

Oak Leaves

Summer 2023

NEWSLETTER FROM OAKWOOD FRIENDS SCHOOL • CELEBRATING OVER 220 YEARS OF FRIENDS EDUCATION IN THE HUDSON VALLEY

Oakwood Hosts New York Yearly Meeting (NYYM) Summer Sessions



Members of NYYM at Summer Sessions at Oakwood

Our campus was bustling this summer with the arrival nearly 200 Quakers who attended New York Yearly Meeting's (NYYM) Summer Sessions, including three in-person guests from the Shinnecock Nation and an additional 100 registrants who joined online. Founded in 1694, New York Yearly Meeting is the gathering of Quaker meetings in New York State, northern New Jersey, and southwestern Connecticut. It was incredible to have such a presence on our campus and afforded us a wonderful opportunity to make connections and open our doors to the greater Quaker community!

This summer's theme 'Rebuilding Faith in Changing Times' asked attendees to reflect on the evolution of faith, activism and community building in today's world. This was the first time Oakwood hosted NYYM Summer Sessions which previously met for decades at Silver Bay in Lake George. At Oakwood, long time members and their families were able to immerse themselves in and cre-

ate a truly connected Quaker experience.

Attendees filled all four of our dormitories, held meetings in our state-of-the-art Spencer Family Theater which was able to accommodate highly interactive dialogue with Zoom attendees, set up information stations and games in Collins Library, danced in the Lane Gymnasium, sang on our porches, roasted marshmallows around the bonfire, and even set up a giant water slide to beat the heat on the hillside! Most importantly, participants came together in our Meeting Room for silent worship.

Many members remarked on the considerable strength of connectedness and faith they felt with each other while they were here. The newly appointed Clerk of NYYM, Gloria Thompson, shared, "My joy working with the Quaker community is the belief that the human condition is serviceable: Alternatives to Violence (AVP), Prison Ministry, Earthcare, education, and advocacy. I believe it a gift to 'give back'." Member Peter Beck, from NJ, said, "NYYM is my wider Quaker Recharge. I attended my first Yearly Meeting in 1961 at Silver Bay. I was in 8th grade. I attended through high school and then returned in 1970, each year meeting and knowing more and more." This was Peter's first time at Oakwood and he is appreciative of the school and its role with NYYM. We look forward to all the possibilities moving forward in strengthening our ties with NYYM through our shared Quaker values. 🍁



Peg Keiser and granddaughter, Linnea Keiser-Clark

College Bound

Oakwood's commencement in June celebrated the twenty-five members of the Class of 2023 under the Copper Beech tree. Student performers **Evie Tourtelot '26** and **Camila Lizardo-Kramb '24** provided beautiful prelude and postlude selections as the seniors processed in and out of the ceremony. This year's graduating seniors are heading to a wide array of colleges and universities ranging from East Coast liberal arts schools to California Polytechnic State University (Cal Poly) to Universidad Pontificia Comillas in Spain. Oakwood strives to help each senior make the right decision for their own unique post-secondary school plan. 🍁



Graduates (l-r) Arjun Yang, Ada Loeding-Matthews, Dallas Tulloch, Milla Berg and Dylan Diallo who have been at Oakwood together since Middle School

We wish the Class of 2023 all the best at:

Adelphi University
Amherst College
Bennington College
Binghamton University
California State Polytechnic University
Connecticut College
Cornell University
Fordham University
Hofstra University
Lehigh University
University of New Haven
Pennsylvania State University
University of Rhode Island
Rutgers University-New Brunswick
Skidmore College
SUNY New Paltz
Stony Brook University
Temple University
Universidad Pontificia Comillas
Vassar College
Virginia State University
Wesleyan University

In Gratitude: The Donald Spencer Fund for Oakwood

By: Chad Cianfrani, Head of School

To measure one's impact on a community I often look for unspoken changes and improvements that occur quietly over time. Entering my 19th year at Oakwood, and 9th year as Head of School, I see the impact of Don Spencer and the Spencer family in countless aspects of program, campus, and school leadership. It has been nine months since Oakwood's former Board President passed away last December, and as we open for our 227th year of Friends education, I see middle and upper school programming, dorm life, science, theater, arts, and sustainability initiatives all impacted meaningfully and deeply by Don's leadership.

With his signature foresight and generosity, Don carried his leadership and support forward through his estate plans. This summer, Oakwood received the larg-

est single bequest in its long history with a gift of \$1.5 million to establish The Donald Spencer Fund for Oakwood. The Fund will help ensure strong programming and support for the next generations of Oakwood students. As parents of alumna Alyssa Spencer '13, Don and Vickie saw the positive impact that a boarding and day school environment provided. With this gift, they are ensuring that other students will benefit well into the future.

Oakwood's endowed funds create a strong financial foundation for the school. Each year going forward, income from The Donald Spencer Fund for Oakwood will be used to directly support faculty professional development, student programming, campus projects, and annual financial aid. Combined with income from other major funds like the Ruth Craig Fund, the Powell Fund, the Knapp Fund, and 20 other important named funds, these funds serve as a powerful driver of our program, allowing us to expand curricular offerings, provide for research and professional development grants, and to expand opportunities with our local and global community. Don's vision and legacy of philanthropy impacts our student experience every day.



Former Board President Don Spencer

When Don could not make it to Commencement three years ago for health issues, he shared some remarks remotely. Distilled down they were simply: cherish community, cultivate friendships, find meaning in your actions, be strong, be kind, walk with integrity, and always help others. When I spent time with him last December he smiled, challenged me with important and aspirational goals, and asked me to keep pushing forward, and to continue getting it done. Thank you Don.

See list of endowed funds in the Annual Gifts Report in this issue. 📖

Faculty Professional Development

By: Karen Nichols, Math and Science Department Chair

Oakwood administrators, faculty and staff engaged in a wide range of professional development opportunities in the 2022-23 academic year. These included over 25 NYSAIS webinars, many day-long or multiple day off-campus experiences and several all-faculty in-service workshops. **All told, 47 Oakwood faculty, staff, and administrators collectively participated in nearly 700 hours of professional development activities.** In some cases, they were leaders and creators of workshops in their fields of expertise. In other cases, they were exploring entirely new material.

Oakwood employees engaged with topics such as student wellness, anti-racism and racial literacy, as well as new technologies (e.g., Artificial Intelligence; the digital SAT). Faculty and school leaders are serious about expanding their areas of expertise: over 40% of the professional experiences offered discipline-specific content and pedagogy material. The College Office was especially busy. Haniya Mee participated in over 20 individual webinars and events.

Programs and workshops attended included:

- A "Habits of Mind" program on cultivating deliberate approaches to learning led by Michelle Hughes, the parent of a former Oakwood student, with LARC (Learning Arts Coaching & Consulting).

- An "Educators New to Quakerism" program led by Drew Smith (Friends Council on Education).
- "Intro to Equitable Cultures: Foundations of DEIB" and "Understanding Power and Oppression." online workshops led by Nichole Beiner (Nichole Gabrielle & Co.)
- A NYSAIS workshop - "Showing Up & Standing Up: A 4-Part Journey Towards Anti Racism for White Teachers"
- Gian Ascione (Upper School Science) won a Nuvance Health Taconic IPA Grant (\$1000) to support a project that integrates earth science, biological processes, and alternative energy.
- Faculty gave educational talks in Seattle, Montreal, and Poughkeepsie about pre-college philosophy themes, and demographic shifts on global economic growth and migration. 📖



Faculty participating in the "Habits of Mind" workshop in January 2023

Celebrating the Life of Sean Thompson

Oakwood lost a colleague, a mentor, a coach, an advisor, a teacher, and a friend when science teacher Sean Thompson passed away on Saturday June 17, 2023. Sean was a man of great depth, integrity, intelligence, wit, and humor who had a great impact on thousands of people and students during his career in education.

We will honor Sean's memory with his family during a tree planting ceremony on Saturday September 23, 2023. The memorial tree will be planted along the last stretch of the cross country course, now known as "Thompson's Turn" to serve as a reminder of the importance of strength and perseverance. 📖



Sean with students in the chemistry lab



Welcoming New Board Members



Abigail Golden-Vazquez '86

Abigail Golden-Vazquez '86 is Senior Fellow for Strategy at Prosperity Now, a national non-profit based in Washington D.C., dedicated to expanding economic opportunities for low-income families and communities in the United States. Abigail's areas of special expertise include entrepreneurship, racial economic justice, and racial wealth equity. She previously served as V.P. and Executive Director of the Latinos and Society Program at the Aspen Institute. Prior to that, she served as V.P. and Director of Leadership initiatives at Aspen and the Director of External Relations at the German Marshall Fund, among other key positions in government and public affairs. Abigail earned her B.A. in Political Science and Spanish from Amherst, and later an M.A. in International Relations and Latin American Studies from John Hopkins University.

Oakwood was already a family tradition when Abigail arrived as a student, following in the footsteps of her father, Eric Golden '57, and her three uncles, Arnold '52, Jed '54, and John '63. Abigail stayed connected to Oakwood through the years and returned to present the *Dash Davis*

Gleiter Lecture for Social Justice in 2016. Speaking about her personal history, she credits Oakwood, along with her family, for planting the social justice seed that has informed her life's work. Abigail was presented with the Distinguished Alumni Award on the occasion of her 30th reunion.



Jeff Contelmo, parent of Celia Contelmo '08

Jeff Contelmo is a co-founder and Senior Principal Engineer at Insite, a leader in the fields of civil engineering, land surveying and landscape architecture founded in 1989. Jeff is responsible for project management, planning, permitting, plan and specification preparation, and construction oversight for selected residential, commercial, and municipal projects. He grew up in Wappingers Falls and based on his love for the area, decided to settle here with his wife Sharon and daughter who now lives in Boston. Jeff and Sharon strongly support Oakwood's mission based on the wonderful experience they had during Celia's time here. As he approaches full retirement, Jeff is looking for opportunities to give back to local organizations and views the potential to assist Oakwood as a great opportunity to give back to the community his family holds dear.



Byung Kyu Choi '09

Byung Kyu Choi '09 was a four-year international boarding student from South Korea. He is currently an Actuarial Risk Analyst at Chubb Enterprise Risk Management, where he has been working since 2018. In his role, he is responsible for accumulating and analyzing the risks of insurance policies exposed to the group level and developing strategies to mitigate those risks. Byung Kyu has a strong educational background in Statistics and Actuarial Science. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Actuarial Science from Pennsylvania State University, and later completed a Master's degree in Applied Statistics at the same institution.

Prior to his work at Chubb, Byung Kyu served in the Republic of Korea Air Force as part of his military duty. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his family and his newborn daughter. Byung Kyu reflected that in his time at Oakwood he experienced many different educational opportunities, developed strong friendships with a diverse group of students and realized that the people around him were genuine supporters and advisors in his life. He looks forward to giving back to current students through board service. 📌

Community Dinner & Auction 2023



Arjun Yang '23 & Camila Lizardo-Kramb '24

Nearly one hundred current and former parents, alumni, faculty, board members and friends came together to celebrate and support Oakwood at this year's 18th Annual Community Dinner & Auction at Locust Grove Estate. Tim & Laurel Swee-

ney (Sean '09), owners of Stone Ridge Wine & Spirits, once again generously provided perfectly paired hand-selected wines for each course of the delicious dinner. Heartfelt thanks to our sponsors Berg + Moss Architects (Milla '23 & Finn '27) and (Graydon '29), Clearwater Counseling Associates (Jack '25 & Matty '28), and The Gutierrez Law Firm (Sam '28). Beautiful music was played by students **Arjun Yang '23** on piano and **Camila Lizardo-Kramb '24** on alto saxophone. Throughout the evening guests were able to view a curated selection of student artwork and participate in an extensive auction featuring paintings, photography, services, and gifts from families, alumni and local businesses. In addition a live auction was held featuring collections of wine and spirits from Stone Ridge Wine & Spirits, a getaway to

Mohonk Mountain House and a private boat ride on the Hudson! Special thanks to Rachelle Reis-Larson (Crosby '28) and Kim Canez (Jack '25 & Matty '28) for creating special auction items and experiences as well as assisting with event layout and décor. We are so grateful to everyone who helped out and who came together for such a wonderful event that celebrates the true spirit of Oakwood – Community! 📌



Kim Canez and Rachelle Reis-Larson

Sports

By Saddam Alma-Bueno, Athletic Director

Last year was full of athletic achievements and growth across all of our interscholastic teams on campus. We saw our Cross Country boys team win the Hudson Valley Athletic League (HVAL) championship in the fall, and in the spring three of our teams - Ultimate Frisbee, Girls Tennis and Varsity Softball - made the HVAL finals! This was a first in Oakwood history! We are incredibly proud of the students who worked hard and played so well!

I would like to take a moment to thank Sara Sandstrom, our longtime Girls Varsity Volleyball and Girls Varsity Basketball coach, for her dedication to our students. Sara coached these sports for many years on top of her duties as Dean of Students. Good luck to her in her future endeavors - she will be missed!

On behalf of Oakwood I would also like to send my condolences to the family of the late Sean Thompson, who after many years teaching at the New York Military Academy, came to Oakwood and coached our Cross Country and Boys Varsity Basketball teams. Sean was devoted to these sports and was so proud of the



Girls Varsity Tennis Team (L-R): Ada Onyeani '24, Rachel Le '24, Coach Meghan Bishop, Harper Horwitz '26, Siena Solis '24, Evie Tourtelot '26, and Jenine Tobias '23

students. We hope to make you proud, Sean.

If I could describe this past year I would say that it was a big transition year for Oakwood in athletics. We had many new coaches and many students trying out new sports (as well as a first year Athletic Director)! To make us even stronger, this August we are hosting pre-season practices to make sure our fall season teams are fully prepared to start off on literally, the right foot!

Our goal at Oakwood is to support the spirit, the scholar, the artist, and the

athlete in each student. My job is to best support our student-athletes so they can experience success both on and off the field. I rely on my experience to make sure our student athletes, coaches, and families feel we have their very best interests at heart. I envision this year to be an exciting time here at Oakwood. Riding on the heels of our spring showing in the HVAL finals, I believe our athletics program is on the brink of something special and I'm excited to see what will unfold. I appreciate this opportunity to help our students be their best and I hope to see you all at the next match or game! 🏆



Ethan Borress '24 and Tyler Shah-Bomba '26



Jimmy Lin '23, Hayat Hekmat '25, Tilly Perks '26, and Levi Gray '24



Graham Goodman '25
Photo credit: Liam Goodman

Summer Soccer and Caribbiana



Summer was sizzling with Oakwood MVP and Caribbiana FC's Oshane Brown leading soccer summer camp for community players interested in honing their soccer skills! Approximately 18 students from Oakwood, Arlington, John Jay and Ketchum came together to sprint, kick and train during this foundation building experience! When not coaching student athletes, Oshane can be found working hard with his team Caribbiana FC. Founded by Oshane and Oakwood parent Anna Bergin (Owen '26 and Gwinn '29), the team has enjoyed repeated success in its first year with 1 League win and 3 tournament wins this season alone! "From humble beginnings to becoming

champions, we have shown that with passion, hard work, and determination, dreams can become a reality". Oshane will be leading this year's Oakwood Varsity Boys Soccer team in a pre-season training week to build a strong community before the the school year begins. "We believe that soccer is more than just a game, it is a platform for personal growth, building friendships, and inspiring lifelong values".

Oshane, a former D-1 soccer player, plays many roles at Oakwood as Boys Varsity Soccer Coach and a member of both our Facilities and Residential Life teams. Visit @caribbianafc on Instagram to join, follow and support the club! 🏆



The Arts

By: Ted Messerschmidt, Music Director

The spring term began with the 1940's comedy *Blithe Spirit* by Noël Coward. The cast offered wit and big laughs with rising seniors **Jonathan De Silva** '24 as Charles and **Siena Solis** '24 as Ruth being haunted by senior **Kishi Oyagi** as Elvira until the whimsical character of Madame Arcati played by **Alex Ferry** '25 reveals all. Special thanks to **Martin Lozada** '25 who stepped in as understudy for the role of Charles in the first performance!



(L-R) Kishi Oyagi '23, Alex Ferry '25, Jonathan De Silva '24, and Ruby Pearce '26 in *Blithe Spirit*

The annual Spring Concert showcased soloists and small ensembles from both the Middle School and the Upper School. Students performed a wide variety of selections ranging from classical and jazz favorites to pop/rock hits and original student rap. Newcomers **Christopher Lee** '28 (piano) and **Tilly Serras** '29 (drums) wowed the audience with their polished playing,

and seniors **Brooklyn Dottin**, **Ada Loeding-Matthews**, **Willa Sio-Cody**, **Jenine Tobias**, **Dallas Tulloch**, and **Arjun Yang** gave outstanding performances in their final Spring Concert at Oakwood. Notably, **Camila Lizardo-Kramb** '24 performed at the Oakwood concert and gave a fantastic performance on alto saxophone at the New York State School Music Association Solo Festival (NYSSMA) where she received an "outstanding" rating! **Alex Franco** '28 also performed at the NYSSMA Festival, earning an "excellent" rating!

Later in the term, **Brooklyn Dottin** '23 performed a concert sharing her original music under the stage name The Grim Rapper. At the concert, she shared the compelling stories behind each of the songs she performed.



(L-R) Spring concert performers Tilly Serras '29, Camila Lizardo-Kramb '24, Dallas Tulloch '23 and Jenine Tobias '23

For the spring musical, students were joined by faculty and staff in a production of *Little Shop of Horrors*. **Ricci Alma-Bueno** and **Krisken Lewis-Coward** performed alongside **Mercedez Walters** '23 as the Ronettes, and **Tim Stanson** made a cameo appearance as well. Like Mercedez,

most of the rest of the cast and crew were seniors: **Jack Iovanella** (Seymour), **Jenine Tobias** (Audrey), **Kishi Oyagi** (the Dentist), **Celina Yu** (Mushnik), **Dylan Diallo** (Audrey II), **Dallas Tulloch** (the plant), **Jaime Pardo** (Narrator and Assistant Stage Manager), and **Ada Loeding-Matthews** (Assistant Choreographer). Audience members were impressed not just by the acting, singing, and dancing, but also by the special effects and props, particularly the plants, which were designed and constructed by local artists Cassiopeia Ottulich and Wendell Scherer, friends of Director Melissa Matthews.



Celina Yu '24 and Jack Iovanella '24 in *Little Shop of Horrors*

In June, the eighth grade class performed a special edition of Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. Under the direction of Middle School drama teacher Teresa Gasparini, the students gave wonderful performances after studying all aspects of the play throughout the spring trimester. Performing even continued after graduation with **Duke Gandin** '24 playing fiddle alongside **Sean Smith** '76 at a cross-generational performance at Alumni Weekend. 📺

Visual Arts Showcase - Spotlight on Student Art



This spring the Arts Department held the opening reception for its first annual Visual Arts Showcase of student work! The Middle and Upper schools came together to showcase dozens of paintings, sculptures, ceramics, photographs, and animations. The artwork filled the Lower Collins Library, transforming the open-air space into a gallery setting. Friends, family, faculty and board members joined students in reflecting on the feast of visual arts while enjoying a reception of fruit and treats in traditional opening style.

The exhibition was up for a month, which gave the community a chance to explore and discover more about the art over time. "Middle School students worked for over a month on their art, making pieces specifically for the exhibit. They went through the process of finding their topic first in writing, then in sketches. For inspiration, they looked at Outsider Art and discussed how different artists use patterns and imagination in their

work. Students thought about their work from both a personal point of view and from memories, and developed their paintings using perspective, layering and proportion," said MS Art Teacher Erin Koch.

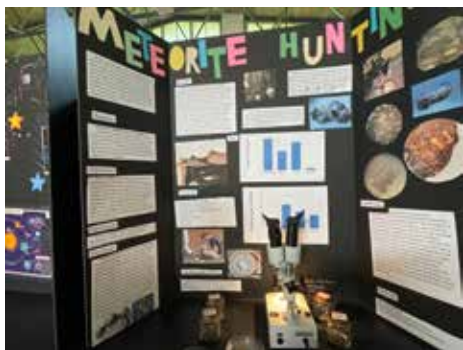
"Students from the Upper School Arts classes were invited to submit work of their own choosing for the exhibition, and I also solicited permission from students to show work they made in art elective classes: Botanical Drawing and Painting, Printmaking, Drawing, Portfolio Art, Ceramics, and Animation. Participants completed statements about their work/s that were posted in an online catalogue. A group of students participating in the Arts on Campus committee helped install and deinstall the exhibit," said US art teacher Elizabeth Phelps.

We are grateful for the outpouring of interest and support for this truly special event and we are looking forward to another great show next spring! 📺



Middle School Science Expo

Oakwood was proud to welcome families to our inaugural Middle School Science Expo! Science Teacher Meghan Bishop led the effort to bring together this exciting event. Students dedicated themselves to the scientific method and honed their presentation skills as they presented their studies, experiments and interests to friends, family and faculty. It was great to see the support of so many as they traveled around learning from our students! 📖



Hudson Valley Heritage Exploration

By Teresa Gasparini, Music & Drama Teacher and Community Outreach Coordinator

Hudson Valley Heritage was an elective course this year for 6th & 8th grade Middle School students during the spring term. The purpose was to explore and learn about the Hudson Valley through its historical sites and scenic beauty. Curious minds visited sites three times a week from Columbia County to Orange County and everything in between! Students maintained scrapbook journals with photos, clippings from site pamphlets, and wrote down their thoughts to reflect their experiences and journeys. They toured gilded mansions, president's homes, parks, mountains, bridges and more. Their favorite spot? Dover Stone Church - not a church, but a cave with rushing water that they could splash in! They loved it so much they celebrated the end of their season with a second visit for their final trip. Another highlight was their visit to the beautiful historic Olana estate. From there they hiked down to the Hudson River Skywalk (the Rip Van Winkle Bridge) and hiked up the other side to visit the home of artist Thomas Cole. Additional visits included Lake Minnewaska, Franny Reese Park, Boscobel, Mills Mansion, Peach Hill Park, Black Creek Preserve, Vanderbilt Mansion, Top Cottage, and Washington's Headquarters! 📖



Meet the Clerks



Co-clerks Abdul Kablaoui and Charles Grenadier

Each spring graduating co-clerks for the school year pass the baton to new co-clerks for the upcoming year. This year's co-clerks, seniors Charles Grenadier and Abdul Kablaoui, shared their vision for what it means to be a clerk at Oakwood.

Charles Grenadier

"As a person who has seen and studied previous clerks for the past three years, I understand the responsibilities associated with being a clerk. I acknowledge that one must be active within the community, as well as diligent while overseeing conversations and meetings. I believe that with my years and experience at Oakwood, I can provide my community with the respect and kind heartedness that they deserve. I also have experience with helping new community members and am familiar with working with students and alumni. The clerk of the Oakwood community serves as a bridge between faculty and students. With this responsibility I hope to give my fellow Friends an open dialogue to speak their mind and discuss issues that are relevant to our community".

Abdul Kablaoui

"The role of clerk is a complex one as it is more than meets the eye. A clerk's role is to create a space for everyone's voice to be heard. A clerk is meant to listen to their community and to learn from them. As a co-clerk I want to ensure the community is a safe space for everyone to be heard and a welcoming space for all members of the school to share their thoughts and ideas. The clerk is also responsible for promoting personal growth and development among members of the school community. Some good qualities for a clerk include someone who can listen, is responsible, is patient, and has strong communication skills. I hope I can meet those qualities to provide a service and a sense of belonging in the community throughout the year ahead".

Best of luck to both of these seniors on their important role ahead! 📖



Embracing the Unforeseen: A Journey through Model United Nations

By Samarra Dottin '24



The Boston Invitational Model United Nations Conference (BosMUN) is a three-day simulation of the United Nations. Over 1,500 high school students from across the country delve into the world

of international affairs, public speaking, and diplomatic skills by assuming the roles of UN representatives in order to debate issues that confront world leaders. Oakwood's Model UN program is generously supported by Joel Erlitz '68 and Perri Erlitz '05.

In the journey of our educational pursuits, there come moments that stand as turning points, propelling us beyond our comfort zones and into uncharted territories. Such was the case for me during my junior year's fall term, when a close friend's insistence led me to the hallowed halls of humanities teacher Jon Pesner's domain. Little did I know, this seemingly ordinary decision would unfold into an extraordinary odyssey within the realm of Model United Nations (MUN). As I stood at the precipice of participation, my reservations were grounded in the apprehension of essay-laden endeavors. Yet, as I crossed the threshold of Mr. Pesner's classroom, the revelation that the esteemed "Ad Hoc" committee demanded no written submissions instantly captivated my interest, dispelling my initial doubts.

The lead-up to the conference was a dance between anticipation and unease. My background, steeped in Ethics Bowl rhetoric, clashed with my conscious choice to join a committee demanding on-the-fly argumentation – an exercise far removed from my familiar playbook. But it's precisely within this discomfort that the seeds of growth often find their fertile ground. Boston greeted me with its historic allure, and as the first committee session unfolded, I was enveloped in a whirlwind of unexpected delight. Our committee's canvas was painted with the hues of American politics set in the enigmatic year 2050. I embodied Andy Sullivan, entrusted with the mantle of Chief Operating Officer of Federal Student Aid.

Then came the watershed moment – a video transmission from President Ward Alktaish, proclaiming the attack on the Capitol and thrusting our committee into the spotlight. We were tasked with the audacious responsibility of stepping into

the shoes of the acting House of Representatives. Tragically, reality echoed the simulated crisis as the Capitol was struck, altering the trajectory of our conference. Amid the aftermath, a meticulous investigation led us to a nuclear plant, implicated in the president's final moments. The revelation of a massive radiation spillage brought an unforeseen twist: those exposed underwent a remarkable transformation, akin to the whimsical Smurf.

This narrative is a mere vignette within the grand tapestry of the MUN experience. With a multitude of roles and scenarios, it's an ever-engaging symposium for the intellectually curious. My initial trepidation now seems like a distant echo as I stand on the other side, a transformed individual. Lessons, not just from the orchestrators of the event, but also from my fellow participants, have enriched my outlook. The camaraderie that pervades MUN



Samarra Dottin '24, far left, with fellow students (l-r) Jessica Feng '25, Nguyen Le '24, Sammi Iahn '25, Khoa (Peter) Tran '24, Gio Santoro '24 and Brooklyn Dottin '24 at the Boston Model UN conference

knows no bounds, with knowledge freely exchanged and insights generously shared. As I reflect upon this transformative escapade, I'm resolute in my commitment to pay it forward. For all those who harbor an inkling of interest in the realm of Model United Nations this year, take the plunge – for within its embrace lies a journey that promises not just knowledge, but an evolution of the self. 🌱

Oaxaca: Exploring Poughkeepsie's Sister City



Spanish students at the Museo de Las Culturas de Oaxaca

Twelve adventurous Oakwood students, accompanied by Spanish teacher Clara Crosby and humanities teacher Karen Nichols, traveled to Oaxaca, Mexico for 10 days during spring break this past year. The students stayed with host fami-

lies, getting a chance to polish their Spanish skills in a home-setting, took Spanish classes at the UABJO (Universidad Autónoma Benito Juárez de Oaxaca) during the mornings, and ventured out on excursions in the afternoons. They hiked up to the fabulous springs of Hierve el Agua, explored the impressive Zapotec sites of Monte Albán and Mitla, and toured the Mercado Benito Juárez in the center of Oaxaca, where they got to try 'chapulines' (fried, salted grasshoppers) and local 'nieves' (artisanal ice creams). Students also learned about traditional methods of textile dying and weaving within a Zapotec women's weaving collective in the village of Teotitlán del Valle. Other activities included a salsa and bachata dance class, preparing a full traditional Mexican meal, and learning how traditional Mexican chocolate is made, from the toasting of the cacao beans, through the hand grinding, and into the cup! It was a busy and exciting trip, full of adventures, challenges and new experiences for all. Stay tuned for Oakwood's next exciting Spanish trip in the coming year!

Poughkeepsie and Oaxaca are designated "sister cities" with both local governments supporting arts and cultural exchange activities. 🌱



Alumni Weekend June 17, 2023



1948 - 75th Reunion

Marian Amsen Finch, Tom Renouf



The 1960s

Karen Drucker Omahen '61, Ed Hershberger '60, Sarah Leshner '61



The 1950s

Top Row: Susie Deane-Miller '56, Deb Bacon Wood '56, Debbie Stone '58, Allen Cooper '55, Sooja Cooper Bottom Row: Peter Bittle '59, David Dustin '53, Henry Brecher '51, Jonathan Talbot '57



1973 - 50th Reunion

Top Row: Don Wauchope, Vicky Baker
Bottom Row: David Livshin, Vicky Phillips, Katherine Bruce Clyne, Martha Taylor Dumas



The 1970s

Top Row: Fran Dunwell '70, Marcia Van Wagner '74, Caryll Pearlman Blount '75, Don Wauchope '73, Vicky Baker '73 Middle Row: David Livshin '73, Vicky Phillips '73, Katherine Bruce Clyne '73, Martha Taylor Dumas '73, Robert Wilcox '72 Bottom Row: Sean Smith '76, Jonathan Baratz '78, Theresa Riley Baron '70, Raphael Hartzog '70



The 1980s

Top Row: Katie Settler '84, Dwight Wilson, Justin Brown '86, Lisa Miningham '85, Stephen Brentari '87, Valerie Vogel Brey '87, Cherise Brisbon '88
 Middle Row: Bill Doolittle, Orson Liendo '88, Peter Davidson '86, Beth Porter '87, Thembi Dube '85, Susanrachel Balber Condon '80, Paul Berger '83, Erik Nelson '82, Max Gaenslen '87
 Bottom Row: Nancy Doolittle, Annette Ruswick Engler '87, Laura Fast Smith '87, Rachel Towle '85, Judy Joffe, Karen (Oona) Younger '83, Ellen Pemrick '81, Anne McCord Wrublewski '83, Nancy Keller-Coffey, Mary Murphy



The 1990s

Top Row: Mary Murphy, Nancy Keller-Coffey, Nancy Doolittle
 Bottom Row: Valerie Reiss '91, Loren Talbot '91, Julia Wilson '92, Christina 'Nina' Caughlin Kraeher '92, Heather Wickwire Aymie '92



The 2000s

Top Row: Parfait Bizimana '16, Malcolm Condon '20, Michael Holdsworth '03, Clara Baez '03, Josh Wauchope '07
 Middle Row: Matthew Voorhees '17, Stephen Strocchia-Rivera '11, Najah Muhammad '10, Bela Baez '04, Melody Ortega '03
 Bottom Row: Alyssa Spencer '13, Jennifer Yee '03, Anna Rose Farrell Holmer '03, Clarissa Baez '07

SUMMER AT OAKWOOD

Advocacy in Action

By Julie Okoniewski, Director of Development & Alumni Affairs and VOTE Program Founder



Krisken Lewis-Coward (far left) and Chevona Barrett (far right) who attended the first year of the program with their daughters, 2023 campers Meya Coward, Naiyassa Hibbert and Program Founder Julie Okoniewski

After a several-year hiatus because of COVID, we were excited to bring back our VOTE (Voices of Tomorrow Empowered) summer program, founded in 2003 and co-coordinated by Director of Development and Alumni Affairs Julie Okoniewski and Director of Residential Life Krisken Lewis-Coward, who is also a VOTE alumna. This free, residential program offers Hudson Valley teens the opportunity to learn about grassroots, civic engagement through the arts. VOTE had great visits with Democratic Poughkeepsie Common Council member Christopher Grant and former Poughkeepsie mayor and current Republican State Senator Rob Rolison. 6th Ward Councilman Grant hosted our group in the Common Council chambers while Senator Rolison came to visit campus.

A highlight of the week was meeting with program alumna/Kingston Alderwoman Naimah Muhammad who shared her experiences working in her ward. The group's service learning initiative was repairing the community planter benches that were designed in the past and painting a new picnic table for donation to a local park. Jovan Coward from Oakwood's facilities team led this project which was started several years ago in collaboration with the Poughkeepsie Department of Public Works. Building on the work of Oakwood students during the school year, campers also gave back by making sandwiches for donation to the Poughkeepsie Community Fridge. As camp would not be camp without fun outings, there was also plenty of down time for swimming, bowling, visiting local ice cream shops and a trip to SplashDown Beach Waterpark. The program culminated with a final spoken word and art presentation led by program alumnus Da'Shon Davis who will be joining the Oakwood Residential Life staff this fall. In attendance were families and friends, as well as Oakwood and VOTE alumnas Mimi and Nai'lah Taariq '17. VOTE is generously funded by The Dyson Foundation and individual donors. Thank you for your support! 📌

Summer Adventure Makers (SAM) Camp

This year's Summer Adventure Makers (SAM) Camp led by Oakwood Middle School faculty with the help of Upper School students and recent grads offered rising 4th-8th graders the chance to participate in two weeks of fun, educational, scientific, artistic, hands-on sessions. Campers took part in activities such as Dungeons and Dragons, Stop Motion animation, Art, Performance & Storytelling, Oceanography, Brains & Brawn Scavenger Hunt, Week of Wizardry, Groovy Gardening, and DaVinci's Workshop. Many thanks for the hard work of faculty, students and alumni that went into making the program a success! 📌



SAM campers having fun!

College Application Camp

Oakwood's College Application camp, headed by Director of College Counseling Haniya Mee, was a success! Students from Oakwood and other area schools came together for a week-long camp focused on completing their Common Application, personal essay, supplemental essay responses, as well as how best to complete the activities section of their application. Justin Ao, an Admissions Counselor from Vassar College, visited with students and gave one on one advice to each student. Oakwood faculty members Stephen Miller (Humanities Department Chair/Philosophy & History Teacher) and Jacob Gamage (Upper School English Teacher) also put critical eyes on personal and supplemental essays, offering pragmatic advice toward creating the most authentic and well written stories for each student. Best of luck to everyone applying for college this year! 📌



Director of College Counseling with campers

Regional Alumni Gatherings



(l-r front row) Walter Dent '57, Eric Golden '57, Abigail Golden-Vazquez '86 and Sheena Shin Kang Wilt '85
(l-r middle row) Daniel L. Robbins '05, Kate Williams '24, Valerie Brey '87, Jessica Cuneo '10, Aviva Englander Cristy '92, Sunita Graham '08, Elaine Miles and Juan A. Williams '72.
(l-r back row) Barrett Nnoka '74, Chad Cianfrani, Dylan Englander Cristy '90, Charles Grenadier '24 and Samarra Dottin '24.

In April we held an alumni gathering at the home of **Abigail Golden-Vazquez '86**. Attendees spanned from current students to the class of 1957. Head of School Chad Cianfrani and current seniors **Charles Grenadier, Samarra Dottin** and **Kate Williams** shared about campus life and initiatives going

on at Oakwood. It was lovely to return to the DC area to reconnect with alumni.

Najah Muhammad '10 co-hosted a casual alumni gathering at Happy Valley Arcade Bar in Beacon, NY with Director of Development and Alumni Affairs Julie Okoniewski. Thanks to the local alums who joined them! 📌



Banned Books Have a Home at Oakwood

By: Matthew Voorhees '17, Alumni Archivist and Academics Programs Assistant

Many former students and faculty members will remember the sunny May day in 1990 when the community came together for a special project. Stretching from the Wallace Dempster Williams Library in the Main Building to the newly built Collins Library, students and teachers stood in a human chain and passed stacks of books to one another. After several hours the entire library - then consisting of thousands of volumes - were moved to their new home.

Fast forward thirty-three years to this past May when the new Banned Books section was established in Collins Library. The project was a student-led initiative and generously supported by the Norm Keiser Legacy Fund. The books include famous titles such as *Fahrenheit 451*, 1984, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Ulysses*, and *The Catcher in the Rye* - to name a few. All of these books have been at some point in time or are currently banned at a school or school district somewhere in the United States. The books were purchased from Three Arts Bookstore in Poughkeepsie, owned and operated by Oakwood alum **Walter Effron** '65. Oakwood students plan to initiate a book club with area public school students this year.

The project began in response to recent book bans that have become seemingly more and more prevalent. The books on its shelves are an invitation to the school community, encouraging them to delve into these literary works and ponder why they have, or once had, faced bans. As the sign displayed above the new section states: "Words have power. Read a banned book." 📖



Moving the Library collection of books in 1990



(l-r) Student organizers Kaylie Agresta '25 and Violet Favell '25 with Walter Effron '65

My Lucky Day

By: Rita Muckenhoupt James '52

How often do you hear someone say, "This is my lucky day"? Over the years many of us who have had the Oakwood experience have said that it had an impact on our lives. Many of us have proclaimed to have a lucky day.

On June 27, 1923, former Head of School William J. Reagan was the commencement speaker at Poughkeepsie High School. My father, L. Brandt Muckenhoupt, was one of the graduates. He was so impressed by what he heard that he vowed he would send any children he might later have to Oakwood, and he never let it be forgotten. Of course, this was eleven years before I was even born.

Two years following my father's death, my mother enrolled me in the 8th grade at Oakwood after selling our Poughkeepsie home and moving to New York City. At that point, I did not feel lucky but rather lost, unloved, and angry. My feelings were obvious, and I was spoken to, quite possibly by the Dean of Girls. It was pointed out to me that my life was going to be as happy as I made it. No one was going to do this for me. These words were

followed by casual remarks in the following weeks which did cause me to review my thinking. I began to see Oakwood differently. It wasn't just a school in which to study and graduate, but a place where I could develop as a person, learning many interesting things that appealed to me, and become a valuable and useful person.

The cheerleaders caught my eye, and I decided to learn all I could about becoming one. Being involved in entertainment, such as dances, appeared to be a good way to invest time so I learned how to proceed. More ideas began to appear. In Poughkeepsie I had been a member of a church junior choir, and Oakwood had a glee club. This pattern took hold and made a useful and fun way to spend free time. Eventually it helped me to consider what I wanted to do once I finished my schooling and how to train for it. With my new attitude, friendships became a large part of my life. Actually, my whole attitude changed. And I was on my way to a happy, useful, and successful life.

None of these things would have come about if Oakwood hadn't shown me the



Rita Muckenhoupt and Yvonne Andrau
Cheerleaders - 1951-52

importance of encompassing others in my life and establishing a goal of having a useful and happy life. June 27, 1923, was certainly my "Lucky Day." 📖

Class Notes



1950

Congratulations to **Anita Pasternack Finkelstein** who celebrated her 90th birthday on April 5th.

1951

Congratulations to **Henry Brecher** on his 91st birthday on August 29, 2023.

1952

Rita Muckenhaupt James - Jane Waters, the widow of Stephen Waters, a former Headmaster of Oakwood, moved into my retirement community a couple of years ago, and we have been friends since. We never know what is around the corner in our lives. While my traveling to Poughkeepsie has been more limited, I welcome hearing from anyone coming to Concord, NH. Oakwood was an experience none of us will ever forget. It is always fun hearing from Oakwood friends.

1954

Penny Betts Colby - In the midst of Covid, Terry and I moved to an independent facility for old people in Chester, CT. We were very happy here, I still am. Terry died in July after almost 63 years of marriage, and after our son-in-law died. Not a good year. But I am enjoying residents and staff, the country and the town of Chester. Kids are all fine, Martha is back playing cello and piano at Yellowstone, Andy is coping with widowhood, Gordon is busy with me and trips to Vancouver. Youngest grandchild just graduated from college.

Sara Jane Benson Victor - Due to the death of my husband and the most unexpected death of our son I am now living in a suburb of Pittsburgh and enjoying the beauty of a Japanese garden outside my window...still have my old '54 class yearbook and would love to hear from any classmates in this area...

1956

Susan Deane-Miller - I am an alumna. Drives me crazy when it is called, as if it were singular, an "Alumni." An Alum, how about that? I am old and crotchety with no longer a need to apologize for the trait, though I always apologize if I actually hurt someone, and I try not to do that. No need to do that! But I certainly am crabby. I am in the midst of Storyworth, a gift from my daughter-in-law, Mary Arnold, and my granddaughter, Emily Arnold, which nudges me into writing a memoir and has me very, very busy right now! This will be printed into a book for the family, with photos, when I finally finish it. I am still practicing clinical social work (psychotherapy) on a limited basis, with a couple of clients. I call myself a serial monogamist in social work because when one leaves another shows up. I also still consider myself a musician though I have only one student. Every month we have sessions of fiddle playing at my house, all masked, all vaxxed, ready to cancel if need be. I talk frequently to Sarah Newcomb

on Facetime, and occasionally to Ginger Ullman and Frani Burton. Love to you all.

Congratulations to **Molly Lynn Watt** on the birth of a great-grandson in Dublin!

1958

Michael Beecher - So sad to learn of the passing of Laura Greene. I'm finally retired from University of Washington (Professor Emeritus). Wife Inger and I spend as much time as we can with our four grandchildren (two in college, two not yet in kindergarten).

1960

A memorial service was held for former board member and long time Oakwood supporter **Ralph Skeels** on August 5, 2023 in Mullica Hill, NJ. His wife Judy is pictured with their son Dennick, who wore Ralph's Oakwood sweatshirt to the service and spoke of the importance of the school in his father's life. Ralph will be sorely missed.



1961

James Eng - I have just celebrated my 80th birthday and my wife Linda and I continue hiking, making art and celebrating the fragile nature we live in. I am currently exhibiting thirty-seven recent figurative and abstract paintings in a solo show here in Massachusetts and have another solo show scheduled for next spring. We are also most fortunate to have our families living near us here in the Boston area. Hoping to make Alumni Day again next year!

Toby Sitomer Hazel - My art is selected for an International Climate Change Show at the Wailoa Center in the Hawaii State Art Museum.

Peter Reich - Sarah Leshner stopped in Leverett for a visit in July on her way to visit Tinker Hannaford in Maine and Paula Kelly on the Massachusetts North Shore. There is frequent communication from Ed Hershberger '60 and Peter Ernster '60. Occasional word from Ron Blackman and Doug Connor. Susan and I have been here in Leverett for about 40 years and feel very lucky to have both children and four grandchildren within 35 minutes. My 1973 *A Book of Dreams* (with a chapter on Oakwood Dorm life, circa 1957) is still in print — with a

new preface -- having been popularized by Kate Bush's 1985 *Cloudbusting* music video.

Dewey Webster - Greetings from Seattle where I'm retired from design-build (save for projects around the house and yard), allowing time for more activity at three Asian gardens. And travel: last summer drove 10,400 miles over 9 weeks, 20 states, 18 Japanese gardens; visiting Ed Hershberger, Susan Moger, Doug Connor and Nina Smiley at Mohonk. Keiko grasps how big USA is now! In November I guided a tour in Japan then joined Keiko for a couple weeks looking at possible places to which to move. No decision on that yet. January it was Vietnam and Angkor as a tour guest, not guide! I don't have a tour to guide, but we will travel in Japan for sure this autumn.



1962

Robert Hirning - Ever since my days at Oakwood, Bluegrass music has mesmerized me. I can remember tuning into some far away mid western station's "clear channel" for hours after "lights out", with a little radio pressed tightly against my ear. Fast forward 60 years, after retirement from the work-a-day, I have been running my own three hour Bluegrass show every week on our local station. Now in my seventh year, you can hear "Smokin' Bluegrass" streaming at KXCJ.org and hopefully soon to be syndicated through the Pacifica network. It's on Thursdays from 6:00 to 9:00 PM Pacific Time, unfortunately a little late for the Eastern Time Zone.

Peter Longini - Last year, when I turned 78, I let go of my work as a ghostwriter for business leaders and public officials. I am now a man of leisure, taking adult education classes at a nearby college, and wasting altogether too much time online. I am back to my hometown in Pittsburgh, still in touch with at least a few of my classmates, and would welcome hearing from more. Cheers!



1963

Peter Clarke - Family is in good health. Marcie and I are looking forward to another August/September of quiet coastal cottage life in the mid-coast of Maine (and lots of lobster).



Peter Nentwig - In my 12th year of retirement, I enjoy life with my wife, both in gratifying health. Together we attend dancing classes twice a week, and I still play volleyball another two days a week. The rest of the time, Helga tends to our garden, and I teach German to refugees. In the spring, we have been cruising European countries with our camper, and at the end of the general holiday season we will hit the then empty roads again. Fond memories of Oakwood forever.



Merry Anderson Richdale - I can't believe that it's been sixty years since I graduated from Oakwood. Every memory of those four years is still fresh in my mind. Thank you Oakwood for opening my mind and heart and sending me out into the world better prepared to navigate these sixty years. The rollercoaster ride has been terrifying and incredibly beautiful and I am forever grateful to have made it this far. Still mystified by Algebra but relieved that I've never had to use it. Peace, love and laughter to all.

1966

Frederick Jelin - Thinking about some of my classmates who have passed away recently. Roger Polk was such a nice guy. He had interesting things to say. It was during the Vietnam war, I remember him saying that people who feel "My country, right or wrong" take it too far. And such a nice romance with Bonnie Raitt. And Jill Copeland. I always had a crush on her but she was out of my league. I couldn't compete with Josh Shapiro.

Jerry White - I'm going to brag about my first grandchild. His name is Archer. He will be one year old in July of '23. I have read that some of our school friends are great grandparents. Archer is great but he is my son's son. Let's hear more from the class of 66.

1968

Barbara Lindley - I am now exceedingly blessed with four grandchildren on the East Coast, although a frustrating distance away from Arizona where we are living now. Any classmates are welcome to visit when it gets cold & slushy where you are, plenty of room!



Barbara with 8 month old granddaughter
Charlotte Louise

1970

Congratulations to **Fran Dunwell** who was honored by Riverkeeper with their "Big Fish Award" on June 8th at Boscobel House & Gardens in Garrison, NY. Fran retired last year as Hudson River Estuary Coordinator at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, a position she held since 1984. Among Fran's many accomplishments in conservation, she helped formulate the ideas that the legislature put into the 1987 Estuary Management Act which created the Estuary Program. Fran led that important program from its infancy.

1972

Bob Wilcox - On June 10, 1972, the Oakwood class of '72 graduated. On June 28, 1972, I enlisted in the Navy to begin a career as an aviation maintenance professional. On March 31, 2023, I retired from my position as a Crew Chief in the Sikorsky Aircraft Flight Hangar after 41 years, and 51 in the profession. It's been a long, interesting and rewarding career, but it's time to join the ranks of the retired. There aren't many, these days, who get to work at their hobbies as a profession, and make a full career out of it. I'm Blessed to have been one of them. Shirl and I will be staying in Connecticut for a while longer, but the goal is to end up in Arizona, where we have friends and family.



1973

Annie Finch - My new book, *Earth Days: Poems, Chants, and Spells in Five Directions*, is just out from Nirala Press. The poem gathers my poems on the elements of fire (flame, sun, stars, heat, passion); air (moon, wind, light, wisdom); earth (mud, roots, mountain, tree, strength); water (ocean, river, rain, tears, heart); and matrix (intuition, mystery, ritual, spirit), even including some poems written during Oakwood days. It is available now at anniefinch.com/earthdays. To follow my news and schedule of readings from the book, sign up for my Spellsletter at anniefinch.com/subscribe.

Mary Lowrey Rose - 2022 started with some shock which turned to joy. Our beautiful daughter nearly died giving birth. But thank goodness for modern medicine - she survived and is doing well and we have a gorgeous 11 month old grandson, Lowrey Edmond Caya. Wendy was saved by blood donors, so I ask if you are able, please donate blood. Wishing you all the best!



1974

Montgomery Blair Sibley - I married Donna Sue Swarthout in June. We are living in the Finger Lakes. I hope to see a good turn-out for the Class of 1974 50th Reunion next year.



1977

Laura Ellsworth Gottardi-Littell - Greetings, Friends! Numa and I are now the parents of young men; our twins Christopher & Julian are 22. I continue to serve as Chaplain and Director of Pastoral Care of a retirement community in Chicago, and now work on a part-time master's degree at University of Chicago. Great to reunite with classmates, faculty and administrators this past summer on Zoom.

1980

Susanrachel Balber Condon - I continue to transition from clinical midwifery practice to full time academia as a faculty member of the SUNY Downstate Midwifery Program in Brooklyn. Teaching is challenging and rewarding! Hands (Hannah) '11 is living in the Hudson Valley working with a local farm to schools project and in a gardening program with kids with disabilities. They are also helping their grandmother (91) complete her extensive memoir. Malcolm '20 has spent the summer farming and gardening for people with disabilities. He will return to Alfred University in the fall to continue his studies in ceramics and glass arts and creative writing.



Susanrachel at Minnewaska State Park
with Akiko Tamura '80

1983

Paul Berger - I can't believe it has been 40 years! Oakwood is near and dear to me and it changed my life! All my best friends are from Oakwood. We have maintained our friendships for 40 years and not many people can say that. On a separate note - my daughter just turned 18 years old and is heading to the University of Delaware in the Fall. I'm so proud of her and the person she has become.

1986

Abigail Golden-Vazquez - It is a tremendous honor to serve Oakwood and this community as an incoming board member. As one of five members of my family to attend Oakwood (Eric Golden, John Golden, Jed Golden and Arnold Golden, as well as a 2nd cousin Josh Kovner) I

am grateful to have the opportunity to give back to an institution that has given us so much. I am particularly excited to serve under the able leadership of Beth Porter and Chad Cianfrani, and with Thembi Dube who I've admired ever since I was a freshman. On a more personal note, this summer has been filled with travel and adventure. I went to Italy, Brussels and France for my 30th grad school reunion which was a blast. Then my husband Chris, son Gabriel, and I went on a bucket list trip to Ireland for Chris' 50th birthday. Soon after we all headed to Florida for a competitive baseball showcase Gabriel was invited to. Now he is off to Spain to improve his Spanish and spend time with friends I made there when I was just 19, making new, hopefully life long, friends of his own. I saw my BFF Mel Russo '89 on Roosevelt Island in July. My Dad Eric Golden is still hanging on and I visit him regularly at his home. My Uncle John checks in regularly as well. So much to be grateful for.

1991

Loren Talbot - A heartfelt thank you to the Oakwood Board, Chad Cianfrani and team, and the whole community for having me on the board for the past 9 years. Oakwood has played an immense role in my and my family's life and for that I am forever grateful. Continuing my service path by facilitating grief support groups for youth, as well as hospice work in NJ.

2002

Kristy Matero - I just celebrated my first anniversary working for Welcome.US, a new initiative supporting private sponsorship pathways for displaced people seeking safety in

the U.S. I live in the D.C. suburbs with my husband Justin and two boys Gabriel (3) and Matthew (10). Matthew spent two weeks at Opequon this summer, a sleepaway camp run by Baltimore Yearly Meeting. I am also lucky to be able to get together regularly with Sara Maskornik (Mabry).

Elizabeth Wilkie Roscoe - My husband Paul and I are over the moon to announce the birth of our son, Hudson Peter Roscoe. Born July 21, 2023. Everyone is happy and healthy and adjusting to our new routines!



2015

Laura Aronson - graduated from Pace University Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology in 2018 and joined the KYMA news team in February of 2023 as the Anchor and Producer of the 6 and 10 p.m. broadcast of CBS 13 On Your Side.



2017

Alice Flanagan - Received a Masters of Philosophy from Sheffield College - focus is Philosophy of Care. Now married and still living in Yorkshire, England working for an organization that designs language, documents, policy, and process for protecting/reporting children at risk. Still painting very regularly and belongs to a local studio.

Faculty & Friends

Elaine Miles - When I came to Oakwood in 2001 to become Director of Development, I hoped for meaningful work in a supportive, collegial environment. It was all that and so much more. Little did I know that through Oakwood, I would make some of my closest and most important lifetime friends. Thank you, Peter Baily, for taking a leap of faith when you hired me. Thank you, all, Oakwood Friends



Elaine with Henry Brecher '51 on his 91st birthday

John Scardina (Oakwood staff 1978-1986) - I have just retired from my last Friends school gig as a school psychologist, culminating 50 years in schools (and 45 years in Quaker schools, which began with OFS). I just spent a delightful week on campus for New York Yearly Meeting Summer Sessions and had a chance to catch up with Chris Galschodjt. Playing music on Peter's Porch after dinner was a highlight, as well as playing for the contradance on the Reagan Patio.

Thank you to **Chuck Wilde**, Director of Food Services, for serving thousands of meals to Oakwood over two decades. Best of luck in your next chapter, Chuck!



Chuck with colleague and new Director of Food Services Christina Pierantozzi

Deeply Rooted: Irene Nemes Csordas' Enduring Bond with Oakwood



Irene Nemes Csordas (May 26, 1931 - May 27, 2023) had profound ties to Oakwood. She was the daughter of John, groundskeeper (1931-1971) and Sadie Nemes, housekeeper (1938-1968), Irene not only spent her youth on campus, graduating in 1948, but also worked at Oakwood for an impressive 56 years. Her brothers, Salton '40 and Ernest '45, shared her Oakwood experience, as did her cherished sons

Gabor (Gabe) '68 and John Csordas '69.

Over the years, Irene played numerous roles, from dugout manager to bookkeeper, secretary to the Business Manager, and ultimately Alumni & Development Office Assistant, until her retirement in 2015. An involved and committed alumna, she served as the Alumni Association Secretary (1951-1958) and Treasurer (1981-1999). In 2001 she was honored with the Distinguished Alumni Award with then Head of School Peter F. Baily saying, "Irene, a wife, mother, grandmother, organist, gardener, and companion to her special dog, has simultaneously excelled as a bookkeeper, advisor to business managers and heads of school, a friend to colleagues, and a gentle guide to students."

A constant presence on Oakwood's campus for decades, Irene's absence will be deeply felt. She will be fondly remembered by the school community, with future generations of Oakwood students, faculty, and friends passing by the maple trees that adorn the main drive - trees planted by her father nearly ninety years ago. 🌳

Thank you!
2022-2023 Annual Fund
Exceeds Goal!
See Annual Gifts Report
In center section.



Remembering Ben Dent '53

A joyful celebration of life was held for Benjamin Dent, Oakwood class of 1953, on August 5th in Thousand Oaks, California. Friends and family gathered to speak of Ben's warm, loving nature, wonderful sense of humor, generosity of spirit, and integrity in all things. A family friend from New Orleans performed a moving rendition of Frank Sinatra's signature song, *I Did It My Way* – a song chosen by Ben.

Born in New Orleans in 1936, Ben attended Oakwood, then Haverford College, then went on to earn his Master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania. While at Haverford, he met and married Carolyn Morant, with whom he had two daughters, Laura and Lindsay. In 1986, he met Carol Ireland and her daughters, Dawn and Marin. Ben and Carol married in 2004. He enjoyed a 35-year career at Burroughs/Unisys Corporation, followed by a second career at Amgen Corporation until his retirement in 2003. He credits the math department at Haverford for introducing him to computers.



Carol and Ben's wedding, 2004.
from left: Marin, Wendy, Lindsay and Laura

Ben was raised in a family that treasured education. Ben's father, Dr. Albert Dent, was appointed president of Dillard University in 1941, a position he held for 28 years; his mother, Jessie Covington Dent, was an Oberlin and Juilliard trained concert pianist. The three Dent boys each left New Orleans in turn to travel north to Poughkeepsie to attend Oakwood: Tom Dent, Oakwood class of 1948, Ben, class of 1953, and Walter, class of



Ben Dent's family circa 1955

1957. Tom passed away in 1998. He was a poet, writer, and civil rights activist.

Ben referred to Oakwood as his "second home." He adjusted quickly to his new school environment and embraced every opportunity the school provided. Ben's classmate and lifetime friend David Dustin spoke of Ben: "During our Oakwood years, as you probably know, Ben was an outstanding basketball player. He was a good singer, which is why I asked him to be in the musical I put on, 'The Gypsy Troubador.' I believe I recall that once when his parents visited Oakwood, they came to dinner at our house. Our mothers were both Oberlin graduates. When my longtime girlfriend suddenly dropped out of Oakwood and wouldn't communicate with me, shortly afterward, Ben dropped by to visit her at her home in New York City. I'm guessing that was an attempt to be supportive. I was a little envious that the Oakwood girls seemed to confide in him. Now I think they made a good choice.

After Oakwood, I think of Ben's yearly phone calls thanking me for my monetary contribution to Oakwood. (No one else had ever done that.) That gave us a good chance to chat, and I learned that he was organizing a yearly tennis tournament in New Orleans to honor his older brother Tom who was a good tennis player. I also learned of his visit to Sam Ho in Vancouver when Sam was dying. And of his idea for the "Pete Seeger Sang Here" plaque that now hangs in the Spencer Family Theater. Is there a theme here? I'm beginning to think there is."

Ben served on the Oakwood Board of Managers from 2004 to 2010 and on the Development Committee and Alumni Council for over 20 years. With his quiet presence and genuine interest in others, he made everyone feel welcome and valued. As Najah Muhammad '10 said: "Ben Dent! Thank you for making me laugh, being supportive, and for being such an involved alum and friend! " Along with his active participation in the life of the school, Ben understood the importance of financial support as well. In addition to his leadership support of the annual fund, and the Lighting the Way campaign, Ben joined the class of 1951 in establishing the "Caroline Dash Davis Gleiter" Lecture for Social Justice in 2004. Without fanfare, he continued to support this important lecture series for almost 20 years.

Thank you, Ben, for your love, support, and service to the Oakwood community. We will miss you and treasure your memory. 🍂

IN MEMORY

Marjorie Wilder Ross '43

July 29, 2023

Irene Csordas '48

May 27, 2023

Martin Forrester '52

March 6, 2022

Benjamin Dent '53

February 10, 2023

Cesar Barney '54

February 17, 2022

Monique Schumacher Allen '54

April 21, 2022

David E. White '56

December 21, 2022

Alfred Hildebeitel '59

March 12, 2023

Bart Jones '60

March 5, 2023

Merry Anderson '63

May 26, 2023

Bob Sokol '63

February 27, 2023

Dona Seegers '67

February 12, 2023

Nicole Zarowin Hanshaw '78

August 15, 2023

Suzanne Wagner '79

December 12, 2022

Former Faculty

Ginger Grab

July 6, 2023

Janice Greene

August 8, 2022

Sean Thompson

June 17, 2023

Wistar Wood

March 11, 2022

Oak Leaves Summer 2023



OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI AFFAIRS

JULIE OKONIEWSKI, Director

WENDY GIANGRASSO

ELAINE MILES

AMY SOLIS

Address Service Requested

2023-2024 Fall/Winter School Calendar

September 11	First Day of School
September 23	Sean Thompson Memorial Tree Dedication
October 17	Workshare Day
November 3	Parents' Day
November 16	Fall Theatre Night
December 12	Parent Dinner & Holiday Concert
January 5	Winter Reunion

Visit us at www.oakwoodfriends.org

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NEWSLETTER FOR ALUMNI AND MEMBERS OF THE OAKWOOD FRIENDS COMMUNITY

Class of 2023



Bottom row (l-r): Kishi Oyagi, Nguyen Le, Lia Quinones, Dallas Tulloch and Ally Ramos
2nd row (l-r): Theo Hirmes, Zara Rizvi-Riemer, Mercedes Walters, Gio Santoro and Jenine Tobias
3rd row (l-r): Brooklyn Dottin, Sadhika Raj, Willa Sio-Cody, Milla Berg, Jack Iovanella, Khoa (Peter) Tran, Jimmy Lin and Celina Yu.
Back row (l-r): Jaime Pardo, Elijah Koola Rashid, Tristan Jean-Baptiste, Arjun Yang, Ada Loeding-Matthews, Trevor Brooks and Dylan Diallo.

ANNUAL GIFTS REPORT

JULY 1, 2022– JUNE 30, 2023

To the Oakwood Community,

I hope you are enjoying the waning days of summer. This is my favorite time of year, when nights get longer and Fall hints at its approach. I have been lucky to be in the Adirondacks with my family, and to undertake a few long overdue projects at our camp, amid tumultuous weather and fluctuating temperatures. Though the unpredictable weather has no doubt impacted many of your plans, as well, it serves as a reminder of how important climate action will be in the coming years. Luckily Oakwood has already started to position itself for sustainable living, and will continue to do so with the support of the Board of Managers and in harmony with the surrounding community.

I'm also winding down my various start-ups, which have been my preoccupation for the last 6+ years. Other founders have warned me against diving right back into something full time. So, I'm being thoughtful about what to do next. I am not idle, however! For the past several weeks, I've been creating a new course to teach this Fall at Boston University on Data Analytics. It's always a pleasure to greet a new cohort of students and start a learning journey together.

Looking forward to the coming school year, I will be serving my last of nine years on the Oakwood



Board. And what an eventful time it has been! Oakwood's resilience over the past three years, in particular, is a testament to the caring, patience, love, good humor, and sheer fortitude demonstrated by every member of the community — faculty, staff, students, parents, alumni, and the extended Oakwood family.

This year, I'm asking the Board of Managers to put a few specific items on our collective agenda, and I welcome your input about other initiatives we may want to tackle, as well. Here are my thoughts:

Rechartering the Board By-Laws — From time to time, the Board reviews this guiding document, making updates to reflect the changing times. Specifically, we'll be adding new language around Diversity,

2022-2023 BOARD OF MANAGERS

100% participation

Parfait Bizimana '16	Elizabeth B. Porter '87
Thembi D. Dube '85	William Reagan
Annette Engler '87	Alyssa N. Spencer '13
Robert E. Fatherley	Loren N. Talbot '91
Bob Hidell	Eric E. Wohlforth '50
Kate Moss	Deborah B. Wood '56

Equity, Inclusion and Belonging, in conjunction with committee work that started two years ago. **Embracing inclusivity as a fundamental value and way of working** — Historically, Oakwood has been at the forefront of inclusive education, welcoming students from around the country and the world, from diverse socioeconomic, religious, and cultural backgrounds. This year, we strive to be more intentional about how we as a Board help to sustain our inclusive learning community.

Supporting our teachers and staff — Oakwood has applied for and received an Employee Retention Credit from the federal government. This gives the school a unique opportunity to invest in a multi-year plan focused on direct support of faculty, students, and programming

above and beyond the current annual budget, as well as continuing efforts around campus beautification and sustainability. Many thanks go to Allison Berger for the hours of diligent work she spent securing these funds.

Increasing alumni engagement — In connecting with several alumni, I have heard that many of you would like to see more engagement by the Board in Alumni activities and Development. We will be working to expand Board outreach and participation in events throughout the year.

Thank you all for your support of Oakwood, and I look forward to another exciting year!

Cheers.
Beth Porter '87
Board President





ANNUAL FUND DONORS

ALUMNI

1942

Maria Bohm Jacobson

1943

Marjorie Wilder Ross*

1946

Elizabeth Nunn Kramer

1947

Ellen Lovell Evans

1948

Robert M. Collins
Raymond F. Frasier
George O. Langer
Thomas H. Renouf

1949

Mabel Benedict Downing

1950

Anita Pasternack Finkelstein
J. Arthur Taylor
Alan S. Wilder
Eric Wohlforth

1951

Henry H. Brecher
Charles S. Doskow
John G. Earp
Virginia Hayes - honorary member
William Homans
Mimi Landis
Susan Rose Potter
Susan Eckles Van Kleeck

1952

Jean Taylor Hartwig
Rita Muckenhoupt James
Charles B. Lane
J. Lawrence Shane
Nancy Lynn Squier
Peter Van Kleeck

1953

Estate of Benjamin A. Dent
David S. Dustin
Taffy Thunick Hoffman
Alma Stokey Morrison
Harvey G. Putterman

1954

Patricia Bliss Burke
Penelope Betts Colby
Anita Dickhuth
Kay Memelsdorff Johnson
Peter D. Mickelsen
Elizabeth Horr Shattuck
Winifred Jordan Simmons
Sara Jane Benson Victor

1955

Robine J. Andrau
Caroline Christman Bady
Ellen Knowles Bisson *
Richard W. Collins
Allen G. Cooper
Lowell P. Croll
Nancy Griffiths Gibling

Charles Janeway
Margot Soley Janeway
Lynn Heiman Lovett
Judith Palmer Muggia
Fred G. See
James Sheridan

1956

Susan Deane-Miller
Ellen Stein Gross
Michael McGinnis
Kay Busher Ross
Carol R. Stokes
Molly Lynn Watt
Deborah Bacon Wood

1957

Walter J. Dent
Henry M. Greenberg
Peter O. Lane
Diane De Mask Lyons
Gwendolyn Mackel Rice
Martha Betts Shaw
Jonathan Talbot
Marion Cunningham Twichell
Lewis J. Weinstein

1958

Michael D. Beecher
Michael R. Bradbury
Holly Clarke-McAlary
James F. Davis
Melissa Gatling Kaufmann-Buhler
Judy Sarnoff Koppel
Diane Daniels Manning
Deborah Stone
Stephanie Ross van Reigersberg

1959

Peter S. Bittle
Sue J. Johnson
Io Berberelly Oakes Ruplinger
Deborah White Schaack
Jacqueline Barkan Stuart

1960

Paul Adams
Jean Eddy Edwards
Marc L. Flaster
Jane Eliot Fried
Richard E. Merriss
Carol Cober Reid
Ralph Skeels *
Elisabeth Fuglister Stewart
Terry Rosenfeld Sturke

1961

Robert A. Blackman
Lucia Feitler Brewer
James D. Eng
Emory Hill
Jean Kantambu E. Latting
Rosalind Buck Lewis-Smith
Joan D. Liebmann-Smith
Steven L. London
Edward O. Noyes
Karen Drucker Omahen
Peter Reich
Jane Miller Thompson
Gay R. Vervae
Jonathan Wheeler

1962

Carole Darden-Lloyd
Carlos P. Dunn
Robert C. Hirning
Peter R. Longini
Donna Crawford Mose
Susan Brown Nebesar
M. Margit Winckler

1963

Jane Rahl Apson
Peter H. Clarke
Joe A. Clayton
Linda Connor
Laura E. Kellar
Barbara Richmond Mates
Michael G. Mickelsen
Judith Chapman Purvis
Martha P. Richdale
Jesse Rieber
Lewis Shepard
Craig W. Smith

1964

Anita Saffer Corvin
Marthe Turner Damrosch
Peter B. Dott
Roger Q. Fenn
Christopher R. Galligan
Steve Halpern
Shari Hubner
John B. Hunter
Janice Ayer Jackson
Olga B. Kahn
Gloria Strauss Marmor
Frank Ritter
Linda B. Saltford
Charles Spaulding
Dilys Merriss Staaterman
Richard G. Starr

1965

Eric Andrews
Fredrique Bentley Boire
Teresa Coppoc DeNies
Walter H. Effron
David J. Sitomer
Norman Tacktil
Norman W. Tuttle

1966

Stephen D. Courtney
Judith Ebenstein Grose
Carol Jennings Guay
Frederick T. Jelin

1967

Don W. Badgley
Lieba Canter Blask
Suzanne M. Greene
Christine T. Herrick
Patience Eves Killen
Deborah Killen Lothian
Jeffrey J. Mandel
Lydia Micheaux Marshall
Bonnie Raitt
Philip J. Richmond
Timothy R. Rittenhouse
Robert M. Saling
David R. Silberstein
Barry B. Smith
Debra Peristein Spina
Carl R. Tannenbaum
Janet E. Tenney
Nancy Leopitzi Wawrla

1968

Gabor J. Csordas
Joel S. Erlitz
Mathew Firman
Ellen Huberman
Jonathan D. Kaplan
Ellen D. Lewis
Sarah A. Seitz

1969

Anne Micheaux Akwari
Lara Wright Alberti
John W. Csordas
Lisa Getman Ellis
Mark E. Engelberg
Richard M. Levine
Adam L. Starr
Gail E. Wild
Anne C. Wood

1970

Theresa Riley Baron
Mark D. Bertles

*deceased



David Dustin '53 with daughter Amalia

Helen A. Claxton
Lucia McMillan Cleveland
Frances F. Dunwell
William C. Graff
Raphael V. Hartzog
Myra Koutzen
Rusty Mallery
James T. Morris
Judith Ritter Netter
James H. Raker
Jane Shapiro
Gary S. Slutzky
Mark W. Stephens
Joseph L. Stoll
Alan K. Tuttle

1971
David P. Lyons
Alexander MacLeod
Stephen D. Moore
George A. Vos
Harriet Gilbert Whitcomb

1972
James T. Ashe
Eric S. Hoffman
Karen Lebergott
Charlene Coleman Mann
Jody Mindell
Laurie Mufson
Nicholas J. Polak
Juan A. Williams

1973
Katherine Bruce Clyne
Annie R. Finch
Julie Bogle Kratchman
David Livshin
Victoria L. Phillips
Mary Lowrey Rose
Edward Skoller
Donald A. Wauchope
Tara Wegryn

1974
Jeffrey W. Fitts
Karen E. Knowles
Linda Strauss Koch
Barrett Nnoka
Marcia J. Van Wagner

1975
J. Randall Detwiler

1976
William F. Bogle, Jr.

1977
Laura Ellsworth Gottardi-Littell

1978
Jonathan B. Baratz
David H. Miller

1979
David A. Ahmed
Ellen Oltman Kellner
Suzanne L. Wagner *

1980
John A. Beale
Rhea Courtney Bozic
Susanrachel Balber Condon
Henry V. Hayes

1981
Kathryn C. Korostoff
Neal A. Ostberg
Lisa Ferguson Uchirin
Sarah Uram
Scott L. Weingarten

1983
Paul Berger
Amanda Junquera Downing
Allyson D. Wingate

1984
Blair B. Collins
Lynn Jordan
Alaka T. Lindsley
Katherine S. Settler
Augusta Wilson

1985
Thembi Dube
M. Holly Trott

1986
Richard Alter
Justin Brown
Seth Cooper
Abigail Golden-Vazquez
Daniel S. Lovins

1987
Valerie Vogel Brey
Annette Ruswick Engler
Max M. Gaenslen
Jason Nunes
Elizabeth Porter
Andrew J. Rutledge
Laura Fast Smith
Ravi Varanasi

1988
Caroline Cook Alter
Jennifer E. Brunton

1989
Keith D. Bunin
James R. Inskeep
Saskia I. Kim
Wendi Anzai Milito
Sam C. Tetlow
Michael L. Thomas
Christopher J. Ware

1990
Estare Alston
Holly Coulter Glazer
Jason Kimelman-Block

1991
Simone Berman-Rossi
Nicole Coleman Freeman
James P. Humphrey
Sabra Kelley
Dirk Koopmans
Loren Talbot
Valerie Reiss
Georgia K. Tetlow

1992
Kristin Bunin Poshkus

Fact Sheet 2022-2023

Enrollment	183
Middle School	55
Upper School	128
Faculty & Staff	58
Alumni (active)	1894
Tuition 2022 - 2023	
Middle School	\$ 30,645
Upper School	\$ 37,570
5-Day Boarding	\$ 57,020
7-Day Boarding	\$ 66,795
Students receiving aid (% of students)	70.49%
Operating budget	\$5,390,955
Tuition & Fees	86%
Annual Gifts/Grants	8%
Miscellaneous	6%
Voluntary Support	
Unrestricted	\$ 311,667
Restricted	\$ 87,556
Endowed Funds	\$ 1,581,953
Capital Projects	\$ 10,500
Total	\$ 1,991,676

1993
Jessica L. Kimelman
Ashanti Henry Mayo
Sakima Green McClinton

1994
Vanessa K. Mieles

1995
Forrest E. Rohde

1996
Robert Castaños

1997
Min Hyung Son

1998
Jordan Richmond

*"I still remember Oakwood
fondly as the place where
I got my start as a poet. I
have often thought that
Oakwood was the place that
helped me to discover and
understand the poet's role
in community"*

Annie Finch '73



1973 Alums enjoying the patio fire-pit on Alumni Weekend

GIFTS IN HONOR

2003 Clara Baez Michael A. Holdsworth	2010 Bruce J. Martin III Najah Muhammad	2003 Boys Varsity Soccer Team – Nathan Wright Victoria Allen '19 – Kayla & Hunter Allen Peter F. Bailey – Charles E. & Denyse Federbush Nicole A. Berenzon '28 – Yelena Komissarova & Dmitriy Berenzon Justin Brown – Genesee Rochetti Vivian & Richard Cahn – Lisa Cahn Shane Calliste '18 – Diana Jessamy-Calliste Adam M. Carl '03 & Tracey Carl Fenton '00 – Joan Carl Class of 1963 - in honor of our 60th Reunion – Peter H. Clarke '63 Class of 1965 – Dika Bentley Boire '65 Class of 2003 – Paul Lockwood Class of 2017 – Matthew Adam Voorhees '17 Collins Family & Collins Library – R. Courtney Bozic '80 Aidan Cook '22 & Class of 2022 – Amy & Bob Cook William DeTorres '16 – Frank & Carole Salluzzo Liza Estony '21 – Kathleen & Frank Estony Alice Flanagan '17 – Molly Lynn Watt '56 Dorothy L. Glusker '92 – Stephen & Marjorie Glusker Sam Gutierrez '28 – Patricia A. Vigliorolo Raphael V. Hartzog '70 - Happy 70th Bday – Joni Fraser & Mark Israel Theo E. Hirmes '23 – Helene Hirmes Kids Coding & Sybersecurity Camp – Christopher J. Ware '89 Jamie D. Lee '10 – Judy Lee Pamela B. Leenig '00 – Marian Louis Rev. James Elliot & Barbara Lindsley – Alaka Lindsley '84 Bianca Luna-Lupercio '17 – Mara Sae Lee Lydia Micheaux Marshall '67 – Anne Micheaux Akwari '69 Elaine Miles – Nancy & Bill Doolittle, Charles & Denyse Federbush, B. Hammarstrom & Lynne Graham, Nathan Wright Dick Mullen - Inspiring Oakwood Teacher – Tara Wegryn '73 Bohdan Nemec '24 & the Nemec Family – Robert & Elizabeth Ewing Gus O'Neil '28 – Don & Betsy Straszheim Oscar M. Schilling '25 – Emy & Jerry Helland Daniel Schwarz '09 – Catherine Comins & Raymond Schwarz Tyler D. Shah-Bomba '26 & classmates – Anna Shah Jareth Stokum '22 – Jennifer Swantz Bob Suphan – B Hammarstrom & Lynne Graham J. Arthur Taylor '50- Happy 90th Bday – Caryl Quinn Khoa A. Tran '23 – Elizabeth & Thomas Strianese Debra Wilsey – Michael Sklaroff Dwight Wilson – Jennifer E. Brunton '88, Saskia Kim '89, Andrew Rutledge '87
2004 Claribel Baez Alexandrah Deffaa Sasha Skulsky	2011 Justin W. Bogle Jacob A. Leach Eli Nobiletti Stephen T. Strocchia-Rivera	
2005 Perri Erlitz Daniel L. Robbins Ryan W. Rodriguez Irene H. Yee	2012 Jesse Bernz	
2006 Jesse A. Doherty-Vinacor Rosilla Badami Owen	2013 Rui Ma Alyssa Spencer	
2007 Clarissa Baez Emily B. Bogle Nicholas Currie Julia M. Patten Jonathon Pesner Chryselle Simmons Joshua Wauchope Sarah Robbins Weers	2014 Beth A. Gross Christian Rurangwa	
2008 Sunita Graham Jin Hyun Lee Imani Schectman	2015 Leo A. Nobiletti Karen J. Swatson	
2009 Byung Kyu Choi Ana Nichols Orians Daniel Schwarz	2016 Parfait Bizimana Yuchen Feng Nora Sackett Benjamin Whipple Meiwen Zhou	
	2017 Bianca Luna-Lupercio Enid Swatson Matthew A. Voorhees	
	2019 Xiao Kirchner	

"I think about Oakwood and its impact on me almost every day. So happy I found my way there."

Jason Nunes '87



Elaine Miles with Danny Robbins '05 & baby Ezra



Chad Cianfrani with Stephen Strocchia-Rivera '11 - Dunk tank fun



OAKWOOD FRIENDS SCHOOL MISSION

Oakwood Friends School, guided by Quaker principles, educates and prepares young people for lives of conscience, compassion and accomplishment. Students experience a challenging curriculum within a diverse community, dedicated to nurturing the spirit, the scholar, the artist and the athlete in each person.

NEW YORK YEARLY MEETING

Oakwood Friends School is under the care of New York Yearly Meeting which generously contributed funds from its operating budget and from its endowment to the school.

In addition, gifts were received from the following special funds, quarterly and monthly meetings and individual members of the Religious Society of Friends.

Don W. Badgley '67
Alan Brenner
Helen A. Claxton '70
Marj Davis
Fred & Jean Doneit
Peter B. Dott '64
Jeffrey W. Fitts '74
Art & Jean T. Hartwig '52
Ronald & Judith Inskeep

Margot & Charles B. Lane '52
Lindley Murray Fund
Kate Moss
New Brunswick Monthly Meeting
New York Yearly Meeting
Lois E. Pan
Poughkeepsie Monthly Meeting
Purchase Quarterly Meeting
Judith C. Purvis '63

Rahway & Plainfield Monthly Meeting
George & Margery Rubin
John Scardina
Jonathan Talbot '57
Dare Thompson
Marcia J. Van Wagner '74
Alice A. Vedova
Deborah Bacon Wood '56
James & Twink Wood

FORMER BOARD MEMBERS

Don W. Badgley '67
William F. Bogle, Jr. '76
Robert Bomersbach
Henry H. Brecher '51
Eleanor Charwat
Martin Charwat
Helen A. Claxton '70
Robert M. Collins '48
Marj Davis
Robert DeMaria, Jr.
Benjamin A. Dent '53*
Fred W. Doneit
Lisa Getman Ellis '69
Betsy G. Eschallier
Joseph Gosler
William Homans '51
Ronald Inskeep
Ellen E. Kellner '79
Jessica L. Kimelman '93
Rachel Kitzinger
Myra Koutzen '70
Linda Keiko-Yamane Merrell
James M. Olson
Michael Quinland
Peter Reich '61
Deborah Reinckens
Philip J. Richmond '67
Margery Rubin
John Scardina
Ralph W. Skeels '60*
Jonathan Talbot '57
J. Arthur Taylor '50
Peter Van Kleeck '52
Stephanie R. van Reigersberg '58
Arthur Washburn
Lewis J. Weinstein '57
James Wood

*deceased



Oil Painting By: Maiko Nishikawa '04

***"I am grateful to be able
to give to the community
that gave me so much."***

Raphael Hartzog '70

**PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS OF ALUMNI***Parents*

Alexandra Allen
Kayla & Hunter Allen
Linda N. Betz
Carol & William F. Bogle '76
Robert Bomersbach & Mark Ungar
Joan Carl
Martin & Eleanor Charwat
Richard &
Susan Rachel Balber Condon '80
Jeffrey & Sharon Contelmo
Amy & Bob Cook
Barbara L.E. Cristy
Stephen Currie
Marj Davis
Joanne & Robert DeMaria, Jr.
Eileen Dranginis
Joel S. Erlitz '68
Kathleen & Frank Estony
Robert & Elizabeth Ewing
Charles E. & Denyse Federbush
Eve & Bruce Gendron
Stephen & Marjorie Glusker
Lynne Graham & Bryn Hammarstrom
Amy Grice
Louise Hayes
Fatima Pena Hightower
Robert & Verna Hopkins
Steve Hopkins & Erin Castle
Gordon R. Hough
Ronald & Judith Inskeep
Alison Jarvis
Harriet Jernquist
Diana Jessamy-Calliste
Timothy Judge
Brennan Kearney
Douglas Kirchner & Martina Deignan
Rachel Kitzinger & Eamon Grennan
Janie Koopmans
Judy Lee
Paul M. Lockwood
Marian Louis
Barbara Richmond Mates '63
Julius & Kathleen McClain
Kathy Austell McDonald
Densie & Thomas McGuinness
Patrick Meere & Ingrid Weigel
Solange Muller
Alizabeh Newman
Doug & Mechelle Nobiletti
Lois E. Pan
Amy & Johnny Poux
Anne Botsford Poretz
Walter C. Pusey
Andrea Pyros & Leonard Nevarez
Mary Redmond & Eli Schloss
Robert & Deborah Reinckens
Vickie Ricardo & Donald Spencer *
Richard & Judith Robbins
George & Margery Rubin
Mara Sae Lee
Sara Sandstrom & Jodi Castanza
Raymond Schwarz & Catherine Comins
Deborah Stone '58
Jennifer Swantz
Laurel & Timothy Sweeney
Marsha & Jonathan Talbot '57
Clark & Joan Wagner
Edith Warg
Karen & Donald A. Wauchope '73
Henry T. Webb
Natalie & Jeffrey Wilkinson

Deborah Bacon Wood '56
Maurice Wysocki & Pat Breslin
Peter E. Zimmermann

Grandparents

George & Margery Rubin
Frank & Carole Salluzzo
Molly Lynn Watt '56

PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS*Parents*

Anonymous
Martha Agresta
Eman Almazary
Michelle Alumkal & Jeffrey Yang
Yvette & Donovan Andre
M. Alicia Armbruster
Brandi & Gian Ascione
Dylan Assael & Kara Dean-Assael
Scott Beall
Dmitriy Berenzon &
Yelena Komissarova
Erin & Chris Berg
Anna & Brendon Bergin
Anna Bertucci & Stephen Miller
MaryBeth Bonfiglio &
William Dunwoody
Erica & Thomas Brooks
Kathryn & Seth Buncher
Lisa Cahn
Kim & Jules Canez
Ruchira Chandra & Ryan Borress
Chad & Sue Cianfrani
Allison Cross & Henry Nye
Colin Cuite & Stacey Mesler
Matthew DeBord & Maria Russo
Jacob Gamage & Anna Potter
David Gandin & Patty Jacobson
Pedrito & Karen George
Bevin & Anthony Gill
Liam & Theresa Goodman
Lawrence Grenadier & Rebecca
Martin-Grenadier
Jessica Irish & Stephen Metts
Willow Joffee
Angelmury Koola & Tahir Rashid
Ian & Jamie Landsman
M. Harper Langston &
Victoria Lichtendorf
Jed Marshall & Andrea Moreau
Karen Mejia & Jerry Maldonado
Julie Okoniewski & Gerardo Gutierrez
Sharlene Oyagi
Donald & Claribel Pearce
Matthew Perks & Arabella Stickels
Pablo Ramos
Derek & Rachelle Reis-Larson
Andrea Rodriguez
David Sampliner & Rachel Shuman
Lauri Sawyer
Edward & Andrea Sayago
Aleksandra Scepanovic & Erik Serras
Rachel & David Scher
Nathan Schilling & Angela Helland
Jesse Shadoan
Anna Shah
Daniel Shiffman & Aliko Caloyeras
Debbie & Jason Silbergleit
Amy Solis
Alison & Brent Spodek
Thomas & Elizabeth Strianese
James Teresi & Amy Mack

Grandparents

Judi & John Blomquist
Vivian & Richard Cahn
Venetia & Luke De Silva
Robert & Elizabeth Ewing
Gary & Elizabeth Flynn
Alice Ginandes
Emy & Jerry Helland
Helene Hirmes
Harriet Jernquist
Judy Joffee
Doug & Toddy Munson
Don & Betsy Straszheim
Patricia A. Vigliorolo

FACULTY & STAFF*Current*

Ricci Alma-Bueno
Saddan Alma-Bueno
Gian Ascione
Allison Berger
Anna Bertucci
Meghan Bishop
Jonathan Bisson
Oshane Brown
Chad Cianfrani
Susan Cianfrani
Clara Crosby
Jesse A. Doherty-Vinacor '06
Denise Eagan
Rob Emich
Caroline Fenner
Jim Fenner
Chris Galschjodt
Jacob Gamage
Teresa Gasparini
Wendy J. Giangrasso
Willow Joffee
Anita Jones
Erin Koch
Peter Laves
Krishen Lewis
Melissa Matthews
Haniya Mee
Ted Messerschmidt
Elaine Miles
Stephen Miller
Karen Nichols
Julie A. Okoniewski
Jonathon Pesner '07
Lizzie Phelps
Christina Pierantozzi
Pablo Ramos
Innocencia Reyes
Karina Rumsey
Sara Sandstrom
Amy Solis
Tim Stanson
Nicolas Ugarte
Matthew A. Voorhees '17
Debra Wilsey
Dominga Wolfenden
Xiuli (Julie) Zhang

Former

Natalia Armoza
Nichola Bailey
Peter F. Bailly
Paul Berger '83
John Brown
Charles Bullard
Joan Carl
Hannah Wasserman Cobin

Stephen Currie
Susan Deane-Miller '56
Tamara Devine
Bill Doolittle
Nancy C. Doolittle
Evelyn Edson
Raphael V. Hartzog '70
Bob Hidell III
Peg Indermill
H. Arthur & Mary Jarvis
Judy Joffee
David F. Kehlenbeck
Barbara B. Kirby
Nanette Koch
Janie Koopmans
Allen McMickle
Patricia Meade
Lois E. Pan
Katherine Perkins
John Scardina
Michael Sklaroff
Sasha Skulsky '04
Niyonu Spann
Michael J. Steinberg
Bob Swartz
Pat Swartz
Norman Tjossem
Nancy van Arkel
Pilar Varanjo
Arthur Washburn
Parker Washburn
Douglas A. Wenny
Dwight Wilson
Nathan Wright

FRIENDS OF OAKWOOD

Lucia Bacon
Nancy Boyington
Patricia Brady
Robert R. Butts
Gail Casey
Ann Cianfrani
Kelly & Patricia Conaty
Mary Dromgoole
Christianne Eason
Curtis Evans
Joy Evans
Gene Fina
First Student Employees, Weston, CT
Pat & Tony Florio
Joni Fraser & Mark Israel
Patricia Freeberg
Moraima Garcia
Carole Grayson
Virginia Hayes
Health Care Service Corporation
Pin Hendrick
Jacob & Jennifer Howland
Lawrence Hubbs
Josh & Jenny Kaplan
Joyce Kelly
Sue Lapin
Joanne Lenke
Annmarie McLeod
Anna Miller
Michelle Miller
Miriam Miller
Francesca Moskowitz
Kristina Mueller
Marlyce Myers
Corinne P. Ong
Jordan Peavey
Dan Piper



Caryl Quinn
Genesee Rochetti
Abby Rosebrock
Marc Rosenberg
SAM Camp
Amelia Schad
Pamela Schlauch
Nina S. Smiley
Elizabeth Sonnenschein

Sun River IT Department
Katharine Temel
Mary K. Thompson
John Underhill
Ron Unger
Chieko Vititow
Harold Weaver
Jay G. Williams
Elizabeth Temple Wood

LOCAL BUSINESS & CORPORATE SUPPORT

AmazonSmile Foundation
Berg + Moss Architects
Bottini Fuel
Clearwater Counseling Associates
Cosimo's, Poughkeepsie
Dutchess Pro Print
The Dyson Foundation

The Gutierrez Law Firm
Hudson River Truck & Trailer
New Windsor Country Inn for Adults
Pay Pal Giving
Rondack Construction, Inc.
Royal Carting Service Co.
Stone Ridge Wine & Spirits
Tonche Transit, Inc.

ANNUAL FUND GIFT CIRCLES

21ST CENTURY CIRCLE

Gifts of \$10,000 or more:

Robert M. Collins '48
Joel S. Erlitz '68
Perri Erlitz '05
Myra Koutzen '70 &
Kathleen McGahran
New York Yearly Meeting
Corinne Ong &
Estate of Dawit Zeleke '81
Vickie Riccardo &
Estate of Donald Spencer
Juan A. Williams '72
Eric E. Wohlforth '50

RALPH CONNOR CIRCLE

Gifts of \$5,000 to \$9,999:

Anonymous (3)
Lucia Cleveland '70
Jeffrey & Sharon Contelmo
Estate of Ben Dent '53
The Dyson Foundation
Mark L. Flaster '60
Bob Hidell III
Jessica L. Kimelman '93
Sharlene Oyagi
Purchase Quarterly Meeting
Philip J. Richmond '67
Elizabeth Horr Shattuck '55
Nina S. Smiley
Alyssa Nell Spencer '13
Tara Wegryn '73

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

Gifts of \$2,500 to \$4,999:

Anonymous (2)
Joe A. Clayton '63
Charles Doskow '51
Lindley Murray Fund
Elizabeth Sonnenschein
Nancy Lynn Squier '52
Janet E. Tenney '67

WILLIAM J. REAGAN CIRCLE

Gifts of \$1,000 to \$2,499:

Anonymous (5)
Lee Canter Blask '67
Judi & John Blomquist
Lucia Feitler Brewer '61
Sue & Chad Cianfrani
Clearwater Counseling Associates
Lowell P. Croll '55
Colin Cuite & Stacey Mesler
Walter Dent '57
Carlos Dunn '62
Frances F. Dunwell '70
Annette Ruswick Engler '87
Charles & Denyse Federbush
Karen & Pedrito George

Wendy Giangrosso
Alice Ginandes
The Gutierrez Law Firm
Raphael Hartzog '70
Henry V. Hayes '80
Louise Hayes
Virginia Hayes
Christine T. Herrick '67
Robert & Verna Hopkins
John B. Hunter '64
Janice Ayer Jackson '64
Maria Bohm Jacobson '42
Sabra Kelley '91
Patience Eves Killen '67
Jason Kimelman-Block '90
Kathryn C. Korostoff '81
Jin Hyun Lee '08
Rosalind Buck Lewis-Smith '61
Lydia Micheaux Marshall '67
Elaine Miles
Laurie Mufson '72
Edward O. Noyes '61
Julie Okoniewski & Gerardo Gutierrez
Elizabeth B. Porter '87
Derek & Rachelle Reis-Larson
Mara Sae Lee
SAM Camp
Edward & Andrea Sayago
Jane Shapiro '70
James Sheridan '55
Ralph W. Skeels '60 *
Amy Solis
Adam L. Starr '69
John Underhill
Sarah Uram '81
Peter Van Kleeck '52
Stephanie Ross van Reiserberg '58
Marcia J. Van Wagner '74
Scott L. Weingarten '81
Lewis J. Weinstein '57
Elizabeth Temple Wood
James & Twink Wood

BEECH TREE CIRCLE

Gifts of \$500 to \$999:

Anonymous (4)
Eric Andrews '65
Jane Rahl Apson '63
James T. Ashe '72
Lucia Bacon
Scott Beall
Dmitriy Berenzon &
Yelena Komissarova
Carol & William F. Bogle, Jr. '76
Dika Bentley Boire '65
Kim & Jules Canez
Peter H. Clarke '63
Helen A. Claxton '70
Allison Cross & Henry Nye
Robert & Joanne DeMaria

Jean & Fred Doneit
Thembi Dube '85
Dutchess Pro Print
Gene Fina
Mathew Firman '68
Gary & Elizabeth Flynn
Raymond F. Frasier '48
Jane Eliot Fried '60
Abigail Golden-Vazquez '86
Joseph Gosler & Sheila Wolper
Carole Grayson
Suzanne Greene '67
Amy Grice
Judith Eberstein Grose '66
Ellen Stein Gross '56
Jean Taylor Hartwig '52
Louise Hayes
Fatima Pena Hightower
Rita Muckenhaupt James '52
Josh & Jenny Kaplan
Julie Bogle Kratchman '73
Jamie & Ian Landsman
Jean Kantambu E. Latting '61
Jacob Leach '11
David Livshin '73
Deborah Killen Lothian '67
Lynn Heiman Lovett '55
Jim & Linda Keiko-Yamane Merrell
Judith Ritter Netter '70
Mechelle & Doug Nobiletti
Neal Ostberg '81
Jordan Richmond '98
Jesse Rieber '63
Rondack Construction, Inc.
Jane Shapiro '70
Gary Slutzky '70
Don & Betsy Straszheim
Sun River IT Department
Tonche Transit, Inc.
Patricia Vigliorolo
Gail E. Wild '69
Jay G. Williams
Anne C. Wood '69
Deborah Bacon Wood '56

MEETING ROOM CIRCLE

Gifts of \$250 to \$499:

Martha Agresta
Lara Wright Alberti '69
Estare Alston '90
John Beale '80
Michael Beecher '58
Allison Berger
Emily Bogle '07
Robert Bomersbach & Mark Unger
Erica & Thomas Brooks
Keith D. Bunin '89
Robert Castanos '96
Penelope Betts Colby '54
Colin Cuite & Stacey Mesler

Carole Darden-Lloyd '62
James F. Davis '58
Jean Eddy Edwards '60
Mark E. Engelberg '69
Betsy Eschallier
Evco Transport, Inc.
Anita Pasternack Finkelstein '50
Joni Fraser
Max M. Gaenslen '87
Moraima Garcia
Henry M. Greenberg '57
William Homans '51
Steve Hopkins & Erin Castle
James P. Humphrey '91
Melissa Kaufmann-Buhler '58
Saskia Kim '89
Rachel Kitzinger & Eamon Grennan
Karen E. Knowles '74
Janie Koopmans
Peter O. Lane '57
Nancy Leopitzi-Wawrla '67
Ellen D. Lewis '68
Bianca Luna-Lupercio '17
Kathleen & Julius McClain
Peter D. Mickelsen '54
Alma Stokoy Morrison '53
Jason Nunes '87
Rosilla Badamai Owen '06
Julia M. Patten '07
Amy & Johnny Poux
Bill Reagan
Martha Richdale '63
Timothy R. Rittenhouse '67
Royal Carting Service Co.
Frank & Carole Salluzzo
Daniel Schwarz '09
Fred G. See '55
Sarah Seitz '68
Martha Betts Shaw '57
Lewis Shepard '63
Charles Spaulding '64
Richard G. Starr '64
Elisabeth Fuglister Stewart '60
Joseph L. Stoll '70
Karen J. Swatson '15
Marsha & Jonathan Talbot '57
Loren Talbot '91
Carl Tannenbaum '67
J. Arthur Taylor '50
James Teresi & Amy Mack
Michael L. Thomas '89
Nancy van Arkel
Sara Jane Benson Victor '54
George A. Vos '71
Clark & Joan Wagner
Suzanne L. Wagner '79
Henry T. Webb
Harriet Gilbert Whitcomb '71
Alan S. Wilder '50
Jeffrey & Natalie Wilkinson
August Wilson '84

**ANNUAL FUND GIFT CIRCLES CONTINUED****GIFTS-IN-KIND**

Activ8 Total Wellness
Eve Almazary - Skincare By Eve
Brandi Ascione
Dylan Assael
The Bardavon
Bear Mountain Coffee Roasters
Beekman Arms
Bottini Fuel
Bread Alone
Oshane Brown
Kim & Jules Canez

Chad & Sue Cianfrani
Cosimo's, Poughkeepsie
Randy Detwiler '75
Pedrito & Karen George
Larry Grenadier
Greyfox Bluegrass Festival
Steve Halpern '64
The Hoot Summer Festival
Hudson Valley Renegades
Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival
Tim Judge
Kelly's Bakery

Erin Koch
Angelmary Koola
La' Mees Aesthetics
Rebecca Martin
MJN Convention Center
Mohonk Mountain House
Andrea Moreau
Jon Muth
Bonnie Raitt '67
SAM Camp
Aleksandra Sceanovic & Erik Serras
David Scher

Jesse Shadoan
Debbie Silbergleit
Skin Care by Edith
Skydive the Ranch
Stoneridge Wine & Spirits
Stoutridge Distillery & Winery
Jonathan Talbot '57
The Ashokan Center
The Hudson House & Distillery
Walkway Over the Hudson

GIFTS IN MEMORY

Merry Anderson '63 – Martha Richdale '63
Kurt R. Anshel '54 – Elizabeth Horr Shattuck '54
Angela G. Ayer '62 – Janice Ayer Jackson '64, Carole Darden-Lloyd '62,
Jean Kantambu Latting '61
Gordon H. Beckhart '40 – Katharine Beckhart Temel
John N. Benedict '61 – Jonathan Wheeler '61
Nick Beni '71 – Nicholas J. Polak '72
Horst & Gay Berger – Paul Berger '83
Laura Greene Boehlecke '58 – Michael D. Beecher '58
Gloria Bogle '43 – Emily B. Bogle '07, Julie Bogle Kratchman '73
Andrew Bourns – Laura Ellsworth Gottardi-Littell '77
Barbara Mahone Brown '62 – Carole Darden-Lloyd '62,
Jean Kantambu Latting '61
Linda Brown – John Brown
Charlie Butts – Robert R. Butts, Chris Galschjodt, Wendi Anzai Milito '89,
Kristin Bunin Poshkus '92, Sasha Skulsky '04, Georgia K. Tetlow '91
William W. Clark – Judy Sarnoff Koppel '58, Molly Lynn Watt '56
Class of '54 no longer with us – Sara Jane Benson Victor '54
Ruth E. Craig – Marion Cunningham Twichell '57
Irene M. Csordas '48 – First Student Employees, Weston CT, Joanne Lenke,
Elaine Miles, Matthew Adam Voorhees '17, Walter A. Nemes Family
Benjamin A. Dent '53 – Nancy Boyington, Gail Casey, David Dustin '53,
Joy Evans & Carlton Taylor, Pat & Tony Florio, Patricia Freeberg, Health
Care Service Corporation, Pin Hendrick, Rosalie Hoffman, Taffy Thunick
Hoffman '53, Lawrence Hubbs, Sue Lapin, Thomas Leese & Barbara Weinberg,
Elaine Miles, Anna Miller, Michelle Miller, Kristina Mueller, Najah Imani
Muhammad '10, Dan Piper, Harvey G. Putterman '53, Abby Rosebrock,
Marc Rosenberg, Amelia Schad, Fred G. See '55, Joel Stern, Peter Van Kleeck '52
Ariel Assad Dunwell '62 & Roger Dunwell '62 – Carole Darden-Lloyd '62,
Frances F. Dunwell '70
Mary Finch '70 – Annie R. C. Finch '73
Kevin B. Gheen '79 – Scott L. Weingarten '81
Janice Greene – Gail E. Wild '69
Alexander M. Hart '59 – Carole Grayson
HAX – James T. Morris '70
Alicia & Mertis Hightower – Fatima Pena-Hightower
Beth D. Hollenbeck '67 – Bob Saling '67
James R. Jennings '69 – Carol Jennings Guay '66
Jean Erick Joassaint – Saskia Kim '89, Ravi Varanasi '87
Marian Jones – Charlene Coleman Mann '72
Michael Jordan '73 – Nicholas J. Polak '72, Winifred Jordan Simmons '54
Norman Keiser – Nancy Leopitzi-Wawrla '67
Ann Killen – Patience Eves Killen '67
Bradley J. Kirkpatrick '88 – Michael L. Thomas '89
Richard G. Knapp '58 – Michael R. Bradbury '58
Richard T. Lane '49 – Peter O. Lane '57
Peter Laqueur '59 – Linda Laqueur
Susan Lare Finke '62 – Carole Darden-Lloyd '62
Sam Legg – Edward O. Noyes '61
Robert Lessig '72 – Nicholas J. Polak '72
Simon and Florence Lewis – Ellen D. Lewis '68

S. Peter Liebmann '60 – Joan D. Liebmann-Smith '61
Robert Lovett – Lynn L. Lovett '55
Silvia Roberts Lowrey '43 – Mary Lowrey Rose '73
Robert E. Martin – Willow Joffe, Nathan Wright
Patricia Busher Mead '48 – Kay Busher Ross '56
Linda Kenney Miller '63 – Lewis A. Shepard '63
Barry Morley – Judy Sarnoff Koppel '58, Deborah White Schaack '59
Libby Levinson Moroff '54 – Elizabeth Horr Shattuck '54
Khosrow Nasr '54 – Elizabeth Horr Shattuck '54
Joan & Jim Oltman – Ellen Oltman Kellner '79
Sophie Polgar – Judy Joffe
Roger M. Polk '66 – Frederick Jelin '66
Camille Walwyn Porter '57 – Susan Deane-Miller '56
Donald Puretz – Anne Botsford Puretz
William J. Reagan – Rita Muckenhoupt James '52
Rudy Roberson '71 – Nicholas J. Polak '72
Peter A. Ruge '61 – Laura E. Kellar '63
Robert Ruge '63 – Laura E. Kellar '63, Barbara Richmond Mates '63
Yoshiro Sanbonmatsu – Molly Lynn Watt '56
Deborah Satz Scheer '46 – Elaine Miles
Mac Simms – Lisa Ferguson Uchtrin '81
Ralph W. Skeels '60 – Elaine Miles
Albert Keith Smiley '62 – Nina Smiley
Donald Spencer – Francesca Moskowitz
Ida B. Stokes – Judy Sarnoff Koppel '58
Bethel J. Strode '65 – Roger Q. Fenn '64
John E. Taylor – Jean Taylor Hartwig '52
Paul L. Taylor – Peter B. Dott '64
Sean F. Thompson – Peter F. Baily, Kelly & Patricia Conaty, Amy & Bob Cook,
Mary Dromgoole, Christianne Eason, Curtis Evans, Anita Peebles Jones,
Joyce Kelly, Miriam Miller, Karen Nichols, Julie Okoniewski & Gerardo
Gutierrez, Pamela Schlauch, Sun River IT Department, Mary Thompson,
Chieko Vititow, Matthew Adam Voorhees '17
Jean Thomson '60 – Donald A. Wauchope '73
R. James Thorpe – Alison Jarvis
Betty Beard Tjossem – Laura Ellsworth Gottardi-Littell '77, Norman Tjossem
Shirley Van Wagner Tuttle '35 – Alan K. Tuttle '70, Norman W. Tuttle '65
Suzanne L. Wagner '79 – Clark & Joan Wagner
Antonio M. Walker '63 – Jean Kantambu Latting '61
Stephen R. Warner '50 – Lucia Bacon
Amanda Webb '85 – Michael J. Steinberg, Henry T. Webb
Stephen A. White '70 – Raphael V. Hartzog '70
Nicole Wiley – Amy Grice
Geri Wilson – Augusta Wilson '84
Alison Goodwill Zaremba '63 – Lewis A. Shepard '63
Dawit M. Zeleke – Patricia Brady, Susanrachel Balber Condon '80, Sharon &
Henry Hayes '80, Louise Hayes, Jacob & Jennifer Howland, David H.
Miller, Marlyce Myers, Corinne Ong, Neal A. Ostberg '81, Jordan Peavey,
John Scardina, Deborah Stone '58, Ron Unger, Sarah Uram '81,
Nancy Van Arkel, Scott L. Weingarten '81



DESIGNATED GIFTS

Endowment Funds:

An endowed fund is a permanent, self-sustaining source of funding. Endowment assets are invested. Each year, a portion of the value of the fund is paid out to support the fund's purpose, and any earnings in excess of this distribution are used to build the fund's market value. In this way, an endowed fund creates a permanent legacy of support for Oakwood Friends School. We are grateful to the following donors who established these funds and to those who make contributions to the funds each year.

The Gordon H. Beckhart Fund

Established in January 2013 with an inspirational gift from Gordon H. Beckhart, class of 1940, the fund was created to support Oakwood Friends School faculty. Gordon appreciated the influence of his own teachers at Oakwood and had a lifetime commitment to Friends' education.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$388,001

Gloria G. Bogle Scholarship Fund for Day Students

The Bogle family has established the Gloria G. Bogle Scholarship Fund for Day Students in honor of their mother who passed away on December 30, 2019. Gloria was a member of the class of 1943, parent of Barbara Bogle Feingold '70, Julie Bogle Kratchman '73, and Bill Bogle, Jr. '76. She had the pleasure of seeing her grandchildren, Emily Bogle '07 and Justin Bogle '11, follow in their footsteps. All were day students. Gloria was also a faculty member at Oakwood for 16 years and knew the school from every angle. She remained an active and generous member of the Oakwood community throughout her life.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$39,985

Carol & William Bogle, Jr. '76, Emily Bogle '07, Julie Bogle Kratchman '73

The Hoke & Grace Wilkie Brissenden Fund

Established in 2013 by Sarah Brissenden Kinlaw and Margaret Brissenden, the fund honors their parents, Hoke and Grace Wilkie Brissenden, class of 1943, and continues their lifetime commitment to Oakwood and Friends' education. The fund will strengthen Oakwood's endowment and provide annual income to support Oakwood students.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$158,459

Thomas Renouf '48

The Rebecca Charwat Hispanic American Scholarship Fund

Established in 1995 by Rebecca Charwat '95 and Martin and Eleanor Charwat, the Rebecca Charwat Hispanic American Scholarship Fund seeks first to provide financial support to a deserving student who comes from a Spanish speaking Latin American country. In the absence of such a candidate, income from the fund may be used for faculty professional development in the areas of Latin American literature and culture or for related educational purposes.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$62,217

The Jeffrey Connor Fund

The Jeffrey Connor Fund was established in 1993 in memory of Jeffrey Connor, nephew of longtime friend and benefactor of Oakwood Friends School Ralph Connor, and brother of Linda Connor '63. The fund was established to support faculty professional growth and development.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$105,200

The Ruth E. Craig Scholarship Fund

Established in 1962 with a bequest from Ruth E. Craig, class of 1909, the fund supports students who have demonstrated extraordinary ability and commitment to learning.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$606,962

Jane Rahl Apson '63, Jay G. Williams

Ann M. Crowley Scholarship Fund

In June 2021, board member Patrick Crowley, Class of 1950, established the Ann M. Crowley Scholarship Fund in memory of his wife. The purpose of the Fund is to support rising seniors who would not be able to continue at Oakwood without financial assistance. Preference will be given to female students. Ann Crowley was a devoted member of the Oakwood community, attending reunions and supporting the mission of the school over many years.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$55,197

Estate of Patrick Crowley '50, Erin Schlichting, Matthew Voorhees '17

The John DeBolt Ernst Memorial Scholarship

Established in 1979 by Albert E. Ernst in memory of his son John DeBolt Ernst, class of 1954, the purpose of the fund is to provide aid to a returning student who has shown the most overall improvement in citizenship and scholarship during the past year.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$49,920

The Susan Lare Finke Fund

Established in 1989 to honor the memory of Susan Lare Finke, class of 1962, the purpose of the fund is to provide financial support to Oakwood's Counseling Office, specifically in the areas of teenage emotional disorders and suicide prevention.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$20,519

M. Margit Winckler '62

Emmet Mcfadden Hayes and Virginia Wickham Hayes Scholarship

Established in December 2021 by Virginia Hayes in memory of her husband Emmet Hayes, Oakwood class of 1951, income from this fund will be used to support scholarship assistance to students with financial need. Emmet was a loyal donor and active participant in the life of the school until he passed away in 2015. Ginny recognized the pivotal role that Oakwood played in Emmet's life, especially following a difficult childhood. Emmet treasured his Oakwood classmates and the nurturing environment that helped unlock his potential and set the stage for a happy and successful life as an adult. Ginny is delighted to help provide the same opportunity to current and future Oakwood students.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$50,854

Virginia Hayes

Charles and Margot Soley Janeway Scholarship Fund

In May 2021, Charles and Margot Janeway, both members of the Class of 1955, established the Charles and Margot Soley Janeway Scholarship Fund to provide tuition assistance to students with financial need. Charlie and Margot met as students and describe their Oakwood experience as transformative in their lives. With this scholarship, they hope to offer a similar opportunity to future students at Oakwood.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$49,286

The Clayton and Marion Jenkins Scholarship Fund

In 1995, the school became the beneficiary of the estate of Marion S. Jenkins, a member of the Clintondale Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. In accordance to the provisions of her Will, income will be used for scholarship with preference to a deserving student from Clintondale Meeting. In the absence of such a candidate, income will be directed to another deserving Friend.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$83,219

The Anthony and Ruth Jordan Fund

This fund was established by Lydia Micheaux Marshall, class of 1967, in honor of her grandparents. The fund supports financial aid for African American students at Oakwood Friends.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$73,711

Anne Micheaux Akwari '69

**"Thank you for all that you do!
Oakwood is an amazing school!"**

Kathleen Estony

Norm Keiser Legacy Fund

In the fall of 2020, a group of friends from the Class of 1967 started a conversation about honoring their former teacher, Norm Keiser, who played a pivotal role in their education at Oakwood and helped activate their social consciousness as students. By spring 2021, they decided to establish the Norm Keiser Legacy Fund to further the education of Oakwood students and the community in an historical and current understanding of Civil Rights in the United States. The purpose is to extend Norm Keiser's vision and work towards social justice through special programming and faculty-student initiatives.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$51,403

Lee Blask '67, Bob Hidell, Nancy Leopitzi-Wawrla '67, Frank Ritter '64, Carl Tannenbaum '67, Janet Tenney '67, Harold Weaver, Doug Wenny

The John Hudson Knapp & Richard Knapp Scholarship Fund

In 2000, the school became the beneficiary of the estate of John Hudson Knapp, class of 1953. In accordance with the provisions of his Will, Oakwood established the John Hudson Knapp Scholarship Fund to provide for students with financial need. In 2019, John's brother Richard passed away and left a bequest to be added to this scholarship fund.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$519,283

Thomas Renouf '48

The Myra Koutzen Fund for the Arts

Established in March 2022 by Kathleen McGahran in honor of her wife, Myra Koutzen, Oakwood class of 1970, income from this fund will be used to enhance students' experience and exposure to the arts. A life-long enthusiast for the performing arts, Myra was an early participant in the school's Lighting the Way campaign with its focus on upgrading the school's arts facilities and the renovation of its historic theater. The fund is a tribute to Myra's dedication to Oakwood, her passion for theater and performance arts, and her deep care for the quality of our students' education. Myra served on the Oakwood Board of Managers for 20 years, bringing her energy, keen intellect, and professional expertise to every area of school life.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$50,000

Kathleen McGahran

The Libby Moroff Leadership Program

The Libby Moroff Leadership Program was initiated through a grant from the Phyllis and Howard Schwartz Philanthropic Fund and generous gifts from family and friends in 2016. The endowed program will create a permanent tribute to the life and work of Libby Moroff '54, former Board President and devoted friend of Oakwood. Libby was an exemplar of good leadership in her volunteer work at Oakwood and devoted her adult life to furthering the principles of social justice and equality for all.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$106,774

Phyllis Schwartz



Libby Moroff Leadership Program participants from the class of 2023 lobbying in Albany. (l-r) Nguyen Le, Milla Berg, Program Coordinator Julie Okoniewski, Jenine Tobias, Trevor Brooks, Theo Hirmes and Kishi Oyagi.

The Native American Fund

This Fund was established in 2017 by Jonathan Flaccus '58 who was inspired by Oakwood's celebration of Lakota Culture and the activism of Shai BlackBird '18 from the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota. A leadership donor to Oakwood over many years, Jonathan demonstrated his life-long interest and concern for the rights of indigenous people with this new initiative. The purpose of the Fund is to support Native American students at Oakwood and to strengthen our community's understanding of Native American culture and heritage.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$68,761

Jane Shapiro '70

The Powell Endowment Fund

Established in 2010, The Powell Endowment Fund was started with an inspirational gift from Richard M. Powell, class of 1968. The purpose of the fund is to strengthen Oakwood's financial position for the future while providing a new source of income for the operating budget today.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$570,413

Chad Cianfrani

The Eric Springer Scholarship Fund

Established in 2014 with a grant from the Falk Foundation of Pittsburgh, the fund honors Eric Springer, class of 1946, a distinguished alumnus with an exceptional record of supporting education and service to the community. Income from the fund will be used to help provide scholarship to students with financial need.

The value of the fund on 6/30/23 was \$96,150

Thomas Renouf '48

The John E. Taylor Memorial Fund for Academic Excellence

Established in 1993 by Emily Lane Taylor, class of 1923, in memory of her husband John E. Taylor, income from the fund may be used as needs of the school are perceived by the head of school. John E. Taylor was a member of the Board and served as Oakwood's Chief Financial Officer.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$49,732

J. Arthur Taylor '50, Jean Taylor Hartwig '52

The Weekend Enrichment Fund

This fund was established during the 1999-2000 academic year by an anonymous donor from the class of 1979. The purpose of the fund is to support programs and activities directly related to weekend life at Oakwood Friends. The fund supports opportunities for cultural and personal enrichment both on and off the campus which stimulates students' imagination, spirits and connections to the larger world.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$60,791

The Frederick M. Yergan Scholarship Fund

In the spring of 2016, Oakwood Friends School became the beneficiary of the estate of Frederick M. Yergan '38 who died in January. Fred demonstrated his caring nature and devotion to Oakwood throughout his life as a leadership donor to the Annual Fund and a participant in regional alumni gatherings. He chose to extend his philanthropy into the future by including Oakwood in his estate plans. In discussion with his family, the School established The Frederick M. Yergan Scholarship Fund to continue Fred's legacy of supporting Oakwood Friends School students with financial need.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/23 was \$111,140

General Scholarship

Rita Muckenhaupt James '52
Lindley Murray Fund
New York Yearly Meeting
Poughkeepsie Monthly Meeting
Purchase Monthly Meeting

Model UN Program

Joel Erlitz '68
Perri Erlitz '05

Summer Youth Advocacy Program/ VOTE

The Dyson Foundation
Moraima Garcia

Capital Projects

Linda Laqueur
Phil Richmond '67



ANNUAL FUND HONOR ROLL

The following individuals have contributed to Oakwood Friends School for ten or more consecutive years:

Jeffrey & Gail Aaron	Barbara L.E. Cristy	Robert & Verna Hopkins	Richard Meredith '54
Gladys Carnell Abrams '50	Lowell Croll '55	Gordon Hough	James & Linda Merrell
Rupert Abramson '69	Gabor Csordas '68	Rosalind Williams Humes '54	Richard Merriss '60
Elizabeth Agnew '66	Irene Nemes Csordas '48 *	John Hunter '64	Michael Mickelsen '63
David Ahmed '79	John Csordas '69	Peg Indermill	Peter Mickelsen '54
Alexandra Allen	Stephen Currie	James Inskeep '89	Elaine Miles
Meredith Altman '67	Victoria Cusimano	Ronald & Judith Inskeep	David Miller '78
Merry Anderson '63 *	Carole Darden-Lloyd '62	Rita Muckenhaupt James '52	Jody Mindell '72
Robine Andrau '55	James Davis '58	Charles & Margot Soley Janeway '55	Julian & Ann Lee Minghi
James Eric Andrews '65	Donald Dean '47	Alison Jarvis	Alma Stokey Morrison '53
Jane Rahl Apson '63	Susan Deane-Miller '56	H. Arthur & Mary Jarvis	Kathy Moyer
James Ashe '72	Alexandrah Deffaa '04	Harriet Jernquist	Judith Palmer Muggia '55
Emily Tordo Atkins '02	Joanne & Robert DeMaria Jr.	Kay Memelsdorff Johnson '54	Lee Munroe '54
Don Badgley '67	Benjamin A. Dent '53 *	Martha Jones	Linda Gita Rahl Nadas '54
Caroline Christman Bady '55	Walter Dent '57	Melissa Gatling Kaufmann-Buhler '58	Susan Brown Nebesar '62
Peter Baily	J. Randall Detwiler '75	Richard Keil	Sarah Robinson Newcomb '56
Theresa Riley Baron '70	Susan Davis Doderer '45 *	Sabra Kelley '91	Barrett Nnoka '74
John Beale '80	Fred & Jean Doneit	Ellen Oltman Kellner '79	Doug & Mechelle Nobilette
Lily Beck	Bill & Nancy Doolittle	Jessica Kimelmann '93	James O'Barr
Lewis Benedict '54	Charles Doskow '51	Elaine Schackman Kimpel '59	Mildred Oberkotter '53
Mark Bertles '70	Mabel Benedict Downing '49	Barbara Kirby	Gerardo Gutierrez &
Anna Bertucci & Stephen Miller	Frances Dunwell '70	Karen Knowles '74	Julie Okoniewski
Linda Betz	David Dustin '53	Judith White Komer '62	Joyce Tuttle Ollman '68
Robert Blackman '61	Jean Eddy Edwards '60	Dirk Koopmans '91	James Olson
Lee Canter Blask '67	Walter Effron '65	Judy Sarnoff Koppel '58	Karen Drucker Omahen '61
Emily Bogle '07	Lisa Getman Ellis '69	Kathryn Korostoff '81	Barbara Booth Passmore '51 *
Carol A. & William F. Bogle '76	James Eng '61	Myra Koutzen '70	Hank Peirce '84
Dika Bentley Boire '65	Mark Engelberg '69	Joanne & Ron Kowalczyk	Ellen Morosoff Pemrick '81
Michael Bradbury '58	Joel Erlitz '68	Julie Bogle Kratchman '73	Gerald Pollack
Henry Brecher '51	Perri Erlitz '05	Charles Lane '52	Elizabeth Porter '87
John Brown	Peter Ernster '60	Peter O. Lane '57	Kristin Bunin Poshkus '92
Jennifer Brunton '88	Ellen Lovell Evans '47	George Langer '48	Susan Rose Potter '51
Gail Jones Buckley '55	Barbara Bogle Feingold '70	Jean Kantambu Latting '61	Richard Powell '68
Roger Bullard '52	Anita Pasternack Finkelstein '50	Karen Lebergott '72	Anne MacDougall Preuss '52
Keith Bunin '89	Mathew Firman '68	Sarah Leshner '61	Elbert Proctor *
Patricia Bliss Burke '54	Emily Fisher	Peter Letson '64	John C. Purdy '82
Beatrice Scherf Campione '48	Jeffrey Fitts '74	Ellen Lewis '68	Anne Puretz
Henry Canby '67	Marc Flaster '60	Rosalind Buck Lewis-Smith '61	Eric Putter '82
Joan Carl	Laurence Fogelson '61	Ellen Lewittes Lieber '55	Harvey Putterman '53
Juanita Carmi	R. Elaine Petersen Foran '72	Alice Lindsley '84	Bonnie Raitt '67
Eileen "Mickey" Moore Casamo '51	Raymond Frasier '48	Suzanne McClain Litner '54	Marilyn Reagan
Martin & Eleanor Charwat	Jane Eliot Fried '60	David Livshin '73	Thomas & Sarah Reed
Audrey Marsh Cherin '51 *	Christopher Galligan '64	Roger Locke '49	Peter Reich '61
Peter Clarke '63	Chris Galschjodt	Paul Lockwood	Carol Cober Reid '60
Holly Clarke-McAlary '58	Nancy Griffiths Giblein '55	Peter Longini '62	Robert & Deborah Reinckens
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*deceased

"I will always be grateful to Oakwood for the education my daughter received at the school."

Fatima Pena-Hightower

ACORN SOCIETY

Have you thought about providing for Oakwood Friends School in the future? One way that members of our community help secure the School's future is by including Oakwood in their estate plans. Over the School's long history, Acorn Society members have made important gifts that continue to provide critical resources for the School, building endowment and enhancing programs and campus facilities. Each gift has strengthened the School and benefits our students every day. Consider supporting Oakwood's mission into the future with a legacy gift.

The Acorn Society was initiated with a gift from the estate of Louis S. Bock, honoring his wife, Caroline Reagan Bock '29, and her parents, former Headmaster William J. Reagan and his wife Florence. Reagan was Head of School from 1916 to 1948.

We are grateful to the following for including Oakwood in their estate plans:

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Gifts received by the school from the estates of Acorn Society members are listed as Memorial Gifts. All bequests are applied to the school's general endowment, except in special cases as determined by the Board of Managers. The school's endowment represents a permanent source of support for the future strength and well-being of the school. Anyone who desires further information on the school's planned giving program is invited to contact Julie Okoniewski, Director of Development & Alumni Affairs.

If you were a donor to Oakwood Friends School in 2022-23 and your name was inadvertently omitted, misspelled or listed in the wrong place, please forgive us and call with the correction to the Alumni Office at (845) 462-4200, x 224.