

SUMMER 2015

Quest

The Magazine of King Low Heywood Thomas



Summer 2015

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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OUR MISSION

King is dedicated to preparing its students to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

We provide an excellent, progressive education, grounded in the traditional disciplines of the arts and sciences, committed to the nurturing of individual potential, and designed to promote critical thinking and reasoned reflection. Using rich and innovative methods, our Teachers facilitate each student's fullest academic and personal achievement. We champion the development of character, self-confidence, and talent through challenging intellectual, creative, athletic, leadership, and service opportunities.

King believes that individual accomplishment must go hand in hand with respect for others. Our culture of respect fosters collaboration as well as independence.

We embrace human and cultural diversity. We value responsible citizenship.

King graduates are well equipped to succeed in college and to pursue lives of ongoing inquiry, learning, accomplishment, personal fulfillment, and social responsibility.

On the Cover:

Grade 5 students celebrate their move to Middle School during their ceremony in June.



A LETTER FROM TOM MAIN



Dear King Community:

It is always a pleasure for me to provide a few comments at the beginning of these publications. It is also a bit humbling, as a quick review of Quest gives meaningful evidence to the depth and breadth of the work, activities, successes, and intellectual life here at King. It is hard to give this magazine even a short read and not be impressed by our students, teachers, and the programs that bring them together.

In this issue, you will learn about Science in the Middle School, a Leadership Lab we have developed in the Upper School, the activities of our Model United Nations club, our Visual and Performing Arts programs, students traveling to Greece, Spain, France, and Nicaragua as part of our Global Education program, the success of service learning programs in the Lower and Middle Schools, and the multicultural fair held in the Lower School. Also included is a description of the Assessment of Multiculturalism and Inclusivity that we engaged in this year, and a review of Commencement and the Moving Up ceremonies from the spring. Alumni profiles and notes are featured as well as a schedule of events for our Sesquicentennial celebration. Next year will be quite a year, and rightly so, as our School has been serving students in Fairfield County with distinction and effectiveness, for 150 years, and that's quite an accomplishment!

Finally, as you read all of these stories, please know two things. First, we are a very intentional and mindful school, and everything you read is the programmatic outcome of very thoughtful and painstaking strategic planning by our Board of Trustees. Second, this is just a slice of the activity that comes out of King these days. We could write just as much about the development, depth, and strength of just our academic program, if we were so inclined.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of Quest and please mark your calendars and join us next year for our Sesquicentennial celebration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T B Main". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Thomas B. Main
Head of School

Quest

MY 'WHY' MOMENTS

By Kathleen O'Rourke
Director of Marketing & Communications

As a former journalist, I spent years mastering the importance of the five W's - who, what, when, where, and why - questions whose answers are critical in the art of story telling. The 'why', in my opinion, is the most meaningful. It proves that there is a reason for almost everything.

There are many factors that play a role in why parents choose a particular school for their children. At King, our 'why' is personal and unique, and widely represented in the pages of Quest. It is the reason we come to campus every day, whether a parent, student, teacher, or staff member. It is also the reason alumni come back year after year.

In late spring, the entire King Community came together for Commencement and Moving Up Ceremonies, allowing me to spend a great deal of time under our big white tent. As I roamed the aisles taking

photographs, I realized that my 'why' is all about the people sitting under this tent - the true friendships and personal connections experienced on any given day at King.

I realized that the 'why' is all about the people sitting under this tent - the true friendships and personal connections experienced on any given day at King.

Here are just a few examples of my 'why' moments:

- When an aspiring newscaster, a Grade 4 student, summoned the courage to ask me if she could be the next voice on our weather recording.

- When I met an aspiring photographer, a Grade 8 student on the field during our Rocket Launch and we talked about photography and camera angles with great passion.

- When a Grade 11 student proudly presented the first edition of his literary magazine, Ink, and I was included in the acknowledgements section.

- When I was asked to chaperone our US trip to China, allowing me to share in the wonder and excitement of a global adventure and becoming part of lifelong memories with our students.

- When a parent stopped by my office to compliment Quest.

This magazine is filled with remarkable stories of a year in the life at King. In these great moments, we find our personal 'whys', quiet reasons we come back to campus every day. Enjoy!



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Thinking
Through

ART

**The Brave Fighter of Japan**
By Braeden Anderson

Who are you, Brave Fighter of Japan?
You look like King Tut
Your helmet-a bull

Brave Fighter of Japan
How did you become a great hero?
Who made your armor?
Armor so strong and realistic!

Brave Fighter of Japan
Who was your trainer?
Was he strong, powerful, wise and brave
Like you?

So many questions
But sadly I cannot find the answer
I hope you lived long
And fought well
Oh Brave Fighter of Japan!



A trip to an art museum may seem daunting to a third grader, but King's Lower School collaboration with the Katonah Museum of Art (KMA) has made that experience more meaningful and memorable. For the past six years, Grade 3 has participated in Katonah's 'Thinking Through Art' program, which engages students' looking, writing, critical thinking, and artistic skills. The program involves a structured series of classes, which use the KMA galleries as a "visual learning lab," and culminates with student readings and an art exhibition.

The project began in November when students visited the museum for the first time to experience and understand the workings of a museum, and discuss elements that go into an artistic piece. On the second visit, students explored Katonah's exhibit 'The Japanese Culture - Lethal Beauty: Samurai Weapons and Armor.' It is the hope that students will feel more grounded on this second visit and be able to view the art, find a piece that speaks to them, and reflect on it - how does it make you feel, what do you see, and hear?

"It's about exposing students to art, helping them understand how to interact in a space with art - how to look at it, how to talk about it - and ultimately inspire them to create their own art," said Wendy Kerr, Grade 3 teacher. "They are able to respond to art and conduct follow through back in the classroom."

Once the museum visits were complete, students were inspired to create their own, very unique, pieces of art. They imagined who was inside the armor or the seamstress who made the Japanese kimono. From these perspectives they created a poem and participated in a poetry reading, at the museum, as a celebratory finish to the project.

"The project is all about connection. Students have an opportunity to connect to people, cultures, history, and ideas. They are able to express this connection through their own artwork. This type of abstract thinking is not easily taught, but the Katonah collaboration gives us organic means to help facilitate this."

- Jamie Mansfield, Grade 3 teacher

SOLAR POWERED S'MORES AND MORE AT THE SCIENCE FAIR!

“I thought, hey why don't I just try it out?”

– Jamie Munno, Grade 5 student

At the Science Fair in April, Grade 5 students got a chance to explore the role science plays in their daily lives. They let their curiosity run wild in order to study some key scientific principles. During the Fair, students presented the results of experiments carried out over several months in the classroom. Mariana McOsker used her project to determine whether an eggshell would dissolve in acidic liquids (her hypothesis, that it would, was proven correct). Jamie Munno was inspired by a Girl Scout camping trip for her experiment, in which she created a solar powered oven out of a pizza box, covered with tin foil, to see how long it would take to cook s'mores on a sunny day. “I thought, hey why don't I just try it out?” Munno said.

Preparation for the fair begins in January, when students are prompted to think about what areas of science interest them most and how this might be expressed in their projects. They are able to learn, not just about the experiment they are conducting, but how to complete research for the project and the ethics of collecting and presenting data.

They can carry these concepts into the Grade 6 science curriculum next year. Shevon Morris, LS Science teacher, noted that the Science Fair makes up an important component of her curriculum, as the projects are conducted in class and the students are encouraged to direct their own investigations into the experiments they have chosen. “While I do make active inquiry a daily part of science class, most often I am providing graphic organizers and guiding students through the scientific method or engineering design process,” Morris said. “This project allows for a much more independent approach and it really helps me to see what the students have learned.”



Celebrating family has always been a tradition at King. This year we welcomed more than 220 family members and friends to campus for the LS Grandparents and Special Friends Day – a highlight of the Lower School. The weather was perfect and the LS campus was abuzz with breakfast and grade-level performances under the tent, and activities and tours in all the classrooms. Three families celebrated special milestones that day:



John & Valerie Wyman

spent the day with their granddaughter Ella, a kindergarten student and the daughter of their oldest son, John. Their youngest son, Bobby, graduated in May making them the first family to have a grandchild and child attend King at the same time. Lindsay Wyman is a DAJ in the Lower School. A family affair!



Graciela Rodriguez

a parent of three alumni, attended her 13th and final Grandparents Day with her granddaughter Mariana, Grade 5. Rodriguez has watched five grandchildren make their way through the Lower School.



Sue Cesare '48

Low-Heywood Class of 1948 alumna, is our former Head of School, parent of alumni, Ed Cesare '78; and grandparent of alumni, Nick Cesare '12. Cesare returned for Grandparents Day this year with her youngest grandson, Matt, a Grade 1 student.

Family Traditions



Trading Places

Earlier this year, Grade 8 students shared a rare, two-day experience with their counterparts at the Greenwich Japanese School: a chance to meld two very different cultures together and to learn from one another. The partnership with the Japanese School, now in its fifth year, gave King students a chance to experience a day in the life of its students, learning about the language, food, traditions, and clothing that are unique to Japanese culture. Similarly, King also had a chance to host the same Japanese students for a day on campus, sharing their own classes, interests, and hobbies.

Each year, the program takes 10 to 14 students from King; those who are interested are asked to sign up at the beginning of the year, and the visits occur in January and February. "It's been a phenomenal cultural experience," said Ken Lewis, Grade 8 History teacher, who facilitates the program. "The Japanese culture is very different but kids are all the same, and I think that's the best part for our students to see."

During the day that King students spent at the Japanese School, the visit followed a certain structure. The Japanese students began with a presentation that served as an introduction to Japanese culture, food, and dress. Following the presentation, King students participated in a rotation of activities, from learning origami to writing Japanese calligraphy to dressing in traditional Japanese clothing. At the end of the visit, all of the students played table tennis together and shared snacks from Japan. "I thought it was really interesting to learn about their culture," said Carli Levethan, Grade 8. "I liked it when we

dressed up in their gowns and robes, because we're used to just wearing our uniforms or jeans every day."

As a culturally Japanese school, the GJS teaches a variety of students, some of whom are very westernized and others who are less familiar with the country's language and culture. When the Japanese students visited King, it was a chance for them to gain insight into daily American life and culture, just as King's students became well acquainted with Japanese Culture. At King they walked around campus, immersed themselves in a MS class, played sports in the gym and had "traditional middle school food" for lunch: French fries and chicken from Reddi Rooster (home of the high-school special.) At the end of the visit the experience became less about noting the cultural differences and more of a chance for both schools to share a sense of oneness, to recognize how much the students have in common.

"There's so many great things about it. The kids learn about culture, they get to make new friends, they see what a traditional Japanese middle school student will do. You see the camaraderie grow, it's so much fun to watch. I've had the opportunity to do it for five years, and I've seen it get better every year. I enjoy it as much as the kids do."

- Ken Lewis, Grade 8 teacher



Understanding History

One of the new highlights of the Grade 7 program this year was the three-day trip in May to Philadelphia and Gettysburg. The trip represented a wonderful learning and bonding experience for our students. They visited the US Mint, National Constitution Center, Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, and the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia. While in Gettysburg, students saw and toured the battlefield and museum there, as well as those located at Antietam. These locations were chosen with a close eye to the Grade 7 academic curriculum and experience. Historical sites and tour guides provided students with a better understanding of events from their History classes, while the exhibits at the Franklin Institute complimented Ms. Sibrizzi's Biology curriculum.

Highlights of the trip included: the docent's talk at Christ Church in Philadelphia, the charge across the Corn Fields at Antietam, an unexpected ice cream stop in Sharpsburg, and climbing through the brain at the Franklin Institute. Students and faculty returned to King with shared memories and experiences that clearly marked this trip as a culminating moment in the 2014-2015 school year.



Great Reads from Grade 8



Madison Backes has always loved books, growing up with popular series like Harry Potter and Percy Jackson and the Olympians. "My mom would read to me and I'd steal the book from her and read ahead," Backes said.

As a reader, she gravitates toward fantasy and fiction, dystopian/utopian stories and books with magic. "They're all similar, but they kind of give you a sense that you can be strong," she said. "I have a specific taste for fiction and fantasy and that's what has been coming out and been popular in the past couple of years." Although some of her favorites, like *Divergent* and *The Giver*, have been made into films, she prefers the complexity of the written versions.

"The movie is the tip of the iceberg, the book is everything else underneath."

Madison's top picks:

-The Eye of Minds by James Dashner: "He's generally a utopian or dystopian writer, but *The Eye of Minds* was actually about a video game."

-The Giver, part of a series by Lois Lowry: "You can read one book and be done with it, you don't have to read all of them."

-Divergent by Veronica Roth: "Divergent and *Hunger Games* [by Suzanne Collins] are really similar, but they have their little differences."



For Jack Reilly, reading went from being a struggle to a joy: "It was really my mom that got me started on reading," he said. "When I was really young, I could articulate well but I experienced a lot of trouble reading. So, my mom would force me to read every single day until I was as good as my peers. But once I read *Harry Potter* for the first time, I really fell in love with reading." Now, for Reilly, reading is a delightful escape, a stretch for the imagination.

"I like reading because of how easily you can get lost in a book and become addicted to the storyline."

Jack's top picks:

The Book of Basketball by Bill Simmons: "The *Book of Basketball* was a favorite for me because basketball has always been one of my favorite sports, and the way that Bill Simmons writes about the sport, with his own witty edge, was very good reading. I also liked how he dug into the history of the sport."

Ghostman by Roger Hobbs: "Ghostman was an exciting book about a bank robber who has to find a stash of money from a safe house after a failed heist. The book itself moves quickly, and keeps you glued to the page."

World War Z by Max Brooks: "I liked *World War Z* because of the way he captured the global catastrophe perfectly with his writing and wrote with multiple different perspectives that allows you a perfect image of what is happening. I must have read that at least a dozen times."



CATAPULTING SCIENCE

“All the time and work put into it made me realize that simple machines aren’t so simple.”

– Annie Michalski, Grade 8

Grade 8 students took their engineering skills to new heights earlier this year during the Compound Machines Presentation. These future engineers tested their pulleys and catapaults as part of the course, “Conceptual Physical Science: Engineering 101.” For the course, students designed a “compound machine” using the basic simple machines (pulley, lever, inclined plane, and wheel and axle) to have a purpose (practicality was encouraged but not mandatory.) In doing so, students were first grouped and then collaborated on a design and blueprint - to be approved by Tung Tran, Grade 8 teacher. Following their blueprint, they went into production. After the build they tested the machine for its efficiency, using formulations learned in class, and presented a formal lab write-up discussing their findings.

Annie Michalski thought the assignment was a very fun and interesting way to make an actual product that could be useful in everyday life, using the skills she learned in CPS class. “Mallory Ehlers, Claire Tully, and I made the ‘Handy High-Shelf Helper’ for our compound machine project. Using three simple machines, we built the Helper to retrieve items off of a high shelf; for instance, ingredients for baking,” said Michalski.



SPREAD LOVE, NOT HATE

King was honored to host Mrs. Trude Heller, and the MS History students will certainly remember her story for years to come.



Holocaust survivor Trude Heller had a simple message when she spoke to an auditorium full of MS students in April: spread love, not hate. Heller, 93, shared her story of sheer courage and perseverance with students in Grade 7 and 8, including her two great-grandsons, Jack and Charlie Moses. She was invited to the school just before the international commemoration of Holocaust Remembrance Day on April 15.

Heller was only 15 when Hitler invaded Austria in 1938, and her hometown, Vienna, became unrecognizable overnight. During the next two years of Nazi occupation, Heller was forced to leave school, to give up her family home and, eventually, to flee into Belgium and make her way to the United States with her parents.

In the midst of all the horror and fear she experienced, Heller spoke about the acts of kindness from others that helped her get where she is today. “I’m only here because I lived through so many miracles,” Heller said. “I want to tell you about love and hate. I want to tell you that love always brings back love, and hate always brings back hate. If the whole world would love each other, it would be a much better world.”

“I want to tell you about love and hate. I want to tell you that love always brings back love, and hate always brings back hate. If the whole world would love each other, it would be a much better world.”

– Trude Heller

Cultivating the Creative Soul

Budding fashion designers explored their talents during the Runway For A Cause program this spring. During the eight-week program, a group of 11 MS and US students gathered on Saturdays to work with fashion industry professionals, learning principles of design and cultivating new skills to create their own body of work.

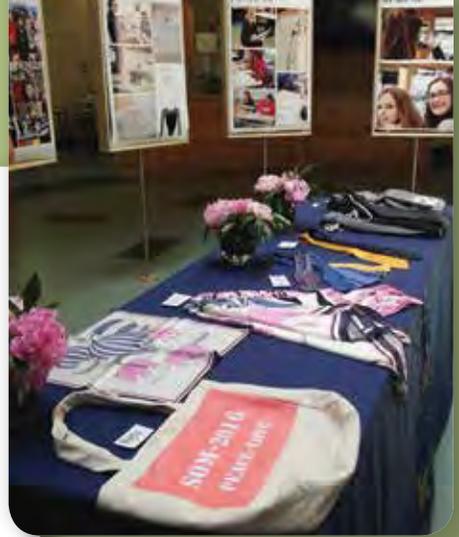
Runway For A Cause, now in its third year, combines an immersive experience in the fashion world with social activism - an instructive combination that was reflected in the work of the visiting professionals. This year Colombian designer Fabio Mesa came to King to work with the students. Grade 9 student Juan Vincente Ellis Ochoa and his mother, Nora Ellis Ochoa, sponsored his visit. Mesa draws inspiration for his work from the culture of activism, fueled by the protests aimed against the Colombian government in the 1990s and 2000s. "In my work, crowds march toward common goals, which revolve around dreams that we human beings share as a society: the search for peace, the struggle for a better life," Mesa said. "What you are doing with this program and my art work well together."

At the end of May, the Runway For A Cause program culminated with a pop-up shop to offer the fruits of the students' efforts to the King community and the public. Proceeds from the sale of student-designed clothes went to purchase supplies for two organizations, Sister Somalia and the Elman Peace and Human Rights Center.

Grade 9 students Lily Gordon and Oona Nash have been part of this program since its inception three years ago. "I have been part of this group for the past few years, beginning with designing prom dresses for girls who could not afford to purchase them and now culminating in this ambitious project. We have worked very hard and I am so proud to be a part of such a good program," said Gordon.

"The pop-up shop was an amazing experience. It was cool to see all of our hard work come to life in real garments. I felt involved in the process and I know that we were successful enough to make an impact, raise awareness, and help Sister Somalia," said Nash.

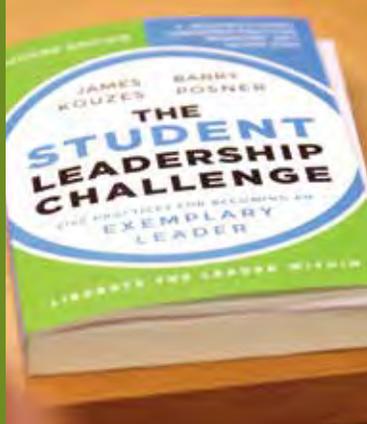
Cathy Nash, Oona's mother, added that the project is based on the philosophy of using natural talent, and cultivating the children's creative soul to produce a usable product. "It inspires them to be the change in the world, one garment at a time," she said.



"I have been part of this group for the past few years, beginning with designing prom dresses for girls who could not afford to purchase them and now culminating in this ambitious project. We have worked very hard and I am so proud to be a part of such a good program."

- Lily Gordon, Grade 9





Experimenting with Leadership by Meg Dalton, Digital Communications Manager

Leaders can be born or made. At least, that's the hypothesis the Leadership Lab pilot program hoped to test this year.

With 31 eager students at the helm, Leadership Lab was an opportunity to develop leadership skills in action. Co-taught by faculty members Becky Rabassa, Megan Yelton, Peter Newcomb, and Steve Soden, the module-based program kicked off with students assessing their own leadership skills and culminated in a celebration and presentation of their final projects. Throughout the semester students learned basic leadership skills, explored different leadership styles, reflected on the needs of the King community, brainstormed solutions to them, and turned these discussions into the seeds of their final group projects.

"We have great leaders here. The potential is huge," Rabassa said. "Being a good leader is a skill and needs developing over time. They have the opportunity to think about leadership in an academic way."

The goal? To expose students to concepts necessary for effective leadership, to clarify and reinforce King definitions of leadership, to provide examples of these

leadership concepts in action, and to ask students to identify needs in their community and put their newly-acquired leadership skills to use.

According to Rabassa, every student has given overwhelmingly positive feedback and plans to continue with the program next year. The rising Grade 11 students

"It was such a big success. Everyone can be a leader, and the program really helped bring out students' inner leaders." – JD Hock '17

will spend next year (as well as this summer) working on their projects, while the new class of Grade 10 students will learn leadership skills. "And that's just the start; they don't really know where it will go," Rabassa said.

"I hope it gives them confidence in a safe place where they can make mistakes while adults support them," she said. "By working on these projects, students feel confident enough to have a vision and also get one more opportunity to take a risk."

From the initial self-assessment to final

projects, students examined the different ways to become an effective leader and used what they learned outside the classroom. JD Hock '17, explored the addition of a new Leadership Distinction to the King curriculum, similar to the existing Global Education Distinction.

When he arrived for his first year at King, Hock found few leadership opportunities still available. "This class opened doors to a whole lot of opportunities for me," he said.

Cara Shattan '17, who grew up in a "culture of leadership," agreed. Her parents, both West Point graduates, taught her the importance of leadership at a young age. As part of this pilot program Shattan saw an opportunity to leave a legacy at King. For her project, she explored the early stages of a mentoring program that would pair freshmen with juniors to help the former better acclimate to the Upper School.

"I learned that it [leadership] is about being able to motivate other people, not just standing up for something," Shattan said. "You have to get people to do something they would not otherwise do."



by Christos Galanopoulos, *US History/Social Science Chair and MUN Advisor*

The Model UN club at King has a long and proud history of participation in major university-sponsored conferences at UPenn, Harvard, and Brown University, as well as running a Model UN conference of our own. King students traveled to Beijing, China, in 2013 for the Harvard-sponsored conference, and London, England in 2014 to participate in the Haileybury MUN conference, distinguishing themselves with several top awards at each conference. Although we truly celebrate the awards, it has always been the philosophy of our program to put more value in the learning experience of researching, debating, and solving global problems facing the UN, of becoming world citizens, and hopefully contributing to a better tomorrow, rather than winning awards. We view awards as a symbolic, crowning achievement, and not as our goal in training our MUN participants.

King students have distinguished themselves in several conferences and committees, and have proved to be true ambassadors of our school. They have participated in a plethora of UN-based committees ranging from the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, to Specialized Agencies and Joint Crisis Committees.

Our delegations were particularly successful in our past two international conferences in China (March 2013) and England (March 2014). In the Fall of 2014, Katharina Focke '15, the Club President, and Maya Chandra '15 took first and second best delegate award in their respective committees. This year, Sarah Smith '16, Ellie Mitchell '16, and Femke Munting '17, along with Katharina Focke '15, all won prestigious awards at Brown and Harvard. Next year we will attend our annual Brown UN and

Harvard conferences. We will also join the Global Education program on a Spring Break trip to Iceland to participate on the Global Leaders' Summit on renewable energy and sustainability.

"Being involved in Model UN has aided me in discovering that I enjoy debating world politics and coming up with resolutions for real-world situations," said Katharina Focke '15. "My interest in international relations, something I will be pursuing in college, developed primarily through my involvement in the club. At the beginning of a conference it seems unlikely for the delegates to come up with resolutions that they agree on, but in the end, effective compromises are made. This is what I love about Model UN - the ability for so many people with their own diverse backgrounds, representing even more diverse views, to agree on specific ways to resolve issues," she added.

Our continuous successes for the past 20 years in both domestic and international conferences have conferred us with national recognition, as we are listed on the MUN list of the top 150 schools in the United States, as well as one of the top six schools in Connecticut. The new presidents for the 2015-2016 school year are Ellie Mitchell and Sarah Smith. We are bound to continue to grow, as we have planted the seeds for a promising future, filled with the wonders of knowledge in the service of building a better tomorrow for humanity on Earth.

"Model UN not only challenges me to think on my feet, but it has also broadened my own view of the world through the discussions and my personal interactions with delegates."

– Katharina Focke '15





Will's vision for the publication: To proudly showcase the varied and potentially undiscovered talents of Upper School students. "What I wanted was to get student work out there."

PRINTING INK

"You get to see students in a totally different light," said Will Nellis '16, scrolling through the online version of Ink, King's newly revamped literary magazine. Filling the magazine's pages are essays about literature, poems, short stories, music reviews, and splashes of artwork, all produced and curated by King students.

Formerly known as Creative Ink, the magazine has undergone something of a transformation, rebooting itself as just Ink and developing both an online and print presence.

Will Nellis '16 initially joined the magazine with the encouragement from his friends Ethan Thompson '15 and Evan Schwartz '14, and quickly developed ideas about what he wanted to bring to Ink. Last year, when Ryan Houck, US English teacher, was looking for new editors for the literary magazine, Nellis jumped at the opportunity to put some of those ideas into practice. "Will has been doing wonderful work this year," Houck said. "Taking the initiative, he has created a new design, template, and format for Ink. He exudes excitement about the process."

This year's publication includes a section for nonfiction writing, as well as poetry, short fiction, and artwork, all created by students both in school and in their free time. In the fall, Will, Ethan, and Josh Ford '15 presented a "King Talk" introducing the Upper School to the new literary magazine, outlining their vision for the publication and encouraging students to contribute work. Ink's staff received a large number of submissions this year and one of the challenges was figuring out a way to fit them onto the pages without comprising the integrity of the art.

In keeping with the ever-changing media world, Ink was made available this year as both an online and print publication. The ink and paper copies were distributed around the Upper School in May, while the online version was an easy way for students to show their work outside of school, whether to family, friends or as part of a college resume.

As a publication, Ink was much more student-directed this year than in previous years, Houck said, adding that his role was mainly to set deadlines and help the staff with copy editing and the logistics of getting the magazine to print. The drive, the ideas, and the commitment came from the student staff. "The real reason for that is Will," Houck said. "I've not found a student before with the dedication to spend this much time out of a class."

Next year, Ink has an even more ambitious goal, hoping to publish two magazines during the year, one in fall and one in spring. There will also be a new class, King Publications, headed by Ran LaPolla, US Art teacher, and Houck, where students will work in school on the literary magazine and the yearbook. "I thought, how can I take this next year and put my own spin on it?" Nellis said. "I just can't wait to see what it becomes."

GLOBAL CITIZENS YOUTH SUMMIT

Laurel Jaffe '16 has been accepted as a participant in the Global Citizens Youth Summit (GCYS), which takes place in Cambridge, MA, in August. The GCYS develops the next generation of leaders who are ready and able to tackle global challenges. GCYS emphasizes a "global" approach to problem solving: think global and act local. Scholars, ages 16 to 19 years old, tackle global problems by developing solutions to implement in their local communities.

"I am honored and so excited to be selected as one of 24 students from across the world to attend this Global Citizens Youth Summit. I've chosen the environment as my study focus," said Jaffe. Students attending the Summit have been organized into groups under the topics of Poverty, Environment, or Education. They collaborate as a group on how to address a series of questions associated with each topic. Each student designed a different solution to implement in the local community, depending on the needs of that community.

Scholars have three days to develop potential solutions and then present their findings to their peers, staff, and faculty at the Summit. The potential solutions must focus on the needs of the global community as well as those of their own country. "This program is extremely interesting for it incorporates and connects both global and community issues and solutions. The Summit also allows the groups to create real solutions that can be implemented into our own communities," said Jaffe.



According to the GCYS guidelines, after choosing a global problem to address, scholars work in small groups to:

- 1) Define the problem**
- 2) Generate solutions to implement in their home communities**
- 3) Share information with their peers at the Summit**

Relieving the Stress



Exam week can be very stressful for students and what better way to relieve that stress than a bunch of adorable puppies running around campus. In May, for the first time, the US Prefects arranged a series of stress-reliever activities during exam week for students to get outside and let loose before they hunkered down for tests. The activities were scheduled in between exams and students met in the courtyard or on the track to decompress with puppy therapy, four-square, KanJam, jogging laps, yoga, and pilates. Grades come out in June ... we'll see if it worked.

A Musical Melting Pot



El Sistema was founded in Venezuela in 1975 as the brainchild of Dr. Jose Antonio Abreu, and has created world-renowned musicians like Venezuelan conductor and Music Director for the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Gustavo Dudamel. This method of music instruction that is also intended to create a positive, loving community in which children of all backgrounds can participate. El Sistema has helped more than 500,000 children in Venezuela and has spread its methodology round the world, including countless programs in the United States. According to its guiding principles, El Sistema is about creating citizens as well as musicians, overcoming adversity through the strength of the spirit, and introducing beauty into the lives of young people.

King hosted a rare celebration of musical and social harmony this spring, as three music programs came together to perform for the entire school's enjoyment.

The concert featured MS music students onstage with other young musicians from the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's Orchkids program and Bravo Waterbury, an initiative of the Waterbury Symphony Orchestra. For three days, the 16 visiting students from Baltimore and Waterbury practiced at King, sharing both music and fellowship. Both Orchkids and Bravo Waterbury are intensive after-school music programs inspired by El Sistema, the musical education system pioneered in Venezuela to enact social change. By practicing and performing music in concert with these visiting student groups, King musicians were given a chance to learn from each other and grow both artistically and socially. "It provided an opportunity to bond over a short period of time with students from different backgrounds, and immersed them in long, challenging rehearsals," said Garrett Mendez, Director of Instrumental Music. "They experienced how intense music rehearsals can be and how focused you need to be to really perform something with great detail," Mendez adds. "This allowed them to perform with great confidence and to just play, knowing that they had done the necessary work to enjoy the experience."

"This program is about bringing the kids together socially and making music as a team," Calida Jones, program director of Bravo Waterbury, said about the El Sistema-inspired program. "These kids come from different walks of life and cultures but the common denominator is making music and socializing." The music played during the concert at King, which was performed for each division, featured a mix of genres and styles, including sections from Dvorak's New World Symphony and a rousing percussion piece.

"The overall goal is for [King] students to play music with other students, to build a community and to play music with kids from different backgrounds. It is about the social experience, the time in-between rehearsals, and having kids just being kids."

– Jackie Martino, Director of Performing Arts

Orchkids has partnered in the past with both Bravo Waterbury and King, but this is the first time the trio of music programs has come together in such a formal way.

"It's very important to be here, for both sides," said Dan Trahey, artistic director of Orchkids. "It's a social melting pot."



senior art colloquium

For an artist, sharing your work with the public is a deeply fulfilling part of the creative process, an opportunity to present your ideas and talents to a wider audience. The Senior Art Colloquium, held at the end of April, gave dedicated senior art students just such an opportunity. The Colloquium marks the culmination of several years' worth of art study for a select group of seniors, depicting a progression in their skills, vision, and maturity over time. This year, that group included Joey Chimes, McKenzie Clippinger, Julia Crawford, Lindsay Levethan, Jeffrey Packer, Kendra Scotti, Ethan Thomson, and Jordan Zide.

During an assembly in the PAC, attended by US students, faculty, and parents, each artist presented the themes, techniques, and media that went into the production of their body of work at King. These projects were entirely self-directed

as a means for the students to find the best way to express themselves, said Ran LaPolla, US Art teacher.

“They worked really hard at coming up with their own ideas. It’s completely their own work, there’s no assignments. They decide what they want to do, why they want to do it, how they want to do it.”

– Ran LaPolla, US Art Teacher

Over time, some of the students experimented with unusual media in their work, to achieve a certain effect. McKenzie Clippinger used kitchen spices along with charcoal to shade her drawings, while Ethan Thomson chose to examine societal constructs and conformity through clothing, using familiar images like McDonald’s fries

and Newport cigarettes silkscreened onto t-shirts and suit jackets. His idea, he said, was to show how individuals’ true selves are often hidden in order to conform to other people’s ideas of what is normal or expected.

The art students also spoke about personal motivations that led them to find the underlying themes for their work. Julia Crawford created her art to represent her relationship with her younger brother, who is on the autism spectrum. In one of her latest pieces, she shows the figure of a young boy walking through a forest of trees, with each tree representing a member of her immediate family. As the viewer walks around the piece, “Perspective,” the boy’s direction appears to change. “Art is definitely a coping mechanism for me, to filter the ideas I have about the world,” Crawford said.



ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE: PATRICK WADDEN

Grade 4 made ancient Mayan culture come alive this year, through theater, music and brilliantly colored artwork. Taking the theme from last fall’s Window into the World event, which immersed the entire school in the culture of Guatemala, students worked on a year-long project with artist-in-residence Patrick Wadden, delving deep into the history of Latin America.

Students studied an ancient Mayan creation myth, as written in the Popol Vuh, one of the oldest books in the Americas, Wadden said. With Wadden’s guidance, they explored some of the cultural themes that have defined Guatemala’s history, and which have shaped Latin American culture overall.

“This project specifically took themes and scenes from one of the oldest books in the Americas,” Wadden said. “It’s a long narrative of how things came to be according to the classical Mayan.”

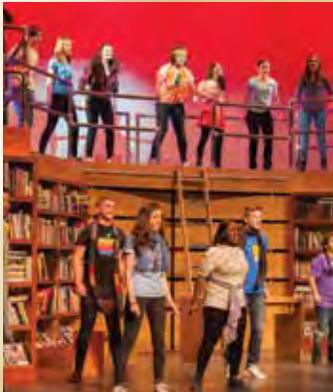
In 2014, Wadden worked with the same group of students on a similar project involving Native American mythology. Part of the value of the two projects is for students to compare and contrast the creation myths of two distinct cultures in the Americas, said Lori Auletta, LS Art teacher. “I think it taught them a lot about the culture of the ancient Mayans, as well as history and geography,” Auletta said. “The amazing thing about Patrick’s work is that he introduces them to new materials. There’s a lot of repurposed cardboard. It shows them the power of simple materials.”

The creation myth tells the story of a pair of hero twins who play a high stakes game against the lords of the underworld and emerge victorious, eventually ascending into the sky to become the moon and the sun. Together, the two classes spent several months rehearsing a live performance of the myth; using the artwork they created as props. In June, students performed during Field and Festival Day, showcasing what they had learned about Latin American culture and tradition.

“They won’t soon forget it, if we act things out,” Wadden said. “It reinforces a lot of learning if you connect it to motion and music. It’s an exercise in creative cooperation because they have to work together. The whole point is making something beautiful that’s larger than what one person could make themselves.”

ENCORE!

Our community was entertained this year with three musicals: 101 Dalmatians, Oliver, and Godspell; and our annual Spring Concerts.





From the pages of our US travel blogs:



Spain, June 10:

The true star of today was our tour guide for both art museums; he described the modern art in ways I would've never expected. He said that many modern artists create their art to accommodate for the creation of photography: rather than replicate art to be as close to real as possible, these artists try to create art as abstractly as possible.

"Today we spent the whole day on our feet! In the morning, we visited one of Madrid's bullfighting arenas, and while there were no bulls present, it was still interesting to see the arena and its architecture. After the arena, we toured the Royal Palace and saw a few of the hundreds of rooms within. After, we took the metro to El Prado, the "Met" of Spain. There we learned about many of the classical Spanish Artists like El Greco, Velazquez and Goya. Our group found that one of our favorite parts of El Prado was El Greco's signature symbol within his paintings, which many of us noted resembled the West side Compton gang sign. We then visited Reina Sofia, the modern art museum, and saw both Picasso and Dali originals."

- Will Nellis '16



Greece, June 13:

Early evening in Fira, Santorini “I am chatting with students about history, geology, mythology, and human relations. Yesterday we took the ferry from Piraeus to Santorini. Then we visited Akrotiri, the 3,500 year-old community, recently excavated, and frozen in time after the famous volcanic explosion. It is amazing with its five story buildings and aesthetically modern wall paintings. Is this Atlantis?”



“We dined next to the sea, trying Santorini delicacies. Our wonderful experiences are filling us with awe. The students are respectful and reflective, they ask questions of the professional tour guides, and are gaining the admiration of the locals for their discipline and maturity. Indeed, they are true ambassadors.”

- Christos Galanpolous,
Chair History/Social
Sciences Department

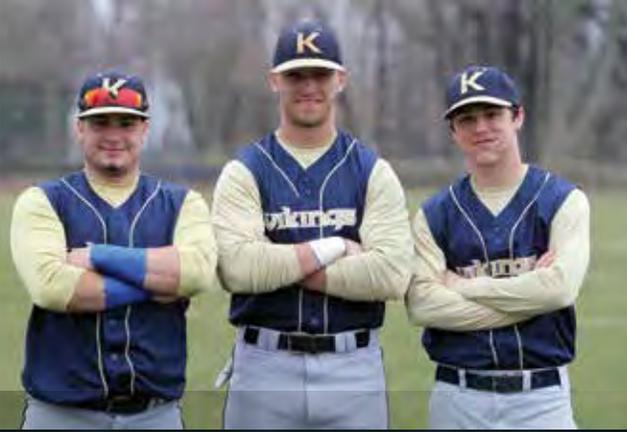
France, June 11:

For the past two days, the group has participated in a variety of activities with their French peers. We were very proud of them, as they delivered their presentations about King, their community, and New England to several classes in the French school (Grades 6-12). The presentations were well received, and the French students asked many questions.



“Our group also shared some of the books they read this year with upper class students in literature classes. However, the highlight was yesterday morning when we were all asked to participate in a theater workshop. The King students were put in groups of four, with at least one or two French students, to prepare a skit. Each student was assigned a character and a quote from a famous French play. Each group member had to find a natural or logical way to insert his/her quote in the skit. It turned out to be very creative and a lot of fun for all!”

- Gilles Chosson, Director of Global Education



DEFINING SUCCESS

by Tom Decker, Director of Athletics

In life, there are things we can control and many things that we cannot, with one being the weather. This Spring, the weather was not ideal, and at times created havoc for the Athletic programs. We went from playing and practicing in 80 degree Florida weather to spending a great deal of April battling unseasonable temperatures. Despite the weather, the support the athletes and coaches gave to one another other was clearly visible and appreciated. Whether you were on the field, in the hallway, or in the classroom, you were there for each other and should be commended.

In my mind, there is no doubt that our Vikings had a successful Spring season. Boys' golf finished with a winning record of 9-4, as did varsity softball (11-4), junior varsity softball (4-0), varsity baseball (11-8), junior varsity baseball (8-4), and boys' lacrosse (12-4). Baseball, softball and boys' lacrosse qualified for the FAA and NEPSAC Tournaments, as well. Moreover, boys' lacrosse faced the Pingree School in the NE Championship game. The boys represented King proudly in a tough hard-fought match, losing 7-4.

Success can be defined in many ways. One definition is based on the number of wins. Another definition of success is defined as the growth of a team from the beginning of the season until the end. With the latter definition, it is evident that all of our teams, both varsity and junior varsity, were successful this spring.

Given the growth of all our teams, coupled with the bonds that were created, there is no doubt that we will continue to build upon our successes and enhance our programs for years to come.







200TH WIN & COUNTING

Congratulations to Karen Cella, Associate Director of Athletics and the Varsity softball coach, who was unanimously chosen as 2014-2015 recipient of the City of Stamford's Old Timer's Coach of the Year Award. "Karen cares for the students she both teaches and coaches. Karen does not expect the respect from her players, she earns it, as she is truly invested in them as individuals and students first, and then athletes second," said Tom Decker, Director of Athletics. "Karen has worked extremely hard not only to turn our softball program into a successful and respected one, but also to maintain a high level of sportsmanship while doing so. We want to win every game we play here at King, but not at all costs. We place sportsmanship at the forefront of every contest and Karen has upheld this, and made it a priority for herself, her assistant coaches, and for her players," he added.

Cella believes that a bond between a player and a coach leads to higher levels of athletic performance. "For me, coaching is my passion. It is what I do and who I am. My philosophy consists of five elements of success; love of the game, value of sportsmanship, develop the fundamentals, gain self-discipline, and learn that extra effort ensures excellence," she said.

During Karen's 17 years as King's Head Coach, she has amassed an overall record of 203 - 58 to date, which includes six FAA league titles and five Western New England Championships. Cella reached a school milestone on April 8 when she achieved her 200th win and became the first female coach in the history of King to do so.

"This a milestone for me. But I've received help from so many people to get here. I'm only as good as my players. My job is at practice; the players' job is the game. This has been possible only through the support of all the parents and Athletic Director Tom Decker," said Cella.





How can you scale the world to fit into a classroom?

In May Grade 6 created a simulation of the globe, dividing the MS Commons into different regions and populating them with people and resources according to real-life percentages. Using a little masking tape and imagination, the students drew a diagram of the globe on the floor, and quickly learned that the world's most populous regions are not necessarily those with the most abundant opportunities. "This exercise will help broaden their perspectives on the global world," said Rob Waller, Grade 6 History teacher. "It helps students experience real world challenges through appropriate circumstances."

Paper bags filled with symbolic resources - candy to represent food supply, network cords to represent internet access, and pencils to indicate literacy - were distributed to each "continent" according to a scaled-down model of real data. In areas of the world with poor sanitation and high disease rates, numbers of students were asked to sit to indicate illness or death, while those in areas with access to college-level education were given a choice, whether to stay in an area of relative privilege or "travel" across borders to help in other less fortunate countries. Through these means, the students were able to visualize the disparity in wealth, safety and population growth between North America, Europe, Asia, and Africa.

After the active part of the game was over, the students were encouraged to reflect and write about what they had learned from the exercise.

"How should you live your life now, looking at the world today?" said Lee Couch, Grade 6 team leader, as she entreated the students to apply what they had learned through the exercise to their daily lives. "What does this experience make you think about?"



"You have had the privilege to get an education," said Lee Couch, who facilitated the exercise. "Look at how much of the world doesn't. It's a responsibility."



The Iceland Summit

In today's rapidly changing and interconnected world, our students are required to build skills that go beyond foreign language fluency and a comprehensive understanding of the global world and current events. With that in mind, King's Global Education and Sustainability programs, in collaboration with the Model United Nations Club, are pleased to announce that a group of students will travel to Iceland on March 16 to attend the Global Student Leaders Summit.

This extraordinary program combines an immersive educational tour and a two-day leadership conference that tackles significant global issues in relation to the future of energy and sustainability. Students and faculty will learn from world-renowned experts, and American and Icelandic students will work together to design and present their own solutions to these issues.

“The Summit will empower students today to start becoming the leaders of tomorrow. As leaders, they need to develop the skills of hands on creative problem solving and design thinking so that they can create viable solutions to local, national and global challenges.”

– Gilles Chosson, Director of Global Education

“I am incredibly excited to have the opportunity to travel to Iceland and participate in the leadership summit. This trip will allow me to collaborate with students from Iceland and all over the United States on renewable energy solutions. This is a once in a lifetime travel opportunity that not many people will ever get to experience and I hope to make the most of it.”

– Megan Glinka '17

Richard Jove '17 and Megan Glinka '17 are two students going on the trip.

“I am very excited to go to Iceland. Alternative energy and sustainability have always been interests of mine. Living with these sustainable energy practices will allow me to experience a new and different kind of culture.”

– Richard Jove '17

“In addition the leadership aspect of the trip seals the deal for me – the ideas I will learn at this conference, both for leadership and sustainable energy, will hopefully remain with me throughout my life as I seek to implement them,” said Jove.

Four months prior to departure, student-participants will engage in research and reflection via weShare, an online learning platform. The students will devise a project which they will share before and after the Summit with the King community. In preparation, each student will be required to do a feasibility study for the use of a renewable technology at King. The technologies would include, but not be limited to solar, wind, biomass, geothermal, and fuel cell technologies. This feasibility study could also serve as a Capstone Project for students in Grade 11 and 12 who are candidates for the Global Studies Distinction.

THE JOURNEY TO NICARAGUA



LANGUAGE IMMERSION & SERVICE

The journey to Nicaragua in March included a homestay and Spanish immersion lessons in Granada, during the first four days, and community service in Las Trojas, a rural area of the country, during the final three days. During the stay in Granada, students had Spanish instruction in the mornings and cultural activities and field trips to local destinations in the afternoon. "The language immersion experience proved to be helpful for students of all levels," said Cathy Mishkin, US History teacher and trip chaperone. "The instruction was personalized and the environment was conducive to learning."

Recent graduate, Chelsea Byrd '15, participated in the trip, which was a highlight of her senior year. "I really enjoyed my time in Nicaragua. I had never been out of the country before, therefore I was nervous yet anxious at the same time. What I enjoyed most was seeing the different lifestyles and culture of the citizens in Nicaragua," said Byrd. "To see the severity of the population's lifestyles, it made me so grateful for the life I live. In fact it has made me more appreciative of what I have now and what I have to look forward to in the future. I even help around the house more, consider others before myself more frequently and just remember the beautiful spirits and smiles of the Nicaraguan people even with their daily struggles."

The second half of the trip was the most challenging and the most rewarding. The group traveled first to Esteli to gather supplies and then made their way to the village of Las Trojas

where they helped refurbish the floors in a school, which was built in 2007. The work was physically draining but the group rose to the challenge. "The students were great and open minded and did whatever needed to be done to complete the task at the work sites. The work was not easy, but it was rewarding to all who participated. I was very proud of our students during the trip. They did a fantastic job," said Neuvi Villanueva, MS Spanish teacher and trip chaperone.

"We forged new friendships with the local children and the adults and we left Las Trojas with fond memories and a fervent desire to return to help on another project," said Mishkin.

"I would tell other students that are interested in possibly going on this trip that it changed my life for the better and I am so glad I stepped out of my comfort zone and experienced something new." – Chelsea Byrd '15



INSIGHT ON THE COLLEGE ADMISSIONS PROCESS



Alex Currie, New York University

My taste in university involved a campus in the middle of a city, not too far away from home, and with a rigorous business program; naturally the perfect solution was NYU. However, I did not realize what my perfect university was right away. I traveled down to Baltimore, Virginia, out into Pennsylvania, and up to Boston over the course of my junior and senior years. I would highly recommend starting college visits as early as possible so you can start either adding criteria to your list, or eliminating them.

Make sure the voice that comes across in your Common App essay is your own. Make it clean and grammatically correct, but don't lose yourself trying to create an image that you think is what colleges want to see in you. If the college to which you submit the essay doesn't select you for who you are then it isn't the right institution for you.

I did not realize that the GPA submitted to universities was cumulative and that my freshman year grades played a big role in what colleges I would be able to apply. I don't think incoming freshman know how important that year is in the long run, and how it directly impacts your college possibilities.



Victoria Rigby-Hall, Lafayette College

The summer going into my senior year, I spent a lot of time thinking about colleges, where I wanted to go, my application, and my essay. What I didn't realize was how hard it would be to keep on top of the college process once school started. I began my essay over the summer and thought I had some really great ideas, but as I settled back into schoolwork, the essay and my applications took a backseat. In addition to the essay and the common app, there are also supplements, which I hadn't considered. Luckily, I knew where I wanted to go and was applying early decision, so I only had two supplements to complete.

My advice is to get as much done as possible over the summer. It is difficult to maintain a good work ethic and have a social life for the first semester of your senior year, unless you get most of the common app finished before school starts. When you first look at the common app it seems overwhelming, but most of it is relatively easy to answer; it just takes time. Application deadlines seem to come much more quickly than you expect!



Hannah Hicks, University of Southern California

Knowing what I wanted to major in made my college application process both easier and more difficult than those of my undecided peers. Since I have always loved music and had an internship at a record company this past summer, I decided it would be practical to only apply to schools where I could get a degree in Music Business. However, after visiting only four universities and finally submitting my Common App, I realized that I couldn't really see myself at seven of the ten schools to which I had applied. My advice to the juniors now would be to choose a list of schools based on whether or not you see yourself there, because many universities are open to accommodating students with interests that do not fit within their traditional majors. A college atmosphere that feels right to you should be the biggest priority in the application process.

Also, apply to schools that require supplements. I think one of the main reasons I got into my top choice school, University of Southern California, is because they required many writing supplements. This allowed me to express myself and let admissions look past my GPA and test scores. Schools that require supplements really want to get to know you as a student, and likely value creativity and individuality more so than schools that don't, so take advantage of it! Stay organized and positive with an open mind. You never know where you will be accepted, or where you might be the most successful.



LITTLE SUPERHEROES

This spring, King students were honored with the President's Volunteer Service Award, a prestigious national recognition that celebrates a certain level of commitment to volunteerism in the community.

Students in the LS Service Learning Club and MS service programs qualified for gold level pins after completing more than

1000 HOURS OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE OVER THE COURSE OF A YEAR !

During an assembly in the PAC, students, grinning ear to ear, crossed the stage to receive their award from Stamford Mayor David Martin. Several faculty members were also honored. This event was held in conjunction with Earth Day, to celebrate the efforts of the King community in both service and sustainability.

LS students were also commended in a video depicting the way that Pre K to Grade 5 are engaging in environmentally friendly practices. As the camera rolled, students expounded on the benefits of recycling in the cafeteria and the lessons they are learning in the classroom about conservation, endangered species around the globe, and how to use recycled materials.



Stamford Mayor, David Martin, congratulates our LS Students.

“We are highlighting how you all protected and cared about people, your community, and the environment this year,” said Frank Barros, Director of Sustainability, as he addressed the LS students at the assembly. “You are all like little superheroes.”



For one day in April, King's global community celebrated the 4th annual Multicultural Fair. The annual event brought tastes from around the world and the LS Gym was transformed for the day into a hub of activity, with tables arranged around the room representing 21 countries, from Ethiopia to Thailand, each with some connection to the King community.

Organized by the King PA, the MC Fair gives the school community a chance to share the fruits of each culture that makes up a part of King.

Every division gets to enjoy the event, sample the foods of different countries, and learn a little about each culture from the parents who talk about their heritage.

"It's very tangible and hands-on," said Mi-Sun Freeman, co-chair of the event for the third year running. Freeman brought elements of her Korean lineage to the fair, offering bulgogi, or Korean barbecue, and some of the major elements of Korea's cuisine, like sesame, rice and seaweed. Other tables displayed similar culinary and visual representations of their nationalities: tulips and Gouda cheese from Holland, origami figures and rice crackers from Japan, and cucumber sandwiches and a life-sized cutout of Queen Elizabeth II from Great Britain. It was also a chance for students to sample a variety of foods, from cachitos, savory breakfast pastries from Venezuela, to lumpia, Chinese-style egg rolls from the Philippines.

"I think this is wonderful," said Sandy Burgoyne, a new King parent who was walking through the fair. "One of the reasons we came to King was because of its diversity and this really shows off the diversity. This is a great opportunity for the kids too."

For the parents, the fair was also a chance to bond with other families of similar heritage. A group of five parents teamed up to represent Brazil, showcasing everything from the country's stunning landscape to soccer mania. "It's an opportunity to get parents together and strengthen the bonds of people who come from the same country," said Viviani Kulig, one of the moms representing Brazil. "It's great," Nora Ochoa de Ellis said about the fair. "It's good that the kids have a chance to have the world, for a day, in their hands."

SEARCHING FOR IDENTITY

Poet, professor and activist Sonia Sanchez said that "cruelty is caused by a failure of the imagination," as she shared her poetry and insight with King's students, faculty, and parents. During her April visit, Sanchez sought to ignite that power of imagination at the school. She spent the day on campus, speaking to the US in the morning and parents and staff at night, and discussing her work with a sophomore English class. Sanchez's poems are filled with the experiences and emotions of her youth, impressions formed by growing up as an African American in Birmingham, Alabama, during the 1930s, and becoming an activist in the 1960s. They contain vivid fragments of her life, memories of the grandmother who helped raise her as a young child, of the tenements and bodegas of New York City, and the mixture of powerful emotions that drove her to begin writing at the age of six.

In Ryan Houck's English class, Sanchez sat in a circle of desks with students and read from her latest book, "Morning Haiku," discussing the meaning and context of her work and encouraging students to master a poetic form before they try to step outside of it. "My students said they have a better understanding of line breaks, diction, and rhyme," Houck said. "We read her poems before today, and my students struggled. They said her enthusiasm and attention to detail helped their understanding of poetry." Houck added: "She engaged and impressed them."



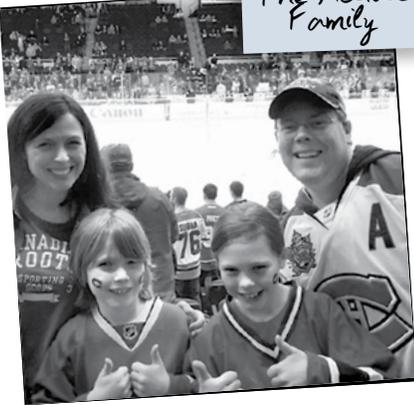
Sanchez said that she aims, through her poetry, to help people imagine what it's like to be African American, and to portray all the myriad complexities of African American life, both past and present. "When you begin to search for your identity in America," Sanchez said, "You find other people too."

We Are King

A new addition to the Multicultural Fair this year was the 'We Are' Exhibit – a series of photographs celebrating and highlighting the different faces and families in our community. The PA Arts Council and the Parent Diversity Committee asked families to submit a family biography.

They were encouraged to be as unique or creative as possible. In addition, families submitted photos, which were all printed in black & white, framed, and displayed at the Fair.

The McGuire Family



We are huge Montreal Canadians fans and spend more time at the ice rink than at home.

The Burgoyne Family



A family with a diverse background – Mommy is Texan, Daddy is British, Alex is the best of both.



The Holtz Family

We are adventurers, from dog sledding on a glacier in Alaska to zip lining through the canopy of trees in Costa Rica.

The Dohil Family



We are a family of six who is a blend of both British and American cultures while maintaining our Sikh religious values and traditions.

The Goodnow Family



A family who likes to be outdoors.

The Bettanio Family



We are a Brazilian family who are descended from Italian, German and Portuguese. Good friends always become family to us.



The Marsella Family

We are half Italian and half Argentinian and full of smiles!

The Mwenda Family



We are an African family that loves the outdoors and staying active. We love travelling to Africa whenever we can.



The Malin Family

We are a grateful family that has the opportunity to continue to share special moments together post divorce.

The Lynn/Lopez-Salboa Family



We are a blended family with ties to several different cultures, from Cuban, Spanish, Argentinean, Russian and Polish bloodlines.

The Galu Family



We are mainly an Italian and Irish family, with a little Brazilian, Spanish and Croatian in there too.

The Wyrman Family



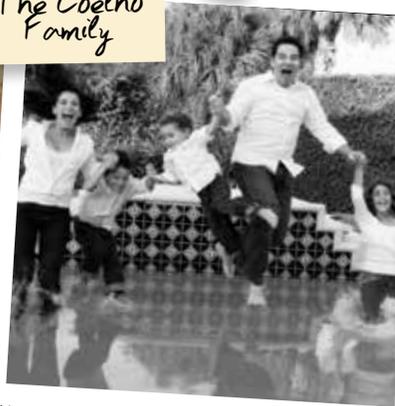
We are a family who is small, but mighty. We believe the best times in life are spent together.

The Faila Family



We are an American family descended from Italian, Polish and Greek immigrants.

The Coelho Family



We are a happy, loving, caring Brazilian family that calls the US our home!

COUNTDOWN TO...



KING

KING LOW HEYWOOD THOMAS



The countdown to King's Sesquicentennial year began with fanfare in April, as the entire school came together on the turf field for a striking visual representation of the King legacy.

Decked out in commemorative white t-shirts, the King community formed the numbers '150' on the green turf, as an aerial drone hovered overhead taking photos to mark 150 days until the start of the school's sesquicentennial year.

The weather was overcast but cooperated as the Upper, Middle, and Lower Schools, including faculty and staff, assembled on the field inside the giant numbers that had been mapped out on the turf. Grades mingled together, with older students standing behind the shoulders of the younger, and faculty members and trustees present in the crowd.





A cheer went up when the drone flew overhead, capturing the bird's eye view of the field, the Simon House, and our community clustered in the immaculately drawn numbers. As the camera clicked away, the crowd repeated the motto of the 150th year: "Legacy. Strength. Pride."

After the photo, a festive atmosphere lingered on campus, with students gathering around ice cream stands and soaking up the few rays of early spring sunshine. Music flowed from speakers around campus, compliments of DJ Sean Hayes '17.

Jack Lineberry '16 sat with a group of friends and reflected on what the 150th year represents. "It means a lot to me because I've been here since kindergarten," he said.

**"We are as strong
a school as we have
ever been in every
single way."**

*- Tom Main,
Head of School*





KING LOW HEYWOOD THOMAS

Join the Celebration & Save the Dates!



Signature Events

SEPTEMBER 10, 2015
State of the School

OCTOBER 23-24, 2015
Homecoming and Reunion Weekend

APRIL 30, 2015
150th Celebration Gala

JUNE 3, 2016
Commencement

In the Community and Beyond

SEPTEMBER 10-JUNE 1
150 Hour Community Service Challenge

NOVEMBER 8, 2015
King Cares 5K

APRIL 16, 2016
Global Youth Service Day

JUNE 5, 2016
Hope in Motion

FEBRUARY-APRIL 2016
Regional Alumni Events
San Francisco, Stamford,
Washington D.C., New York City

Sesquicentennial Speaker Series

SEPTEMBER 24, 2015
John Chubb,
President, National Association
of Independent Schools

NOVEMBER 17, 2015
Gary Briggs '80,
Chief Marketing Officer, Facebook

JANUARY 14, 2016
**Nedgine Paul '04 and
Alex Soros '04,**
Global Ambassadors
Panel Moderated
by Christos Galanopoulos

MARCH 10, 2016
Lori Murray, P '08, '10
National Security Chair,
US Naval Academy

APRIL 7, 2016
Geoffrey Canada,
Activist and Educator,
Capstone Speaker

For details, visit us at klht150.org



celebrating 20 years of hope

On the morning of Sunday, June 7, a group of King volunteers left their homes bright and early committed to making a difference. They arrived at the corner of Bedford and Hoyt Street to show support and provide manpower for the King water station, one of three set up along the route of the Bennett Cancer Center’s 20th Annual Hope in Motion Walk & Run. King has sponsored the event, including the water stop, for three years and will continue to extend our community outreach for years to come.

Thirty volunteers manned King’s water station, over the course of the morning, with nearly 1043 runners and 3800 walkers passing by on the 3.1-mile course.

According to the Stamford Hospital, 100% of the funds raised through the event, as well as the ongoing, year-round Hope in Motion campaign, go directly to support the vital programs and services provided to patients and their families. King is proud to participate and support this worthy cause!

Outgoing PSCS Committee Chair Mari Galvin is a proud supporter of King’s community partnerships and was on hand for the event. “I was feeling ‘Viking Proud’ after another great day with fellow King parents, students, and faculty all out to support a cause! What we give, we get back ten-fold as we cheer on and provide water to the many cancer survivors, their families, and friends,” she said.



KING CARES!

Join the King Community on Sunday, November 8, for the Third Annual ‘King Cares 5k’



The event raises much-needed funds and awareness for two worthy causes: the Boys & Girls Club of Stamford, a dedicated youth facility serving more than 1,000 children, ages 6-18 and the Orphaned Starfish Foundation, a non-profit that partners with orphanages in impoverished areas, providing the construction and operation of vocational training facilities.

Last year’s event, hosted by the Varsity Boys’ Soccer Team, saw 168 runners challenge themselves on the course and raise \$22,000 for the two organizations. We hope to see more runners and walkers this year. The event connects King students to the community and empowers them to make a difference today and support other children in need. In doing so, we create a new kind of community that promotes leadership and camaraderie. Mark your calendars and join us on November 8!



KEEPING IT IN THE FAMILY

It's a family affair at King with six married couples working within our community, many with their children currently enrolled at King or out on their own as King alums!



Shevon Morris and
Marc Saracino

Priscilla and
Bill Pusack

Heather and
Ted Parker

Marnie Sadlowsky
and Mark Lingle

Catherine and
Ken Lewis

Emily and
Tom Decker



SHEVON MORRIS & MARC SARACINO

Often, it can be hard to truly appreciate and understand what your spouse does when you spend several hours a day working in different industries or locations. We've developed a greater respect and admiration for one another as we watch each other's skills being put to use in the workplace.

We are lucky to work in two separate divisions which allows us to interact with so many faculty, staff, and families that are a part of the King family. We have benefited through friendships that we have made and support from the community as a whole, both professionally and personally.

PRISCILLA & BILL PUSACK

We carpool together, eat lunch together, and attend the same school plays and games. We have one vacation and work schedule because we are part of the same community. We are a Century Family - we have been here, as a family, for a total of 107 years, more or less: Bill, 37 years, Priscilla 43 years, son Tim 16 years, daughter Anna 13 years plus two years coaching. We knew our children's friends and their parents even though we were working. My son's friends sometimes called me 'Dad.'

We can't help but bring work home; we talk about kids all the time. It is our life.

HEATHER & TED PARKER

We love working together at King because we can challenge each other to think deeply and be creative with solutions, while also offering suggestions.

To give ourselves a break, we pursue our other common interests: cooking a great dinner, sharing time with friends, taking our dog for a stroll around the neighborhood, or enjoying a beautiful hike elsewhere. But like anyone else, our best ideas often come when we're not at work and not deliberately thinking about work. At least when that happens to one of us, we always have a colleague on hand!

Because all four of us are at the school, it is hard to avoid "King talk."

- Tom Decker

MARNIE SADLOWSKY & MARK LINGLE

It is a gift to be committed to the work of educating young people in an environment like King. It is heartening to be in such a work environment. We have a deeper appreciation for the work of the other, recognizing what it entails at a very deep level.

There is definitely a community feel to King, and many of our friends are a part of the King family. Along with the social aspect of being a part of King, there is also the professional aspect. The ideas of others and the varied commitments of the community in all sorts of areas helps expand our sense of the world, the ways of doing things, and what our priorities can and should be.

There are times when we need a school "timeout," but more often than not the movement between school and personal life is fluid. This does not bother us so much, as the commitments to King are important and impact upon our lives in many rich and powerful ways.

CATHERINE & KEN LEWIS

Knowing that our family is together in the same place, and spending our day working and learning in a great community is a wonderful feeling.

We have had the opportunity to offer a wonderful education for our son; he has been a part of the King family since Kindergarten, and now prepares to enter the Upper School in the fall of 2015.

EMILY & TOM DECKER

The best thing about working together is having your spouse understand the ins and outs of your job and your workplace. We can't help but bring our jobs home with us and we do end up talking about King a lot, which is not a bad thing! Because all four of us are at the school everyday, it is hard to avoid "King talk."



AIM Steering Committee



An Appreciative Inquiry

“Hack” is generally a word used by coders, tinkerers, and techies. This spring, the word took on a whole new meaning at King, as the campus community dug deep and explored its own strengths, weaknesses, and areas of vulnerability.

Inspired by Dr. Brene Brown’s *Daring Greatly: How the Courage to be Vulnerable Transforms the Way We Live, Love, Parent, and Lead*, King faculty and staff “hacked” their community through the use of AIM, the Assessment of Inclusivity and Multiculturalism. A tool from the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS), AIM evaluates diversity, multiculturalism, equity, and justice in independent schools through a two-part process: the self-assessment and the campus-wide online climate survey. AIM and the associated “climate” data is then used to assess and plan diversity

initiatives, build a more inclusive school community, facilitate meaningful dialogue, and provide benchmarking opportunities.

Last summer, King’s faculty and staff were encouraged to read Dr. Brown’s book as a way to start the conversation on diversity. The author challenges her readers to “hack” into their communities through an understanding of vulnerability, courage, authenticity, and shame. Through this AIM study, the King community was able to “lean into the discomfort of vulnerability,” as stated by Dr. Brown, and discover where and how the campus could improve.

The process included representatives from many of our constituent groups: faculty, staff, parents, alumni, students (Grades 4 to 12), and food and custodial services. Ten separate discovery

committees were formed to gather data and then report on those findings. To guide these discoveries, King used the appreciative inquiry model, which focuses on the positive instead of traditional “problem solving,” which inherently dwells in the negative, hinders truer understanding, and limits productive discussion.

The appreciative inquiry model, led by the AIM steering committee, kept the community’s collective eye on institutional strength and remained steadfast in support of a positive community building experience. The AIM steering committee included Emily Decker, LS teacher; Lisa Nero, Director of Personnel Administration; Jenna Temple, US teacher; Rob Waller, MS teacher; and Lise Leist, Dean of Community Affairs. Committee members Leist and Nero thought the AIM process invited the King community

Discovery Committees:

School Governance & Leadership • Policy and Administration • Admission, including Financial Aid • Faculty • Teaching & Learning



to be vulnerable in a safe place and look at itself with an honest lens.

“We were able to share conversations that allowed everyone a voice and seat at the community table,” Leist said. “It’s not often as a community we can be all in and authentic in the work of multiculturalism to help shape the direction of the institution.”

“It’s been an eye-opening experience,” Nero added. “We learned about things that we didn’t know, and gave me a broader view of how things are.” More than 1,000 constituents also participated in the online climate survey, which is designed by NAIS to gauge perception, attitudes, and impressions from all school constituents. The climate survey emphasized King’s approach to multiculturalism and inclusivity. The results were delivered in an easy-to-

digest format that King will use for strategic planning as well as for follow-up training and programming.

The survey results, used in conjunction with the findings of each discovery committee, will help the community fully grasp its needs for years to come. Several community members lauded the survey for its ability to promote collaboration and connection with fellow colleagues. Mark McAndrews, LS physical education faculty and coach, said, “I have been here 11 years and met people on my committee that I had never seen. We have new bonds.” Catherine Lewis, Admission Assistant, echoed these sentiments and noted that AIM offered “a new perspective about the community in which we spend an enormous amount of time and it gave us a richer, deeper understanding of King.”

NAIS Principles of Good Practice – Equity and Justice

NAIS schools value the representation and full engagement of individuals whose differences include -- but are not limited to -- age, ethnicity, family makeup, gender, learning style, physical ability, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status. NAIS welcomes and celebrates the diversity of our member schools; we expect member schools to create and sustain diverse, inclusive, equitable, and just communities that are safe and welcoming for all; we recognize to do so requires commitment, reflection, deliberate planning and action, and ongoing accountability.



Congratulations 2015 Graduates!



When Ali Weiner addressed the crowd at Commencement 2015 she brought her individual style of comedy and class to the podium. Weiner, the Senior Class Speaker, remarked that, although there has been a lot of talk about King preparing for the start of our 150th year in the fall, it was this class sitting behind her - the 149th graduating class - that she will remember for the rest of her life. "Being labeled as 149 is like a life of coming in second," said Weiner. "But, after deep consideration I have realized that it suits us perfectly. We are friends and leaders to all around us...This is the class that helps others when they need it, supports each other, and collaborates instead of competes. We don't need a special name to be great."

This unique class, full of their own achievements and close friendships, was honored on May 30 when they stood before their family, friends, and the entire community for one last time as King students. It was a perfect day for Commencement with the weather cooperating and proud smiles all around. Jeff Bewkes, Chairman and CEO of Time Warner, Inc. delivered the Commencement Address and the class graduated two valedictorians, both with GPAs within a fraction of each other.

Head of School Tom Main:

"I think this class, as central to its disposition, possesses what I would call a spirit of 'Relentless Optimism and Cheerfulness.' They are always up - always looking for the bright side, always making things better than they might be."

"We know your legacy will be strong, and we know that the residue of your presence and character will linger in our hallways long after you leave."



Maya Chandra '15, Co-Valedictorian:

“I loved it here. I was almost literally never here on time and there were times when I was less than thrilled with the prospect of working when I could be doing almost anything else. But I got a lot out of this education, and a lot out of just being at King. I think we all have. This is a fantastic school. This is a school that cares about us, and schools don’t necessarily have to, so that is a wonderful thing.”

Katharina Focke '15, Co-Valedictorian:

“Nothing is certain from this point on; we do not know the career paths we will choose or where we will live, but we can say that we all graduated from King as the Class of 2015, and we learned something here about who we truly are and where we want to be.”

Jeff Bewkes, Commencement Speaker, Chairman and CEO of Time Warner Inc.:

“Today is not just about the future. It’s also about the past dozen years you’ve spent getting here, and all that you’ve accomplished already, and the friendships you’ve made. Take pride in that and have confidence in your ability to navigate the next phase of your life. Always stay curious, open to new people and new ideas.”

A Community Celebrates

The 3rd Annual Student of Color Dinner is one of many important events tied to Commencement. On Monday, May 11, 2015, graduating students of color and their families were recognized for their accomplishments during their tenure at King. This dinner provides a final opportunity to bring families and community together to celebrate our graduates and King's commitment to diversity. Special thanks to the Office of Community Affairs for hosting this special event.

MOVING UP

Grade 5 and Grade 8 celebrated a milestone on **Friday, June 5**, as each class moved up to the next division and began a new adventure as Middle and Upper School students. In Grade 5, 38 students walked across the stage to accept their LS diplomas and in Grade 8, 72 students exited the stage with a handshake from their new Head of Upper School, Marnie Sadlowsky.



During the LS ceremony, PreK-Grade 4 participated in the 'moving up' festivities and each grade performed musical selections and celebrated their move to the next level. For Middle School, awards were distributed to Grades 6-8 for excellence in all areas of study, including arts and athletics. The afternoon ended with receptions honoring Grade 5 and Grade 8.

Congratulations to the Class of 2022 and the Class of 2019!



*It's been an amazing
149th year for our Alumni,
students and School!*



Dear fellow King Low Heywood Thomas Alumni,

We've seen our alumni at events coast to coast, welcomed them back to campus as speakers and parents, and connected alumni through our Kingternship program. Our entire School community – over 700 people – gathered on our football field and began the countdown to our 150th Anniversary with a celebratory aerial photo. And on May 31, 76 remarkable Seniors in the Class of 2015 joined our Alumni Association as they graduated and became part of the rich history that makes King Low Heywood Thomas so unique.

Next year, I'll be focusing my efforts on our Sesquicentennial celebration as co-chair for our 150th Anniversary Steering Committee. I'm thrilled to share that Fiona Muir Fine '90 will take over as our new Alumni Association President. Many of you know Fiona from spotting her at our alumni events or under the Alumni Tent at Homecoming – she's also a current parent at School, with two daughters currently attending King. Fiona is an enthusiastic and dedicated alumna and we are so lucky to have her!

Our 150th year is a landmark event for our alma mater. Our entire community will be part of the celebration, and I encourage you to join us. As we celebrate the history of this institution, there is no more important reflection of that history than our Alumni – from all eras, and every founding School. Please join your fellow Alumni in being part of this critical and exciting moment in the life of King Low Heywood Thomas.

Warm Regards,

Libby Baker Mattson

Libby Baker Mattson '82
President, Alumni Association
Co-Chair, 150th Anniversary Steering Committee

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD 2014-2015

Libby Baker Mattson '82, President

Devere Jones '98, *Fairfield County Chair*
Rory Donahue '97, *New York City Chair*
Bruce Fallon-Long '90, *Boston Chair*
Gerrit Lydecker '90, *West Coast Chair*
Amanda Metviner '06, *Recent Graduates Chair*

Members at Large

Pete Zaccagnino '71
Nancy Boccuzzi Carnavalla '83
Scott Carson '84
Debbie Levinson Dietz '90
Fiona Muir Fine '90
Tim Hughes '95
Colin Cosell '97
Nicole Kenaga-Johnson '02



Senior Excursion This year, our Class of 2015 headed out to Grand Prix Go Kart Racing in Mt. Kisco. The Seniors enjoyed a day of go kart racing, bowling, arcade games, and bonding with their classmates.

PA Senior Reception

On May 24 our graduating Seniors and their parents participated in one of the most beloved traditions we have: the Senior Reception. This special night is a time for the families of the Class to reflect upon and celebrate their time at King Low Heywood Thomas.

The evening began with a touching speech by Head of the Upper School Marnie Sadlowsky, who encouraged the students to share with their parents something that they were grateful for. The parents then spoke about something they saw in their son or daughter that made them proud. Student performances followed, including singing, comedy and a speech from Kevin Ssonko '15.

As always, the most special moment of the evening was when the parents paid tribute to their children through song, including some favorites they sing every year like "I've Grown Accustomed to Your Face" and "Sunrise, Sunset."



THE CLASS OF 2015

ALUMNI EVENTS

Los Angeles

This year, we travelled to the West Coast and hosted an entirely different type of event. We partnered with fellow Fairchester schools Greens Farms Academy and St. Luke's to host a reception together. We were thrilled to be joined by alumni from the 1940s through the 2000s, and to see fellow King Low Heywood Thomas alumni connect as they made new friends from other schools!

We were thrilled to be joined by alumni from the 1940s through the 2000s!



Fairfield County

Our local event always brings out a great crowd, and this year was no exception! We were joined by a great mix of alumni and faculty members.

Always a great crowd!





*The
Beantown
Alumni*
Boston

We headed up to Boston to host a group of our Beantown Alumni – everyone from college students to members of the Class of 1990!

New York City

*NYC: Conversation
& Laughter*

Our Big Apple event brought in a lively crowd that filled the room with conversation and laughter! The highlight of the evening was the arrival of Cathy Mishkin and Karin Wagner, who – as always – had alums lining up to talk to them!



**An Evening of
Dinner & Theater**

This March, Cesare '48 and Libby Baker Mattson '82 hosted an intimate evening of dinner and theater for Low-Heywood, Thomas, and Low-Heywood Thomas alumnae. The women joined us for dinner in the Simon House with Head of Upper School Marnie Sadlowsky, and then headed over to the Performing Arts Center to take in a student production of *Godspell* – a show some of them had performed in during their time here!



ALUMNI PROFILES

During the 2014-2015 School year, we were thrilled to welcome back two members of our Alumni community as speakers.

Lambeth Hochwald '86 *Parents' Association Parenting Series Speaker*



Lambeth Hochwald returned to us in January as a speaker. No more uniform and schoolbooks for her - she was on campus as a speaker in our Parents' Association Parenting Series. Hochwald has been a freelance journalist for 23 years, and currently serves as writer and editor for multiple publications, including Parade, Dr. Oz: The Good Life, USA Today, Better Homes and Gardens, Yahoo Parenting, O, The Oprah Magazine, the Daily News and Marie Claire, where she served as a contributing editor for a decade. An adjunct professor at the Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute at NYU, Lambeth is also the author of the Mom's Five-Second Memory Journal.

Hochwald welcomed the crowd of current King Low Heywood Thomas parents by sharing some special memories of her time at LHT. She talked about how Sue Cesare '48 instilled motivation in her at a young age when she told her students, "Nothing is impossible, girls!" She mentioned her budding days as a journalist, working with Mr. Pusack on the Hey-Day and her investigative reporting around smoking in the girls' room. After reminiscing a bit, Hochwald dug into the topics of some of her most recent columns for Yahoo Parenting, including bullying and mean girls, guns and playdates, and divorce. She led our parent community in a highly interactive and engaging conversation and left all present with plenty to think about. After her visit, Hochwald took some time for a tour of campus and connected with her former teachers Bill and Priscilla Pusack and Cathy Mishkin!

Of her time at King, Hochwald told us, "Being back here, I felt a flood of memories come back to me. The same warmth, feeling of learning and academics, and pride in the school was evident the moment I walked in the door. It was great to see some of my former teachers - there's something touching to me about such dedicated professionals who so clearly love what they do. I was also impressed with the mothers I met and their level of connection and devotion. It's evident that it's still a close knit school where families have an investment in their kids and the community."

Will Schpero '06 *Cum Laude Speaker*



As King honored its newly inducted cum laude students in April, the school also brought back a distinguished alumnus to campus. Will Schpero '06 returned to King to speak at the ceremony honoring the Cum Laude inductees, to address and inspire the students for life beyond King. In his speech, Schpero reflected on his time at the school and offered advice to students for their future, both in college and beyond. He encouraged his audience, among other things, to "seek discomfort," to push past comfortable boundaries to achieve personal and academic growth.

"Don't go to a safe space," Schpero said. "Seek out the uncomfortable." He added: "King was a great place for me and I'll always be grateful. I hope it's been the same for you."

In the years since he graduated from King, Schpero has made his mark in the world of Ivy League academia. He received an undergraduate and master's degree from Dartmouth College and completed a research fellowship at The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy & Clinical Practice. Currently, Schpero is a PhD student in health policy and management, with a concentration in economics, at Yale University.

Coming back to his alma mater, Schpero said he recognized the same qualities in the school that helped prepare him for his current path in life. "King was a very special place for me," he said. "It was at King that I really learned about the importance of leadership and how to think critically. From speaking with students, faculty, and staff during my visit, it was clear those values remain at the core of the institution to this day."

Next year will bring us even more Alumni speakers as we welcome Chief Marketing Officer of Facebook Gary Briggs '80 (November 17) and Global Ambassadors Nedgine Paul '04 and Alex Soros '04 (January 14) for a panel discussion moderated by Christos Galanopoulos. **We hope you'll join us!**



A Tribute to Elizabeth “Boo” Forster ’34

~ By Cathy Mishkin, *US History teacher* ~



It is a daunting task to write about Boo and her many accomplishments. I am thrilled to note that I had three opportunities to introduce her while she was working at the school. The first was in 2000 when we dedicated the newly refurbished auditorium to her. The second time was in 2008 when she gave the address at our Cum Laude Assembly, and the last time was in 2013, at Homecoming,

when we dedicated a street sign in her name to stand in front of our new Performing Arts Center. I now have one final opportunity to share with you some thoughts about this amazing woman.

Elizabeth Chapman was born in Brooklyn, New York on May 25, 1916. She attended Low-Heywood and graduated in 1934. She went on to Vassar College and graduated in 1938. She soon married Norman Forster and had two children, a daughter, Priscilla Sellery, and a son, David Forster. In the 1940s Boo lived in New York City and was active in the Junior League as a puppeteer, putting on performances in settlement houses throughout the city. Boo moved to Darien, CT, and in 1955 was hired by Anne Ayres Herrick to teach drama at Low-Heywood. She continued in that position for 45 years adding various other jobs along the way. She officially retired in 2000 but remained as a volunteer art historian for the Modern World History course for three more years.

Many of Boo’s former students remarked that she “changed the course of their high school experience.” She helped students realize their potential. She was remembered as “a woman for all seasons.” She nurtured a love of theater in her students. One former student commented that she “was grateful to be a part of Boo’s world.” Her work in the classroom extended beyond mastering the immediate material at hand, and included touching the lives of her students in profound ways. She always saw the silver lining and worked tirelessly to make sure that those around her shared her vision.

In addition to her teaching and directing, Boo was also a grandmother to her 4 grandchildren and a great grandmother to her 7 great grandchildren. She had an insatiable love of learning, a passion for her family, for sailing, for playing bridge, for doing NYT crossword puzzles, and for taking care of her many dogs. She loved to travel and had extensive knowledge about the world, which she happily shared with her family, her friends and her students.

In 2014 King selected four virtues – integrity, kindness, perseverance and respect – that were thought to best represent the values of our school. There is no better model of these virtues than Boo Forster. She spent every day of her life showing all of us through her actions how to maintain one’s integrity, how to be kind, how to persevere, and how to show respect. She started with us in the twentieth century and her memory lives on in the 21st century. She was a poised, elegant, creative woman, who saw herself as a lifelong learner.

Her accomplishments were many, and her legacy is enduring.



On Sunday, May 31, we came together to celebrate Boo’s life and legacy. We were joined by family, alumni and faculty for an evening of acting, music, and tributes to this beloved member of our community.

We were thrilled to hear memories from Boo’s children David and Priscilla – and given Boo’s love of dogs (and tendency to



always have a black lab following her around), there seemed no more fitting special guest than David’s dog Boomer!

Special thanks to our Alumni performers Jesse Freedman ’00, Megan Koster Gordon ’98, Rachel Dorf Gotler ’99, Chris Nourse ’06, David Nourse ’00, and Ranju Sarkar ’00; and to our speakers Sue Cesare ’48, Ed Cesare ’78,



Kelly Ames Smith ’78, Colin Cosell ’97, and current Chair of the Performing Arts Department Jackie Martino, who announced that the Drama Award, presented annually to a graduating Senior, would henceforth be known as the Boo Forster Award.

SUMMER 2015 CLASS NOTES

*"I remember
No snowballing below
the brook!"*
- Edward Hines '60

CLASS OF 1942

MARY BARTON WILLIAMS lives in Otisfield, ME, and writes, "I'm still alive and kicking at age 90! Anybody else still alive and mentally acute in the Low-Heywood Class of 1942? I'm still doing biological work in the lakes and woods of Southern Maine."

CLASS OF 1945

NANCY STEAD DUBLE writes, "I moved into a retirement place in October and volunteer at Creative Arts Workshop, a 4 year community art school in New Haven."

SUSAN CORNING MANN writes, "I am now living at New Pond Village in Walpole, MA, and am making new friends and involved in lots of activities - exercise, bridge, knitting, etc. I am 85 and still with it!"

CLASS OF 1947

PAUL LEE is retired and a Korean combat veteran. He is a volunteer for Americare, Building Together, Habitat for Humanity, and the VFW. Paul participates in the Memorial and Veterans Day parades and is a previous deacon and elder and a 60-year usher for the Presbyterian Church. Paul is also a 50-year member of the American Chemists' Society and an 18-year consecutive balloon handler for the Stamford Balloon Parade.

CLASS OF 1948

In April **SUE CESARE** was honored by the Stamford Historical Society at their Educators of Excellence gala. She was recognized for her years of leadership and inspiration in the field of education. Congratulations to Sue!

Sue Cesare was honored by the Stamford Historical Society at their Educators of Excellence gala

CLASS OF 1950

BRUCE COOPER tells us, "As of March of 2014, Karen and I moved into Robson Ranch near Cosa Grande, AZ. An active adult community, Robson Ranch has kept us as busy as we want to be. Summers will be spent in cooler climates travelling in our motor home."

CLASS OF 1952

JENIFER "JIFFY" MORGAN MASSEY is a retired Real Estate Broker living in San Clemente, CA. She writes, "I travel 50% of the year to New England and beyond! I have three great kids and eight adorable grandkids. I am an activist for a number of worthwhile causes and a co-chair in 2016 for my 60th Reunion at Brown. I would love to hear from Classmates!"

CLASS OF 1959

JEAN DOIG STOUT tells us, "I moved from much loved Maine to Moorhead, MN. This is a much different life but I love it here also. Grandkids only a mile away, two colleges in town, the people have been very welcoming, and it's a perfect area for biking!"



CLASS OF 1960

EDWARD HINES and his wife Sharon live in Burlington, NC. Edward writes, "I am now retired. My wife and I divide our time between our home in NC and our home at Smith Mountain Lake in VA. We are enjoying our three grandchildren ages three years, one year and four months. I remember "No snowballing below the brook!"

CLASS OF 1962

LEWIS COHEN lives in Northbrook, IL, and tells us that he is "Loving retirement!"

CLASS OF 1963

JANE GOLIN STROM and husband Joel live in Tampa, FL. Jane writes, "Hi, classmates. I was happy to see that Mrs. Forster was remembered as a wonderful, supportive teacher. Joel and I will be in Boston and visiting our daughter and her family in Wilton, CT, in June and then going to Yosemite, Napa/Sonoma and the Redwoods in July. Our oldest grandchild, Joss, will start university in England in September. Time flies! If anyone is headed for the west coast of Florida, call me at (813) 334-6812. My sister, Nancy Golin Wiadro '62, lives not too far from us in Naples with her husband Jack."

CLASS OF 1966

RICHARD JACKSON tells us, "I am now retired after 30+ years working as a high school guidance counselor in rural Sussex County, NJ. At last year's Homecoming, I enjoyed catching up with classmates Harry Kast, John Cerrone, and Stewart Rosenblum but was saddened to hear of the passing of classmate James Rongoe on August 9, 2012. Looking forward to the Class of 1966's 50th reunion in 2016!"



Libby Byers Moore '71, Susan Mideleer Mleczo '70 and Madeline Barrows Cooke '68

CLASS OF 1971

LIBBY BYERS MOORE hosted a Thomas School mini-Reunion at her home in Rhode Island in March. She sent us this photo of her with fellow alums **SUSAN MIDDELEER MLECZKO '70** and **MADLINE BARROWS COOKE '68**.

CLASS OF 1973

CAROL GRUNEWALD attended the University of Pennsylvania and has lived in Washington, DC, with husband Jeremy Rifkin for almost 30 years. Carol works in the field of animal welfare and rights. She writes, "Yikes! I'm 60!! Happy Birthday to all my 'mates who are turning 60 this year!! How did this happen?"



SCOTT MORRIS recently received his Certified Association Executive (CAE) credential from the CAE Commission of the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), joining more than 4,000 industry leaders worldwide. He successfully completed a nearly 2-year course of study and passed the CAE Examination administered nationwide in December 2014. The CAE program serves to elevate professional standards, enhance individual performance, and designate those who have acquired and have demonstrated knowledge essential to the practice of association management. Scott will be honored, along with the rest of his class of new CAEs, during the 2015 ASAE Annual Meeting and Exposition in Detroit, MI, on August 8-11. Scott is the Director of State and Local Affairs for the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) International, based in Washington, DC.

CLASS OF 1976

DIANA PLOTKIN LEBLANC lives in Londonderry, NH, and writes that she is, "feeling very blessed - my youngest just finished her senior year early at Suffolk University and is employed as a Social Media Manager. My boys both graduated and are working and happy and healthy and 26! Yikes. Am still at IBM going on 34 years and married 27 years. Loving being a grandma to an adorable 4 year old.

"Hi to everyone. Fun reaching out through Facebook and hope to see you at the next reunion!" - Diana Plotkin LeBlanc

GEORGE SCHWARTZ and wife Martha live in Hingham, MA. George is CEO of Boston Private Bank.

SUMMER 2015 CLASS NOTES *CONTINUED...*

CLASS OF 1979

DAVID LAWLOR the President at Fortis International - the largest investor-owned gas and electric distribution utility in Canada. He also serves as the Vice President of Horizon Aviation Group, Inc. David lives in Sarasota, FL.

CLASS OF 1980

JIM BECKER shares the great news that he will be receiving a Dream Award from the United Way of the Bay Area. The United Way explains, "The Dream Award lauds the efforts of someone working with a community-based organization — shifting culture and systems to help cut poverty. This dreamer will have pushed for a new, innovative approach within their school, agency or organization that has resulted in lives changed.

Jim Becker has been fighting poverty in Contra Costa County for more than 25 years. He is credited with raising \$52 million for five neighborhood redevelopment projects in Richmond, which have contributed to a 75 percent decline in violent crime.

Becker has been approached by local, national and international representatives looking to replicate his success in community transformation. He is currently the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Richmond Community Foundation, where he continues to mobilize community leaders and members to support policies and programs that address the systemic causes of poverty. Becker is also the Co-Chair of the Campaign to Cut Poverty in Contra Costa County." Congratulations to Jim on this high honor!

CLASS OF 1981

JEFFREY DECOSTER has been working as a freelance illustrator since he graduated from Art Center College of Design in 1989. His work has been published in many national magazines including Rolling Stone, Time, Esquire, The New

*"... I'll never forget the evening when I looked out my bedroom window and saw a torch of flame shooting up hundreds of feet into the night sky from the direction of the school, which turned out to be the night we lost the iconic windmill."
- Jeffrey Decoster '81*

Yorker, Forbes, Harpers, and the Atlantic Monthly. Jeffrey is a four-time winner of the Gold Medal from the New York Society of Illustrators. His work has been featured regularly in both the American Illustration Annual and the Communication Arts Illustration Annual. He currently lives in Pasadena. Jeffrey tells us, "I still think of King School with fond memories. My family home was across the street and through a few back yards so I was able to walk to school and I made good use of the soccer fields for play during the weekends despite the groundskeeper (Mr. Konsi) trying to shoo me away.

CLASS OF 1990

DR. AUDREY WAGNER (middle top row) recently left for earthquake stricken Kathmandu, Nepal, as part of "Team C" of the Delaware Medical Relief Team. Audrey is now in ER/Critical Care and other members of Team C are a surgeon, a sports medicine MD, and several physician assistants. Thank you, Audrey and Team C!

Audrey left for earthquake stricken Kathmandu, Nepal as part of "Team C" of the Delaware Medical Relief Team.



Thank you Audrey and Team C!

CLASS OF 1997

RORY DONAHUE recently moved into Manhattan and took a new job as Marketing and Communications Director at GMR Marketing.

CLASS OF 2000

MAUDE MURPHY ANCONE and her husband Jim live in Fairfield, CT. They welcomed a baby girl, Olivia Lissette, in November.



Maude Murphy Ancone, husband Jim and baby Olivia Lissette

CLASS OF 2003

JEREMY BUCCOLO lives in Rowayton, CT, and is an Executive Coordinator for Vineyard Vines.

KATHERINE CAREY writes, "2015 has brought many exciting developments! In February, my husband Nicolas and I got

married in a private ceremony at New Haven City Hall. We will be relocating to France in June for Nicolas' new job at the Toulouse School of Economics. After three years as Public Relations Director at Creative Arts Workshop, I will miss dearly all of the friends I have made in the New Haven community. However, I am looking forward to embarking on a new adventure – learning French! – and being able to pursue my artwork full-time. I'll look forward to the alumni updates! Best wishes to the class of 2003 – stay in touch!"

CLASS OF 2005

CALLIE BARKER is an MFA student and lives in Brooklyn, NY.

ELIZABETH BYRNES lives in New York, NY, and works in Ad Sales for NBC Sports.

GRETCHEN HAHN recently moved back to Connecticut and is living in Westport. She is loving her new job for Octagon, Inc., managing the nationwide launch tour of the new BMW 7 Series and traveling the country. She is racking up plenty of frequent flyer miles, but still sees Lauren Russell regularly.

CLASS OF 2006

LIA ALLEN attended Johnson & Wales University (where she earned a BS in International Hospitality and Tourism) and Les Roches School for International Hospitality Management (where she earned her Associates Degree in International Hospitality Business Management and her Swiss Hotel Association Diploma). Lia lives in Chicago, IL, and is a Health Food Chef and Yoga Instructor.

In mid-April, Lia Allen headed out on an exciting journey - a 3,100 mile hike along the Continental Divide Trail to raise money for a cause that is close to her heart.

CLASS OF 2007

KEVIN DEREGT and **JEFF LONSBURY** ran the Boston Marathon in April to raise money for Camp Shriver. For more information on Kevin's and Jeff's training, check out the Alumni Blog they wrote for us over the winter. Kevin also tells us, "I moved out of Boston last spring after I got accepted into business school, and am currently taking a year off before starting at school in the fall of 2015. I'm living on a sailboat and doing something called the 'Great Loop,' which is basically a big circle around the eastern half of the U.S. There are many more details on my blog (thederegory.wordpress.com) if you're interested!"

VICTORIA SANTOS-BUCH writes, "On the day after Thanksgiving, I became engaged to my boyfriend, Michael Mullane. The wedding will be sometime within the first half of 2016. I'm still teaching 2nd-4th grade students with dyslexia and/or related learning differences at McGlannan School in Miami. Michael works in the finance department for the Miami Marlins baseball team. We are very excited for the next chapter of our lives together!"

CAITLIN WEINSTOCK is a Class of 2014 graduate of the American University Washington College of Law. She recently moved to Rochester, NY, where she is an associate in the Land, Environment and Energy Practice Group at Phillips Lytle LLP.



Kevin deRegt and Jeff Lonsbury ran the Boston Marathon in April to raise money for Camp Shriver.



Victoria Santos-Buch and fiance, Michael Mullane

"On the day after Thanksgiving, I became engaged to my boyfriend, Michael Mullane ... We are very excited for the next chapter of our lives together!"

SUMMER 2015 CLASS NOTES *CONTINUED ...*

CLASS OF 2008

JOHN QUA graduated from Brown University with a BA in International Relations, and works as an Assistant Director at Environment New York, a citizen-based environmental advocacy firm.

ALEX DOERING is a consultant at Cambridge Associates in Boston, MA, and joined us at the Boston Alumni Event.

CLASS OF 2009

MIKE SANTORO worked for Clark Construction in DC right after graduation and recently moved to New York to start a new job with KPMG.

CLASS OF 2010

MOLLY RATHER works as an account executive at Momentum Worldwide, an event marketing agency for American Express.

CLASS OF 2011

NICK BASS will be graduating Indiana University this spring, and joining Bank of America Merrill Lynch's Healthcare Group as an analyst.

JONATHAN BERGER will be graduating from Wake Forest University's Business School and will begin work at Barclay's in June.

ELLIOT MORRILL is graduating from Hobart and William Smith, where he was captain of the sailing team and studied geoscience. Elliott has been accepted into a competitive graduate program at the University of Miami, where he will undertake a two-semester master's program alongside a 3-to-12 month long internship.

CLASS OF 2012

CARTER ANATOLE is a junior at Cornell in the School of Hotel Administration minoring in real estate. He'll be spending the summer in Dallas, TX as an intern with a real estate developer specializing in the hotel industry.

COLLEEN MORRIS is a student at RPI.

CLASS OF 2014

In March, **ALEX BRITTON** and **VIRGINIA MYERS** debuted "Rove," an app they co-created. A location based iPhone app, Rove allows users to share information with other users within the same area. Rove began as a Senior project at King and is now available in the app store!

JAMES QUIGLEY is a student in the Elliot School of International Affairs at George Washington University in Washington, DC.

IN MEMORIAM

*Elizabeth Chapman ("Boo")
Forster '34*

Mary Gillett Rockefeller '40

Ellen Smythe Brakely '62

Dustin Arthur Smith '01

Courtney Byrnes '03



Keep in touch!

We'd love to hear from you. Send any updates and images to be included in Class Notes to Betsy Gell at bgell@klht.org.



www.twitter.com/kingstamford



<https://www.facebook.com/KingLowHeywoodThomas>



Search for "King Low Heywood Thomas" and join our Alumni networking group!



www.Instagram.com/kingstamford



Archives from the Attic

by Rick Starr



Times and Traditions Fondly Remembered

Congratulations to the Class of 2015! It is a statement like no other. The gravity of it represents the commencement of a wider more complete life. It's the end of a phase of education that is filled with memories, accomplishments, and traditions that every graduating senior has earned and relishes.

The King Low Heywood Thomas archives are filled with just such traditions, visible symbols of past graduation classes, photos and documents that bear testament to the culture and life of our School. What is remarkable is that these traditions that identify the school of our past, when looked at, seem often times very familiar to us.

I took this opportunity to ask Sue Cesare '48, former Head of School, who has endless memories of King past and present, to comment on some of the traditions she remembers most vividly. Senior pranks were the first thing on her mind. A particular favorite was a King class of persistent seniors who managed to park a Volkswagen Beetle inside the foyer of the main building. Others included the newspapers that were used to stuff the piano at morning meeting. The newspapers totally muffled the downbeat of a staunch member of the Music faculty. This was always done in good fun with goodwill. The best pranks mark the cohesive and creative qualities of a senior class.

Past Commencement speakers were a particular favorite topic in Sue Cesare's memory, with Don Imus the popular and sometimes-controversial radio personality being perhaps at the head of the list. "We were nervous but wanted to maintain the tradition of the graduates choosing the class speaker. When all was said and done Don Imus gave a wonderfully appropriate address to the graduates," said Sue.

This list is endless, as are the memories of each senior that crosses the dais and exits with a well-earned diploma. Hold on to your memories and ...

From Class Prophecies to highlighting the idiosyncrasies of a favorite teacher, traditions are deeply entrenched in the culture of King Low Heywood Thomas. When it comes to the ceremony itself, the traditions continue:

- *White dresses for women is a long-standing tradition as evidenced by the photographs of past graduating classes from Low- Heywood and Thomas.*
- *White flowers for Thomas, red flowers for Low-Heywood.*
- *King men wore caps and gowns.*

Congratulations to the Class of 2015!

A Standing Ovation for The Annual Fund!



Annual Fund

KING LOW HEYWOOD THOMAS

Thank you to the King community – Parents, Grandparents, Faculty, Staff, Trustees, Alumni, and Friends for your generous gifts of \$2.3M to the 2014-2015 Annual Fund. With your support, our tradition of excellence continues.



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Summer 2015

