



OAKWOOD UPDATE!

It's not Winter yet.....



While it's still technically fall, we'd like to share some pictures from this year's Fall Festival! Thank you to the Faculty, Dining Hall and Grounds Staff for their hard work and support!





Thank You for Supporting Giving Tuesday
We are grateful to all who were able to contribute to our Giving Tuesday campaign. Your thoughtful support helps provide valuable resources for our students, support our faculty, and sustain the heart of the Oakwood community. Every gift makes a meaningful difference!



**This Wednesday!
Don't forget!**

Oakwood Boosters 2025

Faculty and Staff Holiday Luncheon

December 10

The luncheon is a locally catered event made possible each year through the generosity of Oakwood parents and caregivers, as always, participation is voluntary.

How to contribute:

- cash or check (payable to Rachelle Reis-Larson) dropped off in a sealed envelope in the admissions office.
- Venmo to @Rachelle-Reis-Larson

questions: Please email
oakwoodfriendsboosters@gmail.com



Please join us

WINTER CONCERT
Tuesday, December 9th
7:00pm
in The Spencer Family Theater

**Enjoy a variety of music, songs
and a festive sing-a-long!**

**Join us for a casual dinner in the
Dining Hall before the show.**

RSVP to Amy Solis
asolis@oakwoodfriends.org



MIDDLE SCHOOL THEATER

Oakwood Friends Middle School
PRESENTS

The

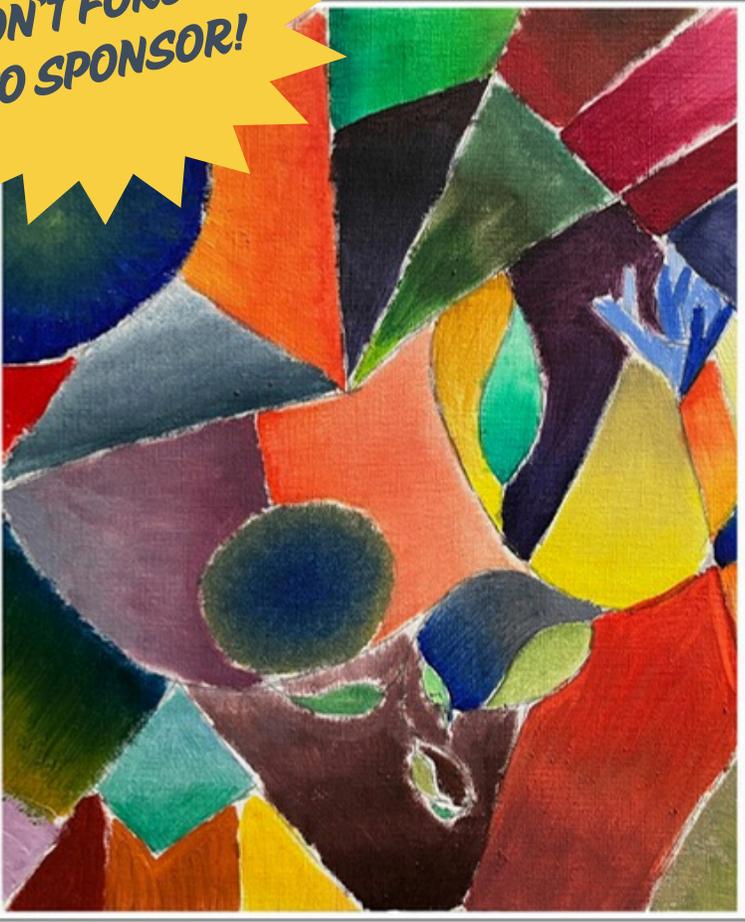


STEPS

Friends & Family Performance
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18TH AT 7:00PM



**DON'T FORGET
TO SPONSOR!**



Art by Isaac Carter.

**Oakwood**
FRIENDS SCHOOL

Save the Date

*Apps
and
Auction!*

To Support Oakwood's Annual Fund

**Friday, January 23, 2026
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

**Alumnae House Vassar College
161 College Avenue
Poughkeepsie, NY**

Mark your calendar for our reimagined annual fundraiser and auction in support of the Oakwood Annual Fund! Join us on our new date and time - Friday, January 23, 2026, from 7:00–9:00 p.m. at the beautiful Alumnae House at Vassar College. Enjoy delicious appetizers from Twisted Soul, sip, mingle, and bid on a delightful selection of items and experiences - all while catching up with friends and supporting Oakwood students.

Tickets will be available soon, but now is the perfect time to get involved! Become an **event sponsor** or **contribute** by donating an item, gift certificate, artwork, escape, or service to the auction. To participate, please contact Wendy Giangrasso at wgiangrasso@oakwoodfriends.org.

Your support makes this event possible, your presence makes it an unforgettable evening of community and celebration!

Donate an Auction Item 2026 Apps & Auction!

***Help us support today's students and
reach our Annual Fund goal with
a donation to the auction!***

Consider Donating:

- **Getaways**: A stay at a vacation home, timeshare, or hotel (feel free to include date restrictions).
- **Own a business?**: An item or service from your business or store
- **Artistic Creations**: Paintings, ceramics, photography, drawings, books, or poetry.
- **Services or Skills**: Share your talents! Offer baked goods pet sitting, creating art
- **Gift Certificates**: Purchase a gift card to your favorite local restaurant or business, an excellent way to support both Oakwood and our wider community!

**Contact Wendy Giangrosso at wgiangrosso@oakwoodfriends.org
if you have any questions or to contribute!**

Thank You for Your Support!

Sponsorship Information ***2026 Apps & Auction!***

Your support means the world to us and
helps make this a wonderful event!

Sponsorship Levels



Acorn \$500



Oak Leaf \$750



Copper Beech Tree \$1,000

All Sponsorships Include:

Your business name and logo prominently featured on -

- **Event Materials:** Printed materials distributed before and during the event, with a designation of your sponsorship level.
- **Digital Communications:** The event's digital invitation and all related email correspondence.
- **Online Platforms:** Our website, Facebook page, Instagram, and other social media channels promoting the event.
- **Auction Website:** The dedicated online auction platform.

Additional Benefits:

- **Oak Leaf Sponsors:** Receive one complimentary ticket to the event.
- **Copper Beech Tree Sponsors:** Receive two complimentary tickets to the event.

Do you know of an individual or corporation who might be interested in sponsoring the event? Contact Wendy Giangrosso at wgiangrosso@oakwoodfriends.org for a letter that can be sent from our office or from you!

Please check each Update, this changes frequently!



IMPORTANT DATES

DECEMBER 9TH

Winter Concert - 7:00pm
Spencer Family Theater

Casual Pre-Show Dinner in the Dining Hall for Families - 5:30 - 6:30pm
Please RSVP to Amy Solis @ asolis@oakwoodfriends.org to attend

DECEMBER 18TH

Middle School Show - 39 Steps - 7:00pm
Spencer Family Theater

DECEMBER 19TH

Early Dismissal - 3:30pm

DECEMBER 22ND - JANUARY 5TH

Winter Break

JANUARY 6TH

Classes Resume

IN-PERSON
AND
VIRTUALLY

Book Clubs

In the
student lounge

*Our first book:
Anxious kids,
anxious parents*

1ST THURSDAY
OF THE
MONTH

4:00-5:00 PM

10/2, 11/6, 12/4, 1/8, 2/5, 3/5, 4/2, 5/7

Can't make it on one of these days? No problem!
We will have an open document where I will
mention the key points we discussed and any
ideas that were shared!

For more information

gflocco-
quinn@oakwoodfriends.org



NIKKI'S NOTE

DECEMBER
EDITION!

YOUR MONTHLY DEIB NEWSLETTER



Bodhi Day Blessings!

December 8th is Bodhi Day. Observed by Buddhists, this day celebrates the Buddha's enlightenment and invites reflection, mindfulness, and inner growth.



Happy Winter Solstice!

December 21st marks the start of the winter solstice/Yule. Observed in Pagan, Wiccan, and other spiritual traditions, this day celebrates the return of light and the promise of renewal.



Habari Gani!

Kwanzaa is celebrated from December 26th to January 1st. It honors African-American culture, heritage and the seven guiding principles known as Nguzo Saba. We celebrate the strength, wisdom and joy that these principles uplift within our community. May this season inspire us to practice community care, reflect on our shared values and move into the new year with purpose.



Chag Sameach!

Hanukkah begins at sundown on December 14th and invites us into eight nights of light, resilience and hope. Hanukkah is a time to acknowledge and celebrate the power of persistence and resilience, the importance of religious freedom and the joy in gathering with loved ones. May this season inspire us all to bring more light into the world.



Merry Christmas!

Quaker communities approach Christmas in a spirit of simplicity and reflection. Rather than focusing on elaborate traditions, many Friends emphasize quiet worship, inner light, and practices that center on peace, gratitude, and community care. At Oakwood Friends School, we honor those values by recognizing this season as a time for compassion and mindful presence with one another. May this period of stillness and hope bring warmth to all who observe.



ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTER

About ASC

Helps students improve their academic performance and succeed in their studies.

Serves students with learning differences/disabilities and/or executive functioning challenges to to strengthen their study habits and get extra support outside of their classes.

Bridges the gaps in understanding, fosters independent learning skills and improves students' confidence and performance in school.

Classes

Focused Instruction - available to any student in need of support in the areas of organization, time management and work completion.

Learning Skills - Support services for students with documented learning differences and ADHD.

Both programs instill self-advocacy skills in students.

Basic info

Team:

Andrea Massi - Coordinator
Jonathan Bisson - ASC Teacher
Tim Stanson - ASC Teacher

Location:

Main Building - Third floor

Contact:

(845)462-4200X243
amassi@oakwoodfriends.org

Services

Support student learning
Test Preparation
Accommodations based on supporting documentation
Drop-in help
Mentoring
Academic Coaching
Quiet study area
Quiet testing area



CONNECT WITH OUR MAIN CALENDAR!

TO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING
ALL YEAR!

[CLICK HERE TO CONNECT
TO THE GOOGLE CALENDAR](#)



CONNECT WITH OUR SPORTS CALENDAR!

TO SEE WHAT'S AHEAD ALL YEAR!

[CLICK HERE TO CONNECT
TO THE GOOGLE CALENDAR](#)



POUGHKEEPSIE
QUAKERS

POUGHKEEPSIE QUAKERS

Praying for Peace on Earth. All Faiths Are Welcome.

Here in the Hudson Valley for over 300 years

POUGHKEEPSIEQUAKERS.ORG

Silent Worship Every Sunday 10:00 am



**JOIN US SUNDAYS
MEETING FOR WORSHIP
10:00-11:00AM
IN OAKWOOD FRIENDS
MEETING ROOM**



**IN PERSON
OR VIA ZOOM**

**CLICK HERE TO
VISIT THE PQM WEBSITE**