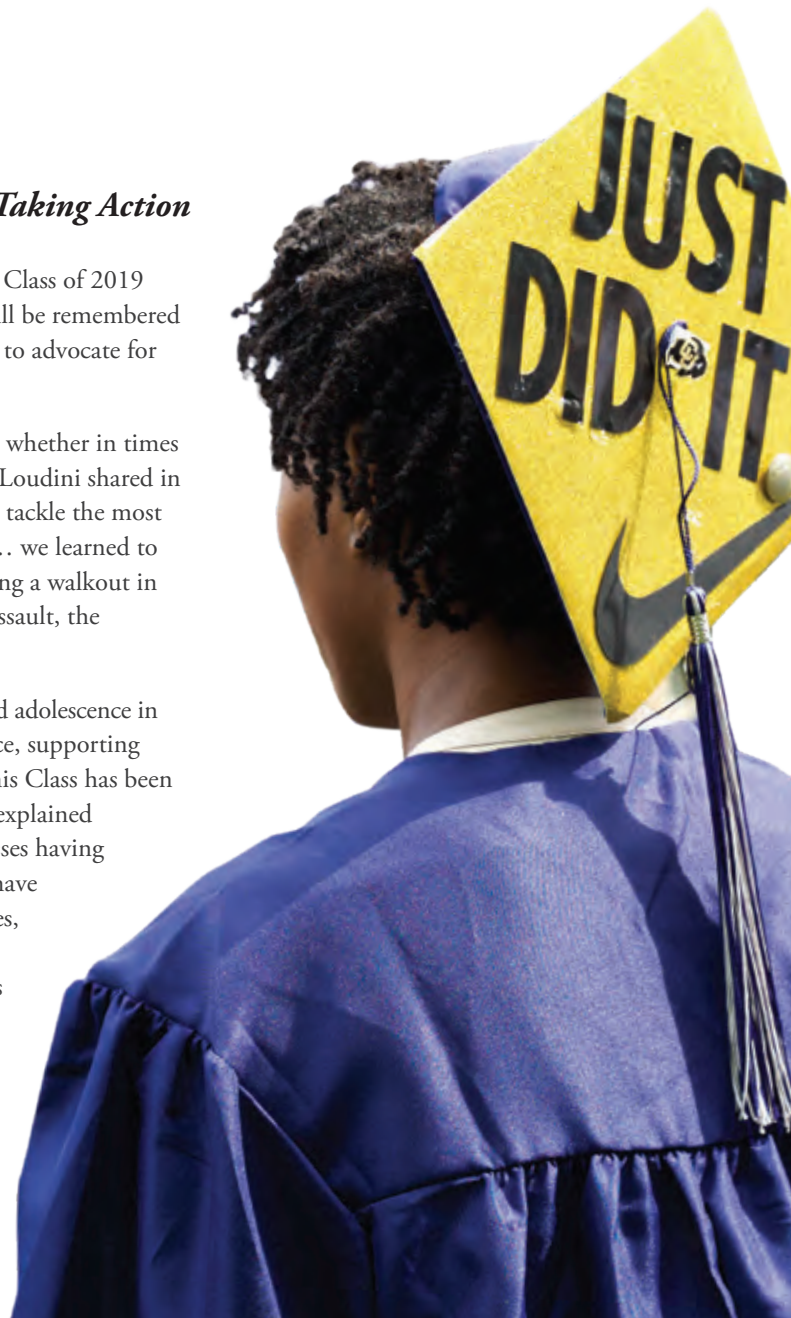
The Power of Community, the Inner Light, and Taking Action

Arriving as students, departing as graduates, the 92 members of the Class of 2019 gathered for one final time on Saturday, June 8, 2019. This Class will be remembered for many things, but most notably, for their leadership, their ability to advocate for change and take action, and their unity.

Coming together is something that this Class has been known for – whether in times of celebration or moments of upheaval. As student speaker Zakaria Loudini shared in his powerful speech, “The Class of 2019 has been able to repeatedly tackle the most difficult topics and talk about them in profound and mature ways ... we learned to channel our powerful emotions into action, whether it was organizing a walkout in protest of gun violence or amplifying conversations around sexual assault, the #MeToo Movement, or racial injustice.”

Members of the Class of 2019 have gone through their childhood and adolescence in a particularly challenging time period, and they’ve done so with grace, supporting one another along the way. “It is astonishing to think about what this Class has been through – both at school and in the world – these past four years,” explained faculty speaker Julie Plunkett. “I can’t imagine other graduating classes having experienced such a tumultuous period in which to grow up as you have ... the presidential election, Black Lives Matter, gun control marches, #MeToo, and three different principals, all of who were welcomed with the warmth and generosity of spirit so characteristic of the Class of 2019. Your teachers and I have been most impressed, both by the way you young people have handled all of this upheaval, choosing to remain as positive as possible, and by how much you have learned in going through it, miraculously without letting it jade you or divide you.”

Head of School Craig N. Sellers also talked about the power of unity in this Class. “Your teachers and I know you as a group that has come together time and time again to support





Commencement 2019: Upper School Student Awards

The 1845 Award is an honor conferred by the graduating Class and the Upper School faculty on two members of the Class of 2019 who embody the characteristics displayed in Friends' Central's school seal. These characteristics are, as reflected in the image of a balance scale, a classmate with a commitment to fairness and justice; as reflected in the image of a bird in flight with an olive branch, a peer who has taken thoughtful risks and broadened our understanding of peace; as reflected in the clasping hands, a friend who "lets their life speak," providing a pattern for the lifelong relationships. The 1845 Award was presented by Head of School Craig Sellers to **Kalila Jones** and **Zakaria Loudini**.



1845 Award winners Kalila Jones (center) and Zakaria Loudini (right) pictured above with Head of School Craig N. Sellers

one another in your learning, in your growth, and in your celebrations. The drive and determination you displayed in your high school years will continue to distinguish you as scholars, athletes, artists, friends, and family members for the rest of your life."

Student speaker Kalila Jones shared with gathered family members, friends, and teachers that a characteristic of her classmates and of all Friends' Central students is that they "work towards solutions, and whether the outcome they seek is achieved or not, something is still granted towards the experience." And to her fellow graduates, Kalila offered the following advice, "Classmates, the times ahead are uncertain, but I'm sure of this: we must continue to use and build upon the lessons in leadership and community we've gained here as we move on to the next chapter of our lives." *QW*

To see more photos from Commencement 2019, visit bit.ly/FCSAlbums2019.

2019 Cum Laude Society Inductees

In May, Friends' Central School held its annual Upper School Academic Awards Ceremony, recognizing students for their outstanding efforts in academics, service, and citizenship. The ceremony began with the induction of 18 members of the Class of 2019 into the Cum Laude Society.

The Cum Laude Society recognizes the distinguished academic record of students during their Friends' Central career. In his address to this year's inductees, Head of School Craig N. Sellers said that, as members of the Friends' Central Cum Laude Society, part of their responsibilities is "to make some contribution to the ongoing search for greater understanding of the world in which we live."



The 2019 inductees into the Friends' Central School Cum Laude Society are: McKenna Blinman, Yeyige Choya Chen, Zeeanne Choi, Max M. Cohen, Anna Comstock, Kristen Johnson, Carolyn Kelly, Nathan Levitties, Carson Lonner, Camila Medero, Isabel Pereira-Lopez, Peter Salgado, Nina Saligman, Yinchon Alex Wu, Ziang Zach Yan, Xinping Xie, Peter Zhang, and Mingyu Zhou.



“The inner light ... is something that you carry with you as you move through the world. It’s important to recognize that everyone possesses this inner light, and instead of calling each other out for our differences, we can embrace one another with this understanding of the spirit that we share.”

Zakaria Loudini '19, Commencement Speaker



“Classmates, the times ahead are uncertain, but I’m sure of this, we must continue to use and build upon the lessons in leadership and community we’ve gained here as we move on to the next chapter of our lives.”

Kalila Jonae Jones '19, Commencement Speaker

The Class of 2019 College Choices

American University (3)	College of William & Mary	Pennsylvania State University
Amherst College	George Washington University	University of Pennsylvania (5)
Auburn University	Hamilton College	University of Pittsburgh (5)
Barnard College (2)	Howard University	Pomona College
Bates College	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Penn State Altoona (2)
Berklee College of Music	Indiana Univ Bloomington	University of Rochester
Boston College (2)	Ithaca College	Saint Joseph's University
Boston University (2)	Lafayette College	University of San Diego
Brandeis University	Lehigh University	San Diego State University
University of California, Davis	Lewis & Clark College	Scripps College
University of California San Diego	Maryland Institute College of Art	Spelman College
University of Chicago	Middlebury College	Syracuse University (2)
University of Colorado Boulder	Morehouse College	University of Tampa
Colorado School of Mines	Mount Holyoke College	Temple University (3)
Community College of Beaver County	Muhlenberg College	Tulane University
Cornell University	New York University (2)	Tyler School of Art and Architecture
DeSales University	University of N. Carolina at Chapel Hill	Vassar College
Dickinson College (3)	University of N. Carolina Wilmington	University of Vermont (2)
Drexel University (3)	Northeastern University	Wake Forest University
Elizabethtown College	Northwestern University	University of Washington
Franklin & Marshall College (2)		University of Wisconsin
		Xavier University

CLASS OF 2019 ATTENDING SPECIALIZED COLLEGES AND PROGRAMS, INCLUDING:
Colorado School of Mines, Berklee College of Music, Four Women's Colleges, Four Historically Black Colleges, Wharton's Huntsman Program in International Studies and Business, Tyler School of Art, and The Hutton Honors College at Indiana University's Kelley School of Business





The Class of 2019

Reunion 2019





Taking a trip down memory lane is always more fun in the company of friends. Over 300 alumni/ae, family members, and friends returned to FCS for Reunion Weekend, May 10-11, 2019.

Activities – and there were many – ranged from Meeting for Worship, Distinguished Alumni/ae presentations, visits to the archive, Learning with Friends, Career Day, and class parties on and off campus.

It proved to be a spectacular weekend, filled with renewed friendships and deep pride in our School.

We encourage you to mark your calendars for May 8-9, 2020, and make plans to return to campus next spring!

To see more photos from Reunion 2019, visit bit.ly/FCSReunion2019



2019 Reunion Classes



2019 Reunion Classes



1. Class of 1944 John Carson and Beryl Herbert

2. Class of 1964 From left: Gail Coleman Powell, Tom Dean, Dave Williams

3. Class of 1959 Back row, from left: Chuck Ensor, Judy Ensor, Osborn Cresson, Dave Branning, John Motley, Bob Hall, Janet Hall, Tim Patterson, Julie Patterson; Front row, from left: Carolyn Duthie Houghton, Susan Lobb Hoag, Cinda Buswell Hill, Betsy Markland Schwartz, Sally Reynolds Motley, Betsie Hughes Williamson, Bonnie Forster Richards

4. Class of 1974 Murray Gorson (left) and John Shaw

5. Class of 1969 Back row, from left: Jim Supplee, David Williams, Bruce Sager, Melanie Sax, Garry Hayner, Susan Cleaver Priem, Carl Parris, Doug Kligman; Front row, from left: John Schalow, Bob Gassel, Joan Clemenko, Joe Ludwig, Susan Wright Matthiessen, Dave Kirk, Judy Freeman

6. Class of 1979 Back row, from left: Lynn Wilkinson, Barbara Weinberg, Andrew MacGaffey, Janet Kendall, Bill Pflueger, Betsy Meyer Sovia, Paul McNamara, Gigi Gorson-Marrow, Nancy Keller-Coffey; Front row, from left: Joy Edelman Boonin, Carol Rubin Fishman, Kim Carlton, Debby Peltz Fedder, Audrey Hunter Johnson

7. Class of 1984 From left: Simon R. Bruce, Linda Kidder Yarlott, Dan Porter, Ray Lohier, Mark Silberberg, Dominique Hawkins, Carlos Alston, Jamie Goldsborough, Betsy Madway

8. Class of 1989 From left: Tina Masington Tummonds, Tori Curl Wolgin, Sarah Hamilton, Jeff Gittleman, Eric Dichter

9. Class of 1994 From left: Judy Rosenstein Gladshtein, Ian Lentnek, Susannah Foster Weaver, Lauren Dellheim Ainsworth, Anne Ross, and Dan Slawe with former faculty member Doug Ross



2019 Reunion Classes



10. Class of 1999 From left: Sara Wasserman, Izzy Grinspan, Elizabeth Hutchin-Bellur, Jeff Ludwig, Callie Lytton Carroll, Emily Bosk, Margot Conrad-Leopold, Monet Trent Irving, Cory Miller, Latifah McMullin, Reza Madani, Greg McIvor, Rachel Silliman Cohen, Defne Amado

11. Class of 2004 From left: Kate Morris, Amy Ludwig, Mark Schneider, Sarah Jacobs Cauterucci, Laura Rolfe, Meeran Ahn

12. Class of 2009 Back row, from left: Eric O'Brien, David Simins, James Newman, Jason Kirschner, Amy Corenswet, Ben Bersoff, Frank Zhao, John Armstrong, Lizzy Marmon, Sean O'Brien; Front row, from left: Christina Hurley, Pat DeSabato, Beth Deutschman, Nicole Deutschman, Sarah Backal-Balik, Libby Fifer, Imara Roychowdhury, Julia Romano

13. Class of 2014 Back row, from left: Nick Harris, Andrew DeMichele, Nate Kennedy, Rohan Alur, Cristian Clothier, Colin Roberts, Hayden Gruber, Alexander Horikawa-Torno, Thor Kimmel; Front row, from left: Tess Johnson, Emily Flick, Elizabeth Flick, Emma Dahle, Max Ginsberg, Adam Segall, Ben Kahn, Erin Clampffer

14. Class of 2014 From left: Peter Dissinger and Zander Bashaw with Middle School teacher Rebecca Guenther



Career Day 2019

On the Friday of Reunion Weekend, a group of alumni/ae spent the day on campus with students and teachers, visiting classes to speak about their lives and careers.



Meeran Ahn '04

Meeran Ahn '04 is Counsel for the U.S. Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. She recently moved into this role after spending five years working as Oversight Counsel for the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. Meeran is a graduate of Haverford College, where she played field hockey, and she earned a JD from Penn State Law in 2013.

Emily Bosk '99 is an Assistant Professor of Social Work at Rutgers University, as well as a Faculty Affiliate with the Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research and the Center on Violence Against Women and Children. Currently, she works on interventions to prevent child maltreatment and innovative programs to address the intersection of trauma, substance use, and parenting. She earned a BA in American Culture from Vassar College and an MSW and PhD in Sociology and Social Work from the University of Michigan.



Emily Bosk '99



Lauren Collier '99

Lauren Collier '99 is the Senior VP of Brand and Marketing Strategy for Finch Brands (Philadelphia, PA) where she manages the brand strategy work stream and focuses on messaging, positioning, and marketing planning. She earned a BA in Political Science and Sociology from Penn State University and an MBA from Drexel University. She has served on the Alumni/ae Board at Friends' Central since 2012.



Cory Miller '99



Stu Warshawer '99

Cory Miller '99 is a writer and director based in Los Angeles. After earning his BA from Wesleyan University, he spent four years in New York City investigating complaints against the NYPD for the New York City government. He went on to earn an MFA from UCLA in film production and screenwriting. His thesis film *Allen Mack*, about a fatal police shooting, was distributed by Xfinity/Comcast and won the New York Festivals TV & Film Silver Medal for short film.

Stu Warshawer '99 is Principal of Mastery Charter School Thomas Campus in South Philadelphia. An avid rock climber, he competed on the television show "American Ninja Warrior" in 2018 to help raise awareness around inequitable funding for public education in the United States. Stu has been in the field of education since 2003 and has served as a teacher in the Bronx and as Dean of Students in Brooklyn before becoming a principal in Philadelphia.





Reunion 2019 Highlights

1. Ray Lohier '84 was honored as the 2019 Distinguished Alumnus in recognition of his years of achievement and dedication to the law.
2. Deborah Peltz Fedder '79 received the 2019 Distinguished Alumna Award for her many years of service to FCS and commitment to the community.

3. Archivist and former teacher Jim Davis caught up with many former students and gave his guided tours of the campus, including his wonderful display of FCS archival photos.
4. Members of the Class of 1969 celebrated their 50th Reunion this year!
5. Linda Waxman Wasserman '75, Director of Alumni/ae Affairs, was thrilled to celebrate

Reunion 2019 with daughter Sara Wasserman '99 and granddaughter Mariana (who joined Linda at the podium!).

6. A cross-generational group of alums and teachers/parents at Reunion gathered for a ceremony honoring Chris Campbell '04.

Learning with Friends

On the afternoon of Reunion, several alums teamed up with FCS teachers to host dynamic classes in their areas of expertise.

Jim Christy '89 and Terry Guerin, with the help of several current students, discussed and staged a scene from Jim's recent play *A Great War*, about Germany in WWI. His play *Love and Communication*, about an autistic child and his family, won him the Brown-Martin Barrymore Award in 2011. Jim won the Actors Theater of Louisville's Heideman Award for best short play in 2001. *New York Times* writer Anita Gates described Jim as having "a real gift for contemporary, insightful, darkly funny dialogue that reflects believable human interaction." Jim graduated from Villanova University.

Ray Lohier '84 is a United States Circuit Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. He was nominated by President Obama in 2010, and the Senate confirmed him by a vote of 92-0. Ray teamed up with former history teacher Jim McKey to discuss his work. Highlights from Ray's exciting career include oversight of the prosecution of Bernard Madoff. As an assistant U.S. Attorney in the Southern District of New York, Ray spent a brief period as Chief of the Narcotics Unit, where he supervised a wide range of federal drug and trafficking cases. Previously, Ray spearheaded employment discrimination-related litigation in the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice. Ray earned his undergraduate degree from Harvard University and his JD from New York University School of Law.

Rohan Alur '14 and Ben Kahn '14 discussed their important collaborative work. As undergraduates, Rohan and Ben teamed up to devise a method for predicting blood vessel growth in tumors. Predicting blood vessel growth in a tumor helps identify the specific type of tumor and therefore the appropriate treatment. Their work was featured in the Spring 2018 issue of *Quaker Works*. Faculty members Sonia Chin and Bill Kennedy moderated the conversation.

Rohan is an Investment Engineer at Bridgewater Associates (Stamford, Connecticut). He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 2018 with a BS in Science in Engineering and Networked and Social Systems Engineering and an MS in Engineering, Computer and Information Science.

Ben is a Researcher at the University of Pennsylvania Abramson Cancer Center. He will begin an MD-PhD program at Perelman School of Medicine starting in fall 2019. As an undergraduate, Ben worked at Faryabi Lab, a cancer research lab that seeks to improve cancer treatment. Ben graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 2018 with a degree in Health and Societies.



Jim Christy '89



Ray Lohier '84 (at right)
with Jim McKey



Rohan Alur '14 (at left)
and Ben Kahn '14
(pictured below, at left)





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Thank you!

Contributions from over 1550 alumni/ae, parents, faculty, and friends made an essential difference in the experience of our students and faculty this year.

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