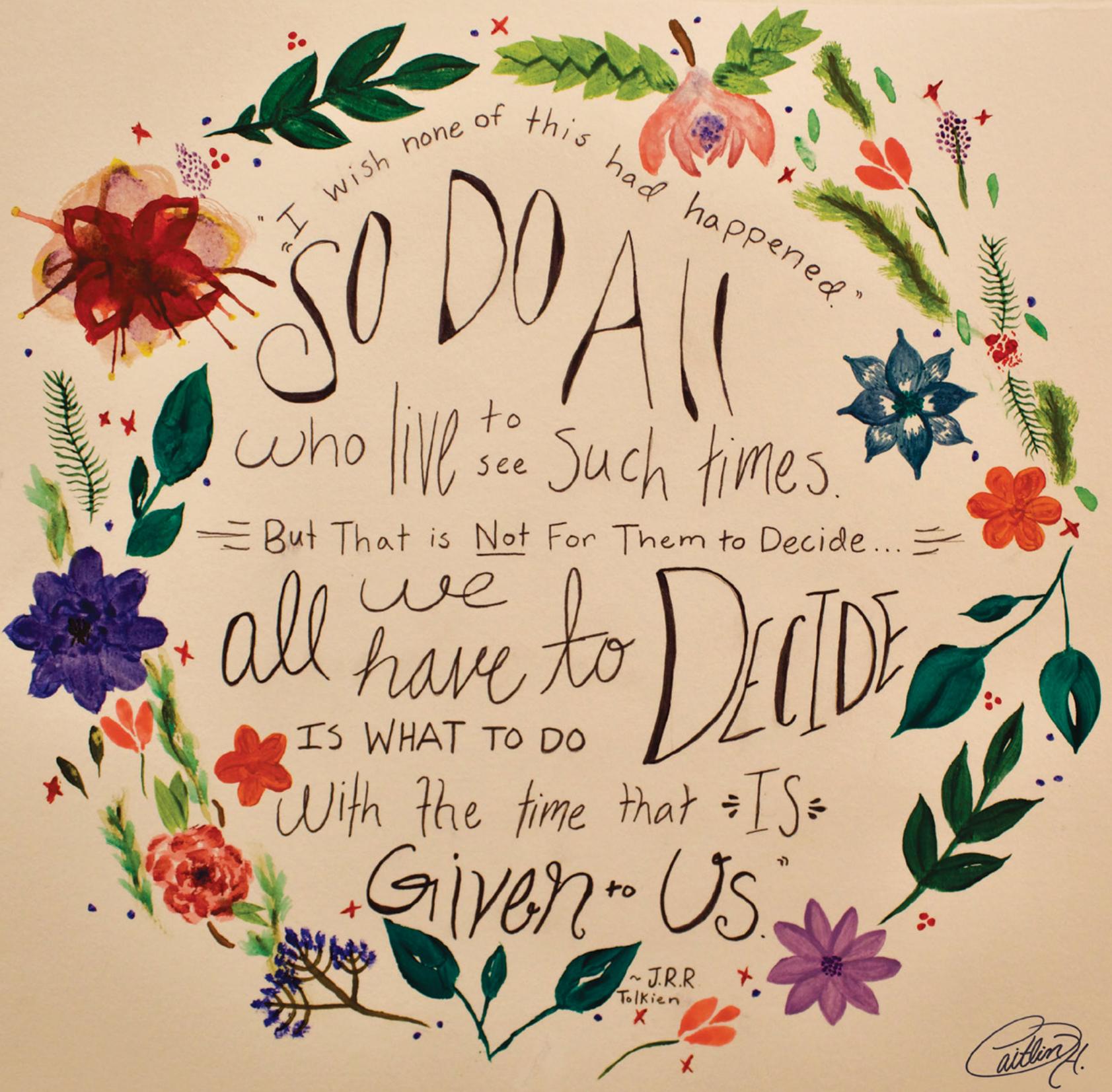


Perspectives

Summer 2020 Volume XII | Issue 2



"I wish none of this had happened."

SO DO ALL

who live to see such times.

≡ But That is Not For Them to Decide... ≡

all we have to **DECIDE**

IS WHAT TO DO
With the time that **IS**
Given to Us.

~ J.R.R. Tolkien

Callie

Perspectives

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Perspectives is a publication intended for the alumni, parents, friends and students of Hilton Head Preparatory School. *Perspectives* is published by the Hilton Head Preparatory School Development Office two times each school year.

Story ideas or address changes may be sent to bwilkinson@HHPprep.org or to Hilton Head Preparatory School Communications, 8 Fox Grape Road, Hilton Head Island, SC 29928. We reserve the right to edit submissions for length, style or clarity.

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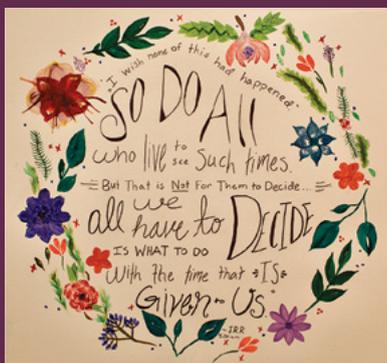
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MISSION

A safe, caring and accepting community enables Hilton Head Prep to mold students of strong character. Through students' engagement with exemplary faculty, participation in co-curricular arts and athletic programs, and meaningful involvement with the community, Prep will prepare competent and motivated students to succeed in college and beyond. Hilton Head Prep's curriculum will incorporate a solid foundation with critical thinking skills while leveraging students' creativity in preparing them to thrive in an ever-changing world

Hilton Head Preparatory School admits students of any race, color, national, ethnic, or religious affiliation to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school.

It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, financial aid, and athletic or other school-administered programs.



Prep senior Caitlin Heidel '20 won the second Prep Spirit contest with her inspirational quote. Bonus: she did all the artwork herself! Caitlin will be attending the University of Tennessee in the fall!

GROWTH THROUGH ADVERSITY

Usually, life-altering experiences such as war, natural disasters, disease, acts of terrorism, economic depression, and social unrest have generally challenged generations independently. Suffice it to say, the first half of 2020 seemed to include all of the above, forcing this generation of students to focus on learning how to prioritize, adapt, manage stress, self-reflect, sacrifice, and grow through adversity at a rapid pace.

I would like to recognize the remarkable perseverance of our student body as we all adjusted to the new school environment—students in all three divisions discovered how to learn in new ways and stay connected through technology. We finished the school year strong, and although our graduation services were different, we were thrilled to honor our graduates with in-person ceremonies to launch the Class of 2020 into the next chapter of their lives!

As an educator at Hilton Head Prep, I am fortunate to see the best in what our society has to look forward to, our next generation. We enjoy one of the most diverse school communities in the area, and we take for granted that our safe, nurturing, and accepting environment is the norm. We are not without conflict, there is no shortage of opinions, we span the spectrum on all social issues, but what holds true is our expectation for tolerance and respect when having an open dialogue.

To quote Judge Taylor from Harper Lee's *To Kill A Mockingbird*, "People generally see what they look for and hear what they listen for." It seems our society is more polarized than ever before because people are seeing what they want to see, hearing what they want to hear, and no one is willing to find common ground. I believe a truly educated person listens to more than just one narrative when drawing a conclusion tempered with humility and respect for all. Change begins with each one of us. We will continue to have educational conversations about the social unrest occurring in our nation. In the school environment, students listen to each other, learn from each other, and respect each other. Hopefully, this respect will transfer into the outside community as we help to raise globally-minded citizens.

It seems like an understatement to say, "No one knows what the future will hold." What we do know is that Hilton Head Prep will continue to adapt in order to support our students and their families. Together, we will overcome the obstacles presented to us.

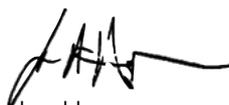
Based on current projections and circumstances, Hilton Head Prep has announced its academic program for the opening of school for the 2020-2021 school year. With the health and well-being of our students, employees, and families at the forefront of our mind, the school has developed a well-structured plan and will welcome students back to campus! Those that elect to or must remain at home will have access to live-feed instruction. Prep is making a significant investment to equip each classroom with cameras and monitors so students at home will get the same program as those at school. To see the full back to school plan visit our website at www.HHPrep.org.

We will hold true to our mission to provide a safe environment with an excellent educational outcome.

I am proud of our students, I am proud of our faculty and staff, and I appreciate our parents for their support. We are indeed a fantastic community that will come together and overcome whatever challenge is before us.



GO DOLPHINS!


Jon Hopman
Headmaster

Faculty & Staff Highlights

Alyssa Gillis [MS Spanish] and her husband Humberto Garcia Cruz got married on March 14 at Spanish Wells. They met in Mexico, where they were coworkers at an orphanage in 2013-2014. Alyssa was born and raised on Hilton Head Island but just recently moved back this past summer for her job at Prep and to settle down after living all over the place since high school (Greenville, SC, Chile, Mexico, Switzerland, Florence, SC, and El Paso, TX). Humberto moved here this summer from Mexico.



Chef Chuck Browning [Director of Food Services] volunteered for Backpack Buddies food distribution with Saint Andrew by the Sea Church at their Bluffton Campus in late March. Backpack Buddies of Hilton Head was designed to fight weekend hunger and has grown to help children in all public schools on Hilton Head Island. Elementary aged children at partner schools receive nutritious food each Friday during the school year. Children in middle and high school are offered snack packs during the school day whenever needed. Many of the children in our community rely on free or reduced meals they receive at school and food at home can be unreliable. Backpack Buddies of Hilton Head works to fill that gap by providing nutritious, child-friendly food for school children to take home over the weekend and older children to have during the week.

Bob Sulek [US Math] has had a very busy second semester from home. His daughters Anna and Maggie planted a vegetable garden in the backyard with a high fence to keep out the animals. They also turned their sunroom into an art studio. They put down laminated wood floors, painted, and removed the furniture and the screens from the windows. Bob has been busy taking Coursera classes, watching a Star Trek Picard series, and has ratcheted up his running to 40-60 minutes daily!

Peg Hamilton [US English] has been named a Distributed Table Leader and a member of the pre-reading team for this year's AP Language & Composition reading helping to score 538,150 essays all online. In addition, during the quarantine, Peg's cats had the opportunity to play outside for the first time. They love sitting in the sun, but they are freaking out the birds!

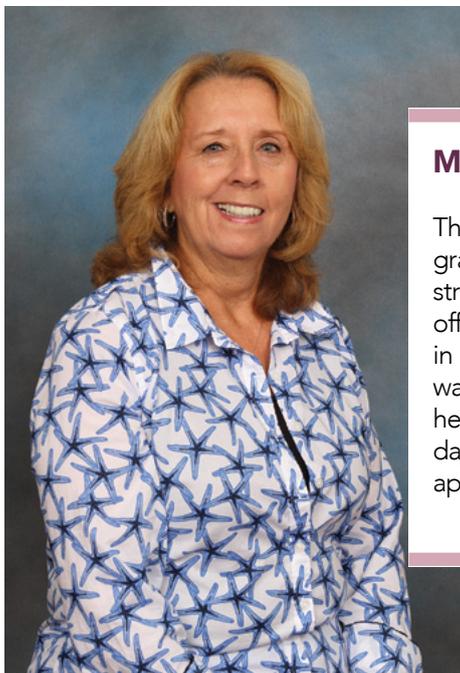
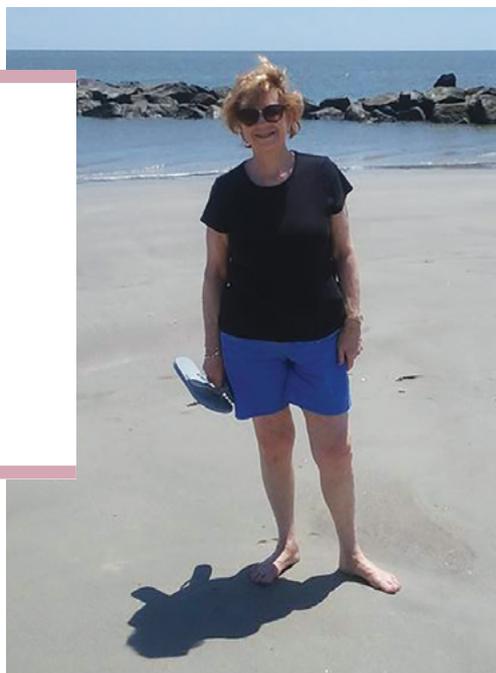


Congratulations to **Joachim LaValley** [Director of Technology] for receiving the 2020 Anne M.H. Ellis Bravo Dolphin Award. Named in 2017 in memory of Anne Ellis who served the school loyally and lovingly as a member of the staff for over 42 years, this honor is given in recognition of the member of the faculty or staff of Hilton Head Preparatory School who has inspired others and enriched our common experience by the consistent demonstration of a selfless dedication to students, colleagues, and the entire Prep Community.

Retiring but never forgotten...

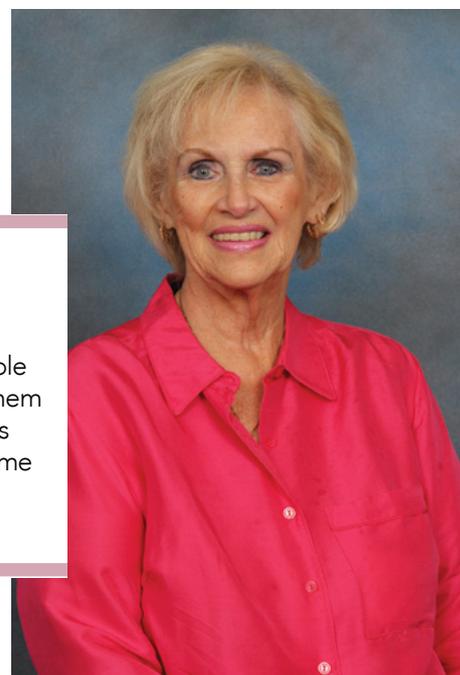
Ann Petrie...

For those of us who have been at Prep for years, we may remember Mrs. Petrie as a first-grade teacher back in the lower school classroom that is now the music room. Ann Petrie has taught generations of students and has watched with pleasure and pride as they became young adults. She recently brought that same love of each and every one of her students back into the classroom working with some of the youngest children on our campus, nurturing them with that same strong yet compassionate heart we grew to love over her years here at Prep. But, as they say, all good things must come to an end, so it is with heartfelt love and thanks that we wave goodbye to Mrs. Petrie.



Marilyn Calore...

The little sign on Marilyn Calore's door reads: "Start each day with a positive thought and a grateful heart." As we look ahead to the start of the 2020-2021 school year, it will seem awfully strange not to hear Mrs. Calore's distinctive laugh or watch as she draws a student into her office for a heartfelt talk. But Mrs. Calore taught us so much during her time at Prep...not just in her psychology class but as someone who was "always there for us". Even if her busy day was already full, she made time for whoever needed her. If someone needed to pour out his or her heart, Mrs. Calore was always there to listen. She gave each of us permission to begin our days with a positive thought, and she embodied someone with a grateful heart. We love and appreciate Mrs. Calore and wish her well.



Peggy Kennedy...

As administrative assistant in the upper school and then as assistant to the athletic director, Peggy Kennedy definitely wore many hats during her 19 years at Prep. But while she was able to juggle many tasks successfully, her first love was for the students. Indeed, she spoke of them as part of her extended family. And if you ever spent time with her, you know that family was everything to her! So we know that she will be enjoying lots of quality time and perhaps some travel (as the nation's health improves), and we know she will be delighting in the "wearin' of the green" on every St. Patrick's Day! Thanks for all you did for us.

2020 ISCA Promising Picassos Student Art Exhibitions

The Island School Council for the Arts in partnership with The Arts Center of Coastal Carolina held their 2020 ISCA Promising Picassos Student Art Exhibition from February 7 to March 3 in the Wood's Community Room at the Arts Center of Coastal Carolina. Over 80 impressive works were on display and open to the public for viewing. We would like to congratulate Prep's 23 student artists whose work was accepted this year. Since 1971, the Island School Council for the Arts has proudly supported promising artists and their art teachers through initiatives like the ISCA Promising Picassos Student Art Exhibitions.

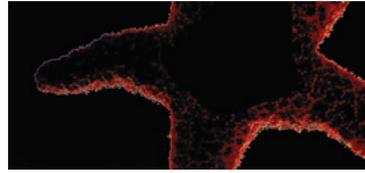
UPPER SCHOOL



Sophia Paris – Grade 9



Annie Zhu – Grade 11



Annie Braun – Grade 10



Sterling Burd – Grade 10



Susan Brooks – Grade 12



Will Gray – Grade 11



Abi Mendoza – Grade 10



Maggie Zasztowt – Grade 12

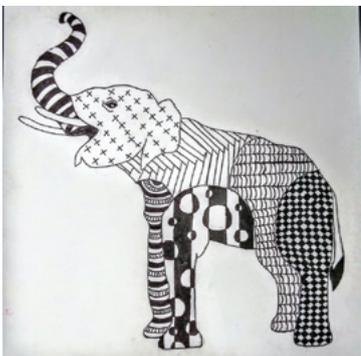


Haylee Hopman – Grade 10

MIDDLE SCHOOL



Doug Hubbard – Grade 8



Ransom Edwards – Grade 7



Bridget Heidel – Grade 8



Drew Harrington – Grade 7



Elise Sullivan – Grade 7



Shelby Kline – Grade 7



Elizabeth Eisinger – Grade 8

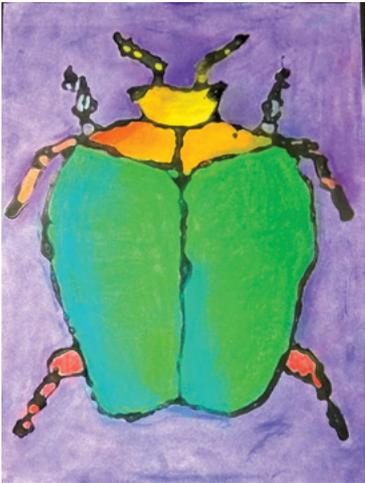
LOWER SCHOOL



Gwen Epstein – Grade 5



Karis Myers – Grade 2



Grady Cherrington-Dunton – Grade 5



Michael Dowling – Grade 3



Piper Duncan – Grade 1



Surina Patel – Grade 3

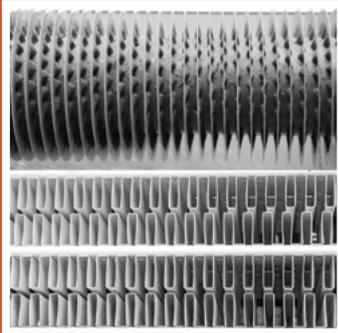


Ashley Brothers – Grade 5

Frederica Carson Art Purchase Awards

The Fine Arts Department is pleased to announce the twenty-first annual Frederica Carson Art Purchase Awards competition. Each May students are invited to submit artwork for consideration to a committee consisting of the Headmaster, a member of the Board of Trustees, two faculty members, and Mrs. Frederica Carson. The committee selects works of art from the lower, middle, and upper school divisions. The student artists whose work is selected receive a purchase prize, and their work is matted, framed, and permanently displayed throughout the school.

2020 Frederica Carson Art Purchase Award Recipients



Ella Alsko - Grade 12



William Wang - Grade 10



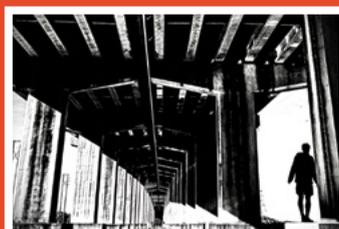
Maggie Zasztowt - Grade 12



Thor Pullon - Grade 11



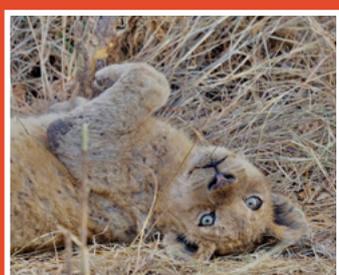
Ashlyn Kay - Grade 2



Mia Calamari - Grade 11



Haylee Hopman - Grade 10



Annie Braun - Grade 10

Disney BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

By: Peg Hamilton

©Disney



A famed magician once said, "Magic is the art of misdirection." That may be true when one is trying to make an elephant disappear on stage, but in the case of Hilton Head Prep's production of *Beauty and the Beast*, direction was everything! And indeed that's what happened on the Hilton Head Preparatory School Main Street Theatre stage!

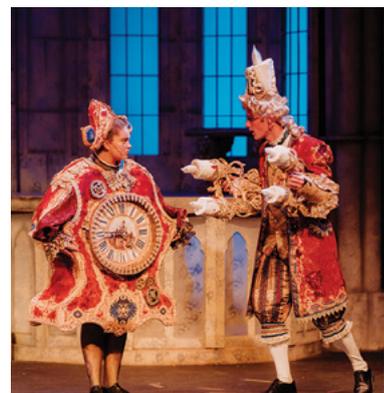
With a cast numbering over 50 students from literally every grade at Prep, director Patti Maurer and music director Lauren Stuligross brought this magical tale to life with vivid acting, wonderful singing, and delightful dancing. And, oh, the costumes! What glorious colors! Every element of this production -- including the staging and the set design -- brought this age-old story to life...and we all watched in breathless anticipation as Belle and her Beast finally found true love.

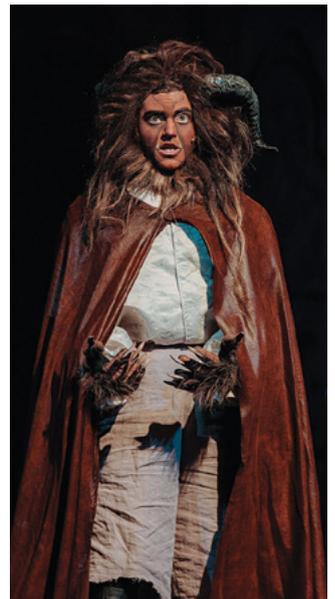
But, as most of us know, true love often does not happen easily. Everyone in real life, and every character in virtually all works of literature, wants one thing: to love and to be loved. To have someone to talk with, to share dreams and ambitions with, to weather the heartbreaks and share the joys...that is truly what the magic of love is.

Le Belle et la Bete, from which *Beauty and the Beast* is taken from, is a French fairy tale first published in 1740. In this tale, Belle (our strong-woman heroine) feels trapped in her provincial town. Her father, who himself is being held captive by an ugly beast, needs his daughter to rescue him from the beast. And the beast himself, who is really a handsome prince in disguise, has been entrapped by an enchantress.

First a fairy tale then a Disney film then a Broadway play, *Beauty and the Beast* has worked its magic for years. And here too, for a few glorious nights in February, we also shared the magic. And as we look back in wonder at this year's productions, we can only anticipate with eager excitement what lies ahead in the 2020-2021 school year!

Congratulations to everyone who helped make this magic happen!







Varsity Boys Basketball ~ Coach Jerry Faulkner

Coming off a State Championship season (the first in boys basketball at Prep in 28 years), this team knew that every opponent would put forth their best effort. The team accepted the challenge and sought to establish their own identity despite losing five seniors off last year's team, two of whom accepted basketball college scholarships. This team's four seniors, all of whom were starters (Luke Bennett, Tyrone Calloway, Stone McDonald, and Felipe Mendoza) provided great leadership, and the team again, for the 8th year in a row, was state playoff bound. Their final record was 21-7, and they finished second in the region by only one game.

Post-season honors were numerous. The regional coaches voted Tyrone Calloway and Stone McDonald to First Team All-Region and junior Luke Foley to Second-Team All-Region. Calloway was chosen to participate in the Georgia/South Carolina All Star Game in Augusta, GA, where he led the South Carolina team to victory. Calloway has accepted a basketball scholarship to Catawba College. Stone McDonald, chosen for the North-South All-Star Game in Sumter, SC, also played a key role in his team's victory.

At this time, only two awards have been announced with the others hopefully at a school assembly in the fall. As usual, I have the teams vote on the awards, and Stone McDonald was chosen by his teammates as the winner of the "Outstanding Team Contribution" award for his inspirational leadership both on and off the court. During football season, Stone suffered a serious nose injury, which required surgery. During basketball season, he had to wear a protective mask during practice and games. He never complained or used this as an excuse. To me, this was typical Stone.

The winner of the "Scholar Athlete Award" for boys basketball goes to an outstanding young man featured in a *Hilton Head Monthly* article. The accomplishments of Felipe Mendoza both in the classroom and out cannot be over-emphasized. Felipe was chosen as a Questbridge Scholar and earned a full scholarship to The University of Chicago.

It was a privilege to coach this team, and I am very proud of them. They brought nothing but compliments to Prep and carried on the program's traditions both on and off the court. It was another season of no technicals and life lessons through basketball. I hope that these lessons will be with them always, some of which they may not have realized at the time. For example, I have always asked my teams to ride back together on the bus after games, even though many times they could have chosen to ride home with their parents. I told them that through my athletic experience the opportunity of being on the bus to share "the thrill of victory or the agony of defeat" together would be a lasting memory. This team did that. Many times all 12 team members chose to ride back on the bus and many times, I sat and smiled as I listened to their togetherness. Little did we know that this opportunity to share time together would soon be taken from us and would be questionable about returning any time soon. Let us hope it is sooner rather than later so that the lessons of sharing time together when the opportunities present themselves will not be wasted.

Varsity Girls Basketball ~ Coaches Dan Sheehan and Mike Kilpatrick

The 2019-2020 Girls Varsity Basketball team had a successful season due in large part to our collective positive attitude and our willingness to work hard and give our best efforts.

Despite finishing the season with a record of 12 wins and 15 losses and a 2-8 region record, it can be argued that this year's team was the best Prep girls basketball team since 2010.

This year's team won the most games in a season since 2010. This year's team won its first playoff game since 2010. Our first playoff victory

came vs. Marlboro Academy when the girls played one of their best games of the year resulting in a convincing 39-24 victory at the Sumter Civic Center. We had a chance in our second round playoff game vs. Oakbrook Prep, when we were leading late in the 3rd quarter, but we could not hold on for the win. This year's team excelled on defense, despite our lack of size. We held opponents to 30 points per game. With Kierstin Clark stopping the ball and Maddie Frank protecting the paint, and Haylee Hopman all over the floor as the "Amoeba," our intense team defense made it tough for opponents to score on us.

This year's team played a very competitive schedule. We played 12 games against teams that won at least 20 games. We played against four teams this year that were state champions. Regardless of the score, we lost many hard fought games against more talented teams. I was proud that our girls never quit. We did defeat cross-town rival Hilton Head High School, 28-23, in a defensive battle that was definitely one of the highlights of our season.

Our team consisted of five seniors, four sophomores, and one eighth grader. Senior Noelle Saylor joined the team as a 10th grader. Senior Maddie Frank was our "Rookie of the Year" during her first year playing basketball. Senior Ella Alsko was a dedicated four-year member of our team. She is the recipient of this year's "Best Teammate" Award, which was voted on by her teammates. Senior Mackenzie Joyner, also a dedicated four-year member of our team, is the recipient of this year's "Coach's Award". She was our most versatile player, playing all five positions on the floor utilizing her talents as a ball handler, steady shooter, and smart defender. She has been a quiet leader who helped keep our team glued together. The last of our five seniors is our point guard, Kierstin Clark. She was coming off an injury that forced her to miss all of last season. After a few games, it was clear that she was back to her old ways, diving on the floor, banging into her opponents, ripping the ball away from her opponents, and matching up with the best player on the other team. A starter since her 8th grade season, she was recognized by the coaches in our region this year as an Honorable Mention All-Region player. She has been recognized as an All Region player every year of her career at Prep. Her teammates voted to recognize her for all of her contributions to our team. She is the recipient of this year's "Outstanding Team Contribution" Award. Our team has been blessed to have many amazing student-athletes on our team. It is fitting that on a team full of scholar athletes, Kierstin was recognized for her academic excellence with this year's "Scholar Athlete" Award.

Our talented class of sophomores was led by Ella Clark, a starter since her 8th grade season, who was both our leading scorer (10 points/game) and a Second-Team All-Region Player. Haylee Hopman made significant contributions on defense and with her outside shooting. Abi Mendoza was our sixth man who always played with great energy and emotion. Annie Braun, a starter since 8th grade, was sidelined with an injury and missed the last 20 games of our season. Gracie Henderson, just an 8th grader, showed her talents for scoring with both her outside shot and driving to the basket.

It will be a challenge to replace our five amazing seniors, but a new standard has been set for our returning players to continue to always have a positive attitude and give their best efforts every day.

Junior Varsity Boys Basketball ~ Coach Phillip Hartman

The 2019-20 JV basketball season started with eight new players, a new coach, and only one returning player. In some ways, the team started from scratch. However, in spite of our humble beginning, the



players improved, the team improved, and by the end of the season, they developed the qualities of a fine team. I look forward to next season.

Middle School Girls Basketball ~ Coach Mark Corliss

What seasons were had by the Middle School Girls A and B basketball teams! Character, competitiveness, and compassion defined the girls drive each day in the gym. Impressive wins over St. Francis, Cross School, and Hilton Head Christian revealed the hard work and dedication that the girls brought to the court. Led by Kylie Foley, Emily Brothers, Gabi Klempner, Izzy Bauer, and Bridget Heidel, the 'A' team fought through injuries and absences to finish third in the season-ending tournament. Swing players Elise Sullivan, Sophia Haroutunian, and Anabella Platt also contributed additional athleticism and leadership to both squads. 'B' squad players committed themselves to improving their skills and their work as teammates on a daily basis. Lila Roberts, Merritt Risker, Hayley Epstein, Mabry Sutton, Agnes Gross, Abby Neste, McKenna Ladson, Lyla Alford, Izzy Waz, and Sidney Harrington showed that they will provide a strong backbone for the girls' hoops program in the years to come. Wins over Sea Pines Montessori highlighted the efforts of the 'B' girls season. Congratulations to the excellent work of the 2019-2020 girls teams! We look forward to continued future successes.

Middle School "A" Boys Basketball ~ Coach Ben Kozik

The 2019-2020 Middle School A basketball season was one for the ages. There were rumblings before the season that the team had the potential to be good, but "how good" remained to be seen, since the team was comprised of some new players who had never played together before. That question was answered and any critics were silenced when the team, which finished 17-4 overall, won the County Championship, 32-23, against Riverview -- a game which was tied at 11 at halftime.

The league title, however, was not won by accident. Led by six eighth graders, the team focused on two major components throughout the season -- the belief that they could win and the commitment to do so. Players prepared day-in and day-out by scouting opponents, watching film, and looking for tendencies. The few losses that did occur were not looked at as setbacks, but rather as lessons that were to be learned. When it came time for the playoffs, focused mindsets, unselfish play, and a "no holds barred" approach proved effective. The team laid it all on the court, left it all on the floor, and came away with three straight playoff victories.

A supporting cast of seventh graders showed tremendous potential. They competed hard, learned from the upper classmen, and will look to play major roles in attempting to repeat next season.

The end-of-season awards were presented to Alex Epstein (Most Improved Award), Steele Burd (Coach's Award), and Danny Fernandez (Greatest Team Contributor Award).

Middle School "B" Boys Basketball ~ Coach Kenn Luthanen

Why play sports? Why set goals that are so high you cannot reach them? With 45 middle school boys out for basketball what are you going to do to help all of them have a chance to experience what sports can do to make you a more well-rounded person? After the A team was decided, the B team still had 33 players to choose from. So making this team was an honor in itself. The 13 who made it all became one finely tuned unit pulling for each other to succeed. Improve and win every

game. Who started did not matter, but who was on the court in a close game in the final minutes did. If you were a sixth grader who made this team you showed promise and had to be able to contribute. Sixth graders were Tyler Britschge (who started 85% of the games at forward), Slade Burd (who started 90% of the games at guard), Davis Cargill (one of first guard subs in every game), Calvin Middleton (who started 99% of games at point guard), and Hudson Monts (first year player with plenty of athletic ability to develop). Seventh graders who made this team: AJ Franseen (played any position needed, guard or forward), Gregory Finn (just wanted to play, loves the game), and CW Wiendl (who started 90% of the games at forward). And our 8th grade: JP Carr (one of the first players to sub at guard), Cody Hughes (maybe our most athletic player, best rebounder), Trent Moore (forward, guard, or center--it didn't matter to him), Richard Neste (first year player who just kept getting better), and CJ Patane (who started 85% of time at small forward and volunteered to give JP his starting position as Cody started to dominate at center). What was our record? It doesn't matter but we won far more than we lost. Did we reach our goals? Seems that at the beginning of season I wanted us to improve enough to beat the Boys A team in the Lowcountry Tournament. It did not happen quite that way, as we got crushed. However, that was our goal, to make the final of the boys B tournament even though we lost a close game in the last few minutes. Our reward was to learn we were now in the Lowcountry Tournament. I would like to thank everyone on this team who had to sacrifice time for Saturday 8:15 AM practices and the same during holidays to try to improve their skills. Everyone learned what it means to be a better teammate and how to show sportsmanship.

Middle School "C" Boys Basketball ~ Coach Nicole Hedden

We had a fantastic season for our MS boys C-squad! With the help of Liz Nash, we were able to have a 10-game schedule, we had court time to practice four days a week, and we even got brand new uniforms! We had 14 players on our team, and each and every one of them improved their games, gained basketball knowledge, and improved their sportsmanship on and off the court.

One of the biggest highlights of the year was our impressive win against Sea Pines Montessori at home in the Middle School Gym. We had at least half our team score that night. For the next two weeks, whenever the score clock was turned on for team practices, our score was still there. "Hey Coach, our score is still up there!" We enjoyed that win for weeks! Another highlight was our pizza and shooting party on a random Friday night in the field house. We got the opportunity to use Prep's new Dr. Dish Shooting machine and everyone left tired, sweaty, and fed. What a great night!

However, most of our success was witnessed in our day-to-day practices. We selected a "player of the practice" every day and it was amazing that we all agreed on how a certain person really shined that day. Most all of the boys were our "player of the practice" at some point, and everyone celebrated each other's success in that moment of selection with cheers and high fives.

My hope for these 14 young men is that they learned a little about this great game of basketball, have become excited about getting better on their own, and made memories that will last a long, long time. A huge thank you goes out to HH Prep for encouraging kids in basketball by expanding our programming, to the C-Squad parents who partnered with me all season, and to Mr. Corliss for being an incredible gym-sharing buddy.

B uilding C ommunities

By: Dr. Louise Goodman

In early March, the annual Hilton Head Prep service trip took a group of 12 students to La Fortuna, Costa Rica, located at the foot of the Arenal Volcano. The students did hands-on work at a construction site building a community center that will host after-school programs and community meetings. In a time with non-stop news service and 24-hour social media, we could not be more grateful that the students had the opportunity to disconnect from the world before the peak of COVID-19. As teachers, one of the best experiences you can hope for is to see young people living life without thinking of how to capture the moment for social media.

The goal of a service trip is to disconnect from our own lives and plug into a common mission to build better communities and a better world. While we did visit the hot springs, try whitewater rafting, and savor the local culture, our main purpose was to serve and build. Some of that building goes beyond the physical structures we construct and focuses on building ourselves as global citizens and a support network for one another.

A common thread in our experiences was that we only had a few things: a shared goal and each other. When we were at the work site, we relied on each other to build a community center. When we were whitewater rafting, we relied on each other to paddle and get us to our destination. On our last night in Costa Rica, we all sat in a circle to discuss new human connections we made

during the trip. Each person got a bracelet representing the Costa Rican flag to tie on the hand of the person next to them to symbolize their new connection. We were in a secluded jungle lodge and totally sheltered from words like "social distancing." It was a beautiful experience to see peers literally shake hands and tell each other that they were grateful to have each other.



Building Leaders

Being on a service trip is seeing all of the extracurricular activities, time-management skills, and secret talents of your students come alive in the shape of leadership. The same athletes who spend hours a day conditioning are the ones who take it upon themselves to work tirelessly for hours; the students who balance extracurricular activities and AP courses are the same students who instruct people



on how to build an assembly line and to use resources effectively; the same girls who are on the cheerleading squad walk around and motivate everyone else to keep going; the tennis players who practice precision with every shot are the same experts at leveling concrete; the basketball players are the ones strong enough to push heavy wheelbarrows up steep hills. Despite not being experts in construction, each one of the students proved to excel in project management, collaborating with their peers, and adapting to new environments.



community will have all of the necessary infrastructure to keep the community center working and relevant in the area. As of this year, our program provider, Rustic Pathways, has provided 3,830 people with increased access to clean drinking water, worked on improving 37 school facilities, built 131 new houses that gave 783 people more dignified housing, and constructed 93 bathroom facilities

that serve 1,440 people. Service trips just like ours have completed 187,192 community service hours; this year, we increased that number, and, in words of one of our great student volunteers, Ashlyn Parsick, we all feel

“appreciative of the opportunity to come to a place like this, work, learn, and grow from this experience.”

Building a Better World

Probably one of the best things about this trip was the comfort in knowing that we are part of a long-term, sustainable development project that genuinely serves a community and educates our students about the need to serve sustainable projects. At the site, we saw all of the infrastructure previous groups had built, including a soccer field and a sanitation system. In other words, the



FRÜHLINGSFERIEN IN DEUTSCHLAND

By: Leslie Hart and Mike Foley

Das Willkommen! If you ask any of the eight upper school students who enjoyed a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Germany over spring break in March 2020, they can easily translate this German phrase! This memorable trip, which was to have included both Germany and Switzerland (more on that later), opened up an entirely new world to these travelers.

From Frankfurt, Germany, to Rothenburg, to Munich, students and their chaperones -- Mrs. Hart and Mr. Foley -- saw sights that will live with them forever. First came the cobblestone streets and half-timbered houses in Rothenburg, which led the group to the Dachau Concentration Camp. This was a very somber and moving experience as the group toured both the living quarters and the crematory. Then it was on to Munich and the chiming sounds of the Glockenspiel. Then came a tour of the BMW showroom, truly a shining highlight of the trip.

In Munich, sampling the local food was the order of the day; the treats included



bratwurst, sauerkraut, pork schnitzel, and the traditional Bavarian pretzel. Yum! After Munich, everyone boarded the train for Salzburg, Austria...and what a trip it was to wind through the Alps and the beautiful countryside. Once in Salzburg, everyone got to run around a playground and visit Mozart's birthplace.

By then, excitement was beginning to grow for the next stop on the trip: Switzerland. However, the novel coronavirus had other ideas. Unfortunately, the promise of Switzerland and the Neuschwanstein Castle will have to remain that: a promise. The group found itself grounded in Munich

(which led to more time exploring!) while awaiting a flight from Munich to Paris and then to JFK in New York. However, that flight got canceled.

So, it was onto Plan B...Munich to London! That sounded good, with a planned connection at JFK and then on to Savannah. Not so fast, the novel coronavirus seemed to say. Because of the time needed to pass through customs and then a separate CDC screening, the group missed the flight to Savannah.

No worries! Our intrepid group easily (and cheerfully) connected from LaGuardia through Atlanta and then home! Even though the trip didn't exactly follow the plan, it still provided memories that will last a lifetime! Everyone stayed healthy and, once home, continued to check with each other to make sure all was well. To our German hosts and travel guides, we can only say *danke schon*.

If traveling with friends to wonderful places sparks your interest, make plans now for next spring and a trip to Italy and Greece!



"It was an experience I will never EVER forget. . .from eating sausage every day for dinner to waking up to a travel ban and wondering if I will ever make it home." - Sloan Callen '21



"Being able to go on the trip to Germany was a major pleasure. So many interesting sites to be seen, especially seeing the Glockenspiel in Munich."

- Ezron Daley '21

"It was truly enlightening to be able to experience a different culture over spring break. The lessons that I learned will stay with me, lessons about the history of Germany and the strength of its people."

- Caitlin Heidel '20

"Seeing a different part of the world was absolutely amazing. I enjoyed learning about the culture, the people, and the history of Germany."

- Mrs. Hart



"America is still the greatest country."

- Christian Britschge '20



"This was definitely a trip of a lifetime and I'm glad I got to experience it with my besties!"

- Grace Lanier '21



"This was my first time traveling to Europe and I loved it! We tried new food, met new people and even got to go on a train."

- Emily Klippel '21

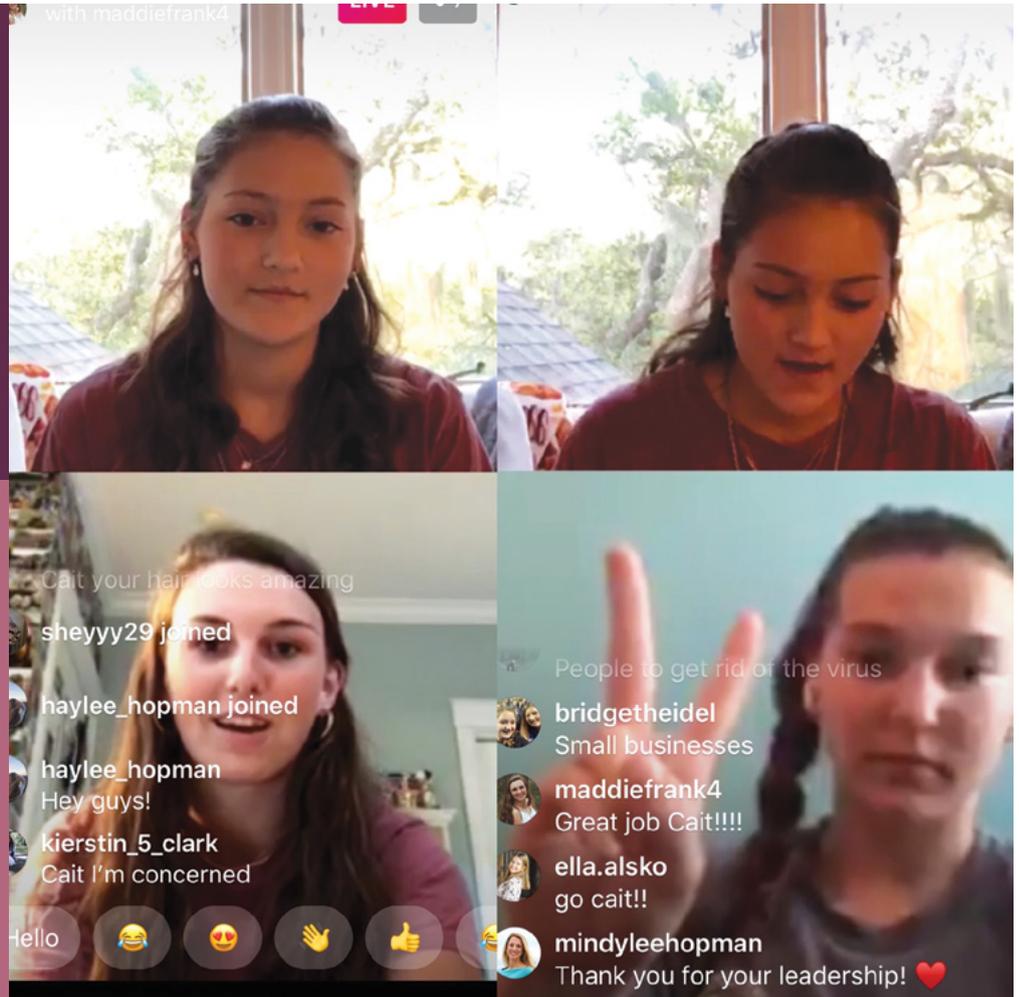


The 2020-2021 Spring Break Trip is to Greece and Italy! Contact Mike Foley at mfoley@hhprep.org for more details.



Leadership in the Virtual Environment through FCA

by Mindy Lee Hopman



Hilton Head Prep offers many leadership opportunities for students. The Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) club provides students with an opportunity to learn leadership skills and apply them through various activities such as organizing and leading campus and team huddles and participating in service projects on campus and within the community.

When the environment changed the second half of the school year, FCA's mission remained the same. Just like school, FCA huddles and projects moved online!

Leadership Huddles: Leadership huddles continued to meet weekly on Zoom. During leadership huddles, key leadership traits such as integrity, teamwork, service, and excellence were taught, as well as what taking care of one's own heart looks like first before leading others.

Campus Huddles: Campus huddles moved to the Instagram Live platform, where students gathered their friends for huddles that took place exactly as they would on campus. There was a welcome (announcements), a warm-

up (game), a workout (message), and a wrap-up (prayer). Planning for Instagram Live campus huddles took place within the leadership huddles, and friends from all over were able to join! Prep held several of its own FCA campus huddles.

Multi-Campus Huddles:

SouthCoastal FCA eventually merged all of the campus huddles as one. In the multi-campus huddles, students from all over the area came together to lead the different parts (welcome/warm-up/work-out/wrap-up) of the huddle. There were even two FCA Alumni huddles.

To prepare for the multi-campus huddles, which took place two times a week, FCA staff held Zoom calls with student leaders from all over the area. Prep FCA student leaders met with FCA student leaders from several other schools, and relationships were established, which never would have occurred if it were not for the new environment! Student leaders bonded over common sports, quarantine activities, and faith during the Zoom calls, making the Instagram Live multi-campus huddles lively and fun!

Students can't wait for school to begin so they can play sports against some of their new friends from the other schools.

Service: SouthCoastal FCA had the opportunity to serve as well by providing food from Chick-fil-A and financial assistance (raised online through FCA) to help the families affected by the tornadoes in Hampton County.

Camp: This summer, the FCA leadership team will have the opportunity to attend leadership camp (virtually) with follow-up leadership Zoom calls from across the SouthCoastal area with FCA staff until school begins in August. Students will also have the opportunity to gather in small groups and serve in the local community during FCA Serve Camps during June, July, and August.

Students stayed connected through the virtual environment and continued to thrive in their understanding of leadership and service! While the environment changed, the mission remained the same!

SERVICE LEARNING AT PREP!



As we continue through these challenging times, we all think first of our own families and friends. That is natural, of course. However, it is also a time for us to extend ourselves in ways we may not have thought of. For instance, as churches and charities open up (in some fashion), there may be opportunities to help. In other words, think of community service not as something you “have to do” but as a way to reach out. Take a look at what some of our students have been doing during the pandemic.

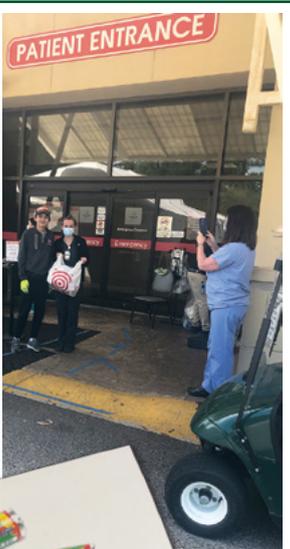
Susan Brooks '20 received Neighborhood Outreach Connection's Outstanding Community Service Award for her exemplary volunteer services at NOC's Cordillo after school and summer learning programs in Hilton Head Island.

NOC applauds Susan's strong leadership skills and commitment to service in working with underserved students and their families. During the 2019-2020 school year, Susan was a regular volunteer at NOC's Cordillo Learning Center, as she has been throughout her high school career.

We admire and appreciate Susan's leadership, compassion, and hard work to improve the lives of others. We wish Susan the best in her future endeavors as she continues to change lives through her commitment to the service of others.



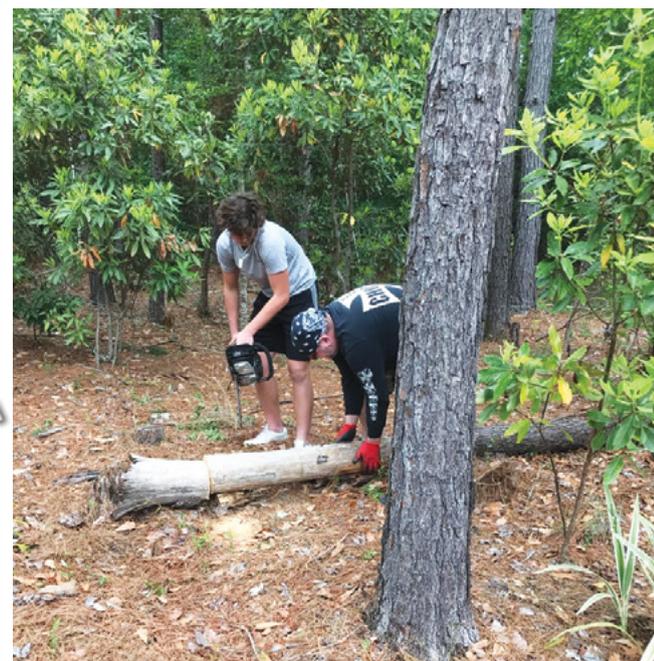
Prep sophomore **Beckett Jones** dropped off thank you cards to both local hospitals in April. Everyone was very appreciative to say the least.



Congratulations to three Hilton Head Prep Class of 2020 graduates who were this year's Youth Community Service Award winners: **Anna Sulek '20**, **Kierstin Clark '20**, and **Madison Frank '20**. Each will receive a \$1000 cash award from The Women's Association's Youth Community Service Award Program.



Prep sixth grader **Ricky Klippel** used earnings from washing cars to feed first responders and healthcare workers and support community non-profits. To read more about Ricky: <https://covid-19-hiltonhead.hub.arcgis.com/pages/heros>.



Prep sophomore **Connor McDonnell** wrote not only notes of appreciation to our frontline workers and doctors but literally got his hands dirty during quarantine by helping various members in the community with the cutting and hauling away of timber.

Congratulations to Prep graduate **Ella Alsko '20** for being selected as a recipient of a \$2,500 P.E.O. STAR Scholarship (Philanthropic Educational Organization) for the 2020-2021 academic year. We commend you for your academic achievements, leadership and service to both your school and community.

The P.E.O. STAR Scholarship was established in 2009 to provide scholarships for exceptional high school senior women to attend an accredited postsecondary educational institution in the United States or Canada in the next academic year.

Celebrating National Crayon Day

Remember the moment when you opened a new box of crayons and the smell took you right back to your childhood? Remember choosing just the right color for a picture or to match your mood? Well, the students in Mrs. Rapp's second grade class enjoyed a virtual online National Crayon Day celebration on March 31 by using their own crayons to create works of art! Mrs. Rapp posed questions about using various colors not only to create but to match how the young students were feeling on a certain day or what their favorite (or least favorite) color might be.

Type your crayon's letter to Miss Rapp. March 25, 2020

Dear Miss Rapp,

I am having a tough day today. I am so tired. I woke up early and had to color some water. When I got done, I had to color a waterfall. I was ready to take a nap, but then I had to color the sky! It took forever. I'm half as long as I was this morning.

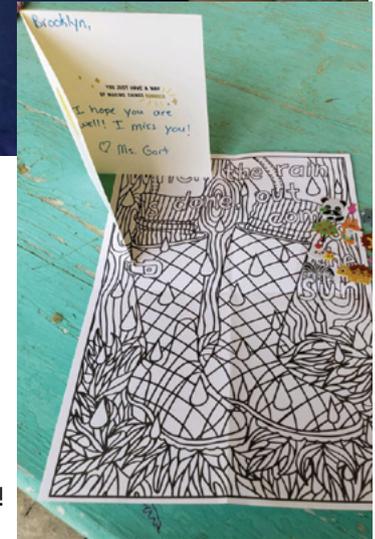
I am feeling so blue. I wish the other colors would do some work, or I won't be here much longer. I hope you are having a better day than me.

Your friend,
Misses Gort

Planning Time!

Pretend that YOU are a crayon that is not very happy. Complete the graphic organizer on the next slide. (You can also print out the blank graphic organizer in two slides and write your answers...just remember to snap a picture and email it to Miss Rapp.)

- What color crayon are you?
- What are the things that you like to draw and color?
- Why are you unhappy? What are your complaints?
- What do you want? What would make you happy?
- What will be your closing word or phrase?



Kindergarten had a writing assignment at the end of March to make and send a card to someone each day to spread happiness. Ms. Gort led the way spreading love and joy to her students, as you can see here!

SEA TURTLE SUPPORT -- "ONE MAN'S TRASH..."



Is another man's treasure," so the old saying goes. And that became true as the second grade class worked with Mr. Luthanen and the Coastal Discovery Museum to not only build awareness of our sea turtles but also how



trash can turn into a creative project. In conjunction with Dawn Brut from the Coastal Discovery Museum, Mr. Luthanen introduced sea turtle awareness to the students. This was then followed by a presentation by the Museum. From there, Mr. Luthanen and the students began to create turtle collages from trash collected from the beach. Not only did the students create amazing works of "trash art," but they also gained new respect for our friends the sea turtles.



Prep's lower and middle school art teacher, Ms. Kelly Dillon '11, gave virtual art classes twice a week to her students in kindergarten through fifth grade during quarantine.



On Valentine's Day, students in sixth grade science participated in a lab investigating the biodiversity of a fouling community with Coastal Discovery Museum.



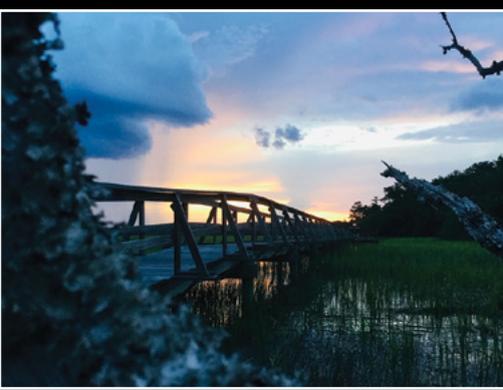
Middle school students celebrated Pi Day early due to our spring break. They participated in various challenges including the reciting of Pi aloud, completing calculations, and participating in a paper chain contest where each color represented a digit of Pi.



Middle school students enjoyed making art out of recyclable materials they found around the house in celebration of Earth Day.



Middle school teachers delivered eighth grade graduation certificates to their students on the afternoon of May 26th. It was exciting to say the least!



Sarah Benedik's sixth grade science class had a photography contest in May during the week of Earth Day. The students were studying environmental issues so they had to go outside and photograph something fitting in the categories of "landscape", "city/nature", "people/nature", "water" or "wildlife".

HERITAGE SCHOLARSHIP



Every year, Hilton Head Preparatory School has been proud to acknowledge those graduating seniors who have been named Heritage Classic Scholars. Throughout the years, this scholarship competition has grown more competitive as the committee reviews applicants' academic and extracurricular achievements from area high schools. So we are extremely proud of Felipe Mendoza, Class of 2020, who was named a Heritage Classic Scholar this spring. In addition to this award, Felipe also was named a Questbridge Scholar; Felipe will be attending the University of Chicago this coming fall where he will continue to make his family and his Prep family proud! Congratulations Felipe!

Coming Home

Everyone is familiar with the traditional football "homecoming" celebrated in the fall, but in recent years, Prep has also celebrated basketball "coming home" complete with exciting games and activities. And just as we do in the fall with a homecoming queen (congratulations again to Greta Bonomo), we crowned our coming home king Felipe Mendoza! Congratulations to the king and his court!



ATHLETIC SIGNINGS SET THE BAR HIGH!

This year, 21 Class of 2020 Hilton Head Prep athletes officially signed National Letters of Intent to play sports at the college level this fall at colleges and universities around the country. These young men and women truly embody the dedication and determination necessary to balance academics with athletics. From early morning until after dark, these athletes were playing, practicing, and strengthening their skills on the field, on the court, on the green, and on the pitch. We wish all our athletes the best as they head off, and we know they will continue to play hard!

Svarnika Bommakanti - Golf - Rose Hulman Institute of Technology
 Christian Britschge - Football - Sewanee | University of the South
 Sophia Burnett - Golf - Furman University
 Callie Burns - Golf - Regis University
 Ashley Chow - Golf - Southern Methodist University
 Kierstin Clark - Soccer - Cleveland State University
 Maddie Frank - Golf - Charleston Southern University
 AJ Gilpin - Golf - Lehigh University
 Grant Griswold - Golf - Manhattan College
 JT Herman - Golf - University of Georgia
 Sayda Hernandez - Tennis - Indiana University at Bloomington

Winslow Huth - Tennis - Southern Methodist University
 Robert Harrison Janes - Tennis - Pennsylvania State University
 Cooper Kunich - Baseball - Erskine College
 Thomas Lamb - Golf - University of North Carolina / Greensboro
 Stone McDonald - Football - Lafayette College
 Matthew Monts - Sailing - Eckerd College
 James Tracy - Tennis - The Ohio State University
 Matias Jesus Morales Videla - Soccer - Francis Marion University
 Lauren Waddles - Tennis - Samford University
 Rachata Winwon - Golf - Campbell University

Cadet Teacher Presentations

As with so many classes and activities this past spring, this year's group of Cadet Teachers delivered their presentations virtually to an appreciative audience of teachers and administrators. Once again, these remarkable and mature students did not disappoint as they detailed their experiences in front of the classroom in a variety of subjects, emphasizing how they also learned and grew as they assisted teachers and fellow students.



- Rachel Stratton - AP Seminar with Mrs. Battig Ramseur, "Enforcing Research Techniques in AP Seminar"
- Frank Qin - Intensive English with Mrs. Asmuth, "How I helped bring mainstream American Studies to the ESL History Class"
- Liz Barres - World Lit with Dr. Bassett, "Textual Translations: World Literature"
- Jaden Kidd - Ceramics with Mrs. Carson, "Making Creative Connections in the Classroom"
- Ezron Daley - Ceramics with Mrs. Carson "Even a Caveman Can Do It"
- Grace Lanier - Geometry with Dr. Sulek, "Geometry: Learning to Take Responsibility"
- Scout Yokley - Western Civ with Mr. Moe, "Western Civilization: A Basis for Understanding"



ZONTA

Once Again, Empowering Women

In early spring, Zonta was able to continue its series of on-campus speakers and activities in order to spotlight the growth and empowerment of young women in today's society. While the ongoing pandemic continued to challenge everyone old and young alike, these speakers -- representing a variety of vocations and interests -- sparked the imagination of members of Prep's Zonta club.

Pooh Pals -- A Huggable Tradition



Winnie the Pooh once said to his woodland friends that everyone needs a hug...and our seniors continued that tradition with their young friends.

Enjoying time every Monday afternoon on the playground or in the classroom -- and always with snackies -- everyone had a great time throughout the school year. Our "lifer seniors" even remembered their own Pooh Pals from when they were little, and we hope that memories made this year will travel ahead into the future.



Teacher Appreciation Week Goes On the Road!

This year, everyone was able to celebrate Prep's amazing teachers through a variety of heartfelt activities and recognitions. Even though everyone had to practice appropriate "social distancing," the love and appreciation was still evident. Teachers were treated to a drive-through lunch (pizza from Dough Boys and ice cream from

Frozen Moo), cool tee-shirts from the Parents Association ("2020 -- The Year Teachers Learned to Zoom"), and a charcuterie platter and a gift card (courtesy of Salty Dog), so there was plenty of love and appreciation given to all. From our teachers to our families and friends, thank you! And a special thank you to Dough Boys, Frozen Moo, Salty Dog, and our Parents Association!



*The Hilton Head Preparatory
School Faculty Family*

You make a great team by working together on educating our children. From the Head Master to the business manager, office administrators, nurse, librarian, counselor, chef, Admission Director, Teachers, Principals, coaches, buses drivers, maintenance associates, and parents association leaders.

At present, parents are greatly in debt with your efforts to keep school teachings in spite of pandemic.

Your e-mails and inspiring words kept us going. Your dedication and caring attention to our children touched our hearts.

Hilton Head Prep Faculty:

THANK YOU



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VALEDICTORIAN SPEECH

KIERSTIN CLARK '20

Over the past few weeks, I have been asked multiple times by various people and for various purposes to reflect on what Hilton Head Prep means to me. This question seems daunting; how can I possibly sum up the place that has helped me grow in every facet of life? The place where I have attended school since I was six years old. The place where I learned how to be a teammate and a friend. The place where I discovered myself. And the place that holds some of my earliest memories. It seems like just yesterday I was the two-year-old being dragged through the Prep hallways on a radio flyer red wagon as I made my way to school at Sea Pines Montessori. However, many years later it is apparent that what makes Prep so special is the people. I find myself repeating the phrase "The Hilton Head Prep Community" over and over again when I try to describe why I feel such a strong emotional attachment to this place.

For me, The Hilton Head Prep Community begins with the Class of 2020. Throughout my academic career at Prep, I have loved the collaborative environment that we have formed. As a class, we have always taken the approach that we can go farther together. And I am 100% confident that I would not be here without the help I have received from my classmates. So with that said there are a few people that must be recognized. First, thank you to Ella Alsko and Brittany Hanna for always letting me use your Quizlets. From Spanish class to AP Bio, I never once made my own Quizlet. I could always count on you to provide review material that was entirely accurate. To Stone and Felipe, thanks for putting up with me throughout the entirety of AP Seminar. To this day I often cannot understand the conversations that you have between each other in a language I am confident is of your own creation. Regardless, you made the single most difficult group project I have ever encountered much more enjoyable. In addition, Caitlin Heidel, thank you for spending countless hours with me hovered over our APUSH textbooks on the way out to soccer practice where our only light source was the flashlight on our phones. You helped motivate me and convince me that I was not alone. Scout Yokley, out of the 21 courses I took in high school, you and I shared 17 of them. Thank you for being

reliable and constant in this ever-changing world. Also, massive thanks to Mackenzie Joyner and AJ Gilpin for spending more time with me in AP Calculus and AP Statistics review books than I previously thought was humanly possible. Regardless of whether it be on a bus on the way to a game, or over a FaceTime call, we always got the work done, no matter what. Schoolwork is so much more enjoyable when someone is there to share in the common experience of all the highs and lows that lead to success. The Class of 2020 is filled with individuals who make their academics a priority, and I am forever thankful to have been able to be a part of a class that continues to raise the bar.

Throughout our tenure at Hilton Head Prep, the class of 2020 has always been labeled as a special class. And, as this chapter on our life closes, I think we can say that we have lived up to expectations. The class of 2020 contains a scholar who has received enough scholarship money to pay for college three times over. In addition, we are made of individuals who not only are looking to receive a higher education but also are committing themselves to the service of this country by joining a military academy. We have ballerinas, photographers, and artists who are ready to creatively take on the world. And a large collection of college athletes with 37.5% of the senior class signing to compete at the next level. However, most importantly, we are a collection of individuals who are filled with joy and passion and are prepared for whatever life has in store.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the mentors and the teachers who have poured themselves into us. The Hilton Head Prep Community would not be complete without the incredible faculty and staff who grace the Prep hallways every day. The teachers at Hilton Head Prep are so much more than teachers. They are whatever you need them to be, a friend, a listening ear, a coach, a sounding board for ideas. I have so much I could say about each and every teacher I have ever had, so thank you all. Thank you for teaching me how to stretch to the ends of my comfort zone, to see the world from different perspectives, to never stop questioning, and to know that all problems have solutions. I owe so much of who I am and the values that I hold to the



teachers at Prep. You inspire greatness, and I hope that never changes.

To my family, thank you for your unwavering support. I know that there is nothing that you wouldn't do for me. Mom, you have been both my teacher and my coach and I wouldn't trade that experience for the world. A lot of people say that I remind them of you or that I am just like you, and for me, there is no higher compliment I could receive. Dad, we may tease you about it, but your catch phrase of "just figure it out" has taught me so much. It has taught me to not give up and to keep working until I accomplish my goals. Ella, thank you for being the other half of the Clark sister duo. Keep making me proud; you have turned into a remarkable little sister.

I am slightly in awe that this day has finally arrived. We have been through so much to get here, and I believe that all of the trials have made us stronger. As we move on and we all find new communities, I hope that we hold on to the values that we have learned at Hilton Head Prep. I hope we are able to cherish all of the memories that we have created, and that we remember that we are bound by nothing. Hilton Head Prep is having friends that we will keep for the rest of our lives, and I guess, that means we really are all in this together, 'cause once a Dolphin, always a Dolphin. Thank you.

SALUTATORIAN SPEECH

SCOUT YOKLEY '20

Welcome friends, faculty, family, and the Class of 2020. The road to today has had some major bumps and curves that none of us expected. We could focus on what we missed, the staple moments of our senior year we will never experience. I would prefer to look towards the future, at what I hope for each one of you as you leave here today.

My biggest hope for you is that you are able to find your own community. Community is what makes up Prep. It's the people you go to the beach with after you finally finish that exam you have dreaded. The friends who keep you laughing as you tear down that castle you spent so long building, or that you cry with as you say goodbye to the coolest costumes that you have ever worn. Wherever your future takes you -- I hope that you are able to find those people, the people that make your life worth living. The people who accept you as you change and grow, and who you are able to accept as they change and grow. And it may not be easy. For some of you, Prep is the only community you have ever known. For others who have experienced countless schools in countless places, the challenge of finding your own community begins once more.

As you are exploring all that the world has to offer to you, I hope you explore it with kindness and acceptance in your heart. We are bound to meet people who are different from us -- not just in personality and interests but also in values, cultures, privileges, and religions. As you explore, remember this: what gives a person value is not how conventionally they behave, or how much they know, but the kindness they authentically give to others. Do not simply flock to birds of a feather, but base your decisions and actions on a true feeling of love and acceptance for all.

Finally, I hope that you are able to love and accept yourself for who you are and will become. Because, you are going to change. However, do not change who you are at your core -- because if you know who you are and own it, you will be amazing. Instead, I hope that you are able to accept the diversity and differences that will come in your life after Prep. By opening your heart and mind to the diversity of those around you, you allow yourself to evolve into a more complete person. In other words, do not

shy away from those who are different, but embrace them wholeheartedly for who they are and learn from them.

Protagonists in musical theatre will often sing about wanting, "a soft place to land," a place to turn to when the world is too much, when the struggles and challenges just seem to be stacking up. In addition, the Hilton Head Prep faculty has been just that. Dr. Bassett and Dr. Sulek work tirelessly, not just to teach us literature and geometry, but about what it means to be truly human. Mrs. Terry is one of those people who believes in you no matter what, and from our one-page analyses to hitting submit on a 40-page long form, she never fails to celebrate every accomplishment. Mrs. Battig-Ramseur always takes the time to get to know you for you, and works tirelessly to help people see beyond where they are now, to see the possibilities the world offers, and when things seem to be too much, you always know you can rely on Mr. Ramseur to make you laugh with a bad pun or silly prank. Dr. Goodman is a bright spot of positivity, kindness, and understanding -- no matter what you are going through, she listens and does everything she can to make things the tiniest bit better. Mr. Moe does his best to spread happiness and joy to his students, always taking an authentic interest in their passions, or allowing them to tease him mercilessly for the one time he pronounced Quebec as cubic. Mrs. Dowell opens up her room and heart, as a refuge to those who enjoy math but just who aren't the most naturally gifted with the subject. She spends as much time as you need to help you excel, even if it is every morning from 7-8 a.m. for the past two years. Her praise is always genuine, coming from a place of pure happiness at seeing your struggles pay off.

Each one of the faculty is to thank for where we are today. I would also like to thank my Mom and Dad. Mom, you have been my school nurse since before I can remember. You have always tried to guide me to be the person I have always wanted to be, and you have always been there when I needed you the most. Dad, you are one of the most hardworking and dedicated people I know. I know you had doubts about whether Prep was truly worth it, but you saw your daughter's goals in ways few others have, and you did everything you could to

help her achieve them. You are both the goofiest, kindest, and most helpful people that I have ever known, and I thank you for everything you have done. I love you both, you silly, huggable, kindhearted otter and goose.

Finally, I thank the class of 2020. To the kindhearted, I hope when adversity comes, you always remember the effects your kind words had on another person. To the driven, I hope that you never stop before the finish line with your goals, and you realize the inspiration your determination has on others. To those who fear change, I hope that you find a night class, a place to explore a world far beyond your own. To those who have felt unseen in the past, I hope you find the people who lift you up, who make you know you have been heard and loved. You are each inspirations in your own right, going through your own struggles, each having been a shoulder to cry on. You each have the ability to do the most amazing things. I am thankful to have been able to walk on the same road as you for so long. Thank you.



COMMENCEMENT SPEECH

JULIA NAHMAN '14



Julia is a proud “Lifer” graduate of Hilton Head Prep’s Class of 2014. While at Prep, Julia was the Chair of the Honor Council and competed in more school, regional, and international Science Fair competitions than she can count. In 2018, Julia graduated with honors from Wake Forest University with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and minors in Neuroscience and Education. Since graduation she has been working as a Research Project Coordinator in the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she studies adolescent peer relationships and health-risk behaviors, specifically suicide and self-harm. While at UNC she has been recognized for her outstanding work as a young researcher for her independent work studying interpersonal violence and suicide among young Nigerian women. Julia is an outspoken champion for the United Nations Foundation causes Girl Up and Nothing But Nets, organizing local, national, and international advocacy efforts.

Good morning and congratulations to the Class of 2020! Thank you, Mrs. Webb-Browning, Mrs. Brown, and the entire Prep Family for not only welcoming me here to speak today, but for always making Hilton Head Prep feel like home. Thank you for challenging me to always be my best, instilling in me a diligent work ethic, and launching me towards a future, personally and professionally, that I am proud of.

To the artists and authors, the athletes and academics of the Class of 2020 -- you made it! This is no small feat. This accomplishment should not be taken lightly, especially this year. I know this was not the end of the year you expected. Instead of anticipating prom and senior pranks, you were left with Zoom classes and a feeling of disheartenment.

Today I want to encourage you to fully embrace those feelings, feelings of being jilted, angry, left out, and disappointed. I want you to sit with those emotions for a moment -- dive deep into defining, understanding, and questioning them. After doing this, allow yourself to learn and grow from these uncomfortable sentiments. When we chose to embrace our own experiences and emotions, rather than discrediting them or interpreting them as weakness, we can use them as a springboard for growth; we can use them to Rise Strong.

Dr. Brené Brown of the University of Houston has dedicated her life to studying courage, vulnerability, shame, and empathy. She investigates what happens to the psyche as we experience vulnerability and failure along our journey to success. She argues that we live in "a Gilded Age of Failure" where we glorify recovery stories for their redemptive ending, failing to recognize the significance of the struggle encountered en route, when, in actuality, the periods in which we are challenged are those we learn from the most. This is when we develop our grit, our passion coupled with the stamina essential for longevity. Dr. Brown writes, "Embracing failure without acknowledging the real hurt and fear that it can cause...is gold-plating grit." It is only when we embrace the emotional consequences of failure such as "toughness, doggedness, and perseverance" that we truly acquire grit, resilience, and ultimately Rise Strong.

I have seen the reality of Dr. Brown's words in the work that I do every day as a Research Project Coordinator in the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience at the University of

North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Our lab studies peer relationships as they relate to adolescent mental health and risk behaviors, particularly suicide and self-harm. Each day, I bear witness to the ways kids and teens learn from their struggles along their journeys towards healthier futures. I would like to share one example of Rising Strong in this context that has stuck with me.

One of our primary research studies investigates multilevel biomarkers for suicide. Participants in our study join us for a five-hour data collection visit including numerous biological assays and psychological assessments. On this particular day, we were in the clinic for eight hours. During the visit it is my responsibility to conduct a clinical interview with our participants recounting stressful life experiences and mental health history. This interview was the most emotionally difficult for me. The amount of suffering this participant endured appeared insurmountable. After our visit, I sat in the parking lot of the clinic and cried. I returned to the clinic the next day apprehensive for our next participant to arrive. As I swiped my keycard, something caught the corner of my eye -- a rock painted in bright colors with the word "peace" written across its face. It had been left by the young woman I interviewed the previous day. I later learned that wherever she went, our participant and her parent left rocks that they painted with words of encouragement for others to find. Rather than dwelling on the immense hardship she faced, our client was able to reconcile her emotions, find peace, and in doing so, was intentional in providing signs of hope for others along their own journeys.

Hilton Head Prep Class of 2020, what signs of peace and hope have you learned from your journey that you can leave for those who follow in your footsteps?

The conclusion to this year has been unexpected and challenging, much like your freshman year in college or next adventure promises to be. There are lessons to be learned from such inevitable twists and turns along your journey. For starters, disruptions are ever-present; things rarely go as planned. The pandemic may not have been the first disruption to your plan, but it sure won't be your last. Don't allow yourself to be defined by the way an unexpected event rattled your reality, but rather, be defined by the way you overcame disruption with courage, perseverance, and grit -- skills

acquired through owning the way these events make you feel and using those feelings as catalysts towards change.

When you are asked about the ways in which the 2020 quarantine affected you, it is my wish, that rather than looking back with disappointment on the missed basketball games, parties, and science fair competitions, you reflect upon your personal growth. You acknowledge and appreciate how you adjusted your mindset to take action towards something bigger than yourselves -- to keep your family and your community safe. While it may not seem like it now, I guarantee that you have learned and grown much more in the last few months adapting to the unknown than you would have during a traditional year. Your parents, teachers, and greater Hilton Head Prep community are SO proud of you. Please don't forget to thank them for selflessly putting their all into ensuring your senior year, albeit non-traditional, was still a success.

Though experiences like prom and senior pranks can be taken away in the blink of an eye, what can never be taken away is what you've learned along the journey. You were forced into learning invaluable, transferrable skills, other than just how to change your Zoom background, like the importance of flexibility and adaptation. These are skills you will have with you for the rest of your lives. This knowledge is your power, Class of 2020. Use this power to Rise Strong.

Lastly, you are not only entering a world filled with the uncertainties we've spoken about, but also one filled with social injustices as we have seen play out across the country in the last several weeks. While it may seem intimidating, I hope you recognize and take full advantage of the incredible position you are in, as a graduate of the Class of 2020, to demand change, to demand that Black Lives Matter. Be aware of the power of your voice AND your vote. Know that, even as an individual, you can make a positive impact on the lives of others. Use the voice and the audience that you have to stand up for others whose voices may not be heard in the same way as yours while also understanding that yours is not the only voice with merit.

Learn from your emotionally challenging experiences and understand that others are doing the same.

Rise Strong in your personal journey, Class of 2020, but Rise Strongest standing alongside and supporting one another. Our future rests in your hands.

Thank you.

The Rite Of Passage...



YOU CAN DO IT

Anticipation And Relief!

By: Christina Van Epp

Recent Prep graduate Febe Bolona is not the kind of person to back down from a challenge. As a student-athlete who practices with Smith Stearns Tennis Academy, she is a fierce competitor on the tennis court and in the classroom. According to Febe, it's a lesson she learned from her parents, who encouraged her to step out of her comfort zone and leave Ecuador to pursue her academic and athletic career in the United States. But for Febe, that grit and fearlessness was put to the test this spring as she prepared for Prep's ultimate rite of passage, The Senior Speech.

"I was very nervous about speaking in public, especially because I had to give the speech in my second language," she said. "I was worried I was going to mispronounce a word or stutter."

Like many other students, Febe approached the experience with skills that she cultivated during her time at Prep: research, reflection, consultation, and practice. In February, she confidently delivered her speech on parenting styles to a group of 250 students, teachers, and administrators (and her parents at home in Ecuador).

"I was shaking the entire time," she said. "But once it was over, it was the greatest feeling in the world! I wanted to do it again!" In order to satisfy the graduation requirement, all Prep seniors are required to deliver a five-minute research presentation to the entire student body. Every Tuesday and Thursday morning, all upper school students, faculty, and staff gather in the Middle School Gym--and together, as a community, they engage in one of the most important and timeless human traditions: the act of storytelling.

One-by-one over the course of the year, seniors share their research, reflections, and advice on a wide range of topics. They draw inspiration from their own personal experiences and, with the help of assigned faculty or staff advisors, they develop well-researched and well-rehearsed presentations. Students are required to blend storytelling with credible research on the topic. To ensure that the speech is more than just a confessional and that it is rooted in solid research, it is judged by a panel of upper school faculty and staff. Mrs. Peg Hamilton, who has seen the evolution of the senior speech tradition over the past two decades, says that the experience teaches students the value of citing evidence so that it becomes more than just a confessional.

"A lot of times, kids don't think they have anything BIG to talk about," said Mrs. Hamilton. "I advise them to look at the small things in their lives. We want students to be able to do the research on something that matters to them."

In their speeches, students talk about many of the hidden struggles that teenagers encounter, from the challenges of being the



new kid, to coping with low self-esteem and depression. They share personal experiences about dealing with learning disabilities and advice on how to make positive changes in daily life. Most importantly, they normalize the "differentness" that so many students feel in a virtual world where two-dimensional appearances are given an extraordinary amount of weight and value.

For recent graduate Erika Moradel, this platform offered her the opportunity to share, for the first time, the feelings of resentment that she harbored throughout most of her

teenage years. It was an empowering, cathartic experience.

"I had never spoken about these feelings in front of my family," she said. "But after working very hard on the speech and talking it over with a lot of people, it felt very good to say what was really on my mind."

Students meet with their advisors to rehearse the speech and to practice their responses to questions that might be posed by members of the audience. After all, as seniors know, it is impossible to escape the experience without fielding a question from speech judge Dr. Michael Bassett. Public speaking does not come easily to most people, but the senior speech process teaches students that practice does make perfect.

"I read my speech over and over," said recent Prep graduate Ashley Chow. "I even had my sister listen to it. By practicing out loud, I basically memorized what I was going say, and I also perfected my argument."

Although Ashley prepared to give a traditional speech this spring, she found herself presenting via Google Hangout when social distancing requirements forced school to go online in March. Ashley's speech focused on the subject of happiness -- something that seemed illusive to most members of the community in the early days of the coronavirus pandemic. Ashley gave her fellow students advice on how they might seek happiness in their daily lives, even in the midst of uncertainty and loss. Because of its relevance, her speech was recorded and shared with the entire Prep community on social media.

These shared lessons and reflections unify all members of the upper school and form a trust and transparency that so many young people yearn for throughout the challenging teenage years. Students learn that they are not alone, that there are others who have experienced similar challenges and complicated feelings. "I had students reach out to me at the end of my senior speech because they could relate," said recent graduate Bert Olsen, who talked about the importance of seeking help when confronted with difficult challenges. "I think I made a difference."

Congratulations

SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDED
\$5,177,350



CLASS OF 2020

Ella Grace Alsko*+&!.....Furman University	Grant Sloane Griswold=.....Manhattan College	Berthel Andrew Olsen.....Xavier University
Charles Alexander Aragon*+.....William & Mary	Brittany Jayce Hanna*+#!.....University of South Carolina	Anna Catherine Pellicci*#^!.....Clemson University
Elizabeth Grace Barres*+.....Villanova University	Caitlin Rose Heidel*+%!.....University of Tennessee	Andrew Grady Prater.....University of South Carolina
Luke William Bennett.....University of South Carolina Beaufort	John Thomas Herman=.....University of Georgia	Charles John Sackett*+.....The Citadel
Fiorella Isabel Bolona=.....St. Louis University	Sayda Gabriella Hernandez=.....Indiana University Bloomington	Noelle Eileene Mary Saylor.....Clemson University
Svarnika Bommakanti*+=%..Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology	Christian Michael Hirano*United States Merchant Marine Academy	Rachel Alys Stratton*+#!%!.....Clemson University
Greta Ruth Bonomo*+.....University of the South, Sewanee	Jiongquan (Ronnie) Hou.....Hofstra University	Anna Josephine Sulek#^!.....Guilford College
Christian Jay Britschge=.....University of the South, Sewanee	Winslow Emily Huth*+%=.....Southern Methodist University	Karina Veronika Szatmari+.....Furman University
Susan Spalding Brooks#!.....University of Tennessee	Chloe Karyn Johnson.....Undecided	Tianci (Clayman) Tang.....George Mason University
Sophia Grace Burnett*+.....Furman University	Mackenzie Elisabeth Joyner*+.....University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill	James Joseph Tracy II=.....The Ohio State University
Callie Jean Burns=.....Regis University	Vaibhav Kaila*+.....George Washington University	Kailey Ann Tucker#%.....Flagler College
Tyrone Jamaal Calloway=.....Catawba College	Jaden Rachel Kidd.....Savannah College of Art and Design	Matias Jesus Morales Videla=.....Francis Marion University
Ashley Taylor Chow*+%=.....Southern Methodist University	Cooper Heaton Kunich=.....Erskine College	Lauren Grace Waddles=.....Samford University
Kierstin Ashley Clark V*+#!^=!.....Cleveland State University	Thomas Michael Purvis Lamb*+%=.....University of North Carolina at Greensboro	Ella Georgia Jade Walker*+....University of California, Los Angeles
Conor Moran Copponi.....University of South Carolina	Stone Walker McDonald #=.....Lafayette College	Rachata (Jump) Winwon*+.....Campbell University
Rui (Riva) Dai+.....Queens University of Charlotte	Felipe Alberto Mendoza*+##%.....University of Chicago	Scout Elizabeth Yokley S*+!.....Davidson College
Heath Mark Dutcher*+&.....University of South Carolina	Matthew Joseph Monts*+.....Eckerd University	Magdalena Zasztowt.....Technical College of the Lowcountry
Sophia Jean Esposito*+&.....College of Charleston	Erika Elizabeth Moradel.....University of South Carolina Beaufort	Zhiwen (Reyes) Zhu+.....George Mason University
Madison Elizabeth Frank*+#!.....Charleston Southern University		
Arthur James Gilpin*+%=.....Lehigh University		

V – Valedictorian, S – Salutatorian

*Honor Graduate +National Honor Society #12-Year Student ^Legacy Graduation =Signed College Athlete
% Diploma of Distinction & Sociedad honoraria hispanica !Community Service Award

Members of the Class of 2020 have also been accepted to:

The University of Akron	Catholic University	Hofstra University	Miami University	Occidental College	Spartanburg Methodist College
The University of Alabama	Coastal Carolina University	College of the Holy Cross	University of Miami	Pennsylvania State University	St. Lawrence University
Anderson University	Coker College	Illinois Institute of Technology	Michigan State University	Presbyterian College	The University of Tampa
The University of Arizona	University of Colorado	Indian River State College	University of Michigan	Regis University	Texas Christian University
Auburn University	Colorado State University	Jacksonville University	Millspas College	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	Wingate University
Belmont Abbey College	University of Dayton	James Madison University	University of Nebraska	Rollins College	Winthrop University
Butler University	DePaul University	University of Kansas	University of Nevada Las Vegas	Saint Leo University	Wofford College
Campbell University	Elon University	Marquette University	New Jersey Institute of Technology	Sam Houston State University	
Case Western Reserve University	High Point University	University of Massachusetts	North Carolina State University	University of South Florida	



By: Peg Hamilton

Many high schools, both public and private, along with colleges and universities, hold a baccalaureate ceremony prior to graduation. Oftentimes, the ceremony is held in a house of worship to encourage the graduating seniors to stop and reflect, to -- in a sense -- take in the moment before saying farewell to high school.

And like so many ceremonies, things have evolved over time. And Prep's baccalaureate ceremony has changed to reflect the growing perspectives of each year's graduating class. No matter where Prep holds its baccalaureate -- a church, fellowship hall, or on campus -- the purpose is the same. Stop. Breathe. Look around at your classmates. Celebrate each person's strength, talent, skill. But where does this tradition come from?

The word baccalaureate itself is French, coming from a Renaissance tradition of doctors being decorated with branches of bay berries seemingly to signify being awarded the title of doctor.



To break down the word in Latin, "bacca" means berry and "laureus" means laurel. So, even though today we do not offer our graduates crowns of laurel, we instead use words to bestow our admiration.

One only has to look at the baccalaureate program to see how many elements of the Prep experience are represented. Today, we are proud of the geographic diversity of our graduating classes along with representation of various sports academies. Our speakers reflect upon their own experiences during their time at Prep...whether that be in the arts, on teams, in the classrooms, at

the boarding houses, or performing community service. And this really is the hallmark of Prep's baccalaureate: what you hear and see every year are the graduating seniors' own words...funny, heartfelt, reflective.

Hilton Head Prep's baccalaureate is truly a celebration of each student by each student, a ceremony filled with love and laughter, a time to look back while at the same time looking ahead.

Congratulations to the Class of 2020!

Scout Yokley, Community Service:

"Hilton Head Prep is where I truly was able to discover my love for service. The school's emphasis on serving the community, of truly making connections with those around you, seeing how you can help, and then acting with other's best interests at heart, was unlike anything I had previously been exposed to."

Matthew Monts, Athletics:

"Being a student athlete here at Prep has truly enhanced my time here, and I will carry the memories and lessons that I learned with me for the rest of my life."

Caitlin Heidel, Invocation:

"Thank you that we have been brought closer together even during a time when we are told we must stay separated."

Greta Bonomo, Athletics:

"It was at this point in my junior year that I realized that although our school may be little, we had big school spirit."

Heath Dutcher, Athletics:

"Prep athletics teaches Prep students how to be role models, on and off the field, court, or pitch."

Lauren Waddles, Academy:

"I see so much potential in our class, and I cannot wait to see what we all accomplish in the future."

Caitlin Heidel, Arts:

"All of the amazing arts teachers have been doing wonderful jobs trying to help creative students navigate around this disruption to our regular schedules so that we could continue to be artists and create new works of beauty."

Maggie Zasztowt, Arts:

"To all the teachers that inspire young minds and tell them that it's okay to make mistakes...that's what art is about."

Mackenzie Joyner, Athletics:

"Some of my best friendships have come out of Prep sports, and those are hopefully relationships that will remain even after I leave this school and this island."

AJ Gilpin, Athletics:

"Hilton Head Prep is everything that I could have asked for in a high school, and though there are many incredible aspects, the backbone of Hilton Head Prep is the outstanding education that they provide their student body."

Callie Burns, Academy:

"...I have been so proud to say I go to Hilton Head Prep, the place that made it possible for all these athletes to come down to these academies here and get a genuine education."



By: Sharon Terry

After months of quarantine and distance learning, mandatory masks and social distancing, toilet paper shortages and reopening guidelines, Prep students finally have the opportunity to flee the confines of their houses, travel to distant lands, engage in stimulating conversations, and make forever friends -- all without leaving their homes (or compromising their safety), and all through summer reading. While first grade students will travel through time and space with *The Magic Tree House*, middle school students will discover the power of friendship amidst brutality with *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*, and upper school students will immerse themselves in the world of mythology and magic with *Circe*. In a world struggling to define the "new normal," the Prep faculty has designed our summer reading program as a cherished and valuable constant, seeking to provide enjoyable, enriching experiences for students at every grade level.

As part of a planned panel discussion about summer reading, for a College English Association conference, Mrs. Peg Hamilton conducted an anonymous survey of Prep upper school students this spring. She reports that "the older students seemed to grasp how reading and development of reading skills served them for college. . . One savvy respondent offered that 'books make people smart!'" However, some students expressed a desire for teachers to explain our excitement about summer reading. In an effort to ensure that all students are as enthusiastic as the Prep English department, here are the top five reasons to love summer reading:

PERSPECTIVES | SUMMER 2020

1. SUMMER READING is fun!

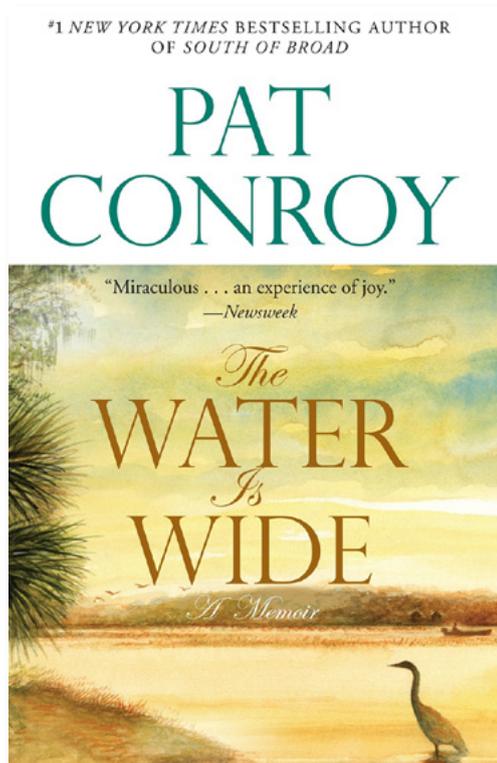
As lifelong readers ourselves, teachers want, first and foremost, to foster a love of reading in our students. Summer reading selections encourage students to experience new authors, gain fresh perspectives, and discover personal passions. In contrast to the busy schedules and constant deadlines of the school year, the summer months offer students the opportunity to immerse themselves in books without interruption. As Dr. Ben Joplin puts it, "Summer reading is a chance to read a book all the way through without stopping. Nothing compares to an uninterrupted journey that takes place half in the author's mind and half in yours. You will find a book that will change your life. And whether you read it at a gorgeous beach or a comfortable couch, suspension of disbelief will take over and the real world pales in comparison to the resplendent world within its pages." Whether they are lounging at the pool, riding in the back seat, or snuggling in bed, students will be transported and transformed by books this summer.

2. SUMMER READING puts us all on same page.

One of the most valued traditions in the upper school is the all-school read. In the words of Mrs. Hamilton, "As a reader for 'fun' from a very early age, I treasure books. And now I especially treasure the idea that all students at Prep share in the 'one book' activity. As Henry James once said, 'summer afternoon, summer afternoon...the two most beautiful words in the English language.' I think summer afternoons are enhanced with a good book in hand. So whether it is on Kindle, a cell phone, or an actual book, it is the activity of reading that we hope to give as a gift to our students."

This summer, in addition to the required books for each course, all upper school students will read *The Water is Wide*, the acclaimed classic 1972 memoir by Pat Conroy. The book that launched Conroy's long and fabled writing career, *The Water is Wide* documents the story of his sojourn as a teacher on Daufuskie Island (called Yamacraw in the memoir).

While Conroy masterfully weaves together strands exploring the idealism of youth, the injustices of racism, the inequities of poverty, and the meaning of education, the memoir is, at its heart, a love song to the landscape and people of the South Carolina Lowcountry. As such, it presents the Prep upper school with the unique opportunity to explore our region through different lenses and to gain new perspectives about the place we call home. As Mrs. Barb Asmuth explains, "I hope that whole families will take the opportunity to be reminded of the amazing beauty of the people and nature of the Lowcountry." This summer, one book will unite us as one Prep family.



3. SUMMER READING makes us fast.

When students are engaged in reading, writing, and thinking critically over the summer, classes can hit the ground running -- or flying in the fall. Instead of spending the early weeks of school reviewing skills and reading new texts, teachers and students can dive right into rich discussions and creative assignments based on books that everyone has read. In addition, written summer work offers teachers clear, early evidence of each student's strengths, enabling us to tailor instruction right from the start. Most of all, students and teachers begin the year able to initiate conversations and form bonds over the shared experience of reading.

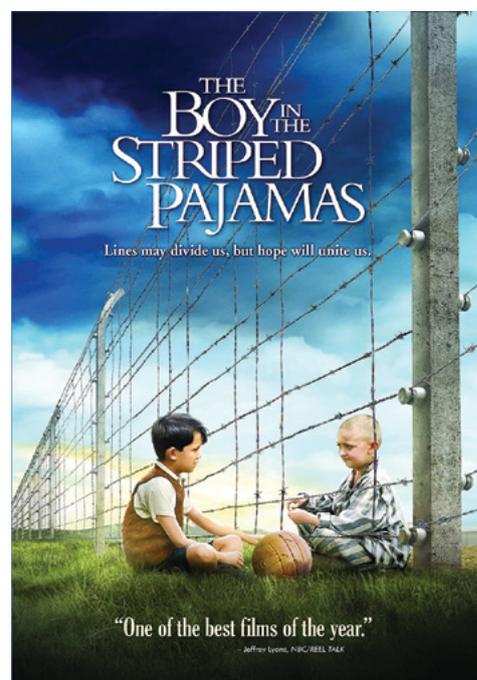
4. SUMMER READING prepares students for college.

As a college preparatory school, Hilton Head Prep ensures that all students are ready to meet the challenges and demands of the college experience. Thus, as students move through the Prep curriculum, they complete summer assignments aligned with those expected at the college level. For example, Prep's One School, One Book, All School Read is similar to Duke University's Common Experience Summer Reading Program. This year, all Duke Freshmen will read *Know My Name* by Chanel Miller. Similarly, Prep's additional course requirements mirror those of other colleges and universities. For instance, this summer University of California at Berkley students will select from a list of 25 fiction and nonfiction books centered around the common theme of connections. Thus, Prep summer reading sets the tone for the rigor of our own courses and prepares students for college-level summer expectations as well.

5. SUMMER READING makes memories.

When students look back on their Prep experience, they will recall Pooch Pals and Prep rallies, beach walks and basketball games, senior speeches and summer reading. Former Prep student and current Prep teacher Michael Bassett says it best: "I have so many memories of summer reading as a student at Prep. *The Member Of The Wedding* by Carson McCullers with its portrait of pre-teen awkwardness, self-delusion, and undefinable loneliness and longing resonated with something deep inside me. I read and reread it like an amulet or a prayer as I wondered and hoped what friendships and romances the next school year might bring . . . The summer my father was doing professional development at Middlebury College in Vermont, my family went with him. My brother and I ambled the rolling hills, looked for other teenagers, played tennis, ping pong, and occasionally roughhouse pickup games of basketball with campus building and grounds workers. Mostly my nose was in *The Prince of Tides*, as I was swept away by its sprawling, lovely, brutal,

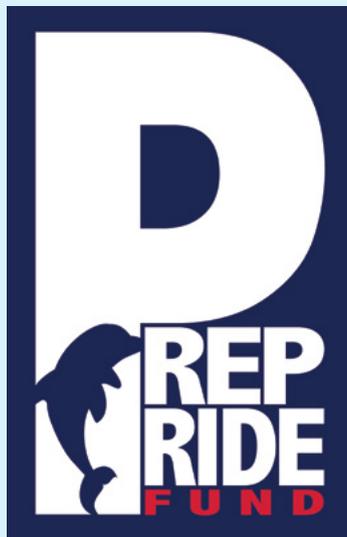
tender, tragic, hilarious exploits. In a letter to his wife, Tom Wingo writes, 'My soul grazes like a lamb on the beauty of an indrawn tide.' I was a thousand miles away when it really hit me how much I love the South Carolina Lowcountry." This summer, Prep students will make similar formative memories that will last a lifetime.



Join the fun and make memories by accessing the full summer reading requirements for each grade at www.HHPrep.org.

2019-2020 PREP PRIDE FUND WRAP UP

By: Leslie Hart



Each year Hilton Head Prep asks every member of our community to show their pride by making a gift to the Prep Pride Fund. These gifts allow Prep to continue to provide our students and faculty with a top-rated education, various extra-curricular programs, and

educational resources. Although our school year was cut short by Covid-19, our community came together, and we are so proud to announce that for the 2019-2020 school year we surpassed our Prep Pride Fund goal of \$250,000 by raising \$255,106 from 350 donors!

Because of all of the generous gifts from our community, Prep has been able to do the following:

- Prep continues to enhance our classroom technology to be able to live-stream classes.
- A renovation to the art room was completed with a new photography lab and new art drafting tables.
- New computers for the computer lab were added.
- The upper school science lab saw a renovation with an added classroom.
- A new HVAC system was installed in the Field House.
- Lower school teachers grades K-3rd took part in professional development with Orton Gillingham training.
- Security enhancements have continued to be implemented with additional cameras around campus.
- Prep has been able to add protective measures against Covid-19 such as additional cleaning and disinfecting of all areas daily, hand sanitizer stations, and thermal thermometers.
- Five upper school teachers are currently in the Pre-AP Program training as well as "E-Learning Ecologies: Innovative Approaches to Teaching and Learning for the Digital Age."
- Updates were made to the wireless infrastructure at the Hilton Head Preparatory School Main Street Theatre as well as Prep's boarding house.
- Security cameras were added to Hilton Head Preparatory School Main Street Theatre and the boarding house for additional security.

These additions, enhancements, and tools for our campus would not have been possible without the loyal support of our Prep community. Your generous gifts have made all of this possible. From everyone at Hilton Head Prep, thank you for showing your pride!

upcoming events

First Day of School – August 12, 2020

Festival of Trees Preview Party – November 19, 2020

Festival of Trees – November 20 – December 5, 2020

Bluffton Christmas Parade – December 5, 2020

Grandparents Day – December 18, 2020

Jubilee and Distinguished Citizens Awards Dinner – February 20, 2021

RBC Heritage Golf Tournament – April 12 – 16, 2021

Class of 2021 Baccalaureate – May 21, 2021

Class of 2021 Commencement – May 22, 2021

Lower School Moving Up Ceremony – May 27, 2021

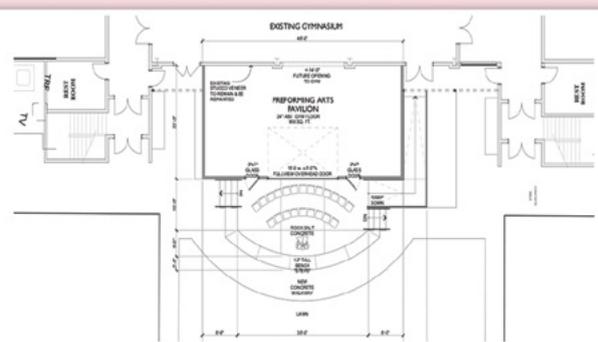
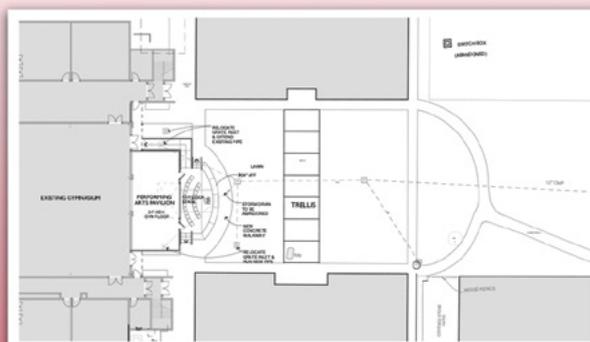
Middle School Moving Up Ceremony – May 28, 2021

If you would like more information about Prep's events or for special sponsorship opportunities please contact Leslie Hart at 843-715-8536 or LHart@HHPrep.org.



HILTON HEAD PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Performing Arts Pavilion



THE VISION: Hilton Head Preparatory School envisions a place on campus where all the performing arts can find a home, a rehearsal and small performance space as fine as the arts we present. We need to honor our student performers by giving them a space they deserve. Using the courtyard for audience enjoyment is a wonderful way to take advantage of our beautiful surroundings and climate.

THE PROBLEM: While we have a wonderful performance space at the Main Street Theatre, there is no adequate space on campus for our band, orchestra and performing arts groups to rehearse or present small shows. The band currently rehearses in the Field House, the orchestra in a small classroom. When the Main Street Theatre is rented, all performing arts groups use the lower school commons to prepare their show. It is also difficult having our main performance space on the opposite end of the island. Coupled with the difficulty in providing space for our musical groups, classroom space as a whole is at a premium. Providing space for our musical groups to hold class and rehearse will open up much needed classroom space elsewhere offering greater flexibility in course offerings and scheduling options.

THE PLAN: The plan is to build a 1,100 square foot addition on the north end of the middle school gym

that can serve many groups. The orchestra and strings program can hold class and rehearsals, the band can have a space of their own to practice, and all divisions can utilize the space for drama/musical production rehearsals and small shows. By moving the music classes into this space, it will open up other classrooms on campus allowing expansion of students and sections. It will also add the option of for outdoor performances and increase the beauty of the main campus courtyard.

THE COST: The entire project is estimated to cost \$300,000 including all site work and outdoor spaces. The school will cover half the cost from its capital budget in the hopes that the Prep family will match their contribution in donations.

WHY NOW? The school band has been holding class and rehearsing in the field house this year, after having done so in a renovated locker room before that. Students participating in school plays have rehearsed in the noisy and unequipped lower school commons for years. It is time that we have a performing arts rehearsal and performance space as fine as the arts we present.

AN INVITATION: We invite you to help make this space a reality. Join us in honoring our students by giving them an appropriate space to hone their craft, enjoy their art and have a space of their own.

\$141,837 of \$150,000 raised to date. To make a contribution please contact Margot Brown, Director of Development, at mbrown@HHPrep.org.

Jubilee Wrap-Up

By: Leslie Hart



We had a rockin' good time "Leaping Back to the 80s" at our 2020 Jubilee and Distinguished Citizens Awards Dinner that took place at the new USCB Hilton Head campus on February 29, 2020. Over 150 people in attendance enjoyed dinner, dancing to eighties music, and showing off their amazing 80's attire while placing their bids for items ranging from restaurant gift cards to a custom-built summer kitchen. Because of the generosity of everyone in our Prep community, we were able to raise over \$100,000 with \$44,000 going towards our new Performing Arts Pavilion!

During the evening's event, we also honored four individuals for their leadership and unyielding commitment to Hilton Head Prep. Our honorees included Dr. Brett Cargill '87 (Alumni Award), Mrs. Tina Webb-Browning (Educator Award), Mr. Gary Joyner (Parent Volunteer Award),

and Ms. Lindsay Bunting (Leader/Friend of Prep Award). Recipients spoke about how Prep has positively influenced their lives and the community as well as the amazing memories of their time at Prep.

This event would not have been possible without our dedicated and hard-working Jubilee committee volunteers who worked tirelessly to make this year's event spectacular! We would also like to thank everyone who attended Jubilee, the generosity of our silent and live auction donors, the Chocolate Canopy for the delicious chocolate palm tree lollipops, and our table sponsors:

Mr. Eric Wojcikiewicz and Ms. Jamie Berndt and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hattler. A huge thank you also goes out to our program sponsor, Novit & Scarminach. This event would not have been possible without the support of Prep's community!

Please join us for our
 2021 Jubilee &
 Distinguished Citizens Awards Dinner
 on Saturday, February 20, 2021.

Announcing our 2021 Distinguished Citizens Award Honorees

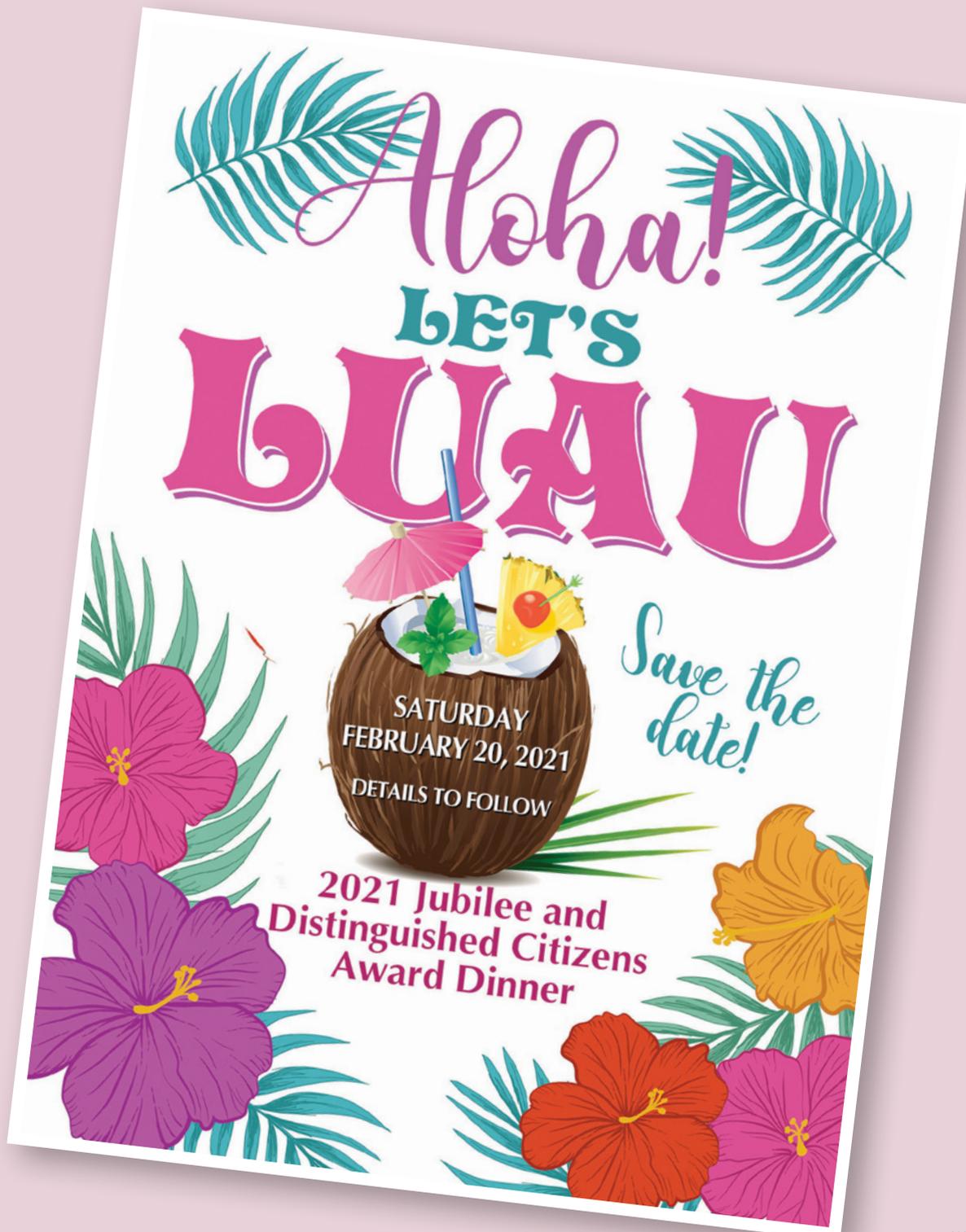
Eric Wojcikiewicz and Jamie Berndt

were chosen to receive the Leader/Friend of Prep Award for their dedication promoting the ideals, mission, vision, and traditions of Prep while also greatly contributing to the school in a philanthropic manner while advancing Prep's mission.

Joni Rosser was chosen to receive the Parent Volunteer Award as a dedicated parent and former member of the Board of Trustees who has been involved in many activities and school committees. Joni has significantly contributed to the quality of the Prep community as a loyal and devoted supporter of Prep activities.

Retired Prep faculty member, **Ms. Ann Petrie**, was chosen to receive the Educator Award by demonstrating exceptional leadership, commitment, character, and achievement during her tenure at Prep. She has significantly contributed to the quality of education at Prep inspiring hundreds of students.

Tom Cornelia '77 was chosen to receive the Alumni Award as a committed alumnus who has made significant contributions to Hilton Head Prep and the greater society while attending Prep and continuing post-graduation.



Dear Alumni

During these times of uncertainty, the Hilton Head Prep community would like to provide some encouragement and positive news about your school. Now that we have recognized the graduating class of 2020, please join us in honoring these graduates as they become part of your alumni community.

Hilton Head Prep has a great deal to be proud of with a rich history and strong standing amongst the private school community. Our graduates can boast a great education with amazing artistic and athletic opportunities. Just as important, Hilton Head Prep is a community filled with beloved memories of friends, teachers, and coaches.

Over the past several years, Hilton Head Prep has been fortunate to make significant improvements to our school because of our community support. Critical aspects of our core mission have benefitted through new curriculum, technology, and capital improvements to our campus. We are excited to continue a tradition of excellence as we look to the future. This summer we began plans for several projects that will provide additional classroom space for the arts and sciences. The addition of a new Digital Photography Studio and Physics room will greatly benefit our school as well as our continued plans to build a Performing Arts Pavilion.

Although we are all living under certain restrictions, when appropriate, please stop by to say hello and see our beautiful campus.

We appreciate you and wish you well.



Jon Hopman



Critical aspects of our core mission have benefitted through new curriculum, technology, and capital improvements to our campus.

We are still teaching each other, challenging each other, and still loving each other.

Dear Alumni,

We are living amidst what is potentially one of the greatest threats in our lifetime to global education, a gigantic educational crisis. The Covid-19 pandemic is causing more than 1.6 billion children and youth to be out of school in 161 countries. This is close to 80% of the world's enrolled students. There are all kinds of concerns about establishing routines while still enabling flexibility and encouraging new approaches and opportunities. How do we provide comfort while also letting our students know that it is okay to not be okay? How should we maintain academic rigor while prioritizing the wellbeing and emotional and mental health of our students? I believe the administration and school leaders have done an excellent job in thinking through these issues. Faculty, staff, and parents have shown resiliency, grace, and devotion in adjusting to the new realities. I would like to tell you how proud I am of our school community.

Because the future is uncertain, we have developed creative ways to teach our students, to celebrate their achievements, and to counsel and support each other. I am heartened and deeply moved by what I have seen: students holding Zoom Zonta meetings to brainstorm with community leaders about how domestic violence victims will be affected by extended sheltering at home, students delivering cards of support to hospitals and showing leadership organizing the collection and donations of masks and gloves, the raising of monies to feed first responders and healthcare workers, school spirit poster contests, creation of a directory of Prep family businesses, and drive-by birthday parties.

In my own online classes, I have wrestled with the extent to which I should include certain content in my classes. Should I include poems about plagues and epidemics in the unit on literary treatment of optimism and pessimism in the face of conflict, tragedy, and disaster? How do you weigh the merits of teaching students about research techniques in the midst of information overload, misinformation, and disinformation surrounding COVID-19 against concerns about the anxiety created in young people by thinking too much about it? I continue to be so impressed by my students. I showed my AP Research students an article by Ashley Fetters in *The Atlantic* which asked readers to think about how if at all we should change some of our conventional language during the pandemic. According to Deborah Tannen, a linguist interviewed in the piece, asking "How are you?" out of politeness during a pandemic is like asking "Have you eaten yet?" during a famine. Not only does the question draw all involved parties' attention to the terrible circumstances at hand, but the expectation of a polite response negates the possibility of an actually informative answer. Some of my students pushed the message further, acknowledging that the disruptions from classroom routine have caused them to think about what is authentic and what is important in their lives.

In this time of disruption and self-reflection there is opportunity, a chance to ponder what do we really want out of education? What are the important aspects of being educated? Isn't it about processing and evaluating information even in confusing and difficult situations? About bearing witness to the issues of our times while taking care of ourselves and others? Thinking about creative ways to manifest that caring and solve problems? About what we pay attention to and how and why?

No one can say with absolute clarity how any school or even education itself will be changed by all this. I can say with complete confidence that I am honored to be connected to all of you through our alma mater, and I am pleased to report that in terms of the considerations I listed above, Hilton Head Prep is continuing to provide excellent education as we support each other in difficult and uncertain times.

Of course, there is no substitute for embodied face-to-face community and the kind of growth and learning that happens when people collaborate with dedication and conviction toward a common outcome that happens in band, orchestra, debate, and theatre. Nevertheless, we are doing more in online learning than maintaining or limping along. We are still teaching each other, challenging each other, and still loving each other.

With all best wishes and warmest regards,

Michael Bassett, Ph.D.
Class of '92
President of the Alumni Board
English Teacher and AP Research Teacher



Alumni Class Notes

Class of 1983

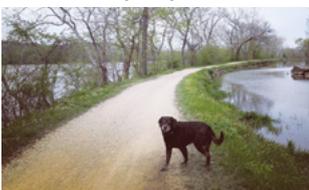
Julie Maier has moved back to the island about 75% of the time. She is here to assist her mother who is aging, particularly now with Covid issues. She and her husband purchased a 57' motor yacht at the end of 2019 and recently sailed it from Marco Island, FL, just before the lockdown, halfway to Stuart, FL, and then again in May to Hilton Head Island. They are anchored at Shelter Cove Marina for the next year. Thankfully, Julie is able to work from anywhere...including a boat!

Class of 1985

Ria Pavia recently moved back to Los Angeles from Orange County, California, to be closer to the hub of the entertainment industry, which continues to keep her busy. She serves as an on-set acting coach for various TV shows including ABC/Freeform's hits *Grownish*, *Mixedish* and *Blackish*. She recently directed a short film that was selected out of over 6,000 entries to the prestigious Palm Springs International Film Festival to compete for Best Comedy Short. Ideally, when it is safe to head back to theatres, it will be showing on the big screen. In the meantime, updates will be posted on her website: www.SecondTeamFilm.com.

Class of 1986

Nancy Perella and her husband celebrated their birthdays together in April. They ordered food from a local restaurant in order to support them and played their new game that arrived for her husband's birthday -- the dog got in on the game as well! Nancy enjoys taking walks along the Potomac River almost every day.



Class of 1988

Robin Cifaldi is a critical care nurse working in Hilton Head Hospital's ICU. It has obviously been a stressful time but she feels very fortunate to be doing what she is doing and has tremendous support from her fellow healthcare workers and leaders at Hilton Head Hospital. Robin's wife, Amanda, and their restaurant, Pomodori, recently made and generously donated food to her fellow healthcare workers. Robin is beyond grateful for Amanda's generosity. Pomodori restaurant is doing well and holding its own with curbside pick-up and incredible takeout and has recently opened for socially distanced indoor and outdoor seating. Sophia and Wyatt are rocking online schooling and baby Milo turned one year old on May 1-- he is a walking wild man!



Class of 1991



Kristi Basirico Goodwin and her sister **Brooke Basirico Seiden '99** enjoyed a day together at the Charleston Aquarium with their children this summer. Kristi lives in Bluffton, SC, and Brooke lives in Summerville, SC, and is pregnant with her third child, due in September! Pictured from left to right: Jenson Goodwin (9), Cameron Goodwin (10), Sullivan Seiden (3), and Stella Seiden (6).



1972

Class Rep Needed

1973

Sabra Wilkinson Thompson
sabthompson@gmail.com

1974

Charlotte Still Noble
stillandnoble@aya.yale.edu

1975

Teri Dunn-Floyd
terifloyd@gmail.com

1976

Class Rep Needed

1977

Linda Steadman Fraser
lfraser@janney.com

1978

Susan Ochsner
susanhhi@me.com

1979

Debbie Eakin Cornelia
debbiecornelia@plantationcable.net

1980

Class Rep Needed

1981

Marty Pellicci
Pjake2001@hargray.com

1982

John Pinckney
pinckneytax@gmail.com

1983

Lette O'Sheill
lettehhi@yahoo.com

1984

Sam Bauer
sbauer@bauerlawfirm.com

Ashley Gunmin
agunmin@comcast.net

1985

Margaret Crenshaw
Margaretcrenshaw1@gmail.com

1986

Lainie Cantrell Crose
Delaine1969@yahoo.com

1987

Perry Hodge
Perry.hodge@bernstein.com

1988

Paula Edwards Wadley
kathrynypaula@gmail.com

Robin Cifaldi
akaroxie@hargray.com

1989

Baker Wilkins
bakervilkins@charter1commercial.com

Angele Barker
angele@coastalplains.com

1990

Megan McGarty
mmmcgarty@aol.com

1991

Shane Scibelli
Sscibelli1@aol.com

1992

Catherine Lawrence Oomens
catrosslaw@hotmail.com

1993

Margot Olson Bowers
margotpharmd@hotmail.com

1994**Class Rep Needed****1995**

Paul Halloran
Halloran1999@hotmail.com

1996**Class Rep Needed****1997**

Krista Maurer
Kristagm@gmail.com

1998

Nick Murphy
Nick.murphy14@gmail.com

1999**Class Rep Needed****2000**

Janet Cully
Janet.cully@gmail.com

2001

Katie Finger Girardi
Katiefinger07@yahoo.com

2002

David Bachelder
davidjr@charter1commercial.com

2003

David Butler
Davebutler2@gmail.com

2004

Faleisha Brown
Brownf2@fultonschools.org

2005

Megan Donley
meganndonley@gmail.com

2006

Addison Goss Cook
addisongoss@gmail.com

Randy Ferree
randyferree@air-watch.com.

2007**Class Rep Needed****2008**

Carson Fraser
carolyncfraser@gmail.com

Class of 1993

Margot Olson Bowers family is doing well in spite of the Covid virus. She started a new business in January called Margot Bands. A Margot band is an elastic hair tie that wears like a gold bracelet when it is not in your hair and being worn on your wrist. Check out her website at Margotbands.com.

Class of 1998

Margaret Hancock and family are spending their quarantine days on the court, teaching their kids to play tennis.

Class of 2002

Lindsay Danzell Street and her family grew 100 pounds of potatoes, butchered a wild hog and two goats, foraged six pounds of chanterelles and many unknown pounds of blueberries and blackberries (mostly eaten off the bush), and are currently dining on homegrown tomato sandwiches served on summer squash sourdough. They look forward to the ripening of grape, fig, watermelon, corn, and winter squashes. Pictured: Lindsay and her son Thomas driving their donkey Roxie near their home in Ridgeville, SC.

**Class of 2006**

First quarter of 2020 was certainly an interesting start for **Chris Schembra**, and his girlfriend Molly, residing in Chelsea, Manhattan. His new book, *Gratitude and Pasta: The Secret Sauce for Human Connection* was scheduled to be released on April 7 before Covid-19 hit. *USA Today* has just called Chris their "Gratitude Guru" and *Forbes Magazine* calls his book "The #2 Book of 2020 to create human connection". With the book tour

cancelled, and all in-person events postponed, Chris pivoted to start producing virtual dinners for their clients. They have produced over 60 dinners since late March, feeding thousands of attendees. Everybody arrives at 7:47 PM SHARP with their dinner prepared, ready for conversation. Through breakout groups, and multiple facilitated exercises, everybody gets a platform to share their intimate stories. The unanimous feedback from attendees is how good it feels to arrive and be able to "meet someone new", and to rewire their brains from doubt and uncertainty of the future into gratitude and joy in the past. What has been Chris' favorite part is being able to use the virtual dinner table as a platform to help reconnect with some of his other Class of 2006 Lifers from across the country. If you would like to join a dinner as his guest, just email Chris@747Club.org.

Class of 2013



Marc Ochsner is engaged to Ann-Marie Thompson from Nashville, TN. A wedding is planned in Nashville for March of 2021.

Class of 2014

Forest Richardson graduated from Prep in 2014 and has been living in Washington, D.C., since August where she works for Deloitte Consulting. In 2016, she started an Etsy business called fbcalligraphy, where she sells online, hand-painted calligraphy and digital artwork. During quarantine, she took the time to rebrand her small business, which has been a fun project. She has been creating many digital drawings of places she loves and is about to release a digital Hilton Head map print on her Etsy shop this month! Attached is a photo of the map she created for a few seniors at Prep!



Class of 2016



Ellie Czura graduated cum laude from Sewanee. In addition, after her four-year tennis career, Ellie was named "All American" in doubles and received a separate honor as well -- Most Improved National Senior Tennis Player in Division 3 -- again a national honor as most improved senior.

Class of 2020



Kailey Tucker recently published her first collection of poems, *Excerpts from 18*. Originally intended to be her Diploma of Distinction project, it grew into something much bigger. She hopes to continue writing poems like these in college, where she has plans to major in English/Writing. *Excerpts from 18* is an original collection of poetry that will take you on a rollercoaster ride through teenage youth and the growth of a new blossoming poet. Capturing the intricacies of emotions, *Excerpts from 18* follows themes such as heartbreak, love, grief, and self-acceptance in three unique parts. She hopes you will get one and enjoy it for yourself. *Excerpts from 18* is available for purchase at www.kaileytucker.com.

2009

Tim Neil
Neiltm0@sewanee.edu
Nicole Schultz
Nicoleschultz22@gmail.com

2010

Lyle Izzillo
lyleizzillo@gmail.com
Jarrett Nixon
jarretn@clemson.edu

2011

Reid D'Amico
Reidvdamico@gmail.com
Carly Smith
Csmith6@uoregon.edu

2012

Emily Blackshire
emilyblackshire@aol.com
Marc Halseh
marchalseh@aol.com

2013

Ellie Nixon
Coloradogirl555@hotmail.com
Alli Kenneweg
Alliboo915@gmail.com

2014

Greg Warren
gwarren@masonlive.gmu.edu
John Sheehan
Johnsheehan5@gmail.com

2015

Adam Schauss
schaussadam@yahoo.com
Trevor Marbut
Trevormarbut1@gmail.com

2016

Bailey Kaiser
baileynkaiser@gmail.com

2017

Ava Nixon
anixon67@gmail.com
Ryan Nimmer
ryannimmer@hotmail.com

2018

Davis Puckey
dpuckey@clemson.edu
Julia Gigante
juliaisoldegigante@yahoo.com

2019

Justin Perez
snowboarderjustin@gmail.com
Hunter Hopman
teamhopman21@gmail.com

2020

Brittany Hanna
brittanyhanna613@gmail.com
Caitlin Heidel
caitlinonhhi@gmail.com



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Hilton Head Island, SC 29928

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Hilton Head, SC

Parents of alumni: If this magazine is addressed to a son or daughter who no longer maintains a permanent address at your home, please e-mail us at bwilkinson@hhprep.org with his or her new address. Thank you!

Congratulations and best wishes to the
CLASS OF 2020!

