

Oak Leaves

NEWSLETTER FROM OAKWOOD FRIENDS SCHOOL • CELEBRATING OVER 225 YEARS OF FRIENDS EDUCATION IN THE HUDSON VALLEY

Rising Together

Two hundred twenty-nine years ago, an important experiment in Friends education began in the Hudson Valley when members of Nine Partners Meeting opened a boarding and day school for Quaker and non-Quaker children alike. I use the word *experiment* deliberately—the approach was radical for its time. Faculty and students challenged themselves to inquire, reflect, and act on what they witnessed in society.

They developed curriculum in support of the abolitionist movement, while actively opening their homes as stops in the Underground Railroad. Early students and teachers such as Lucretia Mott and Daniel Anthony carried those lessons forward into national reform movements. That spirit still animates Oakwood's mission today: to create a community where students and faculty learn together, take risks, and hold human dignity in the highest regard. While our engagement

today takes different forms, three small examples from the opening weeks of school inspire and remind me of our collective work.

Balloons: Engaged in multiple aspects of community life in the Hudson Valley, Oakwood was one of the sponsors of an annual balloon festival this summer. On a cool August morning, as the sun rose over the mountains east of Poughkeepsie, I watched our Admissions Director and her sixth-grade son slowly float into the skies. An hour later, they touched down gently in an open field, gathered the balloon fabric with their new friends, and carefully packed it away in the truck for another journey. At our faculty meetings the next day, I couldn't help but think of that shared ascent: rising above the noise of everyday life, gaining perspective, setting off on a journey with new friends, as we connect and learn together.

Quilting: This sense of connection deepened on the second Saturday of the school year, when I joined others at the First Congregational Church of Poughkeepsie for an *Oh Freedom!* Quilting display. Members of multiple denominations, educational organizations, and community groups came together to reflect on the region's history and to celebrate student and community projects—including dozens of quilt squares made by our Oakwood Middle Schoolers. It was a unique gathering: connecting secular, religious, and educational communities; reminding us how much stronger we are when we talk with one another and work together.

Bees: My judgment may not have been at its best one hot September afternoon this fall when my wife asked me to help inspect the Oakwood bee hives. I dutifully wore full beekeeping gear from the waist up. From the waist down, however—shorts. For 45 minutes everything went smoothly, until it didn't. A hive box slipped slightly, and I quickly learned how 10,000 agitated bees react. I

escaped with only 8-10 stings, but I was left with deep admiration for this community of bees. Stressed and disturbed, they did not overreact. In an instant, they communicated, came to consensus, and acted - along the way producing enough honey to overwinter along with more than 200 pounds of honey for Oakwood.

As we move into the early weeks of our 229th year, I am humbled by the energy and engagement of our



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students and faculty. I am impressed by the scholarship, the excitement for learning, and the genuine connections across our community. Oakwood continues to be a place where inquiry, reflection, and action guide us forward.

I only wish the bees had taken a few moments of reflection before taking action! We look forward to seeing you on campus this year.

Chad Cianfrani
Head of School



Chad and Anita Jones, Oakwood's Community Engagement Liaison, at the *Oh Freedom!* quilting event.



Students helping to inspect the campus hives.

Reflections on NYYM Summer Sessions

by Liza Estony '21

From July 20th to 25th, Quakers from all over New York gathered at Oakwood for New York Yearly Meeting (NYYM) Summer Sessions. Not only was this my first Summer Sessions, but I was lucky enough to be working with Junior Yearly Meeting—specifically the high schoolers. I had some nerves going in at first as some of the students I'd be working with had been attending Summer Sessions since they were infants.

Something the students and I were quickly able to bond over was the concept of Summer Sessions as a whole, and how difficult—and sometimes funny—it was to contextualize it for those in our lives who are not Quakers. How do you define these five days in a way that captures everything? I was asked, "So is this a camp?" In some ways, I can understand this reasoning, yet it still doesn't feel quite right. I had participated in some training and planning meetings, but I think back to something a Friend once told me: Quakerism is ethnographic—you have to be immersed in it to fully grasp it. The same is true for Summer Sessions.

Summer Sessions with NYYM is a time when Friends gather to conduct business, discern current events, and simply connect through Spirit. Amidst all the constructive work that takes place, the children are there, adding a spark of joy, creativity, and humor. They also contribute incredible perspectives—ones we can all learn from.

There is a gentleness to Summer Sessions that is palpable. There is no rush, yet it's a well-oiled machine. Need a ride? Someone is there to pick you up. Feeling hot? There's a water station 30 feet to your right. I credit this to the incredible Sessions Committee, who were available at all times to answer questions or if you just fancied a chat.

Business leads to conversations over lunch, and before you know it, it's 3:00 PM, and you're signing up to sing a song and dance at Café Night. Suddenly, I'm putting a face to a Friend I've been emailing for months but had not yet met. We leave as Friends. Funny how this all works.

Friends everywhere are doing amazing things, but amidst life's

daily chaos, I don't get to give enough attention to happenings outside my Meeting as much as I'd like to. At Summer Sessions, I was able to meet so many incredible people and hear their stories.

The five days rounded out with a tour of Underground Railroad stops in the Hudson Valley. You could tell just how much time and effort had been put into this trip—not only by the Sessions Committee, but also by the historians who ran the tour. I was astounded by how much history lies hidden in the area I've spent so much of my life in.

I am so grateful to have had such a fulfilling first experience at Summer Sessions. I look forward to seeing Friends — old and new — again soon.

To learn more about NYYM and Summer Sessions contact info@nyym.org



New Oakwood board member Liza Estony '21 and former board members Don Badgley '67 and Fred Doneit with wife Jean at NYYM Summer Sessions



Welcoming New Board Members



Liza Estony '21 is a recent graduate of Purchase College with a degree in Anthropology/Media Studies. She was honored to be asked to serve on Oakwood's board as the school means a great deal to her. She is currently a Member of Purchase Monthly Meeting, which has allowed her to grow her relationship with Spirit. This past winter Liza took on the role of social media coordinator for Poughkeepsie Meeting which she truly enjoys. She hopes to adopt a similar role in Purchase Meeting as well. Liza feels growing the Quaker community through the tools we have so widely available is one of her strong leadings. She looks forward to all that is to come serving on Oakwood's Board of Managers.



Kathy McClain is an award-winning veteran public school teacher with over 40 years of experience in the Arlington School District and the recipient of the "Teachers Who Inspire" annual teaching award from the University at Albany. She earned her B.A. from SUNY Plattsburgh and her Master's from SUNY New Paltz. A lifelong Mid-Hudson Valley resident, Kathy is the proud mother of a 2010

Oakwood graduate, Wilton McClain. She has dedicated herself to improving the lives of young people for her entire adult life as a Spanish teacher and mentor. Kathy served as the head of the language department at Arlington High School for 10 years and also on Board of Education committees in Highland and the Human Relations Committee for hiring new language teachers. Kathy's teaching also extends to higher education and the greater community at Vassar College and through tutoring students in Highland, Oakwood, and Arlington. Although Kathy retired from Arlington in 2021, her love for education is palpable and in 2024, Kathy went "back in the game" for one more full-time year at the request of the Arlington School District. She is excited to join the Oakwood Board and give back to the community. 📧



Board President Annette Engler '87 recognizing Chad Cianfrani's 10th year as Head of School at the 20th Annual Dinner and Auction

Sharing our Campus

Each summer we welcome a number of returning and new groups to campus to share our space. From the dorms to the fields to the dining hall, these local groups who rent space over the summer bring new families to campus, some of whom become part of the Oakwood community as students! This summer we hosted: NYYM Summer Sessions, The Art Effect, the Institute for Reading Development, Leaders by Choice run by alumna Najah Muhammad '10, and various sports camps including basketball, soccer and tennis from Friends Seminary. We also hosted two of our own programs again, Summer Adventure Makers (SAM) Camp for 4th - 8th graders and our College Application Program for rising seniors. Assisting Vassar College with overflow housing for interns also builds community - and brings revenue - to campus.

Interested in renting space at Oakwood? Contact Rentals Coordinator Grace Obee at rentals@oakwoodfriends.org. 📧

Student Clerk Reflections

"I am honored to serve as clerk and I'm looking forward to supporting my classmates, welcoming new members of our community, and finding ways to make this year memorable." – Sam Nye '26



"I'm really excited to be clerk this year. I look forward to continuing to help promote and expand the supportive environment that exists at Oakwood. I feel honoured that I am able to be a part of this community and watch it strengthen and grow."

– Mina Serdoud '26



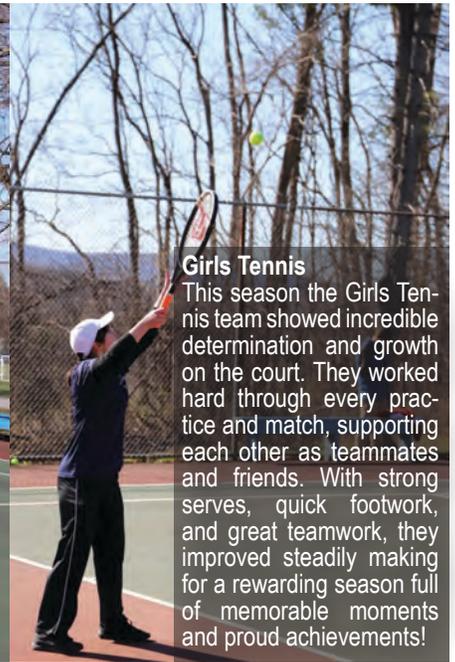
Campers from the Leaders by Choice take to the stage in The Spencer Family Theater

Sports



Boys Tennis

Boys Tennis had a great season this year with everyone stepping up their games during the playoffs. The team is looking forward to continuing their momentum for the spring 2026 season.



Girls Tennis

This season the Girls Tennis team showed incredible determination and growth on the court. They worked hard through every practice and match, supporting each other as teammates and friends. With strong serves, quick footwork, and great teamwork, they improved steadily making for a rewarding season full of memorable moments and proud achievements!



Ultimate Frisbee

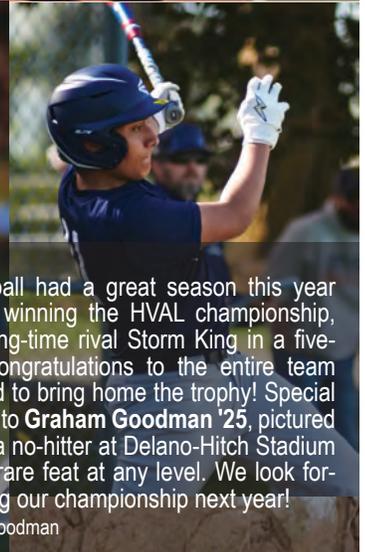
Ultimate Frisbee continued its dominant regional trend going undefeated for a second consecutive season. We look forward to continuing to host the HVAL trophy for a third year this spring!



Baseball

Oakwood Baseball had a great season this year which ended in winning the HVAL championship, sweeping our long-time rival Storm King in a five-game series. Congratulations to the entire team who worked hard to bring home the trophy! Special recognition goes to **Graham Goodman '25**, pictured left, for pitching a no-hitter at Delano-Hitch Stadium in Newburgh, a rare feat at any level. We look forward to defending our championship next year!

Photo credit: Liam Goodman



Softball

Despite a rainy season, the softball team persevered, played well together and built a good strong base for the years ahead! Congratulations to seniors **Grace Fosket-Cosgrove** on her excellent pitching skills, catcher **Simone Maldonado** and Rookie of the Year **Jessica Feng**.





Arts

Arts Professional Development Abroad



Ted with his wife Rosemary and sons Peter and Daniel at Bonaguil Castle in Saint-Front-sur-Lémance, France

This summer, Arts Department Chair Ted Messerschmidt spent five weeks in Germany, predominantly in Heidelberg, as part of Oakwood's Professional Development (PD) program. Sharing his experience working with Bard College's Prison Initiative program, he gave a guest lecture, in German, on music education in prisons to students in the M.A. program in Inclusive Music Education and Community Music at the Katholische Universität Eichstätt-Ingolstadt. He also

audited a musicology course at the University of Heidelberg, and the professor of the course, Dr. Christoph Flamm, played through one of Ted's original compositions for piano. His travels also took him to the International Orff-Schulwerk Forum Salzburg (IOSFS) Conference where he participated in sessions on gender in music education, among other topics. Seeing a live performance was also part of his experience with the opportunity to hear the University of Heidelberg Symphony Orchestra and Chorus. Crossing the border into France, Ted also participated in a master class on sound design and recording in Grézels, France with Dr. Douglas Quin, Professor Emeritus of the Newhouse School of Syracuse University. Ted's five week journey gave him a wide breadth of experiences to bring back to the classroom to share with his students this year!

* Professional Development (PD) at Oakwood is supported by generous donors including Henry Brecher '51 whose bequest to the school established a fund to support faculty PD. To contribute to similar opportunities for faculty, contact the Development and Alumni Office at development@oakwoodfriends.org. 📧

Spring Highlights

* The 20th Annual Dinner and Auction in March featured student artwork and performances by **Darius Kalantari '30**, **Christopher Lee '28**, **Martin Lozada '26** and **Jessica Feng '25**.



* The Visual Arts Showcase opened on May 10, featuring drawing, painting, photography, sculpture, and more by both Middle and Upper School students.

* **Nora Banaja '30** and **Mira Gould '31** both participated in the New York State School Music Association (NYSSMA) Solo Festival. Nora who performed on cello and Mira who plays bassoon both got outstanding ratings and received high praise and accolades from the judges.

* The Spring Concert in May featured performances by Middle and Upper School soloists and ensembles. Selections included classical, jazz, pop/rock, and hip hop, and even included some original student compositions.

* Drama students gave three outstanding performances of Ken Ludwig's *Midsummer/ Jersey*, a reimagining of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* set on the Jersey Shore, pictured below. 📺



Congratulations to **Cora Belle Mahr Spreen '26** on being named Arts MidHudson of Ulster County's "Youth with Exceptional Promise in the Arts"

Kudos to **Alana DePace '27**, pictured center with camera, who had the opportunity to do editing work on 'Thy Neighbor', a 7-minute documentary short film produced by the Woodstock Film Festival's Youth Film Lab that explores issues of homelessness in Kingston, NY. She was joined by her fellow boarding students at the festival.



8th Grade Moving Up Ceremony

Each June 8th graders celebrate their time in the Middle School through our Moving Up Ceremony where each student has the opportunity to reflect on their journey. Through heartfelt stories about arriving at Oakwood, what they've learned about themselves, unforgettable trips, hilarious moments, and deep gratitude for their teachers, each student shares about their time spent in the Middle School, and what lies ahead. Congratulations to the 8th grade graduates!



Top left, Tilly Serras; top right, Seth Pincus; bottom left, Sequoia Shadoan; and bottom right, Zoe Potter-Gamage

Do you know someone who is ready to find their voice at Oakwood?



Contact Admissions Today!
Scan the code or reach out
admissions@oakwoodfriends.org or
(845) 462-4200



Exploring the Future of Engineering & Generative AI

A group of students passionate about engineering had the incredible opportunity to attend an exclusive dinner and seminar on Upcoming Trends in Engineering – Generative AI.

The event featured a thought-provoking presentation by Andrew C.M. Hicks, Senior Technical Staff Member & IBM Z Resiliency & Innovation Strategist at IBM. Hicks delved into cutting-edge AI topics, including Large Language Models (LLMs), AI hallucinations, inverse scaling problems, and sustainability. As a key contributor to the IBM Granite Large Language Model—the foundation of IBM WatsonX Technologies—he provided invaluable insights into the evolving role of AI in engineering. Additionally, as the IBM Z Quantum Lead, Hicks focuses on enabling Quantum Computing on IBM's Enterprise infrastructure. 📺



Students at the dinner with Andrew C.M. Hicks, center, and math teachers Silva Keohulian and Peter Llaves pictured far left and far right.

Destination Granada

Since 2018, Spanish teacher Clara Crosby has been leading spring break trips for Upper School students to Spain, Mexico and Costa Rica. This spring's destination was Granada, Spain for an unforgettable language and culture immersion experience! Students had the opportunity to experience customs, cuisine, and conversation through homestays with families. Their week was also filled with exciting excursions and activities such as exploring the Alhambra — a UNESCO World Heritage site known for its stunning Moorish architecture and a hands-on paella cooking class. 📺



(top row, l-r) Jonah Marchena-Cruz, former student Ainsley Ambrester, Alex Ferry, Eghalemena (Excel) Owheruo, Harry Stevenson, Henry Cianfrani and a tour guide (bottom row, l-r) Spanish Teacher Clara Crosby, Liv Hill, Reya Pincus, Upper School Humanities Teacher & STEM Department Chair Karen Nichols and a tour guide.



Summer Wetlands Biodiversity Survey

This summer, Upper School Science teacher David Love led a special biodiversity survey in Oakwood’s wetlands habitat near the entrance to Spackenkill Road. Students collected field samples and identified species, especially indicator species that reveal the health and stability of the ecosystem. From exploring the wetlands to analyzing samples in the lab, they conducted a real-world field study and documented their findings every step of the way. The Wetlands Biodiversity Survey is an example of the many ways Oakwood students take part in experiential learning through hands-on, purpose-driven exploration on campus.



David holds a B.S. in Biology from Union College and an M.S. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from The University of Arizona. He teaches AP Biology, AP Environmental Science, Science Research Intensive, and Chemistry. Prior to joining Oakwood, David was a researcher specializing in animal communication and the evolution of sexually selected traits. He earned membership into the Sigma Xi Scientific Research Honor Society for his work on the *Drosophila mahican* species complex. Likewise, he was a local finalist for the Goldwater Scholarship and received an honorarium from Union College for his lecture on the evolution of communication in tetrapods. He also conducted fieldwork in Washington state, where he assisted in efforts to rehabilitate endangered salmon populations. 📷



Reflections on Neurodiversity

By: Harry Stevenson '27



This year, I started serving on the National Student Advisory Council for the Neurodiversity Alliance, a student advisory board that works to craft and implement neurodiversity advocacy initiatives to help many neurodivergent students. Through being on the board, I attended the National Neurodiversity Leadership Summit in Denver which was an action-packed long weekend of neurodiversity advocacy,

helping the organization build its future, while making lifelong friendships! At one moment we were listening to an Olympic skier talking about how his ADHD helped his training regimen, the next we were coming up with ideas for advocacy events to be held on school campuses. Through it all, we were building skills that would serve us well in the workforce and in life. A particularly challenging activity had us pitching a panel of renowned activists on a product that would help neurodivergent people (which we had 20 minutes to come up with), and another had us crafting our own educational social media activism videos. The biggest themes throughout the summit were connection, comfort, and hope. We did amazing work while having a good time, not letting any negativity about the neurodiversity community get us down! 📷



Ava Hendrix '27 is passionate about climate advocacy and sustainability - and she turns that passion into action at Oakwood. Together with Oakwood’s Climate Club, Ava secured \$5000 in funding from the Hudson Valley branch of *Partners for Climate Action* through their Youth Climate Action Micro-

grant which provides small grants to student-run initiatives. The grant specifically supported a Clothing Swap and Climate Education Event held on campus on Saturday October 4 in Collins Library.

The Climate Club, which stewards projects such as switching to reusable markers and helping with Oakwood’s composting program, hosted the event with the aim of reducing the impact of the fast-fashion industry and promoting the importance of second-hand clothing. The event also featured local climate action organizations, donated books and new climate-related books for “pay what you can” prices.

Asked about her experience with The Climate Club, Ava shared, “I have always had a love for the environment and a passion for climate action, but it really started to develop in 5th grade, when I organized a Climate March at my elementary school, and it has only grown since then. Being able to run a project like this event is a big dream for me and I am so appreciative that we could make this happen.” Ava is grateful for the support of her fellow Climate Club members, seniors Ruby Pearce, Martin Lozada, Lila Sawyer, and Ella Hughes who are helping run and promote the event. 📷

Alumni Weekend - June 2025



1950s & 1960s

Front Row: Sarah Leshner '61, Debbie Stone '58, Ed Hershberger '60
Middle Row: Jim Warson '59, Dika Boire '65, Genevieve Switz '65, Peter Bittle '59
Back Row: Eric Andrews '65, Wilson Sheldon '65, Nancy Leopitzi Wawrla '67



1965

Front Row: Dika Boire, Genevieve Switz
Back Row: Eric Andrews, Wilson Sheldon



1970s

Front Row: Marcia Van Wagner '74, Valerie Caldwell '75, Anthony Heyward '75
Back Row: Raphael Hartzog '70, Jack Figueras '75, Randy Detwiler '75, Danyell Ray '75



1975

Front Row: Valerie Caldwell, Anthony Heyward
Back Row: Jack Figueras, Randy Detwiler, Danyell Ray



1980s

Front Row: Lisa Ferguson Uchrin '81, Ellen Morosoff Pemrick '81, Erik Nelson '82, Laura Fast '87, Jordan Schott (daughter of Michere Schot), Thambi Dube '85, Alexandra Birnkrant-Flusser '85, Abigail Golden-Vazquez '86, Keith Davie '80, Judy Joffee (with dogs Charlie & Lala), Peter Davidson '86
Middle Row: Leo Junquera '86, Amanda Junquera Downing '83, Rhea Courtney Bozic '80, Regina Helfant '86, Rachel Towle '85, John Rubin '85, Mel Russo '85, Michere Feldstein Schott '85, Dori Block Long '86, David Wood '86, Steve Brentari '87
Back Row: Anne Wrublewski Raymond '83, Kathryn Turnipseed '80, Julie James '80, Annette Ruswick Engler '87, Mike Steinberg, Justin Brown '86, Anthony Rivera '85, Mike Benedict '80, Akiko Tamura '80, Susanrachel Balber Condon '80



1980
Front Row: Julie James, Rhea Courtney Bozic, Akiko Tamura **Back Row:** Kathryn Turnipseed, Mike Benedict, Keith Davie, Susanrachel Balber Condon



1985
Front Row: Jordan Schott (daughter of Michere Schott), Thembi Dube, Alexandra Birnkrant Flusser **Middle Row:** Rachel Towle, John Rubin, Mel Russo, Michere Feldstein Schott
Back Row: Mike Steinberg, Justin Brown '86, Anthony Rivera



1990s
Front Row: Priscilla Bell (mother of Rachel Heller), Gabriel Moliterno (son of Rachel Heller), Rachel Heller '90, Jon Jernquist '91, Amanda Holmes '97, Lili Tou-tounas '98 with daughter Esme, **Middle Row:** Tom Evans '90, Benson Sebastian '90, Charlotte Blom Malone '96, John Hoyt '99 **Back Row:** Wayken Shaw (husband of Anne Hunter), Sybil Shaw (daughter of Anne Hunter), Anne Hunter '95, Anne Murphy Garrity '95, Emily Warfel Morin '95, Noah Richmond (son of Jordan Richmond), Jordan Richmond '98, Jared Richmond (son of Jordan Richmond)



1990
Front Row: Gabriel Moliterno (son of Rachel Heller), Rachel Heller, Jon Jernquist '91 **Back Row:** Tom Evans, Benson Sebastian



2000s
Front Row: Kate Wilkinson '15, Sunyao Jiang '15, Jialin (Linda) Fang '15, Karen Swatson '15, Enid Swatson '17, Victoria Jackson '15, Mauro Parra '07 (with daughter Hazel), Lillian Shad '07 and daughter Laila **Back Row:** Zack Federbush '08, Sunita Graham '08, Yuchen Feng '16, Runyuan (Monique) Wu '16, Matthew Voorhees '17, Ryan Rodriguez '05, Imani Schectman '08, Louis Ma '15, Jiaqi Zhang '18



2005
 Ryan Rodriguez, Daniel Robbins



2015
 Jialin (Linda) Fang, Karen Swatson, Louis Ma, Kate Wilkinson, Victoria Jackson

College Bound

Wishing the Class of 2025 the Best in their Next Chapters!

Amherst College
 Bard College
 Cornell University
 Culinary Institute of America
 CUNY John Jay College of Criminal Justice
 Fordham University
 Harvey Mudd College
 Haverford College
 Indiana University-Bloomington
 Ithaca College
 Marywood University
 Ohio State University
 Rutgers University
 Skidmore College
 St. John's University
 Stony Brook University
 SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry
 Susquehanna University
 The New School
 Ulster County Community College
 Universidad Anahuac en Merida
 University at Albany, SUNY
 University of California-Santa Cruz
 University of Vermont
 Wesleyan University

Aminah Taariq '17 Presents Herzog Lecture



We were thrilled to welcome Aminah (Mimi) Taariq '17 virtually from Washington, DC to present this year's Herzog Lecture for our school community. As the manager of the End Plastics Initiative at Earthday.org, Aminah is making a significant contribution to reducing plastic pollution. In her role she leads strategic efforts to combat plastic waste

by overseeing campaign communications, fostering partnerships and advocating for critical policy changes. A graduate of Cornell and Columbia Universities, Aminah also consults with small businesses on eco-friendly practices. She attended Oakwood from 6th through 12th grades with her twin sister Nai'lah and older sister Fatima Sarassoro '11, and credits the school with igniting her passion for environmental advocacy. Aminah also shared her presentation with the larger Oakwood community of alumni, parents and friends through a subsequent evening Zoom call.

The Herzog Lecture was established by Daniel Herzog '70 in memory of his father, Dr. Hershel Herzog, a distinguished chemist and pharmaceutical executive who was instrumental in developing several popular antibiotic and anti-inflammatory drugs. In keeping with a science and technology theme, the series has brought speakers from many fields to speak to our school community, bringing science inquiry to life and encouraging our students to consider career paths in science. 📺



Celebrating Women's History Month with Najah Muhammad '10

Najah Muhammad '10 presented an inspiring Community Meeting for Women's History Month entitled "Well-Behaved Women Seldom Make History". Her meaningful presentation engaged students through powerful storytelling, interactive discussion, and moments of laughter. From historical icons to modern trailblazers, students explored the impact of bold women throughout history—then connected those lessons to their own lives and communities. The empowering session made for a memorable return for Najah and a celebration that truly honored women's voices. 📺



Head of School Chad Cianfrani, his wife Sue, and a group of Oakwood alumni and faculty had the incredible opportunity to see Bonnie Raitt '67 in concert at Bethel Woods in August! We are so grateful to Bonnie for connecting with Chad and Sue as they celebrated their anniversary and for her shout-outs to the Oakwood community members in the audience. Her powerful music and social activism is truly an inspiration to all!



Alumni Connections

Raleigh/Durham, NC

Many thanks to **John Hunter '64** and **Anne Akwari '69** for co-hosting our North Carolina alumni gathering at Durham Friends Meeting! John and his wife Linda toured Head of School Chad Cianfrani and Director of Development & Alumni Affairs Julie Okoniewski around Durham, including a visit to Carolina Friends School and the campuses of Duke and UNC Chapel Hill. Connections were strong, with alumni from the classes of 1949 - 2011 coming together to share stories and hear updates about the school. Highlights of the gathering were **Joanne Stoller '49** bringing her 8th grade report card, **Wilson Sheldon '65** sharing his mother Ruth's class photo from 1928, and seeing **Anne Akwari '69** and **Helen Claxton '70** reunite after many decades! Genevieve, the daughter of **Fatima Sarassoro '11** and her husband Eddie, was also a hit with all! It was wonderful to see everyone - and we look forward to seeing more of you at gatherings on and off campus in the months ahead!

In attendance were: Joanne Stoller '49, Diane Manning '58, John Hunter '64 with his wife Linda, Wilson Sheldon '65, Anne Akwari '69, Helen Claxton '70, Caroline Alter '88, and Fatima Sarassoro '11 with her husband Eddie and their daughter Genevieve.



NYC

Many thanks to Marilyn Reagan for once again hosting our NYC gathering in her lovely Upper West Side home! Marilyn is the widow of **Robert Reagan '38** and daughter-in-law of former Head of School William Reagan. Her nephew Bill Reagan also served on the Board of Managers for many years.

Alumni from the classes of 1954 to 2023 were in attendance and had the opportunity to connect with one another and hear from students **Martin Lozada '26**, **Olesia Kuzdrovska '25** and **Maria Vargas Mancilla '25**, as well as Head of School Chad Cianfrani. Several alumni continued the festivities after Marilyn's gathering at a local restaurant thanks to the organization and planning

of Alumni Council members **Zack Federbush '08** and **Imani Schectman '08**, who also serves on the Board of Managers.

In attendance were: Anita Dickhuth '54, Allan Jalon '72, Adam Jacobson '89, Estare Alston '90, Richard Distel '07, Zack Federbush '08, Imani Schectman '08, Asha Amberslie '17, Sage Altamirano '16, Maty Thiam '18 and Khoa (Peter) Tran '23 who took many of these photos at the event.



Connections with Mohonk Mountain House - My Summer Internship

by Matthew Voorhees '17



This past summer, I had the privilege of completing an internship at the Mohonk Mountain House Archives in New Paltz. Under the guidance of Archivist Nell Boucher, I spent four months processing, cataloging, and creating finding aids for their extensive collections, as well as assisting with research requests from staff and outside scholars.

During my time there, I also gave two presentations at the managers' weekly meeting on the historic ties between Mohonk and Oakwood. Those connections are deep and longstanding. The late Bert Smiley '62 served as President of Mohonk Mountain House for nearly 30 years before his passing in 2018, and today his nephews continue the Smiley family's 155-year tradition of multi-generational leadership.

The connection between the Smiley family and Oakwood dates back to 1855, when a sister of Mohonk's founders, Albert and Alfred Smiley, taught at Oakwood's predecessor, the Nine Partners Boarding School in Millbrook, NY. In the late 1890s, Mohonk founder Alfred Smiley served a term on Oakwood's board while the school was located in Union Springs, NY. Decades later, A. Keith Smiley, Bert's father, served on Oakwood's Board of Managers from 1958 to 1968, including four years as president.

As an Oakwood alumnus and now the school's Academic Programs Assistant and Archivist, I found that the connection between Oakwood and Mohonk made the internship especially meaningful. With the skills and insights gained at Mohonk, along with the recent completion of my Master of Science in Information Science with a concentration in Archives and Records Administration, I look forward to continuing my work in the Alson and Irene Van Wagner Archives Room here at Oakwood. 📖

Class Notes



1953

Nina Lawford-Juviler - Not doing too well, but still alive. Long story. Will be 90 in November. Lots of good wishes.

1954

Peter Mickelsen - We have put the Baltimore chapter of our lives behind us and now live permanently in Montana. On the environmental front, we are installing a 24 kw solar array on the ranch. Oakwood friends are always invited to visit us at the ranch in the beautiful Judith Mountains!

1956

Pat McKay - I am long since retired and living in Bremerton, WA. I lived and worked around the country and in Mexico where I taught ESL. My last job after retirement was as a private investigator. Currently, I am working on a memoir. Would love to meet some others if any live in my vicinity. That year was a turning point in my life and I love to reminisce.

Sarah Robinson Newcomb - Still singing, thanks to Oakwood.

1957

Henry Greenberg - Last fall Barbara and I moved to Kendal on Hudson in Tarrytown, NY. This is a CCRC (Continuing Care Retirement Community), a non-profit founded by Quakers and based on Quaker values. It is a bit like Oakwood—communal dining, community commitment, interesting and varied neighbors, resident-generated activities—and a bit like sleep away camp for seniors. We have Oakwood colleagues, Deb Wood '56 and Suzanne Litner '54 as neighbors. In June Barbara and I quietly celebrated our 60th anniversary and in July gathered family, including five grandchildren, and friends for a lively dinner. They were all invited back for the 70th. I remain on the adjunct faculty at the school of public health at Columbia, and Barbara is reworking children's stories she wrote decades ago and about to inaugurate tai chi classes, a talent she developed years ago.

Peter O. Lane - Glad to know that Poughkeepsie Meeting has a happy 'Sunday Home' at OFS now. We're cousins with Jean Taylor Hartwig '52 and her brother J. Arthur Taylor '50. I worked for/with John Nemes in summers and Alfred Henderson. Played soccer for his son Francis. Classmate with Walter Dent.

Diane DeMask Lyons - I'm still traveling. I have fond memories of my Oakwood years!

1961

Peter Reich - Susan and I have been in Leverett, MA, for 42 years now, and still have a

couple of chickens and a big garden. Both our children live here in the Pioneer Valley and we see a lot of them and the four grandchildren. Ed Hershberger '60, and Peter Ernster '60 appear to be anchors for two loose, periodic, email threads connecting various Oakwood alums with comments, humor, and fwds. Watching the news lately, every time a reporter poses a question by asking "How come...?" I instantly picture Howard Craft looking directly at the violator and saying calmly and firmly, "Please avoid the use of that barbarous expression in my class!"

Karen Drucker Omahen - Hi All - We missed the Oakwood reunion this June because we took our family to Greece - three generations! Ken and I managed to visit Delphi and the temples to Apollo and Poseidon despite the challenging terrain. There is an elevator at the Acropolis but it wasn't operating that day so we viewed it from afar, while having ice cream! The class of '61 will be celebrating its 65th reunion in 2026 and I hope to see as many classmates as possible return for the festivities! Dewey is great at rounding us up!



Karen with family in Nafplio, on the Peloponnesian Peninsula

Peter Reich - As I write this in early March, we are once again sugaring here in western Massachusetts. Continuing contact with alums from '60 & '61 - especially following the death of Tinker Hannaford - keeps us all together.

1963

Lewis Shepard - It has been a busy year for all of our families! We have been traveling while we can to Kohler, Wisconsin in January (-6 below) and Argentina and Uruguay in March (warmer!) In June Ellen and I celebrated our 50th anniversary; our younger son and his wife's 10th anniversary; our older son and his wife's recent marriage (and my 80th birthday.) We were all together in Umbria for a week of Italian food, wine and excursions to Assisi, Perugia and Deruta. It is always great meals with fine beverages. While we were in Italy, our 6 year



old grandson, Nathan, took this photo of us with his digital camera. It prints out an instant photo like the Polaroid cameras of the 1950s (but does not require chemicals!) As our class ages I open up the alumni magazine with some trepidation. It is good to see familiar names and faces in each issue.

1964

Pam Tinnes Lord - Lots going on. Three children's books, two are now audio books. Still cycling and swimming. Experienced first death of a sibling.

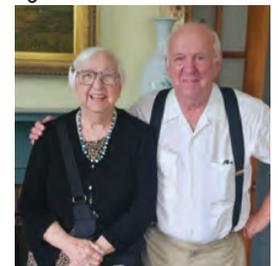
1965

Norman Tuttle - Not able to make it for my 60th, but I have some excuses: I'm currently playing (most) Mondays and Fridays with the "Geezers" basketball group in the Guilford College gym; practicing and playing; guitar at 'gigs' w/ "Bluforopo" (BLUes, FOLk, ROck, POp); doing grounds work chez moi and on my wife's family property, as well as maintaining our home of 40 yrs. Glad to see former dorm-mates Wilson Sheldon and Eric Andrews were there. Chin up, Boomers — there's still work to do.

1966

Steve Courtney - I dropped by Oakwood with a pal recently, having not set foot there since the Class of 1966's 25th in 1991. Some time has passed since then, and it was surprising to see the wonderful new buildings, and the old familiar ones, and get a feel of the place, still as inspiring as it was back then.

I was there 1964-65 and 1965-66, and I think about Oakwood as many think about their college years, since my own college life was cut short by my "dropping out," in the lingo of the day. (I got an undergraduate degree in my 50s, which comforted my Dad a bit.) At Oakwood Peter Yoder challenged my writing as it had never before been challenged. Art Willis led us brilliantly through Lewis Mumford's *The City in History*. Friends like Steve Rothkrug, Debbie Eisberg, Judy Ebenstein, Robin Lienthal, Jill Joli, Beth Knight, Mike Cruciger and others made my life richer.



Steve visiting campus with a friend



Now I'm retired, with five kids and their kids to entertain us and to keep us traveling and to keep my ancient brain alive for the moment. After a few decades in journalism, I am here in Connecticut with my beloved Lisa and spending time as a volunteer in the home of Mark Twain, a great and deeply flawed author. Lisa says she'd like to see Oakwood, so I imagine the 60th next year is a no-brainer.

Frederick Jelin - Hopefully, by the time this is published my website will have launched. FakeFoxNews.com. "Where Hypocrisy Becomes A Work of Art". Because sometimes you just want to throw your brain in the garbage. Another comedy site, TheOnion.com (not nearly as good as our site) was sold for 500 million bucks. When that happens for me, I'm going to take the whole class of 66 out for dinner at Denny's.

1967

Don Badgley - For those of us who are astounded that more than half a century has passed since we donned our gowns and said farewell to our beloved Oakwood School, I say that, in retrospect, it doesn't seem possible. For those of you for whom only a few years have passed since graduation, know this; 50 years only seems short from this, the other side. It's a lifetime and it's a blink of an eye so be grateful for each passing moment. News: My first grandchild is due in October and that is a joy for all of us. It's about time! Poughkeepsie Meeting has been meeting at Oakwood for several years now and that has been wonderful. Gathering weekly for worship in the same room where I had good naps as a teen is ever a joy. Do I feel old? Sometimes, but not when I think of my classmates and when we meet to reminisce. Then we remember together and feel forever young.

Christine Herrick - I was recently widowed after a 34-year marriage and am starting a new life chapter. I would be happy to welcome any Oakwood visitors to beautiful Bend, Oregon.



1968

Jonathan Kaplan - For the last 57 years, I have been fortunate to work as a ceramic artist. I needed 3 credits to graduate from Oakwood in 1968 so on a whim, I signed up for a ceramics class with Mrs. Willis. While I wanted to pursue a career in medicine, ceramics eventually became my passion. I went to art school and earned my BFA and MFA. Thank you Oakwood School and Mrs Willis! In 2023, I published a book "The Mold Making Manual-The Art of Models, Mold, and Slip Casting for Ceramics" through The American Ceramics Society. I continue to lecture, teach and make ceramics. I am active through The National Council on Education In The Ceramic Arts. It's been a very rewarding career. I am indeed very lucky!!

Andrew Schlossberg - Happily living in Long Beach New York 12 houses from the ocean and only 5 houses from my daughter and two grandchildren aged 5 and 3. Close to my ex wife who I see weekly and she also lives nearby. Occasionally see my son and 4 year old grandson living in Los Angeles. Swim and attend classes at the local JCC. Spend a lot of time with my 8 year old cockapoo named Joey. Living life to my best. Love traveling, reading and watching television. Would love to hear from others in my class of 1968. I can be reached at: andy.schlossberg@gmail.com

1970

Fran Dunwell - Hi all. It's three years since I retired from a career in conservation of the Hudson River at NYSDEC. I'm gardening a lot and I've joined the environmental conservation board of my town here in New Paltz. I missed reunion this year due to thyroid surgery which was successful. My husband and I spend a lot of time keeping up with the national news and doing what we can to make a difference locally. That includes supporting regional food banks and shelters and going to rallies as well as deepening our community of friends and family. I'm grateful to Oakwood for the wonderful extended family we enjoy. My brother Roger married his Oakwood sweetheart, Ariel Assad from Haiti, and his extended family remains a big part of our lives, though he and Ariel have both passed away. I'm also grateful to Oakwood for giving me the opportunity to be an exchange student to Ploen Germany in 1969-70. Asmus Von Troschke came here in my place. At reunions lately I've enjoyed reconnecting with old friends Terry Riley, Gail Wild, Anne Micheaux, Jim Raker, George Carruthers, Raphael Hartzog and Shari Hubner.

1978

Jonathan Baratz - Hello Oakies!! Finally, I am writing after all these years!! To make an extremely long story long, after Oakwood, my further education did not last as I was more inclined to, well, other things. My first real job was as a Dental Ceramist in NYC (claim to fame was that I worked on Al Pacino's bridge). From there, I owned a rather large Ice Cream Parlor in Pompano Beach for several years in the early 80's (fun time!). After Ice Cream, I served 3 tours in the Israeli Navy/Army and spent some time in Egypt. Back in NY in 1990, I was in Commercial Real Estate for 10 years.....I then started a Wholesale Coffee Roasting Business (Bear Mountain Coffee Roasters) in Putnam County which after 22 years, is still going strong (I do need Tarriff Therapy).

I am blessed to have my wife Lisa as my soulmate, two sons 18 & 22, and a 29 yr old daughter. I enjoy my Italian autos and the NY Mets. If anyone wants to join me at a game, please reach out!! I miss all my friends from Oakwood! Anyone can contact me at Jonathan@BearMountainCoffeeRoasters.com

Ken Brick - I send best wishes to Oakwood class of 78. I am now 20 plus years in Wilmington, Delaware after leaving New York City. Julie James who graduated Oakwood a few years behind me, lives here in DE and we welcome Oakwood visitors. She periodically visits a consortium of graduates from her

Oakwood years. I continue to miss my Oakwood pal Nicole Zarowin who died suddenly in August of 2023 out in Portland, Oregon. Sudden and surprising advanced lung cancer for a healthy lifestyle non smoker! With gratitude I got to visit her before her death and meet her lovely daughter Alexa who lives in Portland herself. Julie and my children are now 25 and 23, graduating from Franklin and Marshall, Dickinson College and University of DE. We manage a busy psychotherapy practice here www.jamesandbrick.com, exercise lots, and enjoy friends and family. Anyone heading South or North on Interstate 95 is welcome to give us a call for lunch or coffee – would love to connect.

1982

Martha Wright - I've loved reading about the Oakwood graduates over the years, and thought it was about time for me to contribute, and share an update about what's going on here in Worcester, Massachusetts! Life in general is great. I've been blessed with a wonderful family, friends, a super interesting career and my fur-babies, Ollie and Benny. Despite my undergraduate degree and dreams of becoming a special education teacher, I deviated just a bit and followed a career path into 'medical' education. I am currently the Executive Director and CEO for the Worcester District Medical Society (WDMS), the 3rd oldest medical society in the country, (www.WDMS.org). I am responsible for 3 non-profit medical organizations, hosting an array of educational events and programs for >2400 physicians and medical students in Central Massachusetts. Additionally, we host a television program, Health Matters and publish a quarterly medical journal, Worcester Medicine. We also play a role in the House of Delegates, turning bills into laws. And our Scholarship Fund has awarded over one million dollars to deserving medical students. I hope everyone is doing well! I'd love to hear from my classmates and friends from the 80s, and when you're in the Worcester/Boston area, give me a shout... mwright@wdms.org. Peace and love to all..."Marty"

1983

Rachel Thompson Davis - My husband, Oba, and I have moved from Kauai, Hawaii to Las Cruces, New Mexico to retire. We lived in Hawaii for 21 years! We are loving the High Desert and are busy with friends, trips, art making and reading. Aloha to all my friends of Oakwood!

Allyson Wingate - Hello Class of '83, and others who crossed my path on campus! Can you believe we are now 60 years old? No doubt all of you have experienced many changes since we were teenagers. In theory, we have matured and embraced our adult selves. However I hope all of you also create much time to "play"... on that note, I've decided to retire by the end of June 2025, as my partner Sue has as well! After a few years of being a social worker right out of college, I've mainly worked at Fedex for 35 plus years. Looking forward to this new adventure! My best to all Oakies everywhere!

1984

Blair Collins - I'm still buzzing from 2024's reunion. I wish I could live at Oakwood and never leave. However, California is where we

are and my family is doing well. Our 7 year old, Jules, is growing like a weed and in love with life. In these very troubled times for our country, I find joy in his every day learning and discovery of all the beautiful aspects of life as a child, as well as watching him become the athletic genius he is. Jen and I are very proud. I think of Oakwood all the time and look forward to getting back there someday. I keep my eye on the long view of our future as a country and know that we will prevail as a people and that kids like my son will live the life of their dreams in a better world. Love to all from here. We will meet again.

Hank Peirce - All is well in my life with both daughters off to university, my wife working at a local school and I continue to nurture joy and compassion in the world. I thought you all would appreciate that a little piece of Oakwood resides at The Punk Rock Museum in Las Vegas. Many years ago a hardcore band I worked with called Slap Shot made varsity jackets, and having earned "a letter" in soccer at Oakwood I had it put on the jacket. Jump ahead almost 40 years and the museum was looking for items that symbolized that era of Straight Edge punk so I dug out my jacket, put it in the post and as you can see in these photos it on permanent display in Las Vegas. Who would've thunk.



1985
David Hochfeld - Hello fellow acorns, from the sunshine state. I am so sorry Daphne and I missed my 40th, however, better late than never, we will be there this coming alumni weekend. As my friends celebrate their 40th, it also happens to be my 60th, so that sounds like a reason to celebrate with my nearest and dearest friends from across this country. Even better, our daughter Ashley & Eric are pregnant, I'm gonna be a grandpa!!! Someone pinch me. The crew is getting bigger. Next, we are bound for Alaska Sept 9, hence Capt. Daphne and crew, ready to see the world. Then, we get ready for a BABYYYYYYY. Please stay safe out there my loves. Praying for us all and the Future. See you all in June.



Mel Russo - My fond memories of Oakwood grow deeper at each Alumni day. How fun to be reminded of who we all became thanks to Oakwood and their incredible staff! It's been a pleasure to reconnect with people I only knew at a distance back in the '80's. There is truly nothing like the Oakwood bond.

1986
Abigail Golden-Vazquez - What a tremendous honor it was to speak at Oakwood and talk about economic mobility. It was great to see board members and class of '80s friends - Tony Rivera, Michere Schott, Mel Russo, etc.

1996
Charlotte Blom - With my *tortitudinous kitty, Solstice, I recently returned to the Hudson Valley after living in and exploring the Deep South for 18.5 years. If you want to (re)connect, give a letter to a willing carrier owl or send a modern missive to charlotteblom1@gmail. *a feline who embodies the famed/fabled tortoiseshell way



2012
Bridget (Bea) Soto - I graduated from SUNY Purchase College, studied English Literature and graduated in May 2016! I moved to the Bay Area after college in 2016 and currently live in Berkeley. I work as the office manager for Auto-Chlor System, a commercial dishwashing company. Right now, I am taking a certified medical assistant program to become a medical assistant!

2013
Heather Stratica Tomellini - A lot has happened with me over the past year. Last spring, my husband Joe and I reunited after a 6 month long deployment and we bought a ranch down here in Florida. We now raise cattle and pigs and board horses. I also gave birth to my first son, Paul John (PJ), in April! Here is a photo of our little cowboy to share.



2017
Bianca Luna-Lupercio - I will be starting medical school this fall at UC Riverside School of Medicine. Many in the Oakwood community knew of my aspirations to become a physician, so I'm very excited to share this news. I have a strong interest in pursuing neurosurgery, but I'm open to the different specialties I will be introduced to during medical school. Above all, I'm looking forward to serving and learning from the diverse community in Southern California's Inland Empire.

2020
Malcolm Condon - I'm a rising senior at Alfred University, and enjoyed a summer internship and received a scholarship award for a 2 week seminar at Haystack Mountain School of Crafts in August. I was joined by Akiko Tamura '80 and mom Susanrachel Condon '80 for a visit to Alfred, where I gave a tour of the facility and the Ceramic Museum.



2023
Brooklyn N. Dottin - I am the news director of 88.7 FM, WRHU, I created a new show format for Newsline, our drive-time news show, and I have covered high-profile events such as the Trump rally at Nassau Coliseum, for which I won a Press Club of Long Island award, and an event in Woodbury at which EPA administrator Lee Zeldin spoke, and where I was able to ask him a question-to which he gave a non-answer.

Congratulations to Brooklyn on being recognized at The 50th national Gracie Awards at Hofstra's Lawrence Herbert School of Communication for exemplary news programming across five categories. The prestigious awards, presented annually by the Alliance for Women in Media Foundation (AWMF), recognizes work by, for, or about women in television, radio, and online media on the national, local, and student levels. Brooklyn is a member of the all-female WRHU-FM newscast recognized in the category of Public Affairs [Radio-Student] for excellence in anchoring and producing the weekday program *Newsline*.





In Memory of Maria Bohm Jacobson '42

Oakwood was saddened by the loss of Maria Bohm Jacobson, class of 1942, who died at 99 years old in September 2024.

Born Luise Maria Böhm on May 1, 1925, in Vienna, Austria, Maria was the eldest of three children of Victor C. Bohm, a prominent hat manufacturer, and Gertrude Rie Bohm, a chemist. The family fled their homeland following Nazi Germany's annexation of Austria in 1938.

They first settled in England, then emigrated to the United States in 1941, making their home in Poughkeepsie. After completing her secondary education at Oakwood, Maria attended Vassar College, earning a bachelor's degree with honors in chemistry in 1945. She then pursued graduate study in chemistry at Northwestern University, where she earned her master's degree and completed all doctorate coursework requirements.

While working at the Texas Company (Texaco) Research Laboratories in Beacon, New York, Maria met Ishier Jacobson, a mechanical engineer and U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, who was also employed there. They were married in Poughkeepsie, at Vassar's Alumnae House, on December 18, 1948. Following time in Cambridge, Massachusetts, while Ishier attended Harvard Law School, and Danbury, Connecticut, the couple settled in Stamford, Connecticut, in 1954, where Ishier pursued a 36-year career at Citizens Utilities Company, and Maria worked for 30 years at the American Machine and Foundry (AMF) research and development laboratory.

Maria was a lifelong learner and teacher. She taught chemistry to undergraduate students at Northwestern, Simmons College in Boston, and the University of Connecticut at Stamford, and science and math to public school students in Stamford. Fluent in three languages, she was fortunate enough to have traveled to six continents. She was also an avid sportswoman. While a skier, swimmer, and ice skater since childhood, Maria's true love was tennis, which she played into her 80s.



Maria's siblings, Lottie and Henry, also attended Oakwood. Like Maria, they went on to obtain undergraduate and graduate degrees in the sciences (Lottie in chemistry at Vassar and Yale, Henry in physics at Harvard and Brown) -- all three children following in the footsteps of their mother, Gertrude, who held a Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Vienna and taught at Vassar and other local colleges. The extended family is grateful to Oakwood Friends School for extending such a welcoming and nurturing environment to three young immigrant children in 1941. 🍂



IN MEMORY

Maria Bohm Jacobson '42
September 3, 2024

Bertha May Nicholson '43
March 20, 2025

Roger S. Locke '49
June 6, 2025

Eileen Moore Casamo '51
February 15, 2025

Edward Vitek '53
July 15, 2024

Fred See '55
November 6, 2023

Christine Steinhilper Kaluzny '61
February 11, 2025

Thomas Ditto '62
March 14, 2025

Sarah Fabricant Corbin '65
May 11, 2022

Penelope (Penny) Truex '65
April 23, 2024

William 'Bill' Coppoc '67
July 15, 2025

Former Faculty / Friends of Oakwood

Pauline "Tinker" Hannaford
March 2, 2025

Prefer to receive Oak Leaves digitally?

Email us at
development@oakwoodfriends.org

Thank you for Supporting
the 2024-2025 Annual Fund!
See Annual Gifts Report
in center section.

Oak Leaves Fall 2025



OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT
AND ALUMNI AFFAIRS

JULIE OKONIEWSKI
WENDY GIANGRASSO

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2025-2026 Fall/Winter School Calendar

November 1 Parents' Day
December 17 Parent Dinner & Holiday Concert
Dec. 18 & 19 Middle School Drama Production
January 10 Winter Reunion

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Bottom row (l-r): Alex Ferry, Violet Favell, Hana Foulk, Mary Bauer, Jessica Feng, Samantha Iahn and Simone Maldonado **2nd row** (l-r): Elle Rios, Maria Vargas Mancilla, Linda Yu, Vicky (Van) Nguyen, Olesia Kuzdrovska, Cathrine Swoon Young and Edie Strianese **3rd row** (l-r): Aidan Mansani, Grace Fosket-Cosgrove, Julian DeGennaro, Leo Muth, Graham Goodman, Jack Canez, Hayat Daqiq, Bell Kelly-Rossini, Florence (Narges) Daqiq and Lark Buncher **Back row** (l-r): David Curran, Dylan Colagiovanni, Oscar Schiling, Curtis Xu, Soren Bertucci-Miller, Marcus Enderle, Prince Koola-Rashid, Cosy Tran and Jake Colarusso. **Not pictured:** Molly Muth

ANNUAL GIFTS REPORT

JULY 1, 2024– JUNE 30, 2025

Dear Friends,

While reflecting on what message I wanted to convey in this edition of Oak Leaves, my mind took me back to this year's commencement. Listening to the graduates' expressions of gratitude and their positive experiences at Oakwood reinforced my dedication to this institution. Moments like these provide a renewed sense of hope and motivation for the future. At the beginning of the year, I conveyed to the faculty and administration that they are the magic of Oakwood. This sentiment was confirmed by the emotions and gratitude expressed during commencement. While there was mention of academics, the resounding message was about community and each student finding their own voice and learning to use it, even if it shakes.

If you happen to be on campus for events and see any of the faculty or administration, please take a moment to thank them for all that they do! While here, you will also notice that we are undergoing some much needed major improvements and renovations. If



you are so moved, please consider supporting our latest capital campaign: **Revitalizing Community Spaces – Sustaining Our Future.**

I would also like to thank the board of managers. Once again, we achieved our goal of 100% Board participation for the Annual Fund. This is an exceptional team, all of whom are actively engaged in ensuring that Oakwood's legacy continues. Their dedication is amazing, and I am grateful to each of them for the hard work we have done this year. We are currently developing a strategic plan that coincides with our capital

2024-2025 BOARD OF MANAGERS

100% participation

Parfait Bizimana '16
Byung Kyu Choi '09
Jeffrey Contelmo
Thembi D. Dube '85
Annette Engler '87
John Fargis '84

Abigail Golden-Vazquez '86
Bob Hidell
Kate Moss
Imani Schectman '08
Dare Thompson
Eric E. Wohlforth '50

campaign needs and focuses on:

- Growing the boarding program both domestically and internationally
- Continually beautifying the campus
- Recruiting, retaining, and supporting the faculty who play such an important role in educating young minds

I would be remiss if I failed to acknowledge a decade of leadership from Chad Cianfrani. Chad has tirelessly served as

Head of School for ten years. Thank you Chad, for all you do!

Please feel free to reach out to me or any board member with questions, concerns, comments, or suggestions. I am so very proud of this community, and my goal is to see it continue to prosper. Thank you for your support of the school; the 2025 commencement experience solidified my belief that we must continue to support the mission of this fantastic institution.

In Peace and Gratitude,
Annette Ruswick Engler
Class of '87





ANNUAL FUND DONORS

ALUMNI

1946

Elizabeth Nunn Kramer

1947

Ellen Lovell Evans
Frances Landusky Robinson
Barbara Tresler Zarchen

1948

Robert M. Collins
George O. Langer
Thomas H. Renouf

1949

Joanne Niles Stoller

1950

Anita Pasternack Finkelstein
J. Arthur Taylor
Eric E. Wohlforth

1951

Estate of Henry Brecher
Charles S. Doskow
Virginia Hayes - honorary member
Mimi Landis
Kathryn Melby Mundie
Susan Rose Potter
Susan Eckles Van Kleeck

1952

Jean Taylor Hartwig
Rita Muckenhaupt James
Katrina Voorhis Mabon
Anne MacDougall Preuss
Nancy Lynn Squier
Peter Van Kleeck

1953

David S. Dustin
Taffy Thunick Hoffman
Nina Lawford-Juviler

1954

Anita Dickhuth
Rosalind Williams Humes
Peter D. Mickelsen
Elizabeth Horr Shattuck
Sara Jane Benson Victor

1955

Robine J. Andrau
Lowell P. Croll
Nancy Griffiths Giblein
Charles Janeway
Margot Soley Janeway
Judie Palmer Muggia
James Sheridan

1956

Ellen Stein Gross
Marj Lacey
Sarah Robinson Newcomb
Carol R. Stokes
Deborah Bacon Wood

1957

Peter Compter
Walter J. Dent
Henry Greenberg

Linda Feierabend Gregorius
Peter O. Lane
Diane De Mask Lyons
Delia Wheelwright Moon
Martha Betts Shaw
Jonathan Talbot
Marion Cunningham Twichell
Lewis J. Weinstein

1958

Michael D. Beecher
James F. Davis
Melissa Gatling Kaufmann-Buhler
Judy Sarnoff Koppel
Deborah Stone

1959

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

1960

Paul Adams
Jean Eddy Edwards
Marc L. Flaster
Jane Eliot Fried
Mary Hendricks
Edward N. Hershberger
Carol Cober Reid
Elisabeth Fuglister Stewart
Terry Rosenfeld Sturke

1961

Robert A. Blackman
Lucia Feitler Brewer
James D. Eng
Laurence Fogelson
Rosalind Buck Lewis-Smith
Edward O. Noyes
Karen Drucker Omahen
Peter Reich
Jonathan Wheeler

1962

Carole Darden-Lloyd
Peter R. Longini
Susan Brown Nebesar
M. Margit Winckler

1963

Jane Rahl Apson
Peter H. Clarke
Joe A. Clayton
Michael G. Mickelsen
Judith Chapman Purvis
Martha Richdale
Jesse A. Rieber
Lewis A. Shepard
Craig W. Smith

1964

Anita Saffer Corvin
Robert G. Fleagle
Christopher R. Galligan
Shari Hubner
John B. Hunter
Janice Ayer Jackson

Olga B. Kahn
Peter R. Letson
Pamela Tinnes Lord
Gloria Strauss Marmor
Helen Nelson Ramsey
Linda B. Saltford
Charles C. Spaulding
Dilys Merriss Staaterman
Richard G. Starr

1965

James Eric Andrews
Fredrique Bentley Boire
Steve Dunwell
Walter H. Effron
Alan L. Kovacs
Steve L. Root
Wilson M. Sheldon
Norman Tacktil
Norman W. Tuttle

1966

Stephen D. Courtney
Judith Ebenstein Grose
Frederick Jelin

1967

Don W. Badgley
Lieba Canter Blask
Barbara Bohm-Becker
Cathie Carrothers Caskey
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
Bob Saling
Daniel Shurman
David Silberstein
Barry Smith
Carl Tannenbaum
Janet Tenney
Barbara Spark Wachs
Nancy Leopitzi-Wawrla

1968

Gabor Csordas
Joel Erlitz
Mathew Firman
Ellen Huberman
Jonathan D. Kaplan
Peggy Landsman
Ellen D. Lewis
Andrew R. Schlossberg
Sarah Seitz
Charles F. Turner

1969

Anne Micheaux Akwari
Lara Wright Alberti
John W. Csordas
Lisa Getman Ellis
Mark E. Engelberg
Esther Reed Freeman
Adam L. Starr
Gail E. Wild

1970

Theresa Riley Baron
Mark D. Bertles
Helen A. Claxton
Frances F. Dunwell
Barbara Bogle Feingold
Raphael V. Hartzog
Myra Koutzen
Judith Ritter Netter
Joanna Goldberg Rohrbach
Jane Shapiro
Mark W. Stephens
Joe Stoll
Alan K. Tuttle

1971

David P. Lyons
Alexander MacLeod
George A. Vos
Harriet Gilbert Whitcomb

1972

James T. Ashe
R. Elaine Petersen Foran
Eric S. Hoffman
Jody Mindell
Laurie Mufson



Peg Keiser, Bob Hidell III, and Nancy Leopitzi-Wawrla '67at Alumni Weekend



Juan A. Williams
Lynne Wilson

1973
Julie Bogle Kratchman
David Livshin
Mary Lowrey Rose
Donald A. Wauchope

1974
Jeffrey W. Fitts
Karen E. Knowles
Linda Strauss Koch
Barrett Nnoka
Rebecca Pasiencier Rothey
Shonna Wechsler Valeska
Marcia J. Van Wagner

1975
David V. Brownstein
J. Randall Detwiler
Jack W. Figueras
Danyell Ray

1976
William F. Bogle, Jr.

1977
Victoria A. Behrman
Barbara L. Hartman

1978
Jonathan B. Baratz
David H. Miller

1979
David A. Ahmed
Ellen Oltman Kellner
Elan A. Schultz

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

1981
Kathryn Korostoff
Neal A. Ostberg
Ellen Morosoff Pemrick
Lisa Ferguson Uchrin
Sarah Uram
Scott L. Weingarten

1982
Erik N. Nelson

1983
Amanda Junquera Downing
Brian A. Dublin
Allyson D. Wingate
Anne McCord Wrublewski

1984
Blair Collins
John Fargis
Lynn Jordan
Elisabeth Gaenslen Lindsley
Hank Peirce
Augusta Wilson

1985
Thembi D. Dube
Alexandra Flusser
Anthony Rivera
John M. Rubin
Mel C. Russo
Michere Feldstein Schott
Jennifer Wofford

1986
Justin Brown
Seth Cooper
Abigail Golden-Vazquez
Regina Helfant
Dori Block Long
Daniel S. Lovins
David E. Wood

1987
Stephen C. Brentari
Annette Ruswick Engler
Laura Fast
Elizabeth B. Porter
Andrew J. Rutledge
Ravi Varanasi

1988
Jennifer E. Brunton

1989
Keith D. Bunin
James R. Inskeep
Saskia Kim
Christopher J. Ware

1990
Holly Coulter Glazer
Jason Kimelman-Block

1991
James P. Humphrey
Sabra Kelley
Dirk Koopmans
Loren N. Talbot
Georgia K. Tetlow

1992
Kristin Bunin Poshkus

1993
Jessica Kimelman

1994
Vanessa Mieles

1995
Forrest E. Rohde

1998
Michael Peters
Jordan Richmond

2003
Clara Baez
Michael A. Holdsworth

2004
Claribel Baez
Alexandrah F. Deffaa
Sasha Skulsky

Fact Sheet 2024-2025

Enrollment	170
Middle School	38
Upper School	132
Faculty & Staff	72
Alumni (active)	1837
Tuition 2024 - 2025	
Middle School	\$ 33,145
Upper School	\$ 40,635
5-Day Boarding	\$ 60,670
7-Day Boarding	\$70,740
Students receiving aid (% of students)	71%
Operating budget	\$5,677,370
Tuition & Fees	83%
Annual Gifts/Grants	7%
Miscellaneous	10%
Voluntary Support	
Unrestricted	\$ 285,695
Restricted	\$ 25,717
Endowed Funds	\$ 1,162,509
Capital Projects	\$ 721,575
Total	\$ 2,195,496

2005
Perri Erlitz
Daniel L. Robbins
Ryan Webb Rodriguez

2007
Clarissa Baez
Emily B. Bogle
Nicholas Currie
Richard Distel
Mauro Parra
Julia Patten
Lillian Shad
Chryselle Simmons
Sarah B. Weers



"Oakwood is always with me wherever I go"

- Blair Collins '84



Board member Thembi Dube '85 and former Board President Beth Porter '87 at Alumni Weekend



2008
Zachary Federbush
Imani Schectman
Jay Strocchia-Rivera
Sarah Thrall

2009
Byung Kyu Choi
Ana Nichols Orians
Daniel Schwarz

2010
Bruce Martin III
Najah Muhammad

2011
Justin Bogle
Jacob Leach
Eli Nobiletti

2012
Jesse Bernz

2013
Rui Gao
Rui Ma
Alyssa N. Spencer

2014
Beth Gross

2015
Karen Swatson

2016
Parfait Bizimana
Benjamin Whipple

2017
Bianca Luna-Lupercio
Enid S. Swatson
Matthew Voorhees

GIFTS IN HONOR

2003 Boys Varsity Soccer Team – Nathan Wright
James C. Atherton '66 – Nancy Leopitzi-Wawrla '67
David Bourns – Danyell Ray '75
Class of 1975 – J. Randall Detwiler '75
Collins Library – R. Courtney Bozic '80
Celia Contelmo '08 – Robert & Marie Straub
Continued Celebration of Diversity and Community – Imani Schectman '08
Aidan Cook '22 – Amy & Bob Cook
Julian DeGennaro '25 – Carmine DeGennaro & Sarah Hamill
William DeTorres '16 – Frank & Carole Salluzzo
Richard Distel '07 – Linda Betz
John H. Fargis '84 – Beth Fargis Lancaster
Siena Fargis '22 – Beth Fargis Lancaster
Dorothy L. Glusker '92 – Stephen & Marjorie Glusker
Graham D. Goodman '25 – Pamela Gooby
Mirabai H. Gould '31 – Richard Weeder
Sam Gutierrez '28 – Patricia A. Vigliorolo
Inez Hilgendorf '31 – Mark Hilgendorf
Oliver Hilgendorf-Rueda '29 – Mark Hilgendorf
Jamie D. Lee '10 – Judy Lee
Pamela B. Leenig '00 – Marian Louis
Max Lichtendorf '28 – Victoria Lichtendorf & Harper Langston
Rev. James Elliot & Barbara Lindsley – Alice T. Lindsley '84
Harriet Luongo '30 – Katherine Jeannotte
Wilton McClain '10 – Julius & Kathleen McClain
Robert Molay – David V. Brownstein '75
Elizabeth lane Morrison '58 – Peter O. Lane '57
Oakwood Faculty – Tina Claus, Ingrid Weigel & Patrick Meere
Oakwood's Maintenance Staff – Michael Sklaroff
Our Years of Teaching at Oakwood – Robert and Pat Swartz
John Scardina – Jennifer Wofford '85
Oscar M. Schilling '25 – Emy & Jerry Helland
Daniel Schwarz '09 – Catherine Comins & Raymond Schwarz
Mina Serdoud '26 – Alice Ginandes
Amy Solis – Dare Thompson
Ethan Sonneberg '27 – April Montana
Jareth Stokum '22 – Jennifer Swantz
Teachers at Oakwood – Allison Cross & Henry Nye
Wedding of my Grandson Jordan to Jen – Anita Pasternack Finkelstein '50
Juan Williams '72 – Peter O. Lane '57
Dwight Wilson – Jennifer Wofford '85
Daniel Wysocki '10 – P. Breslin & Maurice Wysocki



Shari Hubner '64, Gloria Strauss Marmor '64, and Michael Marmor at Alumni Weekend



(l-r) Marcia Van Wagner '74 at Alumni Weekend with Class of 75 alumni Jack Figueras, J. Randall Detwiler and Danyell Ray



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
Baltimore Yearly Meeting
Helen A. Claxton '70
Fred & Jean Doneit
Jeffrey W. Fitts '74
Jean Taylor Hartwig '52
Ronald & Judith Inskeep
Peg Keiser

Lindley Murray Fund
Kate Moss
New Brunswick Monthly Meeting
New York Yearly Meeting
James O'Barr
Judith Chapman Purvis '63
Rahway & Plainfield Monthly Meeting

George & Margery Rubin
John Scardina
Jonathan Talbot '57
Dare Thompson
Shonna Wechsler Valeska '74
Marcia J. Van Wagner '74
Deborah Bacon Wood '56

FORMER BOARD MEMBERS

Mary Alexander
Don W. Badgley '67
William F. Bogle, Jr. '76
Robert Bomersbach
Estate of Henry H. Brecher '51
Eleanor Charwat
Martin Charwat
Helen A. Claxton '70
Robert M. Collins '48
Robert DeMaria, Jr.
Fred Doneit
Lisa Getman Ellis '69
Betsy Eschallier
Joseph Gosler
Ronald Inskeep
Peg Keiser
Ellen Oltman Kellner '79
Jessica Kimelman '93
Rachel Kitzinger
Myra Koutzen '70
Peter R. Letson '64
Linda Keiko-Yamane Merrell
Najah Imani Muhammad '10
James O'Barr
James M. Olson
Elizabeth B. Porter '87
Michael Quinland
Bill Reagan
Peter Reich '61
Deborah Reinckens
Philip J. Richmond '67
Margery Rubin
John Scardina
Alyssa N. Spencer '13
Jonathan Talbot '57
Loren N. Talbot '91
J. Arthur Taylor '50
Peter Van Kleeck '52
Arthur Washburn
Lewis J. Weinstein '57
Deborah Bacon Wood '56



Oil Painting By: Maiko Nishikawa '04



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

Paul Adams '60
Ann Bancroft
Linda Betz
Carol & William F. Bogle, Jr. '76
Robert Bomersbach & Mark Ungar
Erin Castle & Stephen Hopkins
Martin & Eleanor Charwat
Richard &
Susanrachel Balber Condon '80
Jeffrey & Sharon Contelmo
Amy & Bob Cook
Stephen Currie
Joanne & Robert DeMaria, Jr.
Eileen Dranginis
Joel Erlitz '68
Robert Ewing
Vida & John Fargis '84
Charles & Denyse Federbush
Stephen & Marjorie Glusker
Amy Grice
Lynne Graham & Bryn Hammarstrom
Bruce Hawkins
Louise Hayes
Fatima Pena Hightower
Robert & Verna Hopkins
Gordon R. Hough
Ronald & Judith Inskeep
Alison Jarvis
Douglas Kirchner & Martina Deignan
Rachel Kitzinger & Eamon Grennan
Janie Koopmans
Beth Fargis Lancaster
Judy Lee
Elliott & Barbara Lindsley
Paul Lockwood
Marian Louis
Julius & Kathleen McClain
Kathy Austell McDonald
T. McGuinness & Denise LaForge
Patrick Meere & Ingrid Weigel
Ann Lee Minghi
Doug & Mechelle Nobiletti
James O'Barr
Anne MacDougall Preuss '52
Walter & Betsy Ann Pusey
Andrea Pyros & Leonard Nevarez
Mary Redmond & Eli Schloss
Robert & Deborah Reinckens
Richard J. & Judith H. Robbins
George & Margery Rubin
Raymond Schwarz & Catherine Comins
Amy Solis
Deborah Stone '58
Daniel & Alysa Sullivan
Jennifer Swantz
Marsha & Jonathan Talbot '57
Donald A. Wauchope '73
Henry T. Webb
Jeffrey & Natalie Wilkinson
Lauren Wolff
Deborah Bacon Wood '56
Maurice Wysocki & Pat Breslin
Peter E. Zimmermann

Grandparents

Robert Ewing
Judy Joffee
Beth Fargis Lancaster

George & Margery Rubin
Frank & Carole Salluzzo
Robert & Marie Straub

PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS OF CURRENT STUDENTS*Parents*

Anonymous
John Bauer & Patricia Byrne
Scott Beall
Anna Bertucci & Stephen Miller
Kate & Seth Buncher
Kim & Jay Canez
Chad & Sue Cianfrani
Tina Claus
Allison Cross & Henry Nye
Carmine DeGennaro & Sarah Hamill
Brian A. Dublin '83
Rosamund Else-Mitchell &
Gregory Hill
Charles Favell &
Marnie McKnight-Favell
Jacob Gamage & Anna Potter
David Gannon
Karen & Pedrito George
Theresa & Liam Goodman
Lucy & Roman Kalantari
Peter Laves & Reta Sorge
Victoria Lichtendorf &
Harper Langston
Dorothy & Chris Luongo
Karen Mejia & Jerry Maldonado
April Montana
Julie Okoniewski &
Gerardo Gutierrez
Ayetuoma & Francisca Owheruo
Kiran Paranjpe & Tonnie Markley
Claire & Don Pearce
Matthew Perks & Arabella Stickels
Christine & Aaron Pincus
Rachelle & Derek Reis-Larson
Laura & John Ryan
Lauri Sawyer
Nathan Schilling & Angela Helland
Jicky Schnee & Matthew Jones
Jesse Shadoan
Daniel Shiffman & Aliko Caloyeras
Rachel Shuman & David Sampliner
Debbie & Jason Silbergleit
Alison & Brent Spodek
Denise & Jeremy Wilms

Grandparents

Judi & John Blomquist
Barbara Buncher
Marilyn & Charles Cianfrani
Gary & Elizabeth Flynn
Alice Ginandes
Pamela Gooby
Jay & Molly Harrison
Emy & Jerry Helland
Mark Hilgendorf
Katherine Jeannotte
Doug & Toddy Munson
Patricia A. Vigliorolo
Richard Weeder
Rita Wilms

FACULTY & STAFF*Current*

Ricci Alma-Bueno
Saddan Alma-Bueno
Allison Berger
Anna Bertucci
Oshane Brown
Chad Cianfrani
Susan Cianfrani
Da'Shon Davis
Denise Eagan
Chris Galschjodt
Jacob Gamage
Teresa Gasparini
Wendy Giangrasso
Dan Goldman
Sofiane Hamtousse
Jonathan Heiles
Anita Peeples Jones
Silva Keohulian
Peter Laves
Stephanie Lawrence
Haniya Mee
Ted Messerschmidt
Stephen Miller
Anne Mongillo
Karen Nichols
Julie Okoniewski
Lizzie Phelps
Allyson Smith
Amy Solis
Tim Stanson
Matthew Voorhees '17
Nikki Winans
Xiuli (Julie) Zhang

Former

Ann-Ellen Akeley
Peter Baily
John Brown
Hannah Wasserman Cobin
Peter Compter '57
Stephen Currie
Bill Doolittle
Nancy Doolittle
Raphael V. Hartzog '70
Bob Hidell III
Peg Indermill
Judy Joffee
David Kehlenbeck
Barbara B. Kirby
Nanette Koch
Janie Koopmans
Allen McMickle
Patricia Meade
Elaine Miles
Kathy M. Moyer
Mauro Parra '07
Kathi Perkins
Thomas Reed
John Scardina
Michael Sklaroff
Sasha Skulsky '04
Norman Tjossem
Nancy Van Arkel
Arthur Washburn
Nathan Wright

FRIENDS OF OAKWOOD

Mary Alexander
Carol Ann Anyan
Awesome Poughkeepsie
Lucia Bacon
David Bady
Robert R Butts
Lisa & Charles Daniels
Fred & Jean Doneit
Betsy Eschallier
Estate of Shane Fennell
Joseph Gosler & Sheila Wolper
Carole Grayson
Virginia Hayes
Hugo Hilgendorff III
Josh & Jenny Kaplan
David Keiser-Clark
Linda Laqueur
Debbie Lewittes
Judith Lewittes
Richard Mattocks
Kathleen McGahran
Linda & James Merrell
Christina & Peter Moore
Diane Moroff
Margaret Moroff
Sarah Nugent
James M. Olson
Corinne Ong
Michael Quinland
Marilyn Reagan
Bill Reagan
Jason G. Sardinas &
Andrea Cianfrani
John Scardina
Peter Scheer & Morry Cater
Bonnie See
Jon Selzer
Judith M. Skeels
Nina Smiley
Elizabeth Sonnenschein
SYAP
Carol Usher
Anne Vogt
Jay G. Williams III
Elizabeth Temple Wood
Jean Woods
Ann Wyrick
John Yergan, M.D.

LOCAL BUSINESS & CORPORATE SUPPORT

American Online Giving
Bottini Fuel
Clearwater Counseling Assoc. Lcsw, PLLC
Cosimo's, Poughkeepsie
Dutchess Pro Print
Fifth Street Architecture, PLLC
Friends Council on Education
The Gutierrez Law Firm
New Windsor Country Inn for Adults
Pay Pal Giving
Rondack Construction, Inc.
UserScape, Inc.



ANNUAL FUND GIFT CIRCLES

21ST CENTURY CIRCLE

Gifts of \$10,000 or more:

Anonymous
Robert M. Collins '48
J. Randall Detwiler '75
Joel Erlitz '68
Perri Erlitz '05
Barbara Bogle Feingold '70
Myra Koutzen '70 &
Kathleen McGahran
New York Yearly Meeting
Elizabeth Horr Shattuck '54
Juan A. Williams '72
John Yergan, M.D.

RALPH CONNOR CIRCLE

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

Anonymous
Jeffrey & Sharon Contelmo
Thembi D. Dube '85
Annette Ruswick Engler '87
Nina Smiley
Shane Fennell *
Marc L. Flaster '60
Alice Ginandes
Lydia Micheaux Marshall '67
Diane Moroff
Elizabeth Sonnenschein
Alyssa N. Spencer '13
Adam L. Starr '69

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

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

Anonymous (2)
Joe A. Clayton '63
Lowell P. Croll '55
Rosamund Else-Mitchell &
Gregory Hill
Charles E. & Denyse Federbush
Bob Hidell III
Janice Ayer Jackson '64
Elizabeth B. Porter '87
Philip J. Richmond '67
Marty Betts Shaw '57
Nancy Squier '52
Janet E. Tenney '67

WILLIAM J. REAGAN CIRCLE

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

Anonymous (5)
American Online Giving
Awesome Poughkeepsie
Jonathan B. Baratz '78
Lee Canter Blask '67
Judi & John Blomquist
Fredrique Bentley Boire '65
Mark Ungar & Robert Bomersbach
Lucia Feitler Brewer '61
Chad & Sue Cianfrani
Helen A. Claxton '70
Clearwater Counseling Assoc. Lcsw, Pllc
Walter J. Dent '57
Charles S. Doskow '51
Frances F. Dunwell '70
Fifth Street Architecture, PLLC
Jack Figueras '75
Friends Council on Education
Suzanne M. Greene '67
Judith Ebenstein Grose '66
Raphael V. Hartzog '70

Sharon & Hank Hayes '80
Louise Hayes
Virginia Hayes
Christine T. Herrick '67
Robert & Verna Hopkins
John B. Hunter '64
Peg Keiser
David Keiser-Clark
Sabra Kelley '91
Patience Eves Killen '67
Jason Kimelman-Block '90
Julie Bogle Kratchman '73
Rosalind Buck Lewis-Smith '61
Lindley Murray Fund
Bruce Martin III '10
Elaine Miles
Laurie Mufson '72
Judie Palmer Muggia '55
Edward O. Noyes '61
Julie Okoniewski & Gerardo Gutierrez
Rachelle & Derek Reis-Larson
Jon Selzer
Jane Shapiro '70
James Sheridan '55
Daniel A. Shurman '67
Sarah Uram '81
UserScape, Inc.
Shonna Wechsler Valeska '74
Peter Van Kleeck '52
Marcia J. Van Wagner '74
Nancy Leopitzi-Wawrla '67
Lewis J. Weinstein '57
Gail E. Wild '69
Deborah Bacon Wood '56
Elizabeth Temple Wood

BEECH TREE CIRCLE

Gifts of \$500 to \$999:

Anonymous (1)
Lara Wright Alberti '69
James Eric Andrews '65
Jane Rahl Apson '63
James T. Ashe '72
David Bady
Baltimore Yearly Meeting
Scott Beall
Bottini Fuel
Keith D. Bunin '89
Kim & Jay Canez
Marilyn & Charles Cianfrani
Lisa & Charles Daniels
Carmine DeGennaro & Sarah Hamill
Dutchess Pro Print
Vida & John Fargis '84
Mathew Firman '68
Gary & Elizabeth Flynn
Larry Fogelson '61
Jane Eliot Fried '60
David Gannon
Karen & Pedrito George
Abigail Golden-Vazquez '86
Pamela Gooby
Joseph Gosler & Sheila Wolper
Carole Grayson
Henry M. Greenberg '57
Amy Grice
Bruce Hawkins
Fatima Pena Hightower
Ellen Huberman '68
Rosalind Williams Humes '54
Rita Muckenhoupt James '52

Lucy & Roman Kalantari
Jonathan D. Kaplan '68
Jacob Andrew Leach '11
Judith Lewittes
Victoria Lichtendorf &
Harper Langston
David Livshin '73
Deborah Killen Lothian '67
David H. Miller '78
Margaret Moroff
Kathryn Melby Mundie '51
Judith Ritter Netter '70
Doug & Mechelle Nobiletti
Io Berberelly Oakes Ruplinger '59
Corinne Ong
Neal A. Ostberg '81
Kiran Paranjpe & Tonnice Markley
Jordan Richmond '98
Jesse A. Rieber '63
Rondack Construction, Inc.
Peter Scheer & Morry Cater
Wilson M. Sheldon '65
Debbie & Jason Silbergleit
Judith M. Skeels
SYAP
Marsha & Jonathan Talbot '57
The Gutierrez Law Firm
Dare Thompson
Patricia A. Vigliorolo
Barbara Spark Wachs '67
Scott L. Weingarten '81
Jeffrey & Natalie Wilkinson
Lynne Wilson '72

MEETING ROOM CIRCLE

Gifts of \$250 to \$499:

Anonymous (1)
Carol Ann Anyan
Don W. Badgley '67
John A. Beale '80
Michael D. Beecher '58
Allison Berger
Emily B. Bogle '07
Carol & William F. Bogle, Jr. '76
Justin Brown '86
Erin Castle & Stephen Hopkins
Peter H. Clarke '63
Tina Claus
Blair Collins '84
Allison Cross & Henry Nye
Gabor J. Csordas '68
Nick Currie '07
Carole Darden-Lloyd '62
James F. Davis '58
Joanne & Robert DeMaria, Jr.
Fred & Jean Doneit
Brian A. Dublin '83
Jean Eddy Edwards '60
Betsy Eschallier
Charles Favell &
Marnie McKnight-Favell
Jeffrey W. Fitts '74
Esther Reed Freeman '69
Holly Coulter Glazer '90
Barbara L. Hartman '77
Jean Taylor Hartwig '52
James P. Humphrey '91
Charles Janeway '55
Margot Soley Janeway '55
Melissa Gatling Kaufmann-Buhler '58
David Kehlenbeck

Karen E. Knowles '74
Janie Koopmans
Kathryn Korostoff '81
Beth Fargis Lancaster
Ellen D. Lewis '68
Paul Lockwood
Pamela Tinnes Lord '64
Julius & Kathleen McClain
Haniya Mee
Ingrid Weigel & Patrick Meere
Linda & James Merrell
Peter D. Mickelsen '54
Anne Mongillo
New Windsor Country Inn for Adults
Karen Nichols
Julia Patten '07
Christina & Aaron Pincus
Judith Chapman Purvis '63
Bonnie Raitt '67
Peter Reich '61
Robert & Deborah Reinckens
Martha Richdale '63
Timothy R. Rittenhouse '67
Frank & Carole Salluzzo
Lauri Sawyer
Daniel Schwarz '09
Sally Seitz '68
Daniel Shiffman & Aliko Caloyeras
Barry Smith '67
Charles C. Spaulding '64
Alison & Brent Spodek
Richard G. Starr '64
Elisabeth Fuglister Stewart '60
Joe Stoll '70
Enid S. Swatson '17
Carl R. Tannenbaum '67
J. Arthur Taylor '50
Nancy Van Arkel
Sara Jane Benson Victor '54
Henry T. Webb
Richard Weeder
Harriet Gilbert Whitcomb '71

GIFTS-IN-KIND

Bardavon
Beekman Arms
Bread Alone
Oshane Brown
Buffalo Wild Wings
Kim & Jay Canez
Cathie Carrothers Caskey '67
Catamount Mountain Resort
Susan Cianfrani
Cosimo's, Poughkeepsie
De's Jewelers
Dia Art Foundation
Anita Dickhuth '54
Bill Bogle, Jr. '76
Denise Eagan
Annette Ruswick Engler '87
Charles Favell &
Marnie McKnight-Favell
Foam & Wash
Karen & Pedrito George
Giacomo's, Spackenkill Road
Dan Goldman
Theresa & Liam Goodman
Hudson House & Distillery
Hudson Valley Holistic Healing Center
Hudson Valley Renegades

**ANNUAL FUND GIFT CIRCLES CONTINUED**

Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival
Hudson Valley Wine & Food Fest
InnerLight Health Spa
Kelly's Bakery
Silva Keohulian
Peggy Landsman '68

Haniya & Ryan Mee
Ingrid Weigel & Patrick Meere
MJN Convention Center
Mohonk Mountain House
Christine & Aaron Pincus
Price Right Wine & Liquor

Bonnie Raitt '67
Marilyn Reagan
SAM Camp
John Scardina
Jicky Schnee & Matthew Jones
Seed Savers Exchange

Debbie & Jason Silbergleit
Alison & Brent Spodek
Alysa Sullivan
Jonathan Talbot '57
Tea Talk
Walkway Over the Hudson
Rita Wilms

GIFTS IN MEMORY

Kurt R. Anschel '54 – Elizabeth Horr Shattuck '54
Angela G. Ayer '62 – Carole Darden-Lloyd '62, Janice Ayer Jackson '64
Caroline Bady '55 – David Bady
Lesley W. Barg '56 – Allyson D. Wingate '83
John N. Benedict '61 – Jonathan Wheeler '61
Gloria Bogle '43 – Emily B. Bogle '07, Barbara Bogle Feingold '70, Julie Bogle Kratchman '73
Henry H. Brecher '51 – Peter Compter '57, Anita Dickhuth '54, Charles Doskow '51, Linda Feierabend Gregorius '51, Ellen Stein Gross '56, Rita Muckenhoupt James '52, Delia Wheelwright Moon '57, Susan Rose Potter '51, Anne MacDougall Preuss '52, Marsha & Jonathan Talbot '57, Susan Eckles Van Kleeck '51, Eric Wohlforth '50
Barbara Mahone Brown '62 – Carole Darden-Lloyd '62, Janice Ayer Jackson '64
Katherine Brown '47 – Justin Brown '86
Alan Buncher – Barbara Buncher
Charlie Butts – Robert R Butts, Sasha Skulsky '04, Georgia Tetlow '91
William W. Clark – Judy Sarnoff Koppel '58
Classmates who are no longer with us – Sara Jane Benson Victor '54
Bernhard Claus – Tina Claus
Cynthia Webster Coddington '59 – Deborah White Schaack '59
Penelope Betts Colby '54 – Carol Ann Anyan, Hugo Hilgendorff III, Christina & Peter Moore, Sarah Nugent, Marty Betts Shaw '57, Carol Usher
Ruth E. Craig – Marion Cunningham Twichell '57, Jay G. Williams III
Chase Crosley & Mac Simms – Ann-Ellen Akeley, Susanrachel Balber Condon '80, Seth Cooper '86, Nancy & Bill Doolittle, James Inskip '89, Lynn Jordan '84, Ellen Oltman Kellner '79, Nanette Koch, Ellen Morosoff Pemrick '81, Lisa Ferguson Uchrin '81, Ravi Varanasi '87, Anne McCord Wrublewski '83
Irene M. Csordas '48 – John W. Csordas '69
Victoria Cusimano – Peg Indermill
Benjamin A. Dent '53 – Taffy Thunick Hoffman '53, Elizabeth Horr Shattuck '54
Ariel Assad Dunwell '62 & Roger Dunwell '62 – Carole Darden-Lloyd '62
Susannah Stone Eldridge '57 – Deborah Stone '58
John DeBolt Ernst '54 – Elizabeth Horr Shattuck '54
Susan Lare Finke '62 – Carole Darden-Lloyd '62
Maryrose Giardina – Douglas Kirchner & Martina Deignan
Jane Hildebeitel Gould '64 – Helen Nelson Ramsey '64
Wesley R. Hanson '67 – Barbara Spark Wachs '67
Alexander M. Hart '59 – Carole Grayson
H. Francis Henderson '45 – Marj Frazer Lacey '56
Mertis Hightower & Alicia Pena – Fatima Pena Hightower
Beth D. Hollenbeck '67 – Nancy Leopitzi-Wawrla '67
Deborah Davidson Kaas '67 – Nancy Leopitzi-Wawrla '67
Seth L. Kammerer '67 – Nancy Leopitzi-Wawrla '67
Norman Keiser – Peg Keiser, Carl Tannenbaum '67, Nancy Leopitzi-Wawrla '67
Nancy M. Keller-Coffey – Joel Erlitz '68, James Humphrey '91, Saskia Kim '89, Georgia K. Tetlow '91, Nathan Wright
Phyllis Kenney Kimbrough '65 – Carole Darden-Lloyd '62, Janice Ayer Jackson '64
Warren & Dorothy E. Knowles – Karen E. Knowles '74
Aaron Lane – Peter O. Lane '57
Charles B. Lane '52 – Rita Muckenhoupt James '52, Peter O. Lane '57

David Lane – Peter O. Lane '57
Richard Lane '49 – Peter O. Lane '57
Miriam Stone Leavitt '62 – Deborah Stone '58
Sam Legg – Edward O. Noyes '61
Robert S. Levine '67 – Lee Canter Blask '67, Nancy Leopitzi-Wawrla '67
Simon and Florence Lewis – Ellen D. Lewis '68
David J. Lewittes '53 – Debbie Lewittes, Judith Lewittes, Peter Van Kleeck '52
Silvia Lowrey '43 – Mary Lowrey Rose '73
Robert E. Martin – Judy Joffee
Richard E. Merriss – Dilys Merriss Staaterman '64
Linda Kenney Miller '63 – Carole Darden-Lloyd '62, Janice Ayer Jackson '64
Nixsa M. Mills '69 – Esther Reed Freeman '69
Barry Morley – Michael D. Beecher '58, Judy Sarnoff Koppel '58
Libby Moroff '54 – Taffy Thunick Hoffman '53, Margaret Moroff, Elizabeth Horr Shattuck '54
Richard Mullen – Adam Starr '69
Christopher P. Naney '83 – Brian Dublin '83
Sonya D. Nelthropp '68 – Sally Seitz '68
Howard Peelle – Daniel Shurman '67, Nancy Leopitzi-Wawrla '67
Sophie Polgar – Judy Joffee
Roger M. Polk '66 – Frederick Jelin '66, Nancy Leopitzi-Wawrla '67
Steven E. Pusey '86 – Walter & Betsy Ann Pusey
Linda Smith Quandt '67 – Barbara Spark Wachs '67
Sally Ryan – Laura & John Ryan
Yoshiro Sanbonmatsu – Elizabeth Horr Shattuck '54
Pauline and Paul Satterthwaite – Patience Eves Killen '67
Deborah Satz Scheer '46 – Peter Scheer & Morry Cater
Fred G. See '55 – Bonnie See
Winifred Jordan Simmons '54 – Anne Micheaux Akwari '69, Lydia Micheaux Marshall '67
Mac Simms – Ann-Ellen P. Akeley
David J. Sitomer '65 – Angela & Steve Dunwell '65
Ralph W. Skeels '60 – Judith M. Skeels
Albert K. Smiley III '62 – Nina Smiley
Hugo F. Sonnenschein '57 – Elizabeth Sonnenschein
Ida B. Stokes – Judy Sarnoff Koppel '58, Kathryn Melby Mundie '51, Barbara Tresler Zarchen '47
Garret Talbot '95 – Joel Erlitz '68, Elaine Miles
John E. & Emily Lane Taylor '23 – Jean Taylor Hartwig '52
R. James Thorpe – Alison Jarvis
Betty Beard Tjossem – Norman Tjossem
Demetrius Toutounas – Jordan Richmond '98
Shirley Van Wagner Tuttle '35 – Alan Tuttle '70, Norman Tuttle '65
Kenneth W. Vogt – Anne Vogt
Antonio M. Walker '63 – Janice Ayer Jackson '64
Stephen R. Warner '50 – Lucia Bacon
Parker Washburn – Jody Mindell '72, Arthur Washburn
Amanda Webb '85 – Henry T. Webb
Barbara & Richard Wild – Gail E. Wild '69
Nicole Wiley – Amy Grice
Arthur D. Willis '54 – Daniel A. Shurman '67
Warren Wyrick – Ann Wyrick
Dawit M. Zeleke '81 – Sharon & Hank Hayes '80, Cori Ong, John Scardina, Deborah Stone '58, Nancy Van Arkel



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 6/30/25 was \$424,649

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 6/30/25 was \$74,058

Carol & William Bogle, Jr. '76, Emily Bogle '07, Barbara Bogle Feingold '70, Julie Bogle Kratchman '73

The Henry Brecher '51 Endowment Fund

Henry Brecher '51, who passed away on July 27, 2024, just shy of his 92nd birthday had a remarkable 78-year connection to Oakwood which began in 1946, when he arrived as an 8th grader via a refugee camp in Oswego, NY. Oakwood quickly became his family, and he spent decades serving on the Board of Managers and Alumni Council, giving generously of his time, wisdom, and heart. Upon his passing, Henry left an exceptional bequest of his entire estate to support Oakwood's future. The Henry Brecher '51 Endowment Fund will strengthen Oakwood's financial position while providing annual income to support the operating budget and students.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/25 was \$824,396.

The Henry Brecher '51 Fund for Professional Development

Henry Brecher '51 was a lifelong educator at The Ohio State University's Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center who benefited greatly from his numerous field expeditions and academic professional development experiences. With grants awarded annually to a small number of faculty by application, the Fund will provide opportunities each year for summer research, curriculum development, and deeper studies that extend beyond the traditional professional development budget.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/25 was \$210,236.

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 6/30/25 was \$173,706

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 6/30/25 was \$68,093

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 6/30/25 was \$115,135

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 6/30/25 was \$665,532

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 6/30/25 was \$64,033

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 6/30/25 was \$54,635

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 6/30/25 was \$22,571

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 6/30/25 was \$62,869

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 6/30/25 was \$57,210

Charles and Margot Soley Janeway '55

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 6/30/25 was \$91,078

**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 6/30/25 was \$87,981

Anne Micheaux Akwari '69, Lydia Micheaux Marshall '67

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 6/30/25 was \$88,926

Lieba Blask '67, David Keiser Clark, Joel Erlitz '68, Rosalind Humes '54, Nancy Leopitzi-Wawrla '67, Lydia Micheaux Marshall '67, Carl Tannenbaum '67 and Janet Tenney '67

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 6/30/25 was \$568,788

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 6/30/25 was \$116,573

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 6/30/25 was \$126,540

Margaret Moroff, Diane Moroff

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 6/30/25 was \$75,996

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 6/30/25 was \$691,472

Chad Cianfrani

The Donald Spencer Fund for Oakwood

Established in April 2023, the Donald Spencer Fund for Oakwood was initiated with an exceptional gift from former Board President, Donald Spencer, father of Alyssa Spencer '13. The purpose of the fund is to support any purpose deemed to be of benefit to Oakwood at the sole discretion of the Trustees.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/25 was \$1,890,859

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 6/30/25 was \$116,811

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 6/30/25 was \$56,120

J. Arthur Taylor '50

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 6/30/25 was \$66,532

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 6/30/25 was \$121,648

The Dr. John Yergan Scholarship Fund

Established in 2024 by John Yergan, son of Max Yergan '39 and nephew of Frederick Yergan '38 and Charles Yergan '41, The Dr. John Yergan Scholarship Fund seeks to support promising but economically disadvantaged Black students, with a particular focus on supporting students who are descendants of enslaved families.

The value of the fund as of 6/30/25 was \$102,427.

General Scholarship

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

Charles S. Doskow '51

Isabel J. Ellsworth
Annette Engler '87
Linda Gregorius '87
Ellen Gross '56

Model UN Program

Joel Erlitz '68
Perri Erlitz '05

Ronald & Judith Inskeep
Peter O. Lane '57

Linda Laqueur
Peter R. Letson '64
Delia Moon '57

Summer Youth Advocacy Program/ VOTE

Moraima Garcia

Kate Moss
Sarah Robinson Newcomb '56
James M. Olson

Capital Projects

Anonymous
Mary Alexander
Parfait Bizimana '16
Jennifer E. Brunton '88
Peter Compter '57
Jeffrey & Sharon Contelmo
Fanny P. Culleton
Rachael Davis '83
Anita Dickhuth '54

Anne Preuss '52
Peter Reich '61
Martha B. Shaw '57
Peter Van Kleeck '52
Susan Van Kleeck '51
Sara Jane Victor '54
Arthur Washburn
Eric E. Wohlforth '50
Estate of Henry Brecher '51
Estate of Adele Vail '42/
Shane Fennell



ANNUAL FUND HONOR ROLL

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

Rupert Abramson '69	Stephen Currie	Gordon Hough	Melissa Matthews
Elizabeth Agnew '66	Carole Darden-Lloyd '62	Rosalind Williams Humes '54	Julius & Kathleen McClain
David Ahmed '79	James Davis '58	John Hunter '64	Kathy Austell McDonald
Alexandra Allen	Donald Dean '47	Peg Indermill	Michael McGinnis '56
Meredith Altman '67	Susan Deane-Miller '56	James Inskeep '89	Patricia Meade
Robine Andrau '55	Alexandrah Deffaa '04	Ronald & Judith Inskeep	Emel Hekimoglu Mehlum '67
James Eric Andrews '65	Joanne & Robert DeMaria Jr.	Janice Ayer Jackson '64	Richard Meredith '54
Jane Rahl Apson '63	Benjamin A. Dent '53 *	Rita Muckenhoupt James '52	James & Linda Merrell
James Ashe '72	Walter Dent '57	Charles & Margot Soley Janeway '55	Richard Merriss '60
Emily Tordo Atkins '02	J. Randall Detwiler '75	Alison Jarvis	Ted Messerschmidt
Don Badgley '67	Fred & Jean Doneit	H. Arthur & Mary Jarvis	Michael Mickelsen '63
Caroline Christman Bady '55*	Bill & Nancy Doolittle	Harriet Jernquist	Peter Mickelsen '54
Peter Baily	Charles Doskow '51	Kay Memelsdorff Johnson '54	Elaine Miles
Theresa Riley Baron '70	Thembi Dube '85	Sue Johnson '59	David Miller '78
John Beale '80	Frances Dunwell '70	Martha Jones	Jody Mindell '72
Lily Beck	David Dustin '53	Melissa Gatling	Ann Lee Minghi
Lewis Benedict '54	Denise Eagan	Kaufmann-Buhler '58	Alma Stokey Morrison '53
Mark Bertles '70	Jean Eddy Edwards '60	Richard Keil *	Kathy Moyer
Anna Bertucci & Stephen Miller	Walter Effron '65	Sabra Kelley '91	Judith Palmer Muggia '55
Linda Betz	Lisa Getman Ellis '69	Ellen Oltman Kellner '79	Lee Munroe '54
Robert Blackman '61	James Eng '61	Patience Killen '67	Linda Gita Rahl Nadas '54
Lee Canter Blask '67	Mark Engelberg '69	Jason Kimelman-Block '90	Susan Brown Nebesar '62
Emily Bogle '07	Annette Ruswick Engler '87	Jessica Kimelman '93	New Brunswick Monthly Meeting
Carol A. & William F. Bogle '76	Joel S. Erlitz '68	Barbara Kirby	Sarah Robinson Newcomb '56
Justin Bogle '11	Perri Erlitz '05	Rachel Kitzinger & Eamon Grennan	Barrett Nnoka '74
Dika Bentley Boire '65	Peter Ernster '60	Karen E. Knowles '74	Doug & Mechelle Nobilette
Michael Bradbury '58	Betsy G. Eschallier	Judith White Komer '62	James O'Barr
Henry Brecher '51*	Ellen Lovell Evans '47	Dirk Koopmans '91	Mildred Oberkotter '53 *
John Brown	EVCO Transportation, Inc.	Judy Sarnoff Koppel '58	Julie Okoniewski &
Jennifer Brunton '88	Charles & Denyse Federbush	Kathryn Korostoff '81	Gerardo Gutierrez
Gail Jones Buckley '55 *	Barbara Bogle Feingold '70	Myra Koutzen '70	Joyce Tuttle Ollman '68
Charles Bullard	Anita Pasternack Finkelstein '50	Joanne & Ron Kowalczyk	James Olson
Roger Bullard '52	Mathew Firman '68	Elizabeth Nunn Kramer '46	Karen Drucker Omahen '61
Keith Bunin '89	Emily Fisher	Julie Bogle Kratchman '73	Hank Peirce '84
Patricia Bliss Burke '54	Jeffrey Fitts '74	Charles Lane '52*	Ellen Morosoff Pemrick '81
Beatrice Scherf Campione '48	Marc Flaster '60	Peter O. Lane '57	Lizzie Phelps
Henry Canby '67 *	Laurence Fogelson '61	George Langer '48	Gerald Pollack
Joan Carl	R. Elaine Petersen Foran '72	Linda Laqueur	Elizabeth Porter '87
Eileen Moore Casamo '51 *	Nicole Coleman Freeman '91	Jean Kantambu Latting '61	Kristin Bunin Poshkus '92
Martin & Eleanor Charwat	Jane Eliot Fried '60	Karen Lebergott '72	Susan Rose Potter '51
Chad & Sue Cianfrani	Christopher Galligan '64	Sarah Leshner '61	Richard Powell '68
Peter Clarke '63	Chris Galschjodt	Peter Letson '64	Anne MacDougall Preuss '52
Holly Clarke-McAlary '58	Wendy Giangrasso	Ellen Lewis '68	John C. Purdy '82
Helen Claxton '70	Nancy Griffiths Giblin '55	Rosalind Buck Lewis-Smith '61	Anne Puret
Joe Clayton '63	Stephen & Marjorie Glusker	Ellen Lewittes Lieber '55	Eric Putter '82
Lucia McMillan Cleveland '70	Abigail Golden-Vazquez '86	Alice Lindsley '84	Harvey Putterman '53*
Hannah Wasserman Cobin	Sheila Wolper & Joseph Gosler	Suzanne McClain Litner '54	Bonnie Raitt '67
Penelope Betts Colby '54 *	Paul Grant '53 *	David Livshin '73	Marilyn Reagan
Richard Collins '55	Henry Greenberg '57	Roger Locke '49 *	Peter Reich '61
Robert Collins '48	Suzanne Greene '67	Paul Lockwood	Carol Cober Reid '60
Richard & Susanrachel	Judith Ebenstein Grose '66	Peter Longini '62	Robert & Deborah Reinckens
Balber Condon '80	Ellen Stein Gross '56	Pamela Tinnes Lord '64	Thomas Renouf '48
Douglas Connor '61	Carol Jennings Guay '66	Deborah Killen Lothian '67	Gwendolyn Mackel Rice '57
Linda Connor '63	Lynne Graham &	Marian Louis	Diane Andrews Richardson '59*
Margaret Meckes Conrow '50	Bryn Hammarstrom	Lynn Heiman Lovett '55	Martha Richdale '63
Jeffrey & Sharon Contelmo	Jean Taylor Hartwig '52	Daniel Lovins '86	Philip Richmond '67
Allen Cooper '55	Raphael Hartzog '70	David Lyons '71	Timothy Rittenhouse '67
Paul & Carol Cooper	Bruce & Ruth Hawkins	Diane De Mask Lyons '57	Daniel Robbins '05
Seth Cooper '86	Louise Hayes	Katrina Voorhis Mabon '52	Richard & Judith Robbins
Sarah Fabricant Corbin '65 *	Virginia Hayes	Alexander MacLeod '71	Aaron & Randy Robinson
Anita Saffer Corvin '64	Mary Hendricks '60	Elizabeth DiCesare Madison '75	Forrest Rohde '95
Stephen Courtney '66	Christine Herrick '67	Lawrence Mallery '70	Mary Lowrey Rose '73
Barbara L.E. Cristy	Eric Hoffman '72	Jeffrey Mandel '67	Rose & Kiernan
Lowell Croll '55	Yvonne Thunick Hoffman '53	Nikki Marone	George & Margery Rubin
Gabor Csordas '68	William Homans '51	Lydia Micheaux Marshall '67	Robert Saling '67
John Csordas '69	Robert & Verna Hopkins	Barbara Richmond Mates '63	Arthur Saltford '52*

**ANNUAL FUND HONOR ROLL CONTINUED**

Linda Saltford '64	Charles Spaulding '64	Michael Thomas '89	F. Dewey Webster '61
John Scardina	Vickie Riccardo & Donald Spencer *	Norman Tjossem	Sue Ross Wehner '62
Elan Schultz '79	Nancy Lynn Squier '52	Alan Tuttle '70	Lewis Weinstein '57
Nancy Calam Secor '57	Richard Starr '64	Lisa Ferguson Uchrin '81	Martha Ullman West '56
Fred See '55 *	Mark Stephens '70	Sarah Uram '81	Harriet Gilbert Whitcomb '71
Susan Seidler	Elisabeth Fuglister Stewart '60	Nancy Van Arkel	Gail Wild '69
Sarah Seitz '68	Carol Stokes '56	Peter Van Kleeck '52	Alan Wilder '50
J. Lawrence Shane '52*	Joseph Stoll '70	Susan Van Kleeck '51	Juan Williams '72
Elizabeth Horr Shattuck '54	Joanne Niles Stoller '49	Stephanie Ross van Reigersberg '58	Mary Williams
Marty Betts Shaw '57	Deborah Stone '58	Ravi Varanasi '87	Augusta Wilson '84
Lewis Shepard '63	Clara Henderson Stratton '51	Alice Vedova	M. Margit Winckler '62
James Sheridan '55	Jacqueline Barkan Stuart '59	Gay Vervaeet '61	Allyson Wingate '83
Betheda Rosenfeld Shuman '63	Terry Rosenfeld Sturke '60	Sara Jane Benson Victor '54	Eric E. Wohlforth '50
Winifred Jordan Simmons '54*	Norman Tacktil '65	George Vos '71	David Wolpert '63
David Sitomer '65*	Marsha & Jonathan Talbot '57	Clark & Joan Wagner	Deborah Bacon Wood '56
Judith & Ralph W. Skeels '60 *	Loren N. Talbot '91	Parker * and Arthur Washburn	James Wood
Michael Sklaroff	Carl Tannenbaum '67	Karen & Donald Wauchope '73	Nathan Wright
Sasha Skulsky '04	J. Arthur Taylor '50	Nancy Leopitzi Wawrla '67	Xiuli (Julie) Zhang
Craig Smith '63	Janet Tenney '67	Henry Webb	
Michael Spahn '66	Georgia Tetlow '91	Barbara Webster '60	

*deceased



"We continue to be grateful to all the teachers and staff at OFS that make it a most special place by supporting young people from all walks of life with different learning styles."

- Ingrid Weigel & Patrick Meere (Max '14)

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:

Members:

Jane Rahl Apson '63
Don W. Badgley '67
Robert M. Collins '48
Barbara L.E. Cristy
Joel S. Erlitz '68
Thembi Dube '85
Annette Ruswick Engler '87
Virginia Hayes
Christine T. Herrick '67
Taffy Thunick Hoffman '53
William Homans '51
John Hunter '64
Janice Ayer Jackson '64
Rita Muckenhaupt James '52
Jonathan D. Kaplan '68
Patience Eves Killen '67
Elaine Kimpel '59
Myra Koutzen '70
Rosalind Buck Lewis-Smith '61
Suzanne McClain Litner '54
Katrina Mabon '52
Diane Manning '58
Peter D. Mickelsen '54

Richard M. Powell '68
Marilyn Reagan
Peter Reich '61
Philip Richmond '67
Peter Van Kleeck '52
Stephanie Ross van Reigersberg '58
Sara Jane Benson Victor '54
Lewis J. Weinstein '57
Gail E. Wild '69
M. Margit Winckler '62

Memorial Gifts:

Monique Schumacher Allen '54
Glen Bibler '57
Louis S. Bock
Henry Brecher '51
Hoke Brissenden '43
Charlie Butts
Frances Foulkes Colvin '43
Alfred H. Cope
Ruth E. Craig '09
Patrick J. Crowley '50
Charles M. De la Vergne '36
Benjamin Dent '53

Julia & Stephen Dunwell
Elisabeth R. Ethal '36
Helen Field Gatling '30
Allan W. Goldsmith '50
Thomas M. Griffing '51
H. Wilson Guernsey '39
Virginia C. Hallam 1918
John D. Halstead '34
Linda Marvin Hastie '57
Emmet Hayes '51
Daniel C. Herzog '70
Mary Barnard Homans '53
Jerome R. Hurd '30
Marion Jenkins
David J. Kallen '47
Cheryl M. Kelley '57
Evelyn Ridgway Kelly '38
J. Hudson Knapp '53
Richard G. Knapp '58
Charles T. Kyle '57
Bernice L. Merritt '38
Patricia Mongol '53
James B. Morgan '54
Helen M. Niehoff

A. John Pizzuto '42
Nancy Maxwell Porter '54
Cicely Post
Louise Powell
Robert Reagan '38
Marion Kilmer Recknagel '31
Valice F. Ruge
David S. Satz '50
Pauline Weil Schwartz '51
Sherwood S. Sexton '57
Hugo F. Sonnenschein '57
Vera Dobert Spear 1920
Donald Spencer
Janet L. Stone '46
Adele Rosenberg Vail '42
C. Robert Van Wagenen '37
Irene & Alson Van Wagner '33
Robert S. Ware
Elizabeth Townsend Williams '30
Helen Upton Wing 1921
Robert L. Wixom '41
Frederick M. Yergan '38

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 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 2024-25 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 230.